

## PFCC Decision Report

**Report reference number:** 196-23

**Classification:** Not protectively marked

**Title of report:**

Phase 6 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:** 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks approval for the allocation of **£335,508** 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 **£335,508** 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.
- 3.3. The Violence and Vulnerability partnership invited applications from not-for-profit local organisations that work with children, young people, young adults and families, who have a proven track record of having a positive impact on issues relating to serious violence and exploitation and that respond to one or more of the issues identified through the Violence and Vulnerability listening projects undertaken in 2022, led by the Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services (ECVYS).
- 3.4. The issues identified as priorities through the V&V listening projects are summarised below:
  - Having more trusted adults available for young people to talk to.
  - Creating safer spaces and youth provision where young people choose to hang out i.e parks, youth clubs, schools
  - Support for victims of youth violence and projects that have interventions around knife crime, and building resilience
  - More 'turn up and try' activities at youth clubs, parks and schools (out of normal school hours)
- 3.5. 60 applications were received totalling £1,111,623. Applications were reviewed by panels of stakeholders, as set out below:
  - Violence and Vulnerability Partnership 'Voice of Communities' group, with a range of voluntary sector organisations.
  - Panels of 'young commissioners' drawn from members of the Young Essex Assembly.
  - Multi-agency panel, including representatives from the Violence and Vulnerability Unit, PFCC, ECVYS, Southend, Essex and Thurrock Councils, Essex Community Foundation and Active Essex.
  - Members of the Violence and Vulnerability Operations Board.

The panels reviewed the applications and assessed the activity, including ensuring that proposals did not duplicate or compete with existing activity. The evaluation panels have recommended 18 organisations for funding totalling £335,508

- 3.6. 42 applications were unsuccessful. The 42 organisations which were unsuccessful, and a rationale for the assessment of their applications as unsuitable, are listed in table 1 (on pages 9-10).

#### 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:

Organisation	Brief description	Value
Lads Need Dads (Colchester & Tendring)	Lads Need Dads Ambassador Programme providing community support group and life skills sessions for young males who don't have a father figure in their home (funding 2 staff, volunteer costs, activity costs, mixed martial arts).	£22,166
Gateway Community Media (Basildon)	Funding for a youth worker at gateway 97.8, the youth worker will work with young people on a Saturday for 4 hour sessions and weekly sessions x3 and sessions during the school holidays with children who are excluded from school, through media course work where young people can gain a level 1 or 2 qualification in radio.	£12,000
Achieve Thrive Flourish (Basildon)	Delivering a targeted programme to support children and young people within Basildon and run 3x 2hour community sports and outreach sessions a week in targeted areas in Basildon linked to the listening project.	£17,200
Tiptree Youth Outreach Project (Colchester)	Developing existing youth club provision - in response to young people's request to create additional safe places with trusted adults for older (age 15+) young people at a weekly youth club.	£3,600
Canvey Island Yellow Door (Castle Point)	Employing a specialist youth worker for 12 hours per week to support young people who struggle with poor behaviour, including anti-social, risk-taking, and criminal behaviour or are vulnerable to exploitation or bullying due to issues such as poor mental health, neurodiversity, low income, or issues within the family.	£9,790
Southend Vinyard (Southend)	Running a youth cafe and outreach with secondary school age young people and university students in the community, and part fund a youth pastor/outreach worker.	£25,000
Riverview Charitable Trust (Thurrock)	Delivering physical and mental health support through multi-sports and crafts activities to young people aged 8-18 during youth club on 2 evenings per week.	£17,934
North Avenue Youth Club (Chelmsford)	Providing additional staff time for an oversubscribed youth club providing a safe place with trusted adults in an identified area of Chelmsford. This includes providing additional sessions, and as part of these	£10,000

