



**ORIGINATOR: DEPUTY CHIEF
EXECUTIVE**

DECISION NO. 47-2013

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

**SUBJECT: AWARD OF CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION GRANT – SUFFOLK
RAPE CRISIS**

SUMMARY:

- Police and Crime Commissioners are able to utilise their resources to commission services from anyone who can provide the community safety related services that they believe will contribute to their police and crime objectives. These objectives are set out in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017 and include various themes such as drugs and alcohol, crime levels, vulnerable victims and domestic violence.
- Discussions have recently taken place between the PCC and Suffolk Rape crisis regarding the provision of services to victims of sexual violence. This report seeks approval to award a Crime and Disorder Reduction Grant of £10,000 to Suffolk Rape Crisis.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the PCC approves a grant of £10,000 for the period December 2013 to December 2014 to Suffolk Rape Crisis.
2. That the grant is funded from the PCC's Police and Crime Plan Reserve.

OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

I approve the above recommendations

Signature

Twin Vannore

Date 2/12/2013

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Police and Crime Commissioners are able to utilise their resources to commission services from anyone who can provide the community safety related services that the PCC believes will contribute to their police and crime objectives. There is no maximum or minimum amount that PCCs must spend on community safety activity and they can also pool funding if they wish.

2. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

- 2.1 Following the issue of the Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017 work has been on-going to develop a delivery plan to ensure that the Police and Crime Objectives and the Plan's principal themes will be achieved.
- 2.2 Within the Police and Crime Plan the PCC sets out a clear commitment to providing services that meet the needs of victims of crime and vulnerable people. The Plan also makes a commitment to improve the solved rate of serious sexual offences.
- 2.3 Since the publication of the Police and Crime Plan the PCC has engaged extensively on the ambitions set out within the Plan. This has included discussions relating to the provision of sexual assault services for victims. One particular issue that has been identified is the high level of demand for counselling services for victims of sexual assault which is resulting in long waiting times for access to services and a high level of unmet demand. During these discussions it is the view of the PCC that the all victims of sexual violence should have access to counselling services and that the service should be provided in a timely manner.
- 2.4 In October 2014 the PCC will be responsible for the commissioning of victims' services to victims of crime. The discussions regarding the provision of services to victims of sexual violence have therefore taken place against this backdrop. The proposals set out in this paper will provide funding to Suffolk Rape Crisis (SRC) as an interim measure in order to reduce unmet demand and improve waiting times.

3. SUFFOLK RAPE CRISIS (SRC)

- 3.1 Given the PCC's commitment in his Police and Crime Plan work has taken place to understand the current services provision arrangements.
- 3.2 SRC was formed in response to a lack of sexual violence services in the county. The overall aim of the project is to enable women and girls who have suffered sexual violence to access specialist counselling and practical support. The objectives of SRDC are:
- To assist women and girls to overcome the trauma of rape, sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse;
 - Empower women and girls to recover and take back their lives.
- 3.3 Whilst there are domestic violence services in the county SRC is the only specialist sexual violence and rape crisis service in the county.
- 3.4 Many survivors of sexual violence need long term, dedicated support and counselling. SRC works in partnership with the Serious Sexual Assault Centre (SARC) and receives referrals from the SARC. The SARC comes into contact with the 10-15% of women who report their assault but cannot provide counselling or holistic support for women in the aftermath of the assault. There is currently only provision for three Independent Sexual Violence Advisors covering the county. Counselling is also provided by the NHS but there is a long waiting list.

- 3.6 The limited availability of counselling services means that many victims must wait for several months to receive counselling and this often exacerbates their symptoms. Symptoms include anxiety, depression and substance misuse.

4. OTHER ISSUES

- 4.1 In October 2014 the PCC will assume responsibility for commissioning of victims' services and the PCC has made a clear statement that the key objective will be to deliver effective victims' services to all Suffolk victims of crime according to their needs and, regardless of other factors such as geographic location, gender, sexuality, disability, etc.
- 4.2 The transition to commissioning of victims' services will necessitate conducting an assessment of victims' needs, and determining whether current service provision meets those needs. The question of how the PCC will award grants in the future and will be considered during this preparatory work.

