

ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING

DECISION NO. 31-2019

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

**SUBJECT: AWARD OF GRANT –
SUFFOLK YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE**

SUMMARY:

1. In accordance with the provisions in the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 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. In applying this provision, the PCC will ensure that the services commissioned are consistent with the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021.
2. This report seeks approval to award a grant to Suffolk County Council for the amount of £31,300 to employ a specialist Criminal Exploitation Worker as part of the Suffolk Youth Justice Service Diversion Programme. The post will support early identification and intervention for children and young people involved or at risk of involvement with County Lines in West Suffolk.
3. The funding will support delivery of Objectives 2 and 3 in the Police and Crime Plan and a number of associated actions in order to reduce crime, disorder and reoffending.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. It is recommended that the PCC approves a grant of £31,214 for the period 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020 to Suffolk County Council for a Suffolk Youth Justice Service Criminal Exploitation Worker.

APPROVAL BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

The recommendation set out is agreed.

Signature *Tina Parnmore*

Date *26th July
2019*

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 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.
- 1.2 In applying this provision, the PCC will ensure that the services commissioned are also consistent with the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021.
- 1.3 This report seeks approval to award a grant of £31,214 for the period 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020 to Suffolk County Council for a Suffolk Youth Justice Service Criminal Exploitation Worker.

2. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The proposed grant is intended to contribute to the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 Objective 2 (Caring about victims, communities, the local economy and our people) and Objective 3 (Protecting the most vulnerable people and communities by preventing, reducing and solving crime and anti-social behaviour).
- 2.2 The proposed grant will support early identification and intervention for children and young people involved or at risk of involvement with County Lines and deliver on the intention in the Police and Crime Plan to reduce reoffending and transform rehabilitation:
 - Objective 2, action 5: I will support for young people through positive engagement schemes and via crime and disorder reduction initiatives (including those who are disadvantaged and at risk of offending).
 - Objective 3, action 20: I will continue to support activities to reduce substance misuse.
 - Objective 3, action 32: I will work with the countywide governance structures in place to support the countywide County Lines and Urban Gangs Strategic Action Plan to support those at risk of offending and becoming victims.

3. SUFFOLK YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE – DIVERSION PROGRAMME

Suffolk Youth Justice Service

- 3.1 Suffolk Youth Justice Service (SYJS) aims to reduce re-offending, risk of harm to actual and potential victims and promote the safety and wellbeing of the young people it works with to enable them to live productive and crime free lives.
- 3.2 SYJS is a multi-agency partnership, hosted by Suffolk County Council, comprising the following statutory partners: the local authority; Constabulary; probation service and health (Clinical Commissioning Groups). In preparing this decision paper, the Head of Commissioning has consulted Suffolk Constabulary, a statutory SYJS partner.
- 3.3 SYJS works with young people on court ordered sentences including custody, and with their families. They also offers a range of restorative options to the victims of the young people who they are supervising.

The Diversion Programme

- 3.4 In addition to statutory provision SYJS offers the Diversion Programme which is an established programme working with young people who are at risk of offending or anti-social behaviour or are suitable for diversion from formal criminal justice processes. Young people who are at risk of County Lines or Urban Street Gang involvement and young people who commit harmful sexual behaviour are a priority group for this intervention.
- 3.5 The Diversion Programme is voluntary scheme that accept referrals from schools, the police and other partner agencies, as well as parents/carers and self-referrals. Independent evaluations by the University of Suffolk and the Centre for Justice Innovation have evidenced a range of positive outcomes including reducing first-time entrants to the Criminal Justice System and reducing re-offending rates.
- 3.6 Suffolk Youth Justice Service delivered a total of 669 supervised interventions with young people in 2018/19 including 470 Diversion programmes, 67 youth Caution / Conditional Caution programmes and 132 Court Outcomes. Over 10% of the young people SYJS are currently working with are flagged as having associations with gangs or county lines, although they suggest this is an underestimate.

Urban Street Gangs and County Lines

- 3.7 In 2017 the University of Suffolk undertook research which confirmed that County Lines and Urban Street Gangs were operating and interacting with each other in Suffolk and that there were at least two recognisable urban street gangs based in Ipswich. In addition, Suffolk has seen the arrival of 'gang members', establishing local drug dealing networks supplied mainly from London and that County Lines¹ were also operating in many parts of Suffolk.
- 3.8 Data from Suffolk Constabulary shows an increase in violence with injury (11.8%) and violence without injury (15%) in the last 12 months (to 31 May 2019) when compared with the three year average. The western area of the county shows slightly higher increases in both categories, 14.2% and 17% respectively. For possession of weapons there has been an increase of 32.5% across Suffolk and 13.3% in West Suffolk. The Office of National Statistics have indicated that some of the increase in violent crime and possession of weapons is likely to be driven by gang and County Lines activity.
- 3.9 The threat posed by County Lines and Urban Street Gangs in Suffolk has been recognised and a countywide strategy and action plan is in place. The SYJS Diversion Programme is an integral part of the delivery these plans.
- 3.10 Using national analysis by the Children's Commissioner's Office and assuming similar proportions in Suffolk SYJS estimate that approximately 455 children will have been the victim of a violent crime in the past 12 months and either are a gang member or know a gang member. They estimate that 90 children are known to children's services or youth offending teams leaving a further 360 children in Suffolk experiencing gang violence but as yet unknown to Suffolk Youth Justice Service or Children's Services.
- 3.11 Evidence from SYJS and partners shows that, although subject to fluctuation, the number of County Lines operating in the west of the county is as high as in Ipswich and that County Lines involvement is driving a high number of serious offences and