Organisation	Brief description	Value
	teaching young people to cook hot meals. Through this contact and engagement, working to support the young people to access other available support and activities.	
CARA (Colchester, Tendring, Braintree & Chelmsford)	Increasing counselling and play therapy provided for children and young people (aged 12-19) who have been victims of sexual violence. Supports a specialist practitioner working on a one-to-one basis with children and young people.	£25,000
YMCA Essex (Chelmsford)	Developing a new free to attend Friday night youth club, providing multiple activities/workshops, safe place with qualified youth workers in the city centre	£25,000
African Families In the UK (Colchester & Tendring)	Providing 1:1 coaching support for children and young people including face to face sessions and online support through workshops. Safe spaces will be open for longer durations and available year-round to cater to the needs and preferences of young people.	£24,900
Doddinghurst Road Community Trust (Brentwood)	Providing a detached youth worker, working as part of the church and in the community, to build relationships with 'hard to reach' and disadvantaged young people, developing programmes and provision that promote inclusion. This includes schools-based outreach work.	£24,767
Youth Unity (Epping Forest)	Providing additional staff time for an oversubscribed youth hub providing a safe place with trusted adults in an identified area of Epping Forest delivering a Friday night youth hub This includes providing additional sessions, and skills for young people in the local community.	£10,910
Kids Inspire (County Wide)	Delivering support sessions for children and families, in schools and at Kids Inspire base. Therapists providing mental and emotional wellbeing support and psychoeducation to help children recognise healthy relationships and to spot signs that they are being manipulated or groomed.	£23,000
Southend-on-Sea Rape Crisis (Southend, Castle point & Rochford)	Extending specialist counselling for young people aged 11-19, who have been the victims of sexual violence. The funding to cover the cost of a part-time staff member and extend the offer in educational settings.	£24,172
Essex Boys and Girls Club (Chelmsford/Thurrock & Colchester)	Delivering sessions through local youth groups, using performance, theatre arts project, with messages about safety in the community, focusing on the issues identified from the youth voice listening project	£24,989
Enterprise East Group (Uttlesford)	Providing a weekly free to access Youth Café at the Saffron Walden Jubilee Hub giving access to trusted adults and safe space. Including food programme and workshops around staying safe.	£15,080

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Value</b>
Maldon District CVS (Maldon)	Developing Community Gaming Initiative, with outreach into areas of the Maldon district (including Burnham).	£20,000
<b>Total:</b>		<b>£335,508</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. The applications to the grants were considered by:
  - Panels of ‘young commissioners’ drawn from members of the Young Essex Assembly on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
  - Violence and Vulnerability Partnership ‘Voice of Communities’ group, with a range of voluntary sector organisations on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
  - Multi-agency panel, including representatives from the Violence and Vulnerability Unit, PFCC, ECVYS, Southend, Essex and Thurrock Councils, Essex Community Foundation and Active Essex on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. Members of the Violence and Vulnerability Operations Board, who were on the panels above.
- 6.3. It is also informed by the issues raised from the listening project which sought the input of local young people into the V&V programme and areas of concern for young people.

## **7. Strategic Links**

- 7.1. This funding will enable local not-for-profit 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. Essex Police 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 **£335,508** from the 2023/24 Essex Violence and Vulnerability Joint Budget to the range of organisations outlined in section 4.2 above.
- 9.2. The joint Violence and Vulnerability forecast 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>

\* Forecast Expenditure based on overall 2023/24 V&V work plan, agreed by V&V partnership.

**Source of Income	£
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>

The Violence and Vulnerability Partnership has an agreed programme of work totalling £2,781,000 for 2023/2024. With agreement for £167,139 to be placed in a fund for future years.

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

2023/24 Forecast Expenditure (Funding)	£2,781,000
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 (140-23)	£632,123
Phase 5 of V&V funding (pending approval)	£185,100
Phase 6 of V&V funding (pending approval)	£335,508
Total allocated (pending phases 5 & 6 approval)	£2,428,944
2023/24 Forecast Expenditure (Funding) remaining	£352,056

## 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.

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 vulnerability, 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 The organisations listed in the table in 4.2 are not-for-profit community organisations, charities, community interest company or other social enterprise organisations and have provided details of their Equality and Diversity policies and procedures which include their policies and procedures regarding delivery of activities for those with protected characteristics and they 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 promptly, 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. The grants programme featured on the agenda of the V&V Operations Board on 7<sup>th</sup> November. The V&V Operations Board provides appropriate reporting of progress to the V&V Round Table.
- 14.4. All applications have been considered, assessed, and recommended for funding via the evaluation panels held and as noted under section 6.2 earlier in this report.
- 14.5. The work supported by the grants awarded to these small organisations will be reported to the Violence and Vulnerability partnership, and delivery will be overseen by the workstream, 'voice of communities'.
- 14.6. The V&V Operations Board has responsibility for ensuring oversight of the overall Violence and Vulnerability Work Programme and appropriate reporting of progress to the Violence and Vulnerability 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

