

ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING

DECISION NO. 26-2020

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

**SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF GRANT – SUFFOLK YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE –
CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION WORKER (WEST SUFFOLK)**

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.
2. In July 2019 the PCC awarded a grant to Suffolk Youth Justice Service to employ a specialist Criminal Exploitation Worker as part of the Suffolk Youth Justice Service Diversion Programme. The worker was employed in December 2019 and has supported the early identification and intervention for children and young people involved or at risk of involvement with County Lines in West Suffolk.
3. It is proposed that the PCC provides an extension to the grant until 31 March 2021.
4. 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 £10,405 for the period 1 December 2020 to 31 March 2021 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



Date 18.11.2020

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 £10,405 for the period 1 December 2020 to 31 March 2021 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 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 – CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION WORKER

- 3.1 PCC Decision [31-2019](#) set out the case for awarding a grant to Suffolk Youth Justice Service for a Criminal Exploitation Worker (CEW).
- 3.2 The Criminal Exploitation Worker has been in post since December 2019 and has been working with young people throughout the year including those on voluntary diversion, out of court disposals and statutory court orders.
- 3.3 Assertive outreach was not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions but referrals have come through the County Lines Panel (West) enabling early identification and intervention.
- 3.4 Monitoring provided by SYJS shows that the 25 young people worked with to-date are mainly aged 17/18, 92% male, 40% have a social care status; 40% NEET and 26% in education, training or employment. Risk levels remain variable for the young people on the CEW caseload but case study examples show evidence of where the CEW and interventions have helped young people and their families achieve change.

- 3.5 The CEW has also completed training with parents and professionals at schools and youth placements, raising awareness of criminal exploitation and county lines and of referral pathways.
- 3.6 The CEW will also be leading the Families Learning About Thinking Skills (FLATS) – County Lines programme, which builds on the first successful programme and modifies it for young people affected by criminal exploitation through County Lines.
- 3.7 The proposal to extend the funding for a further 4 months to the end of March 2021 would allow for the CEW to conclude the FLATS programme and continue to work with young people at risk of criminal exploitation through county lines where there continues to be a demonstrated need.

4. MONITORING AND OUTCOMES

- 4.1 Monitoring of grants is undertaken on a quarterly basis through written reports and supplementary meetings where necessary. A final report will be submitted to the PCC by 30 April 2021.
- 4.2 The PCC requires information to be reported 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

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Funding of £10,405 is recommended for this grant award from the PCC's commissioning budget for Crime and Disorder Reduction.
- 5.2 One of the stipulations in the original award of the grant was for SYJS to consider and report on measures taken to sustain the post following the PCC grant period. SYJS have reported that there will be funding from April 21 – March 24 provided through Suffolk Public Sector Leaders for a very similar Grade 5 post which will be based in Bury and part of a wider work programme.

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 values of the grants, the duration of delivery and ability to deliver including during the Covid-19 pandemic and during any 'lockdown' conditions.

6.3 Should there be any risk to the service being delivered, SYJS is required to notify the PCC as per the conditions of award.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that the PCC approves a grant of £10,405 for the period 1 December 2020 to 31 March 2021 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?	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

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: 16.11.2020

