

## PFCC Decision Report

**Report reference number:** 055-23

**Classification:** Not protectively marked

**Title of report:** Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Funding 2023-25

**Area of county / stakeholders affected:** Countywide

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

**Date of report:** 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

**Enquiries to:** greg.myddelton@essex.police.uk

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report proposes accepting a two-year grant from Home Office (HO) for a programme of work around perpetrators of domestic abuse (DA).
- 1.2. The report also seeks approval for the allocation of funding, including Essex County Council (ECC), Southend-on-Sea City Council, Thurrock Council and PFCC match funding in line with the application made to Home Office.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the PFCC approves the following:
  - Receipt of £1,687,170 Home Office funding for 2023-25
  - Agreement with the terms of the associated grant agreement for this funding
  - A match funding contribution of £150,000 PFCC funding and £272,000 ECC, SoSCC & Thurrock Council funding over two years (2023-25)
  - Allocation of funding as outlined in section 4.3 of this report

### 3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1 The Home Office Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Fund is a new, competitive fund which will allocate £36m nationally over two years via P(F)CCs for tackling domestic abuse through the delivery of interventions for DA perpetrators.
- 3.2 Essex has delivered DA perpetrator work for a number of years; piloting the DRIVE model and sustaining that work through Columbus and the Change

Hub, investing in the Goodman and Sisters-in-Strength mentoring programmes and delivering a perpetrator communications campaign, REFLECT. Essex has benefited from Home Office match funded investment in its DA perpetrator work for several years. This is the first time HO DA perpetrator funding has been subject to open competition.

3.3 The PFCC submitted a bid to this fund in February 2023, supported by the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB) Perpetrator Delivery Group. We were advised of the outcome on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Funding commences on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and runs to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

#### 4. **Proposal and Associated Benefits**

4.1 The Essex DA perpetrator intervention programme features a suite of early intervention and behaviour change work that offers an all-inclusive response to perpetrators of domestic abuse. The Goodman and Sisters in Strength early intervention initiatives improve understanding of healthy relationships and prevent relationships becoming abusive. The Change Hub offers referrals into direct behaviour change programmes for perpetrators seeking to change their behaviour. The Conditional / Diversionary Caution Pilot is a new approach to tackling lower-level adult abusers to prevent the harm and risk of their behaviour escalating. Finally, the Stalking Intervention Project works directly and intensively with SPO nominals to change their behaviour and reduce risk for victims and survivors of stalking. This will be supplemented with a successful media / communications campaign, external evaluation of the whole programme, and some project support resource.

4.2 The objectives and outcomes anticipated from this work are:

- In line with the ambition stated in the Police and Crime Plan for Essex and the partnership SETDAB strategy, we will be “supporting and disrupting perpetrators to change their behaviour and break the cycle of domestic abuse” by intervening early, changing the behaviour of offenders, and protecting victims and survivors from harm.
- This work reflects a commitment within the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse (SETDA) partnership to rebalance the traditional focus and investment in victim services to a more preventative approach which tackles perpetrators in order to reduce the number of offenders, incidents and severity of harm.
- On behalf of the SETDA partnership, the PFCC will use this funding as an opportunity to galvanise partnership activity to disrupt perpetrators and reduce harm collectively.
- By supplementing direct behaviour change work with early intervention activity, we aim to promote early identification of abusive patterns of behaviour.

4.3 The PFCC will provide grants to the following organisations:

Project	Description	Value per annum (£)
The Change Project	Delivery of the Change Hub. Direct behaviour change work with DA perpetrators	369,585

Essex Youth Service	Continuation and expansion of Goodman / Sisters-in-Strength mentoring project (4 FTE)	144,000
SETDAB - Project support	DA perpetrator project support, hosted by SETDAB	50,000
Essex Police on behalf of SETDAB	SETDAB perpetrator communications campaign (REFLECT)	51,000
Caution pilot (delivery agency TBC)	Conditional / Diversionary Caution pilot	80,000
Stalking pilot (delivery agency TBC)	Stalking Intervention pilot	250,000
Project evaluation (delivery agency TBC)	Independent evaluation of the Essex DA perpetrator programme	40,000
Red Snapper	O OCD packages	30,000
Phoenix Futures	Drug Testing on Arrest assessments and triage	40,000
	<b>TOTAL annual grant</b>	<b>£1,054,585</b>
	<b>TOTAL grant 2023-25</b>	<b>£2,109,170</b>

## 5. Options Analysis

5.1 The PFCC worked with local partners and stakeholders to develop an ambitious but achievable programme of interventions with a mix of evidence-based and locally successful work with some best practice from other areas across England. In successfully attracting this funding the PFCC has a responsibility to ensure it is effectively utilised, monitored and evaluated.