Table 1 - organisations not successful

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Reason unsuccessful – Panel comments</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
Essex Youth Build	Other applications met the criteria more closely.	£25,000
Sanctus	Other applications met the criteria more closely.	£14,200
Grapevine Essex	Target criteria of young people didn't meet the VVU target audience	£5,000
Big Love Charity	Application didn't meet the criteria in enough detail.	£25,000

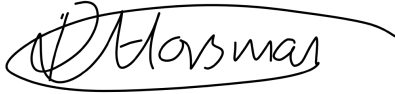



The Outhouse	Lack of information, and other grants met criteria in more detail.	£21,672
Mistley Kids Club	Other applications met the criteria more closely.	£15,000
Teen Talk	Did not receive CSP support and did not meet the grant criteria	£25,000
Berechurch Youth club	Did not receive CSP support and did not meet the grant criteria.	£3,350
The Wiv Hub	Application was not clear enough didn't relate to criteria very well	£6,000
U Turn4Support	Application was not clear enough as to what the money would be spent on.	£23,157
Inclusion Ventures	Other applications met the criteria more closely.	£21,950
Tendring Wellbeing and Intervention Service	Target criteria of young people didn't meet the VVU target audience	£13,250
Changing Lives	Application did not cover as much of the criteria as other applications which were able to demonstrate a higher urgency and need for their specific projects.	£24,899
Association of Pension and benefits claimants CIC	Did not receive CSP support and did not meet the grant criteria	£15,000
Brighter Opportunities for special people	Other applications met the criteria more closely.	£3,294
1Up Collective	No supporting documents provided	£24,000
Castle Point association of vocational services	Other applications met the criteria more closely.	£18,341
Trust Links	Didn't meet the grant criteria in enough detail.	£25,000
Motivated Minds	Application wasn't very clear and lacked some information.	£25,000
The London Bus Theatre Company	Didn't meet the grant criteria.	£5,235
Educe	Target criteria of young people didn't meet the VVU target audience	£7,742
Indirock LTD	Application was very expensive for what they were offering, and the panels felt it was duplicating work that is already happening in the area.	£24,509
Southend United Community Educational Trust	Other applications met the criteria more closely.	£22,200
The Song Book	Target criteria of young people didn't meet the VVU target audience	£23,944
Seaquins	Panel did not think the application was very clear as to what they would offer.	£11,960
Thurrock Open Door	Other Applications met the grant criteria in more detail	£20,000
Youth Unity (Thurrock)	Lack of information, and other grants met criteria in more detail.	£8,465
Seabrook Rise Community Association	Application was not clear enough as to what the money would be spent on.	£25,000
Voluntary Action Epping Forest	Didn't meet the grant criteria in enough detail.	£10,667
Waltham Abbey youth 2000	Did not receive CSP support and did not meet the grant criteria	£10,000

North Weald Cricket Club	Lack of information, and other grants met criteria in more detail.	£600
Colchester United Community Foundation	Didn't meet the grant criteria in enough detail.	£25,000
Evolve Intervention CIC	Lack of information, and other grants met criteria in more detail.	£25,000
Renew Counselling Ltd	Target criteria of young people didn't meet the VVU target audience	£25,000
Abberton Rural Training	Did not receive CSP support and did not meet the grant criteria	£24,180
South Essex African Caribbean Association	Did not receive CSP support and did not meet the grant criteria	£25,000
Zinc Arts	Didn't meet grant criteria closely enough	£22,500
Barnardos	Lack of information, and other grants met criteria in more detail.	£25,000
Circles Alternative Education cic	Didn't meet grant criteria in enough detail	£25,000
Safer Places	Application did not have CSP Support	£25,000
Ormiston	Not based in Essex and didn't meet the grant criteria.	£25,000
The Design Cabin Community	Not based in Essex and didn't meet the grant criteria.	£25,000
		£776,115

**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:                                  Darren Horsman - Deputy MO  
Date:                                  8/1/2024

Chief Finance Officer                                  Sign:   
Print                                  Janet Perry  
Date:                                  7 January 2024

**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                                   2. Of Appendix?    YES   
NO     NO

**If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:** Please redact the first column from table 1 on pages 8-10. This contains information about projects that were unsuccessful and reasons why.

**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.

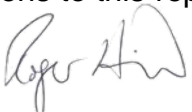
**Sign:** .....

**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:

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

**Sign:**

**Print:**

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

**Date signed:**