

ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING

DECISION NO. 1 - 2022

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

**SUBJECT: SUFFOLK DOMESTIC ABUSE PERPETRATOR PROGRAMME - GRANT
FUNDING EXTENSION**

SUMMARY:

1. The Home Office have awarded grant funding of £246,000 to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk for continued delivery of the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme in Suffolk between October 2021 and March 2022 in its current format. This extends Home Office funding first awarded in 2020 for the programme, which was supported by match funding from partners between April and September 2021.
2. The programme of work will continue to be delivered by Suffolk Constabulary's Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Unit through one to one behaviour change with perpetrators and by Iceni, a local charity, who will continue their expansion of the Venta Programme, a unique group programme tackling offending behaviour.
3. In order to facilitate the delivery of Venta group programmes the PCC is recommended to award a grant to Iceni. Monitoring requirements and assessment of risk will continue to ensure successful delivery of the project.
4. The funding supports the draft Police and Crime Plan activity to support effective domestic abuse perpetrator provision to prevent abuse and reduce re-offending and the objective in the draft Suffolk Multi-agency Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy to pursue perpetrators.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. It is recommended that the PCC:
 - a. Notes the grant funding of £246,000 from the Home Office for delivery of the Suffolk Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme;
 - b. Agrees the award of a grant of £138,160 to Iceni for the delivery of the Venta programme between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022.

APPROVAL BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

The recommendation set out is agreed.

Signature



Date 10.1.2022

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 This report documents the Home Office grant offer to the PCC to continue funding the Suffolk domestic abuse perpetrator programme and the proposal to fund Icení through a PCC grant to fulfil their element of the project.

2. HOME OFFICE DOMESTIC ABUSE PERPETRATOR PROGRAMME FUNDING

- 2.1 In 2020, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner led a successful application for Domestic Abuse (DA) Perpetrator Programme funding from the Home Office supported by Suffolk Constabulary, Suffolk County Council and local charity Icení.
- 2.2 The objective in the bid was to engage with more perpetrators on quality programmes, that support sustained behaviour change. The intended outcomes are to reduce reoffending and repeat victimisation, while protecting victims and their families.
- 2.3 Delivery was through one to one behaviour change with perpetrators delivered by Suffolk Constabulary's DA Perpetrator Unit (DAPU) and expansion of Icení's Venta group programme across Suffolk.
- 2.4 Further background on original bid for funding in 2020 can be found in [Decision 1-2021](#).
- 2.5 Delivery commenced in 2020 and monitoring information indicates the following was achieved in 12 months to October 2021:
- Recruitment and training of personnel
 - Expansion of Venta to Lowestoft with a total of 85 group sessions in Ipswich, Lowestoft and online.
 - 483 one to one sessions across Venta and DAPU have been delivered.
 - There have been 30 completers during the period.
 - Icení gained Respect accreditation
 - Most participants were rated as medium risk although Venta has worked with 5 high risk perpetrators during the year.
 - Venta report that a range of indicators show that completers evidence considerable change and a marked reduction in risk of harm to partners children and families.
 - The cases referred through social care are seeing reduction in the level of social care need and intervention and even a move to no active Social Care involvement.
- 2.6 Delivery was challenging during the pandemic and periods of lockdown however progress and risks have been kept under regular review and mainly related to: awareness raising across the county; generating new referrals through limited referral routes; diversity of participants (data shows a predominantly white British male cohort currently); introduction of online group delivery for the Venta programme.

- 2.7 Evaluation is expected in 2022 and will inform future DA perpetrator commissioning aligned to the new Suffolk Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy.
- 2.8 In April 2021, the Home Office proposed potential additional funding to extend the duration the DA programmes. The OPCC provided a proposal which would allow for continued delivery of the programme in its current format with some increase to resource and external evaluation and received confirmation of funding in October for the period 1 October 2021 – 31 March 2022.
- 2.9 The Home Office agreed the proposal and a new grant agreement for funding was awarded in October 2021. As a consequence, this decision paper recommends the award of a grant to Iceni using the Home Office funding in order to deliver the Venta programme element of the Suffolk DA perpetrator programme.

3. MONITORING AND OUTCOMES

- 3.1 The Home Office grant agreement sets out the requirement for the OPCC to report quarterly on progress with the activities.
- Period 1 (Oct – Dec 2021) by 14 Jan 2022
 - Period 2 (Jan - Mar 2022) by 14 April 2022
- 3.2 Monitoring requirements for the extension of the grant remain the same as in the original agreement and cover an update of progress; provision of data including referrals and demographics; financial update including forecast underspend and risk assessment from Suffolk Constabulary and Iceni.
- 3.3 The Head of Commissioning will provide oversight of the project, meet quarterly with the delivery partners and liaise with the Home Office.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Home Office have awarded grant funding of £246,000 from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022 to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk.
- 4.2 There are no match funding requirements for this grant.
- 4.3 Funding will be allocated as follows to support delivery of the programme. Funding is claimed from the Home Office in arrears in accordance with the grant agreement.

Suffolk Constabulary	£103,140
Iceni	£138,160
Accessibility Fund (held by the PCC)	£4,700
Total	£246,000

- 4.4 Funding requested from the Home Office included the costs of 1 police constable and 3 Behaviour Change workers, clinical supervision and new external evaluation for the DA Perpetrator Unit in Suffolk Constabulary. Given the timescales in which the Home Office grant was awarded recruitment for the additional Behaviour Change Worker will not be achievable within the grant period, resulting in a forecast underspend. The Home Office have been informed of this.

- 4.5 Funding to Iceni includes funding the Group programme co-ordinator and the cost of running 4 group programmes (facilitator and support costs) and indirect costs such as premises costs, utilities and office consumables.
- 4.6 A Single Tender Action (STA) has been produced which sets out the circumstances that allow for a single tender action, namely that only one supplier is able to carry out the work for technical reasons and because of exclusive rights and that the contract is required so urgently (due to Home Office grant restrictions) that competition is impracticable. The STA documentation includes a value for money assessment which indicates public value benefits of £17 for every £1 invested in Venta group work. Short-term fiscal benefits are valued at £183,589 split across the public sector. (University of Suffolk, September 2020.)
- 4.7 The value of the recommended PCC grant to Iceni over the period 1 October 2021 – 31 March 2022 is £138,160.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 5.1 The current risk assessment for the programme highlights the following factors which will be monitored and mitigated where possible: likely underspend on grant; insufficient referrals; delivery changes in response to Covid-19 pandemic; evaluation within short timeframe and sustainability of programmes.
- 5.2 Should there be any risk to the service being delivered the delivery partners (Suffolk Constabulary and Iceni) are required to notify the PCC.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 It is recommended that the PCC:
- a. Notes the grant funding of £246,000 from the Home Office for delivery of the Suffolk Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme;
 - b. Agrees the award of a grant of £138,160 to Iceni for the delivery of the Venta programme between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022.

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

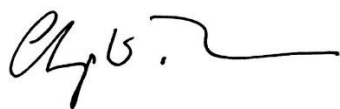
In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

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 6.1.2022