

## PFCC Decision Report

**Report reference number:** 187-23

**Classification:** Not protectively marked

**Title of report:**

Phase 5 of the 2023-24 Essex Violence and Vulnerability Joint Budget

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

**Report by:** Samantha Grant (Violence and Vulnerability Unit Project Manager)

**Chief Officer:** Greg Myddelton (Strategic Head of Partnerships and Delivery)

**Date of report:** 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023

**Enquiries to:** [samantha.grant@essex.police.uk](mailto:samantha.grant@essex.police.uk)

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks approval for the allocation of **£185,100** from the 2023-24 Essex Violence and Vulnerability Joint Budget to the organisations detailed in section 4.2 below for delivery against the objectives set out in the Essex Violence and Vulnerability Work Programme 2023/24.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the PFCC approves the total allocation of **£185,100** set out in section 4.2 below to support partner organisations to deliver against the priorities within the Essex Violence and Vulnerability Work Programme 2023/24.

### 3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1. This funding supports delivery against the Essex Violence and Vulnerability Work Programme, supported by the Violence and Vulnerability Partnership. The funding will enable local partners across Essex to have a positive impact

on issues relating to violence and vulnerability, including gangs, ‘county lines’, and child criminal exploitation.

- 3.2. This funding comes from the joint Violence and Vulnerability budget, a pooled partnership budget including funds from the Home Office, PFCC and Essex County Council, which will deliver on the aims and ambitions of the Violence and Vulnerability Partnership Business Case agreed in June 2022.

#### 4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

- 4.1. This funding supports organisations to deliver on the areas of work outlined in the Essex Violence and Vulnerability Framework (2018) and agreed by the Violence and Vulnerability leadership group, the Violence and Vulnerability Round Table, to reduce serious violence and safeguard those being exploited and at risk of exploitation through gangs and ‘county lines’.
- 4.2. It is proposed that the PFCC provides the following funding allocations:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Value</b>
Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services (ECVYS)	In response to VVU / ECVYS listening project, development of and support for ECVYS youth conference (October 2022) and bespoke projects working with young people.	£5,500
ECVYS	Contribution to a post within ECVYS, which is responsible for developing the listening project. The joint VVU / ECVYS listening project leads on conversations with young people across Essex about their concerns about serious violence and what makes them feel safe. These views are then used to inform VVU work. This role, and the approach, to the listening projects is that it is closely linked into local voluntary sector provision in communities (including detached youth work) – with young people having conversations with trusted adults which they know and are within their local networks.	£6,000
St Giles	Work with identified schools and cohorts at risk in Thurrock. Mentoring and positive structured activities and opportunities for pro-social involvement.	£12,500
Ranch	Films for young people, adults and carers explaining the process of police custody. Informed by the voices of young people, their experience in custody, from participants (and views from their parents and carers) on VV interventions.	£8,400
Colchester and Tendring Councils	Delivery of a local project, in identified areas of the two districts, where young people are known to be and spend their time. Based on feedback	£13,000

Organisation	Brief description	Value
	of what would be helpful in these areas, providing positive activities where and when young people are, through 'pop-up' skateboarding projects.	
Bar N Bus (Basildon, Castle Point & Rochford)	Delivering mentoring programmes and one to one support to vulnerable and at risk young people within local secondary schools. Youth Development Workers within four schools. Delivery in Basildon, Castle Point and Rochford through local identified secondary schools. Sessions are delivered by both youth work staff and trained and supervised local volunteers. The programme seeks to increase young people's sense of value through providing someone to listen to them on their terms and about the issues that are important to them and providing appropriate support.	£24,700
Rainbow Services (Harlow)	Supporting a woodworking workshop in Harlow for young people offering positive activities, access to gateway qualifications, role models and sustainable pathways for young people displaying high risk behaviours in a learning, practical, positive and community-based environment - preventing young people from disengaging from education.	£25,000
Wilderness Foundation (Essex Wide)	Delivering therapeutic workshops through outdoor adventures, nature therapy and intensive mentoring as part of 6 weeks course, supporting vulnerable young people at risk of exclusion.	£20,000
Provider/s – advertisement routes currently being identified	VVU Knife harm campaign, to re-run early in 2024, building on the success of the campaigns in February and September 2022, and with appropriate amendments based on evaluation. With the intention to reach an even wider audience (50% of target group of parents and carers) – along with appropriate resources to support parents and carers to feel able to have conversations with their young people about knife harm.	£45,000
Rocket Science (Research)	Evaluation of VVU detached youth work programme, including wider social value of the work.	£15,000
QA Research	Evaluation of the VVU community grants work, including how the grants are considered (including the voice of young people) and impact.	£10,000
<b>Total:</b>		<b>£185,100</b>

## 5. Options Analysis

- 5.1. The PFCC could opt not to allocate this funding, but that would reduce the likelihood of the Violence and Vulnerability Partnership delivering its work programme and of the PFCC delivering the Police and Crime Plan.
- 5.2. The PFCC could also allocate the funds in a different way, though this might not align with the agreed programme as set out by the Violence and Vulnerability Business Case, informed by the analysis and expertise of the partnership.