¹ County lines is a term used to describe the networks involved in exporting illegal drugs within the UK. The gang establishes a drug market in a rural town, with origins to an urban city location with mobile phones frequently used to facilitate the drug deals. They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money and often use coercion, intimidation, violence and weapons.

risky behaviour. Young people are often linked to each other and more capacity to deliver targeted assertive outreach work, through a Criminal Exploitation Worker, would enable more preventative and diversion work to be carried out at an earlier stage.

Criminal Exploitation Worker

- 3.12 The proposed funding seeks a targeted extension of the existing Diversion Programme, to target and engage with young people in Suffolk at risk of or already involved in County Lines at an earlier point and to intervene and divert them away from continued involvement.
- 3.13 The proposal is to recruit a part time specialist Criminal Exploitation Worker to be based with the Diversion Programme in the west of the county. This post would be recruited at YJS practitioner level at 30 hours a week, working flexibly depending on service need. Basing the post in the Diversion Programme allows access to specialist services such as in-house mental health and onward referral to SYJS staff for longer term intervention once hard to reach young people have been engaged.
- 3.14 The post will be geographically based in West Suffolk, which has been identified as requiring additional resource but will link with the Suffolk Against Gang Exploitation (SAGE) team in Ipswich and share learning with them.
- 3.15 The post would support the work of the new multi-agency county lines panels which are part of the action plan in the West and will be deployed to engage young people not currently known to services and who are identified as of most concern on a multi-agency basis.
- 3.16 The young people this work is aimed at are difficult to engage supporting the need for the assertive outreach approach. It will be deployed to work with siblings and associates of young people who are known to already be involved and other young people of concern who are hard to reach and resistant to engaging with services. This will include work with parents. The post will also provide oversight of County Lines activity and the young people involved.

4. MONITORING AND OUTCOMES

- 4.1 This grant award is made on the basis of financial and activity information being made available to the PCC quarterly with a final report submitted to the PCC by 30 October 2020.
- 4.2 The PCC requires information to be reported quarterly on the following:
 - Narrative update on the service, challenges and risks.
 - Financial update on spend against budget allocations.
 - Number of individuals identified as at risk and numbers who subsequently engage with the service through assertive outreach.
 - Length of time individuals are engaged with on the programme.
 - Characteristics of individuals supported: age, gender.
 - Measurement of change using the Asset Plus assessment tool and reasons for this change. Asset Plus identifies the balance of the following desistance factors:
 - Risk of serious harm to others
 - Risk of re-offending
 - Safety and Wellbeing

- 4.3 The PCC requires SYJS to consider and report on measures taken to sustain the post following the 12 month PCC grant funded period.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Funding of £31,214 is requested from the PCC for the service for a period of 12 months. The proposed funding will be split equally over two financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21.

Item	Cost
Specialist Criminal Exploitation practitioner Grade 5 incl. pension (30 hours)	£27,214.00
Travel	£1000
Laptops/phones	£1000
Small budget for activities for young people	£2000
Premises	provided
Approx total per annum	£31,214.00

- 5.2 The infrastructure for this proposed post is provided by SYJS. This includes access to in house resources such as speech, language and communication therapists, psychology and mental health support, and substance misuse specialists. Premises and management costs are also covered through existing resources.
- 5.3 Suffolk Youth Justice Service has a budget of £2.8m for 2019/20.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 6.1 There are no major implications or risks associated with this decision paper.
- 6.2 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 ability to deliver.
- 6.3 Should there be any risk to the service being delivered, Suffolk Youth Justice Service is required to notify the PCC as per the conditions of award.
- 6.4 Full conditions of award can be found in Appendix A.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 It is recommended that the PCC approves a grant of £31,214 for the period 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020 to Suffolk County Council for a Suffolk Youth Justice Service Criminal Exploitation Worker.

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

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 PCC.