5. AWARD OF A CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION GRANT

- 5.1 It can be seen that the delays in providing victims' services is a significant detriment to victims which could have a long term effect on their recovery. It is therefore recommended that this project be awarded a grant of £10,000 for the period December 2013 to December 2014.

6 OUTCOMES

- 6.1 The PCC's policy for determining Crime and Disorder Reduction Grants is that there must be a robust business case which clearly sets out the success criteria (e.g. intended outcomes, milestones, risks, etc.) and how the initiative for which funding is sought will deliver clear and measurable outcomes against the PCC's Police and Crime Plan objectives. The intended outputs/outcomes are set out below.
- 6.2 This funding will be specifically to deliver 200 counselling sessions. In order to determine the effectiveness of the sessions the below measures are proposed. These would be subject to agreement with SRC:
- Number of victims supported.
 - Numbers of sessions which have taken place. This will include breakdown of ethnicity, gender, location, etc).
 - Number of victims waiting for counselling and length of time.
 - Number of initial assessments completed and the proportion of those suggesting counselling is needed.
 - Number of victims supported who had not presented to the police.
 - Evaluation feedback forms/perception surveys will be completed pre and post counselling. These will be developed by the Office of the PCC and Suffolk Rape Crisis and could include areas such as fear of crime, substance misuse, confidence/self-esteem, mental and emotional health, well-being, relationships, parenting.

7. MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS OF AWARD

- 7.1 This award is a one-off award and outputs/outcomes should be delivered in the calendar year 2014.
- 7.2 Payment of the award does not confer any ongoing obligation on the PCC to make payments beyond January 2015.

- 8.3 This award may not be used for any activities other than those set out within this decision paper or as approved in writing by the PCC.
- 8.4 The funds provided under this award may not be used to purchase capital items.
- 8.5 This award is made on the condition that if the project does not proceed then the funding must be repaid to the PCC.
- 8.6 Suffolk Rape Crisis must be able to demonstrate that the grant is being managed in an efficient and effective manner, and that they are actively seeking to minimise bureaucracy and streamline processes in order to deliver the best possible outcomes.
- 8.7 The forum will invoice the PCC on a quarterly in arrears basis after which transfer of funds will be arranged. Payment will be made within 21 working days of the receipt of a payment request and must be accompanied by the appropriate monitoring information.
- 8.8 The PCC will not pay in advance of need. If the PCC reasonably believes that payment is being made in advance of need, the PCC may change the timing and/or the amount of any payments.
- 8.9 Suffolk Rape Crisis will report provide regular progress updates to the PCC including financial monitoring and outcomes of projects. An end of year report on the award of grants and outcomes shall be presented to the PCC. These updates shall be submitted on dates as specified by the PCC. An end of year financial monitoring report should be submitted to the PCC on or before 31 March 2015.
- 8.10 The PCC shall be notified as soon as reasonably practicable if an underspend is forecast and any underspend must be returned to the PCC.
- 8.11 By accepting the award from the PCC Suffolk Rape Crisis makes a commitment to acknowledge the PCC's support publicly and must acknowledge their funding from the PCC in all their promotional work. Any recipients of funding must display the PCC's logo in all publicity for the life of the initiative. Logo artwork can be provided upon request. Any exceptions must be agreed with the PCC.
- 8.12 Suffolk Rape Crisis 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.
- 8.13 The PCC accepts no liability to Suffolk Rape Crisis 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.
- 8.14 Suffolk Rape Crisis agrees to indemnify the PCC for any costs, claims, damages or losses which arise as a result of negligence by Suffolk Rape Crisis or out of any breach of any of the conditions of award.

7. SERVICE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The award of this grant improves services of victims of sexual violence and mitigates the risk of further psychological harm caused by a lack of counselling for victims.

8. RISKS

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

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 It is recommended that:

9.1.1 The PCC approves a grant of £10,000 for the period December 2013 to December 2014 to Suffolk Rape Crisis.

9.1.2 The grant is funded from the PCC's Police and Crime Plan Reserve.

| 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 |

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 2 December 2013