## 6. Consultation and Engagement

- 6.1. This proposal has been informed by the Violence and Vulnerability Operations Group and delivers against the activity outlined in the Violence and Vulnerability Business Case approved by the Violence and Vulnerability Round Table in June 2022.
- 6.2. It is also supported by the feedback from the listening project which sought the input of local young people into the V&V programme.

## 7. Strategic Links

- 7.1. This funding will enable partner organisations to support delivery of the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan, including protecting children and vulnerable people from harm and reducing drug driven violence. It will also deliver against the Violence and Vulnerability Business Case.

## 8. Police operational implications

- 8.1. Whilst there are no direct operational implications of this decision on Essex Police, the Force is well engaged with this programme at both a strategic and operational level.

## 9. Financial implications

- 9.1. The PFCC will allocate one-off grants to the value of **£185,100** from the 2023/24 Essex Violence and Vulnerability Joint Budget to the organisations outlined in section 4.2 above.
- 9.2. The joint Violence and Vulnerability budget for 2023/24 totals £2.78m. The amounts which make up the base budget and the forecast are shown in the tables below:

2023/24 Violence and Vulnerability	Forecast
	£
Expenditure	*2,781,000
Income	** (2,948,139)

<b>Net Position</b>	<b>(167,139)</b>
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\* Forecast Expenditure based on overall 2023/24 V&V work plan, agreed by V&V partnership.

<b>**Source of Income</b>	<b>£</b>
Home Office Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) funding	1,528,667
Home Office Serious Violence Duty (SVD) funding	338,985
Essex County Council	150,000
PFCC contribution / grant	930,487
<b>Total Forecast Income</b>	<b>2,948,139</b>

- 9.3. This is the fifth tranche of funding from this combined Violence and Vulnerability Joint Budget in 2023/24 to transfer funding to local delivery partners.

<b>2023/24 Forecast Expenditure (Funding)</b>	<b>£2,781,000</b>
Phase 1 of V&V funding (DR 048-23)	£240,233
Phase 2 of V&V funding (DR 062-23)	£616,880
Phase 3 of V&V funding (DR 116-23)	£287,100
ReRoute expansion (DR117-23)	£132,000
Phase 4 of V&V funding (DR140-23)	£632,123
Phase 5 of V&V funding	£185,100
Total allocated (pending phase 5 approval)	£2,093,436
<b>2023/24 Forecast Expenditure (Funding) remaining</b>	<b>£687,564</b>

## **10. Legal implications**

- 10.1 These grants 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.
- 11.2. Monitoring of these projects will be supported by the VVU's dedicated Evaluation and Impact Officer, and support will be provided by the VVU's Project Support Officer.

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

- 12.1 We recognise that the activities outlined in section 4.2 support, and are accessible to, people with all protected characteristics but are most likely to be targeted towards young people who are profiled as being most at risk of being impacted by issues relating to county lines and gangs.

- 12.2 Monitoring arrangements for these funds include the requirement to report on the number of vulnerable children and young adults supported as well as steps taken to ensure offers of support are as accessible as possible.
- 12.3 Most of the organisations listed in the table in 4.2 are subject to the public sector equality duty and will be required to consider the impact of the delivery of their activities on those with protected characteristics.

### **13. Risks and Mitigations**

- 13.1. All services identified in section 4.2 have demonstrated the need and the requirement for this funding. As this is short-term funding, there is a risk that it is not utilised this year, meaning funding would have to be returned to contributors and opportunities to make progress against the Police and Crime Plan and the Violence and Vulnerability Work Programme may be missed. This is mitigated by formal funding agreements, effective monitoring, and by ensuring organisations are aware of the restrictions on funding and can deliver against the requirements.

### **14. Governance Boards**

- 14.1. This funding covers a range of agencies and is discussed at various partnership boards, including the Violence and Vulnerability (V&V) Round Table and the V&V Operations Board as well as internal PFCC meetings.
- 14.2. The overall approach to the Essex 2023/24 Violence and Vulnerability Work Programme has been signed off by the Round Table, as part of the V&V Business Case agreed on 13th June 2022. The work programme for 2023/24 (from the agreed business case) was provided to the Round Table at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023.
- 14.3. The V&V Operations Board has responsibility for ensuring oversight of delivery of the 2023/24 V&V Work Programme and recommends the projects and areas of activity within this decision report. This featured on the agendas of the V&V Operations Board on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The V&V Operations Board provides appropriate reporting of progress to the V&V Round Table.

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

- 15.1. This work supports delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the multi-year Violence and Vulnerability Business Case.

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

- 16.1. None



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.

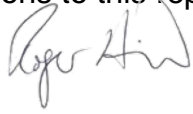
**Sign:** .....

**Print:** .....

**Chief Executive / Chief Finance Officer**

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

**Sign:** 

**Print:** Roger Hirst

**Date signed:** 19/01/2024

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:**