

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 046-22

Classification (e.g. Not protectively marked/restricted):

Title of report: Exploited into Essex Conference

Area of county / stakeholders affected: Pan Essex

Report by: Liane Edwards

Chief Officer: Darren Horsman

Date of report: 9th March 2022

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1. Executive Summary

To agree £15,000 budget for the Exploited into Essex Conference, £7,500 of which will be met by Essex Police. The £7,500 from the PFCC budget is allocated in the Communication and Engagement budget.

2. Recommendations

The recommendation is to approve the budget for the conference which will bring together businesses, specialist organisations and the community to tackle Human Trafficking, Organised Immigration Crime and Modern-Day Slavery in our county.

3. Background to the Proposal

Every year people come into our county and find themselves exploited by criminal gangs. They are exploited in businesses, families and in our community. Some are found and can be helped while others travel through our county without leaving a

trace. For others, like the 39 men and women from Vietnam found in a container in our county, Essex is where they lost their lives to this tragic form of crime.

To raise awareness of this exploitation and what we can all do to tackle Human Trafficking, Organised Immigration Crime and Modern-Day Slavery, we are organising a conference on July 1st supported by the Essex Chambers of Commerce. The conference will highlight the great work that is already being done, the challenge we all face, and what we can do together to build our resilience against these forms of crime and stop the exploitation in our county.

4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

Following the lessons learned during Op Melrose, Essex Police felt it was important to share with a wider audience to help prevent such a tragic loss of life from happening again and requested the help of the PFCC to organise a conference as this was deemed a proactive way to reach a wide audience. Using our close relationship with Essex Chambers of Commerce we intend to reach out to specialist organisations, business leaders and partners, encouraging them to attend the conference and together find ways to end the exploitation, protect the vulnerable and support the survivors of these awful crimes. The conference will help facilitate this by looking at how tighter processes, better vigilance, and greater awareness of the signs of exploitation and organised crime can and does make a difference.

5. Options Analysis

The alternative would be to not hold the conference, and so fail to raise sufficient awareness meaning the exploitation of the vulnerable continues.

6. Consultation and Engagement

Regular meetings have been taking place with colleagues in Essex Police and Justice and Care as well as Essex Chambers of Commerce to shape the conference agenda, ensuring it is both relevant and that it achieves our aim to end exploitation in Essex.

7. Strategic Links

The conference links directly to Protecting Vulnerable People and Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Abuse priority, specifically supporting victims of human trafficking and modern slavery including sexual exploitation and to continue to promote close working with the UK Border Agency, National Crime Agency, and national and regional partners to support victims and bring perpetrators to justice.

8. Police operational implications

There will be no operational impact on Essex Police.

9. Financial implications

The £15,000 budget for the conference is being jointly funded by Essex Police and the PFCC.

Cost implications include:

- Hire of the venue and hospitality £7,000
- Hire of Marks Tey audio and lighting £2,500
- Design fees £1000
- Conference brochures and banners £1000
- Print £1000
- Speaker fees and travel expenses £1500
- Photographer £500
- Journalist £500

10. Legal implications

None

11. Staffing implications

Staff from the PFCC will be required to assist on the day.

12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications

The conference has a direct impact on helping the some of the most vulnerable in society who are targeted because of their ethnicity and gender. Additionally, the venue is being held in an accessible venue and will be open to all participants.

13. Risks and Mitigations

There are no risks associated in running this event.

14. Governance Boards

The conference has been discussed by the PFCC and Chief Constable and progressed through the relevant chief officers in Essex Police. The proposal has also been discussed at the Commissioner's SMT in early January and 15th of March.

15. Links to Future Plans

This will link to the longer term plan to end Modern Day Slavery, Human Trafficking and Organised Immigration Crime in Essex.

16. Background Papers and Appendices

Draft agenda attached

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

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Date redaction carried out:

Chief Finance Officer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only

If redaction is required, the Treasurer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed.

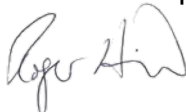
Sign:

Print:

Chief Executive / Chief Finance Officer

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: Roger Hirst

PFCC

Date signed: 20 April 2022

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: