

## PFCC Decision Report

**Report reference number:** 107-23

**Classification:** Official

**Title of report:** Commissioning Strategy

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

**Report by:**

Janet Perry, Chief Financial Officer and Strategic Head of Performance & Resources

**Chief Officer:**

Janet Perry, Chief Financial Officer and Strategic Head of Performance & Resources

**Date of report:** 15 June 2023

**Enquiries to:**

Janet Perry, Chief Financial Officer and Strategic Head of Performance & Resources

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This is the first Commissioning Strategy that has been produced by the PFCC and is intended for publication on the PFCC's website, to inform stakeholders of commissioning objectives and processes, the grants that are available and the process we follow for the offer of grants.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the PFCC approves, adopts and publishes the Commissioning Strategy attached at Appendix 1.

### **3. Background to the Proposal**

- 3.1. The funding available for commissioning has increased significantly over the last few years and it was agreed by the PFCC's Senior Management Team (SMT) that, with the level of resources now allocated to commissioning, it was advisable to produce a dedicated Commissioning Strategy.
- 3.2. The need to produce a dedicated Commissioning Strategy also arose as an accepted management action from the internal audit of the PFCC's commissioning arrangements undertaken in 2022/23.

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

- 4.1. The strategy will support providers in understanding how we commission services and offer grants and will also allow residents to have a greater awareness of the services that we commission.

### **5. Options Analysis**

- 5.1. We could decide not to produce a strategy, however with the resources allocated to commissioning continuing to grow, it is an important strategy for the PFCC. Failure to produce a dedicated Commissioning Strategy would also result in non-compliance with an accepted management action arising from the internal audit of the PFCC's commissioning arrangements undertaken in 2022/23.

### **6. Consultation and Engagement**

- 6.1 The Commissioning Strategy has been drawn up in consultation with the PFCC's Management Team and the PFCC's Senior Management Team.

### **7. Strategic Links**

- 7.1 The PFCC's commissioning budget is invested to help support the achievement of the objectives outlined in the Police and Crime Plan and the Fire and Rescue Plan.

### **8. Police operational implications**

- 8.1 There are no direct operational implications arising from the approval, adoption and publication of this strategy.

### **9. Financial implications**

- 9.1 There are no direct financial implications, however this strategy will support the governance of existing commissioning budgets.

## **10. Legal implications**

- 10.1 There are no direct legal implications, however this strategy will be referred to by providers who might succeed in being offered funding by the PFCC and then enter into a grant agreement with the PFCC.

## **11. Staffing implications**

- 11.1 There are no direct staffing implications from the approval, adoption and publication of this commissioning strategy, although at this time the role of Commissioning Officer is vacant. The post is currently out to advert and will be closing by the end of June.

## **12. Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion implications**

- 12.1 There are no equality, diversity, or inclusion implications arising from the development of the strategy and no individual with a protected characteristic is likely to be disadvantaged by this strategy.
- 12.2 However, we recognise the need to ensure that the services are equitably available to Essex residents. For this reason, contract monitoring requirements usually include the capture of demographic information of service recipients, as well as information relating (where appropriate) to sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, age and gender. This is used to ensure that services funded by the PFCC deliver against the Public Sector Equality Duty.

## **13. Risks and Mitigations**

- 13.1 There are no risks associated with publishing the strategy. However, there is the potential risk for providers to challenge any process we undertake that does not follow the strategy.

## **14. Governance Boards**

- 14.1 The strategy was recommended for approval by the PFCC's SMT at its meeting on 15 March 2023, subject to an amendment to include the process we follow in offering grants, included at section 4, and a clear indication of our commissioning objectives, included at paragraph 1.2.

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

- 15.1 The strategy will be followed in our future commissioning and our commissioning budget will be included in the 2024/25 to 2028/29 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the 2024/25 budget that will be presented to the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel in February 2024.

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

Appendix 1 – Commissioning Strategy

**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: 28 June 2023

Chief Financial Officer

Sign: 

Print: Janet Perry

Date: 15 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.

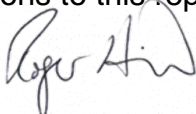
Sign: .....

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: 30/06/2023**

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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

Sign:

Print:

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

**Date signed:**