

**ORIGINATOR:**        **DEPUTY CHIEF  
EXECUTIVE**

**DECISION NUMBER:** 41 - 2015

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION:**        **FOR DECISION**

**SUBMITTED TO:**                      **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**SUBJECT:**                              **AWARD OF GRANT: SUFFOLK YOUTH OFFENDING  
SERVICE: RJ TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION &  
IMPROVED RJ OFFER**

**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.     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.
3.     This report seeks approval for an award of £4,050 to pay for advanced Restorative Justice (RJ) skills training for Suffolk Youth Offending Service (SYOS) and VCSE staff (£2,550) and to support the RJ Council's individual practitioner accreditation for 4 YOS RJ practitioners and 2 police officers (£1,500). As part of this funding agreement SYOS will share associated good practice with RJ practitioners linked to the Suffolk County Council Restorative Approaches work and the Victim Support RJ Service.
4.     This advanced capability will ensure victims of more sensitive cases, which could benefit from restorative justice, could be helped through the process more safely and effectively.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

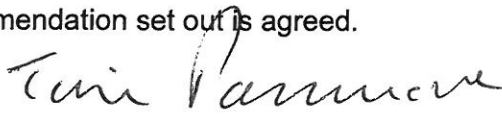
It is recommended that:

1. The PCC approves an award of £4,050 to Suffolk Youth Offending Service (SYOS) to pay for advanced Restorative Justice (RJ) skills training (AIM) for statutory and VCSE partners and to support RJ Council Individual Practitioner Accreditation for 6 officers (4 YOS RJ officers and 2 police officers).

**APPROVAL BY: PCC**

The recommendation set out is agreed.

**Signature**



**Date** 27/08/2015

## DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2014 the PCC assumed responsibility for commissioning victims' services. The PCC's key objective is to deliver effective victims' services to all victims of crime according to their needs and regardless of their geographic location or any other factor.
- 1.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:
  - secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
  - are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.
- 1.3 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to award the Suffolk Youth Offending Service (SYOS) £4,050 to pay for advanced Restorative Justice Skills AIM Training for statutory and VCSE partners and to support RJ Council Individual Practitioner Accreditation for 6 officers (4 YOS RJ Officers and 2 police officers). This will result in improved capability to support a wider range of victims of crime and enable SYOS to achieve RJ Council Individual Practitioner Accreditation and share good practice with county-wide RJ partners.

### 2 POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 Following the issue of the Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017, work has been on-going to ensure that the police and crime objectives will be achieved. The Police and Crime Plan sets out a clear commitment to providing services that meet the needs of victims of crime and vulnerable people including '*supporting victims and offenders to understand and engage with restorative justice processes*'.
- 2.2 Since the publication of the plan the PCC has engaged extensively to pursue the ambitions set out within the Plan, including the provision of high quality services to help victims cope and recover.

### 3 YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE – RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- 3.1 Currently, most Youth Offending Services across the country only offer RJ to victims where a formal disposal (Out of Court Disposal or Court Order) has been given to the young offender. This excludes many victims. Suffolk Youth Offending Service (YOS) wants to change this by providing equal access to *all* victims of youth harmful sexual behaviour, by offering an 'early help' service. This work would be an addition to its 'core service' and cases would be referred to them via the police and/or social care services. The service anticipates that it will be working with a greater number of these cases in the future. SYOS has trained all practitioners who work with young people to undertake specialist assessments and intervention work in cases of harmful sexual behaviour. Currently the SYOS has no Restorative Justice Officers who have undertaken specialist RJ training for this area of offending to provide safe and effective RJ. The RJ service that SYOS provides is complementary to the PCC funded victim led RJ hub which works with victims of crime where there is an adult offender. As such the SYOS service is the only current service which directly supports victims to cope and recover via an RJ intervention where the offender is a young person.
- 3.2 Much research has been undertaken on the impact of growing up in a household where domestic abuse is present. This behaviour has a detrimental effect on all (including communities) which can lead to negative outcomes for those affected by it. By SYOS taking a restorative approach to working with child to parent violence, we

are better able to reduce the impact this type of offending has on parents and the siblings of the offenders. Many Youth Offending Services do not consider using RJ in these cases, due to the complex nature of these cases and the assessment skills required to undertake this work safely.

3.3 SYOS is seeking funding to train and support Restorative Justice Officers in advanced RJ skills via the AIM Project Training to ensure they provide safe and effective RJ to all victims, regardless of offence type or needs of the offender. This is in-line with the spirit of the Restorative Justice Action Plan (2014) which promotes greater access to RJ for all victims. The training SYOS is seeking will cover working restoratively with sensitive, complex cases and harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) cases. This additional training is a requirement of the Restorative Justice Council's (RJC's) Restorative Service Quality Mark (RSQM) which SYOS is working to achieve at the end of 2015.

3.4 Assessment Intervention Moving on (AIM) Project is a nationally recognised leading training provider in working restoratively with young people who display harmful sexual behaviour. The AIM Project is registered with the RJC as a training provider. Working restoratively with harmful sexual behaviour is lengthy and complex work, with the average case taking three months to come to a direct meeting between the offender and victim(s). The three day training costs £2,550 (travel and subsistence would be funded by SYOS) and will provide two places to the police officers (who are currently seconded to the SYOS) and four places to the Victim Support RJ project (also funded by the PCC). This will support a wider spread of skills and will enable victims to be supported should they require a police officer to attend. In total 14 people would be trained. The training would be delivered in Summer 2015 and SYOS would expect to deliver 6 direct meetings for relevant cases by the end of the financial year. The course provides a mediation model and explores:

- Drivers and dangers of RJ/HSB
- RJ assessment/case screening
- Introducing RJ processes, preparation, delivery and evaluation
- Recovery cycle, Post-Traumatic Stress Symptoms, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and victim trauma
- Benefits of RJ to reduce Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

3.5 SYOS has committed to additionally fund from its core budget a RJ Manager for one year to review and develop its RJ work. This post has researched evidenced based practice to ensure that YOS offers and provide RJ interventions to as many victims who wish to participate, moving above and beyond the core services it currently delivers. SYOS plans to be the first organisation in Suffolk to achieve the RSQM. SYOS has advised it will share practice across the county via Suffolk's Restorative Approaches Group and the Victim Support RJ Hub. To supplement this overall service quality mark, SYOS would like funding from the PCC to support RJ Council's individual practitioner accreditation for 4 SYOS RJ staff and 2 police officers who are currently seconded into the SYOS service.

