

PFCC Decision Report

Report reference number: 103-23

Classification: Not protectively marked

Title of report: MoJ grant acceptance 2023-4

Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide

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

Date of report: 2 June 2023

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

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks approval from the PFCC to accept an additional grant of £693,733 from the Ministry of Justice for devolved funding in relation to sexual violence support services, including the provision of male rape support services. The PFCC is asked to sign the associated MOJ addendum to their general grant agreement (16.1), by 9 June 2023.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the PFCC endorses the receipt and allocation of an additional £693,733 funding from Ministry of Justice.
- 2.2 That the PFCC signs the associated addendum to the general grant agreement attached at 16.1 below. This is an addendum to the general grant agreement set out at 16.2 which was agreed by the Commissioner in decision report 97-22. The addendum provides the confirmation of two streams of funding provided in 2022-23 and agreed for that period in decision report 106-22 (devolved funding) and 158-22 (Male Rape Support Fund).
- 2.3 The general grant agreement covered a three-year 2022-25 period while this addendum is confirmation of two additional streams of funding for 2023-24.

3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1 This is an annual grant issued by MoJ to enable the PFCC to fulfil its statutory responsibility to commission and manage local support services for victims of crime.

4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

4.1 This additional grant enables the PFCC to commission support services for victims of sexual violence, including practical and emotional support as well as specialist support, counselling and therapy for victims.

5. Options Analysis

5.1 The PFCC has been successful in obtaining additional funding for specialist domestic abuse and sexual abuse services which supplements the core MoJ (formula-based) grant. Without this funding the PFCC would be unable to commission support services for victims and fulfil its duty to provide support for victims of crime.

6. Consultation and Engagement

6.1 The PFCC discussed funding for victim support services at its Senior Management Team meeting on 11th April 2023.

7. Strategic Links

7.1 This funding allows the PFCC to fulfil its commitments within the Police and Crime Plan and Victim Commissioning strategy. It also supports partnership strategies such as the Essex Sexual Abuse strategy, SETDAB strategy and V&V Business Plan.

8. Police operational implications

8.1 There are no operational implications of this decision for Essex Police.

9. Financial implications

9.1 The PFCC will receive an additional £693,733 taking the total to £4,457,313 funding from MoJ into the 2023-4 Victims Fund and allocate that funding to providers of support services for victims of crime. These allocations are subject to separate decision reports.

9.2 The devolved funding (referred to below as the SV local commissioning Test Fund) and the Male Rape Support Fund are two streams of funding out of six provided by the MoJ.

Fund	Value (£)
Male Rape Support Fund	25,773
SV local commissioning Test Fund	667,960
Total	£693,733

10. Legal implications

10.1 The PFCC agrees to the terms of the MoJ's grant agreement

11. Staffing implications

11.1 The PFCC will be expected to manage and monitor the effective use of this funding and report back to MoJ on a 6-monthly basis. This will require sufficient dedicated resources. At present the PFCC is recruiting to a vacant Commissioning Officer post.

12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications

- 12.1 This grant funding must be used to provide support for victims of crime in line with the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime. For significant commissioning exercises such as contracts for specialist support services like sexual abuse and domestic abuse, the PFCC undertakes needs assessments which identify gaps and trends which can inform commissioning decisions. The PFCC recently undertook a commissioning discovery exercise to support future commissioning of domestic abuse services. This identified some areas of EDI which could be enhanced. Commissioners are actively evaluating and implementing the findings and recommendations of that exercise.

13. Risks and Mitigations

- 13.1 There is risk associated with the time-limited nature of this grant. Significant additional funding of around £2.3m has been committed by MoJ until 2025. If there is no sustainability for that funding there is a risk of there being a cliff-edge where a significant amount of support will cease and the local offer for victims will be diminished.
- 13.2 At present, the PFCC has insufficient dedicated commissioning resources to effectively manage and monitor this grant funding. This is mitigated by an ongoing recruitment process to recruit a Commissioning Officer.

14. Governance Boards

- 14.1 This decision has not been subject to discussion at any boards other than the aforementioned item at the PFCC's SMT meeting in April 2023.

15. Links to Future Plans

- 15.1 This funding supports delivery of the PFCC's Police and Crime Plan

16. Background Papers and Appendices

- 16.1 MoJ general grant agreement (for signing as part of this DR process)



Essex General Grant
Addendum-2.pdf

- 16.2 MoJ formula based grant 2022-5



Essex FB Grant
Agreement 22-25.pdf

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: D Horsman

Print: Darren Horsman - Deputy Monitoring Officer

Date: 9/6/2023

Chief Financial Officer

Sign:



Print: Janet Perry

Date: 9 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: 21st June 2023

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: