

**ORIGINATOR: WDVAF**

**PAPER NO: AP14/23**

**SUBMITTED TO: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL**

**SUBJECT: Waveney Domestic Violence & Abuse Forum  
Crime & Disorder Reduction Grant**

**SUMMARY:**

**The PCC for Suffolk has awarded a Crime and Disorder Reduction Grant totalling £12,000 to staff the Coordinator post representing the period January 2014 to January 2015.**

**The funding is for the purposes services for vulnerable victims of domestic violence and abuse in the Waveney area.**

**The submission is the first report to the Accountability and Performance Panel on the progress achieved.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**The PCC is asked to consider the progress made.**

Additional information: Rape and Sexual Assault:

After flagging up the problems in Waveney since the demise of WRAC and the closure of the Rape suite at the Victim Care Centre, it is known locally that people who have these issues are not always reporting to either the local rape team or other agencies. Consequently we have been working to bring Rape councillors for male female and children back to Waveney. Also the need for the rape suite to be reinstated in Lowestoft is a necessity. The need is evidence based.

## DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

### 1. KEY ISSUES AND PROGRESS:

#### For the period of January to March 2014

1. Poster and leaflet campaign We have completed three posters and leaflets campaigns distributing 250 posters, 2500 leaflets within Waveney to 125 outlets /organisation.
2. Running Programmes :- Caring Dad's programme 4, finished in February 2014. 11 fathers started (28 children), 7 completed (19 children). Programme 5 starts in July 2014. Freedom Programme :- January 2014. 19 referred (26 children) 12 attended. Next programme April 2014. Counselling Service 18 sessions provided, there is already a waiting list for this service. The evaluations are proof that a continuing service is needed.
3. Awareness Raising took place at the Lowestoft College, Britten Centre, Suffolk County Council, Adnams, Peter Aldous M P, Erin Pizzy, Domestic Forum and County meetings. Media promotions.
4. Gaps in Services :- Legal Aid, MARAC, Counselling, Mental Health.
5. Crises intervention We have had 5 high risk victims who needed assistance. They were dealt with immediately in an appropriate way.
6. Funding we have received Comic Relief for supporting BME groups , Adnams for books to support the Freedom programme and Counselling.
7. Coordinators administration duties. Emails 647 of which 1% to 2 % emergency calls 18% related to fund raising monitoring bids and the charity commission. 50% related to signposting advise queries website and inter agency working 30% was sharing information with County local colleges and general inter agency working. Telephone calls 350 2% was sharing information, and inter agency working 70% signposting advise and queries 4% emergency calls, 24% bids monitoring fund raising and charity commission.

Due to lack of rape counselling we have a small fund to restart the service previously provided by WRAC, which we hope to start on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 and our in the process of developing the leaflet, posters and Media coverage.

The Caring Dads have just completed their fourth programme in February 2014 and are now preparing for the 5<sup>th</sup> programme in July 2014.

Freedom Programme - We run a rolling programme in Lowestoft and some rural area's in Waveney when needed. Also in Norfolk we have provided the same service as there was a very real need, but no one else would take it on.

Counselling - A new service which has taken off the need being very high. Excellent feedback from victims. We only have one counsellor at the moment but hope to extend this service in the future.

The Forum has now over 70 members with well attended forum meetings.

#### **Changes within Mental Health.**

#### **Mental Health Have agreed to our recommendations**

**1. Changes for victims in GP surgeries. D.V. victims can now have their assessment in a safe place rather than at their home. Also GP must make sure contact details are safe for contacting victims.**

**2. Working with our local Women's Refuge it has been agreed that a mental health support worker is available to support the refuge with any issues out of hours. This will make a great difference to the victims, and also staff who are not trained in mental health issues.**

## 2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- Funding for Rent and Sustaining Office and administration. Funding to providing posters and leaflets.
- Running Programmes and Support long term.
- Awareness raising time and expertise but with the backup of leaflets and posters and expenses..
- Gaps in Services travel and time open meetings in the community.
- Crises intervention Counselling and Therapy sessions on going.
- Funding on going for general upkeep and programmes.
- The volunteer time given to the Forum reached 351.5 hours in the first quarter. This worked out at minimum gives us £2460 of matched funding by the Forum.

**3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:** *See checklist below. The relevant issues identified from the checklist should be explained as appropriate.*

<b>ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)</b>	<b>PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'</b>
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	No
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
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	Yes