Signature: 

Date 18 July 2017

APPENDIX A



AWARD OF GRANT TO SUFFOLK YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE

CONDITIONS OF GRANT

1. Police and Crime Commissioner's Grant
 - 1.1 In accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 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.
 - 1.2 Commissioning decisions will be made on the basis of the extent to which the initiative is considered to be able to deliver outcomes, and takes account the following:
 - Innovation - an innovative approach;
 - Partnership/collaboration - working with other services;
 - Hard to reach/hear groups – Services aimed at supporting victims from hard to reach/hear groups;
 - Gaps in services – services that will address an unmet need/gap in services.
 - 1.3 The Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk will award a grant of £31,214 for the period 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020 to Suffolk County Council for a Suffolk Youth Justice Service Criminal Exploitation Worker.
2. Conditions of Award
 - 2.1 This award is one-off award is made on the basis of delivering the service above. The agreement of this award does not place any ongoing responsibility on the PCC to fund the service beyond the period of this grant.
 - 2.2 The award is also made on the basis that the grant recipient uses the grant for the proposed service (paragraph 1.3 above). In the event that the grant is not used for these purposes the monies must be repaid to the PCC.
 - 2.3 Where the grant is used to provide services for victims of crime those services must be free of charge.
 - 2.4 The following costs are not Eligible Expenditure: Payments that support activity intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, government or political parties, or attempting to influence the awarding or renewal of contracts and grants, or attempting to influence legislative or regulatory action.

- 2.5 The grant recipient must be able to evidence appropriate safeguarding procedures for those using their services and have due regard for the Local Children and Adult Safeguarding Boards' policies and guidance. The grant recipient must ensure that its services, policies, training, recruitment, vetting and referral processes appropriately safeguard children and vulnerable adults.

3. Bureaucracy

- 3.1 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.

4. Transfer of funds

- 4.1 Payment will be made following the receipt of an invoice/payment request.
- 4.2 The grant recipient will invoice the PCC for the grant after which transfer of funds will be arranged within 21 working days of receipt of the invoice.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 In order for any payment to be released, the PCC will require the grant recipient to:
- have accepted these conditions by signing and returning a copy of this Conditions of Award agreement,
 - have provided a communications plan and agreed publicity for this decision;
 - have provided appropriate bank details, and
 - be in compliance of the terms of award

5. Monitoring and Reporting

- 5.1 The grant recipient will report quarterly on the specified output and outcome measures and on financial expenditure. A final report will be submitted by 15 April 2019.
- 5.2 The PCC may require the attendance of any grant recipient at a public meeting of the PCC's Accountability and Performance Panel, on dates as determined by the PCC's Chief Executive. If this is the case the Chief Executive will advise the recipient.
- 5.3 The grant recipient must notify the PCC immediately if the organisation ceases to operate, the project does not proceed or if an underspend is forecast. Any underspend must be returned to the PCC.

6. Commissioning Principles

- 6.1 In the circumstances where the grant recipient commissions services from other bodies applications must be assessed (by the grant recipient) with good practice commissioning principles in mind (e.g. guidance on commissioning issued by the Association of Policing and Crime Chief Executives) and the PCC's Contract Regulations, and will have due regard for equality, diversity and human rights issues.

7. Publicity and Marketing

- 7.1 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 their promotional work. Any recipients of funding via the grant

recipient 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.

- 7.2 The grant recipient will liaise with the PCC's Communications Manager to agree a communications plan, including publicising this funding decision.

8. Access to Information

- 8.1 The PCC expects reasonable access to any records and information held by the grant recipient for purposes associated with the award.
- 8.2 The PCC reserves the right to withhold all or any payments of the award if the PCC has reasonably requested information/documentation from the grant recipient and this has not been received by the PCC in the timescales reasonably required.

9. Miscellaneous

- 9.1 The award may not be used to support or promote religious activity. This will not include inter-faith activity.
- 9.2 The grant recipient must ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that it and anyone acting on its behalf complies with any applicable law for the time being in force (so far as binding on the recipient).
- 9.3 The grant recipient, and its employees, shall be careful not to be subject to conflicts of interest.
- 9.4 The grant recipient shall ensure that third party recipients have comprehensive insurance cover (including, but not limited to, public liability insurance) in place and shall provide evidence of such insurance to the PCC on request.
- 9.5 The PCC accepts no liability to the grant recipient or 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.
- 9.6 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 by grant recipient of any of the conditions of award.
- 9.7 The grant recipient will, in relation to the service being commissioned, ensure that any data processing that is carried out to deliver the service meets the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) or other relevant data protection legislation, and further ensure that the rights of the data subject are delivered.
- 9.8 The grant recipient will be expected to evidence their compliance as appropriate with the GDPR and such other relevant legislation if asked to do so by the PCC.

10. Termination

- 10.1 This agreement may be terminated by either party giving the other at least three months' notice in writing.

ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT

Suffolk Youth Justice Service accepts the offer of an award of £31,300 and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant on which the offer is made.

On behalf of Suffolk Youth Justice Service:

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	

Bank details for grant payment:

Bank name:	
Branch name:	
Sort Code:	
Account name:	
Account number:	
Address:	
Postcode:	

Signed on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk:

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	