

PFCC Decision Report

Report reference number: 021-23

Classification Not protectively marked

Title of report: J9 domestic abuse awareness training 2023-24

Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide

Report by: Greg Myddelton (Strategic Head of Partnerships and Delivery)

Date of report: 20 January 2023

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks approval for the allocation of **£10,000** from the PFCC's Victims' budget to Epping Forest District Council to fund the continuation of J9 domestic abuse awareness training sessions in 2023.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the PFCC approves the allocation of **£10,000** from the Victims' budget to Epping Forest District Council to support the continued delivery of J9 awareness sessions across Essex.

3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1. The J9 Domestic Abuse Initiative aims to raise awareness and understanding of domestic abuse amongst both professionals in all sectors and the wider community to improve signposting of victims to the relevant agencies.
- 3.2. J9 is named in memory of Janine Mundy who was killed by her estranged husband in June 2003 whilst he was on police bail. Janine was the mother of two young boys. The initiative was originally started by her family and Devon and Cornwall Police where she lived. The family wanted to prevent this

happening again and, together with the police, they made a video showing the impact of domestic abuse murder. Their original aim was to raise awareness and help victims escape from their abusers. Staff were trained in a range of business premises and J9 symbols were displayed to promote the opportunity for victims to access helpful information including a list of useful telephone numbers and access to a telephone.

- 3.3. J9 has been delivered in Essex since 2014, which has seen a diverse range of businesses, community groups, professionals and residents trained in DA awareness.

4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

- 4.1. This funding, matched by the Southend, Essex & Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB) with an in-kind contribution of staff / administrative time from Epping Forest District Council, will see around 768 participants attend 96 virtual J9 sessions delivered across Essex in 2023. This training will be delivered by consultant Jo Majauskis.
- 4.2. Monitoring and evaluation are undertaken via Survey Monkey. Previous course feedback has noted “This training was excellent and reinforced my concerns on Domestic Abuse. It has given me the confidence to assist victims of Domestic Abuse” and “Brilliant training and I hope that more people are able to undergo this to become more aware of domestic abuse.”

5. Options Analysis

- 5.1. The PFCC could opt not to allocate this funding, but that would reduce the likelihood of the PFCC delivering on the commitment within the Police and Crime Plan to “Have an even sharper focus on promoting awareness of domestic abuse, protecting, and supporting victims and survivors.”
- 5.2. J9 is a tried and tested intervention that has established a good reputation in Essex. The proposal to continue to invest in this model attempts to harness and build on the brand of J9.

6. Consultation and Engagement

- 6.1. This proposal has been discussed with SETDAB leads and is supported by the partnership team. The PFCC receives information on the delivery of J9 via updates to the SETDAB Strategic Development Group and Board.

7. Strategic Links

- 7.1. This funding will support delivery against the Police and Crime Plan as well as the SETDAB partnership strategy. It also supports national ambitions around increased awareness of domestic abuse and the wider Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) agenda.

8. Police operational implications

- 8.1. There are no operational implications for Essex Police. This training is intended as a very basic awareness tool and is not intended to replace more formal DA training for Essex Police officers and / or staff. That training is available via SETDAB or the College of Policing.

9. Financial implications

- 9.1. The PFCC will allocate a one-off grant to the value of **£10,000** to Epping Forest District Council to support the delivery of J9 awareness sessions. The costs are broken down broadly as £125 per session plus £438 for a Survey Monkey license and £3.7k on administration.
- 9.2. This funding is being accrued from the 2022-3 Victims' Budget for allocation and spend in financial year 2023-4. This allocation is already within the PFCC's budget for 2022-3. After this allocation, there will be £191,619 remaining of the 2022-3 Victims' Fund, which includes £260,315 carried forward from 2021-2
- 9.3. This project also benefits from match funding from the SETDAB partnership and an in-kind contribution from Epping Forest District Council.

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 relevant 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. J9 DA awareness sessions are intended to raise awareness of abuse amongst residents or professionals that are not expected to have more in-depth understanding and knowledge of abuse; for example, previous sessions have been delivered to hairdressers and employees of nail bars. The sessions are open to anyone and are delivered virtually to offer greater flexibility and ease of access. Sessions can be tailored to individual audiences (e.g. can be delivered face-to-face) as required

13. Risks and Mitigations

- 13.1. No risks have been identified.

14. Governance Boards

- 14.1. J9 training updates are provided to the SETDAB Strategic Development Group and DA Board. This proposal was discussed with the Head of DA Partnerships for Essex and is supported financially by SETDAB.

15. Links to Future Plans

- 15.1 This work supports delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the multi-year SETDAB partnership DA strategy.

16. Background Papers and Appendices

- 16.1. None

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

N/A

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: 20th March 2023

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print: