

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 158-22
Classification Not protectively marked
Title of report: Rape Support funding 2022-3
Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide
Report by: Greg Myddelton
Date of report: 2 November 2022
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks approval to receive £77,320 Male Rape Support Funding from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and to allocate **£359,807**, including the £77,320 received from the MOJ Male Rape Support Fund, of Rape Support Funding from the PFCC's 2022-3 victims' budget to the Synergy Rape Crisis Partnership.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The PFCC's agrees to accept a Ministry of Justice grant allocation of £77,320 for the 2022-3 Male Rape Support Fund
- 2.2. The PFCC agrees to allocate £359,807 Rape Support funding from the 2022-3 victims' fund to the partnership of local rape crisis centres; Synergy.

3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1. Ministry of Justice has confirmed the availability of £77,320 funding for Essex which will be utilised for providing support to male victims of sexual abuse. The Male Rape Support Fund has been extended from a previous grant in 2021-22. The funding is allocated specifically for provision of "emotional and practical support for gender-specific male victims of rape and other forms of sexual abuse regardless of whether they wish to report the crime to police."

4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

4.1. This funding supports our specialist rape crisis partnership; Synergy, to deliver additional support and services to those that have experienced sexual abuse. The male rape support fund is used to provide additional counselling capacity for male victims, regardless of their age or when the abuse happened. The rape support fund and SV uplift provides extra counselling and therapeutic support services for all victims.

4.2. This funding is sourced from the following Ministry of Justice grants;

Fund	Value
Male Rape Support Fund	£77,320
Rape Support Fund Uplift	£147,709
SV Fund uplift	£134,778
Total	£359,807

NB The PFCC agreed to accept the MoJ rape support fund uplift and SV fund uplift grants in decision sheet 106-22

5. Options Analysis

5.1. The PFCC could opt not to receive and allocate this funding, but that would significantly reduce the likelihood of delivering against the commitments in the Police and Crime Plan. The PFCC could opt to allocate this funding to other agencies, but the Synergy partnership has the core contract to deliver sexual abuse support and it is considered more valuable to enhance existing provision than establish alternative pathways that would take time to embed, may not offer specialist support, and may create confusion and duplication for referrers and victims.

6. Consultation and Engagement

6.1. This proposal supports the outcomes identified in the partnership Sexual Abuse strategy, governed by the Essex Sexual Abuse Strategic Partnership Board.

7. Strategic Links

7.1. This funding will enable the PFCC and Synergy to support the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan, including protecting children and vulnerable people from harm, reduce violence against women and girls, and improving support for victims.

8. Police operational implications

8.1. No direct operational implications

9. Financial implications

9.1. The PFCC will receive a "Male Rape Support Fund" grant of £77,320 from Ministry of Justice.

9.2. The PFCC will allocate £359,807 from the 2022-23 Victims Fund to Synergy. This funding must be utilised in financial year 2022-23.

10. Legal implications

10.1 This funding will be subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement.

11. Staffing implications

11.1. Employment of staff or sessional workers will be the responsibility of the delivery organisation. No liability for the continuation of roles will be placed on the PFCC or other funders because of this grant funding.

12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications

12.1. The PFCC undertook an EQIA for the core sexual abuse contract in 2020. The PFCC also collects and monitors EDI data through quarterly contract reports and review meetings as well as reporting in returns to MoJ. This helps us to understand how representative the support offer is and consider what additional work might be needed to make the support as accessible as possible.

13. Risks and Mitigations

13.1. There is a risk that the time-limited nature of this funding creates a "cliff-edge" after which funding ceases and services will be forced to shrink. The PFCC mitigates this by encouraging longer-term grant settlements from MoJ and by working with the provider to implement sustainable services that complement the core contract.

14. Governance Boards

14.1 The PFCC receives regular commissioning updates via its Senior Management Team meetings. This support service is also reported to the Essex Sexual Abuse Strategic Partnership.

15. Links to Future Plans

15.1. In addition to supporting the Police and Crime Plan, this work supports the countywide sexual abuse strategy.

16. Background Papers and Appendices

16.1. None

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the PFCC's Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Chief Executive / M.O. Sign: 

Print: Darren Horsman - Deputy Monitoring Officer

Date: 7/11/2022

Chief Finance Officer Sign: 

Print: Janet Perry

Date: 20 December 2022

Publication

Is the report for publication? YES NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'None' if applicable)

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If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet? YES NO 2. Of Appendix? YES NO

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/~~Deputy PFCC~~

Date signed: 21 December 2022

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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.....
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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: