

Making Suffolk a safer place to live, work, travel and invest

ORIGINATOR: POLICY OFFICER (VS)

DECISION NO. 27

REASON FOR SUBMISSION:

FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO:

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT:

INNOVATION FUND: MULTI-AGENCY E-SAFETY CRIME PREVENTION, PCC CONTRIBUTION TO PROOF OF CONCEPT WORK

SUMMARY:

- 1. The Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:
 - a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk:
 - b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.
- 2. The Suffolk Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk has been successful, through the Police Innovation Fund, in being awarded up to £109,154 for delivering a proof of concept project on multi-agency e-safety crime prevention. The funding has been awarded on the basis of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner meeting 40% of the costs and the Home Office meeting 60% of the costs.
- This report seeks approval to award £25,600 to fund a proof of concept exercise to improve the multi-agency approach to e-safety. This will be achieved by a grant variation to the existing Better Policing Collaborative contract to provide evidence based policing solutions. The funding will enable crime and disorder reduction activity in line with the Police and Crime Plan objective to work with partners to protect young vulnerable people.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the PCC approves funding of £25,600 towards the multi-agency e-safety crime prevention project proof of concept work.

APPROVAL BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Signature Com Variance

Date 23/08/2016

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:
 - a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
 - b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.

This is in accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. In applying this provision, the PCC will ensure that the services commissioned are also consistent with the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2013 – 2017.

1.2 This report seeks approval to award £25,600 towards the multi-agency e-safety crime prevention project proof of concept work.

2 POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES

2.1 The themes within the Police and Crime Plan that this grant aims to address are: Supporting vulnerable people and e-safety.

3 MULTI-AGENCY E-SAFETY CRIME PREVENTION

- 3.1 The aim of the MESCP is to identify effective strategies for engaging parents into being an integral part of keeping children safe on line and to look at what effective early intervention may look like in respect of a child or children where there is an increased concern as to their on line safety and vulnerability.
- 3.2 The intention would be to develop an intervention that could be wrapped around a child or group of children within a school that engages the child, parents, the school and other appropriate agencies.
- 3.3 Suffolk Constabulary and the Suffolk Police & Crime Commissioner through funding awarded through the Home Office Police Innovation Fund 2016/17 will commission primary research, rapid evidence assessment, good practice review and evaluation of the results of the types of risk behaviours young people display when communicating in the digital space, on issues pertaining to personal e-safety, cyber bullying, sexting and associated behaviours on line.
- 3.4 Further to discussions a contract variation was prepared to the existing Better Policing Contract in order to access relevant academic professionals able to undertake this work.
- 3.5 It is agreed that a qualitative method evaluation would be the best approach to adopt.
- 3.6 The focus of the proposed work is twofold.
 - Identify effective strategies for engaging parents into being an integral part of keeping children safe on line.
 - Identify what an effective early intervention may look like in respect of a child or children where there is increased concern as to their on line safety and vulnerability. The intention would be to develop an intervention that could be 'wrapped around' a child or group of children within a school that engages the child, parents, the school and other appropriate agencies.
- 3.7 The objectives are as follows:

- To change the behaviours of those considered high risk or very vulnerable children at an earlier age regarding personal on-line safety.
- To raise awareness and knowledge base with those identified groups, schools and frontline workforce by developing an early intervention model for delivery throughout Suffolk in 2018/2019 to prevent individuals becoming victims and/or perpetrators of on-line crime.
- Support and enhance the welfare and safeguarding of identified vulnerable groups with the aim of reducing the number of victims of on-line safety related crime in the future.
- Encourage an open environment between young people, parents/parental groups, schools and authorities facilitating the reporting of crimes within the digital space.

4 OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES

- 4.1 The following outputs and outcomes are expected to be delivered on by the Better Policing Collaborative Contract in relation to this piece of work:
- 4.2 Phase 1 Academic Research, Review and Evaluation. Work to be undertaken during July/August 2016. Delivery of Phase 1 during September 2016.
 - Appropriate academic professional(s) to undertake primary research, provide a rapid evidence assessment and evaluation of in line with the project objectives.

Rapid Evidence Assessment:

- What, if any, effective engagement strategies exist with parents, parental groups, and interaction with agencies regarding the safe use of the internet and digital social media?
- Is there research to suggest there is effective provision of service beyond prevention?
- What, if any, evidence shows effective engagement with parents/parental groups around issues linked with personal e-safety?
- What, if any, evidence has worked elsewhere?
- What, if any, early intervention methods exist and what can be done to move from a position of prevention to a position of early intervention and resolution of issues relating to e-safety and children?
- Are there any coordinated approaches with child/children, schools and parents?
- Is there any research to demonstrate best practice in upskilling frontline staff/organisations who engage with vulnerable groups regarding the safe use of the internet and social media?

Good Practice Review:

- Are there any statutory agencies delivering digital awareness programmes and how? What approaches for the target audiences has worked?
- What models exist and within them provide recommendations for methods of future delivery of a programme countywide to children and young people.

Evaluation:

- What evaluation frameworks support research?
- Engage with appropriate Agencies, Authorities and partners and provide an evaluation report summarising existing research findings supporting the objectives of the project.

4.3 Phase 2 - Analysis and Proof of Concept Model Design/Planning

Work to be undertaken during September - December 201 6. The academic professional(s) during this phase will undertake:

- Qualitative measurement of outcomes from the academic research; working with SC, SCC and partners to engage a series of focus groups across a pilot number of schools within Suffolk to support analysis. Include a control group study for comparison and utilise a cross section of groups from Academies, Free and County run Primary Schools.
- Within the evaluation report provide recommendations/options for the design detail of a suitable intervention model and methods of future delivery during year two (2017/18). Include stakeholder interaction and consultation in terms of design.
- Evaluate cyber survey questionnaire 2016 anticipated to be undertaken in autumn 2016. Within the evaluation report include consideration to outcomes of key areas from the 2015 Cyber Survey and 2016 Cyber Survey to support model design.

5 SERVICE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This work will support the force and other agencies to understand 'what works' in terms of e-safety crime prevention thereby protecting vulnerable people from crime and supporting, resource efficient, multi-agency techniques to tackle e-safety issues in future.

6 RISKS

6.1 There are no risks flowing from the consideration of this report.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that the PCC approves funding of £25,600 towards the multi-agency e-safety crime prevention project proof of concept work.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	YES
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	YES
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	YES
Have human resource implications been considered?	YES
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	YES
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	YES
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	YES
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	YES
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	YES

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER

Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signature:

Date 24 8/16