## **4 OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES**

4.1 The intended outputs and outcomes are set out below.

- AIM training - 14 people will be trained (including two police officers places and four places offered to the PCC commissioned Victim Support RJ Hub).
- Strengthened capability to offer RJ for sensitive cases within SYOS, the RJ Hub and the Constabulary.



- At least six complex cases would have been supported by Restorative Justice by March 2016.
- The number of direct meetings will increase – in 2014/15 RJ interventions resulted in 29 direct RJ meetings – with the additional training and accreditation the SYOS expects this to rise to 40 for 2015/16.
- The overall number of victims supported with RJ interventions during the period to March 2016, where this training has been crucial.
- Accreditation of 6 practitioners with the Restorative Justice Council's individual practitioner accreditation.
- Evidence that good practice has been shared with practitioners in the Restorative Justice Approaches Hub and the RJ Hub by March 2016.

- 4.2 The grant award will be made on the basis that monitoring information will be supplied to enable the PCC to develop an understanding the impact and benefit of the grant. The grant recipient will provide an interim report on financial expenditure and outputs/outcomes to the PCC by 30 November 2015 in terms of the training provided and progress with receiving the practitioner accreditation and a final report by 30 April 2016 giving final data on outcomes of the funding overall and detailing the cases which have been supported and the 6 individual practitioner accreditations have been awarded.

## **5 MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

- 5.1 Full 'Conditions of Award' including conditions relating to transfer of funds, monitoring, and publicity and marketing are specified separately but include the following.
- 5.2 This award is a one-off award and is made on the condition that the grant recipient uses the grant for the purposes described. In the event that the grant is not used for these purposes the monies must be repaid to the PCC.
- 5.3 The grant recipient must comply with the conditions placed upon the PCC by the MoJ grant agreement which includes strict criteria regarding use of the grant and monitoring requirements.
- 5.4 The grant recipient must be able to evidence appropriate safeguarding procedures for those using their services and have due regard for the Local Children Safeguarding Board policies and guidance. The grant recipient must ensure that its services, policies, training, recruitment, vetting and referral processes appropriately safeguard children and vulnerable adults.
- 5.5 The grant recipient must be able to demonstrate that they are managing the grant in an efficient and effective manner, and are actively seeking to minimise bureaucracy and streamline processes in order to deliver the best possible outcomes.
- 5.6 The grant recipient will provide an interim report on financial expenditure and outputs/outcomes to the PCC by 30 November 2015 in terms of the training provided and progress with receiving the accreditations and a final report by 30 April 2016 giving final data on outcomes of the funding overall and detailing the cases which have been supported and the RJC individual practitioner accreditations have been received.
- 5.7 The grant recipient must notify the PCC as soon as reasonably practicable if the organisation ceases operation, the project does not go ahead, or if an underspend is forecast. Any underspend must be returned to the PCC.

- 5.8 By accepting the award from the PCC the grant recipient makes a commitment to acknowledge the PCC's support publicly and must acknowledge their funding from the PCC in all promotional work.
- 5.9 The grant recipient will liaise with the PCC's Communications Manager to agree a communications plan.
- 5.10 The grant recipient shall ensure that third party recipients have adequate insurance coverage (including but not limited to public liability insurance) in place and shall provide evidence of such insurance to the PCC on request.
- 5.11 The PCC accepts no liability to the grant recipient or any third party recipients for any costs, claims, damage or losses, however they are incurred, except for to the extent that they arise from personal injury or death which is caused by the PCC's negligence.
- 5.12 The grant recipient agrees to indemnify the PCC for any costs, claims, damages or losses which arise as a result of negligence by the grant recipient or out of any breach of any of the conditions of award.

## **6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The funding will be allocated from the Victims' Services Grant Fund for 2015/16.

## **7 OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

- 7.1 There are no risks flowing from the consideration of this report.
- 7.2 An assessment of risk in delivery of the service has been undertaken. This assessment has considered the value of the grant sought, the duration of delivery and the grant recipient's history of delivery and ability to deliver. The monitoring arrangements outlined in the conditions of award reflect the fact that while this is not a significant award there is key learning for other services and partnerships. Should there be any risk to the service being delivered, the grant recipient is required to notify the PCC

## **8 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 It is recommended that:
  - 8.1.1 The PCC approves an award of £4,050 to Suffolk Youth Offending Service (SYOS) to pay for advanced Restorative Justice (RJ) skills training and to support RJ Council Individual Practitioner Accreditation for 6 officers (4 YOS RJ officers and 2 police officers).

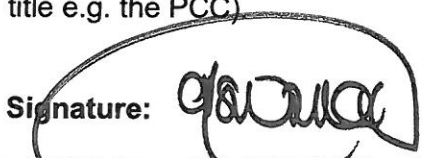
ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	Yes
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	Yes
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	Yes
Have human resource implications been considered?	N/A
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
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	Yes

In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER** (this approval is required only for submissions to the PCC).

**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 (add decision-maker's title e.g. the PCC)

Signature:  Date 26/8/15