## 6. Consultation and Engagement

6.1 This proposal was discussed and agreed at the SETDAB Perpetrator Delivery Group. It was also referenced at the SETDAB Strategic Development Group and SETDA Board.

6.2 The PFCC's Senior Management Team received a copy of the draft application and signed off a final version virtually on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

## 7. Strategic Links

7.1 This work delivers against the PFCC's Police and Crime Plan priorities on protecting vulnerable people and breaking the cycle of domestic abuse, reducing violence against women and girls, making further investment in crime prevention, and improving support for victims of crime.

7.2 The bid also supports delivery of the SETDAB priority of "supporting and disrupting perpetrators to change their behaviour and break the cycle of domestic abuse."

## 8. Police operational implications

8.1 Essex Police will receive funding to deliver the communications element of this programme of work.

## 9. Financial implications

- 9.1 The PFCC will receive a grant from the Home Office of £843,585 per annum in 2023-24 and 2024-25, totalling £1,687,170.
- 9.2 As part of this bid, the PFCC committed to match fund the Home Office contribution with a £75,000 annual contribution from the 2023-24 and 2024-25 Community Safety Funds.
- 9.3 The PFCC will receive an additional £100,000 annual contribution from Essex County Council and £18,000 p.a. allocations from Southend-on-Sea City Council and Thurrock Council.
- 9.4 This table summarises the total contribution of each partner over two years:

Funder	Value (£)
Home Office	1,687,170
Essex PFCC	150,000
Essex County Council	200,000
Thurrock Council	36,000
Southend-on-Sea City Council	36,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,109,170</b>

- 9.5 The PFCC will allocate annual grants to the organisations listed in 4.3.

## 10. Legal implications

- 10.1 These grants are subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement.

## 11. Staffing implications

- 11.1 This grant will require close monitoring and management. As part of the bid, the PFCC requested funding for a project support officer. It is intended that SETDAB will recruit and host a fixed-term project support worker to assist with the coordination, management and monitoring of this funding and support the integration of this programme into SETDAB activity / structures.

## 12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications

- 12.1 The Domestic Abuse Commissioner's 2022 "Patchwork of Provision" report noted that domestic abuse can happen to anyone, anywhere. We also recognise that the majority of those victims that present to police and support services are women, with the abuse perpetrated by men. Our perpetrator projects are available to all, regardless of their gender or other defining characteristics. The Goodman and Sisters-in-Strength projects recognise the different approaches required for engaging males and females and differentiate between the two. When we commission our pilot activities, we will ensure there is a focus on ease of access and that these are offered and delivered in a non-discriminatory way that maximises outcomes and reduces harm to victims.

## 13. Risks and Mitigations

- 13.1 There is a risk around the sustainability of this work once funding expires. As part of the programme, we have included the costs of an independent

evaluation which will provide evidence of the effectiveness of the work as well as giving us an improved understanding of the financial and non-financial benefits which should inform discussion about the programme's sustainability.

- 13.2 There is also a risk that the funding cannot be utilised in time, or pilot projects are not delivered as planned. This will be mitigated by the recruitment of a dedicated project officer who will work closely between SETDAB, the PFCC's office and delivery organisations to ensure the project runs to plan, or changes are identified, communicated and controlled early and swiftly.

#### **14. Governance Boards**

- 14.1 This proposal was presented, discussed and endorsed at a specially convened session of the SETDAB Perpetrator Delivery Sub-Group on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and was also referenced at the SETDA Board on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023.

#### **15. Links to Future Plans**

- 15.1 This proposal will support the PFCC to deliver against the Police and Crime Plan and the SETDAB partnership strategy 2020-25 as detailed earlier in this report.

#### **16. Background Papers and Appendices**

Home Office grant agreement



20230526 HO DA  
perp Grant Agreeeme

**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: P. Brent-Isherwood

Date: 13 April 2023

Chief Financial Officer

Sign: 

Print: Janet Perry

Date: 02 June 2023.

**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)

None

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:

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: 09/06/2023**

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

.....  
.....  
.....

Sign:

Print:

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

**Date signed:**