



ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING

DECISION NUMBER: 25 - 2024

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: CONTRACT EXTENSION TO VICTIM SUPPORT FOR THE NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK VICTIM CARE SERVICE (NSVC)

SUMMARY:

1. This paper seeks approval from the Police and Crime Commissioner for the extension of the Victims of Crime contract with Victim Support at a cost of £168,876 to Suffolk for the period 1 April to 30 September 2025.
2. The contract commenced in April 2020 for a period of three years with the option to extend for two years taken in 2023.
3. A procurement process is underway to recommission the service from 1 October 2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner grants approval to extend the contract with Victim Support for a period of six months, as outlined in this report.

APPROVAL BY: PCC

The recommendation set out above is agreed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Parmore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Signature:

Date: 30 September 2024

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 1.1 Since 2015, Police and Crime Commissioners have been responsible for commissioning victim assessment referral services for their force areas, utilising grant funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The availability of an assessment and referral service is an entitlement set out in the Victims Code of Practice.
- 1.2 The PCCs for Norfolk and Suffolk co-commission 'Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care', which is the victim assessment, support and referral service for victims of crime in both counties. The service is currently delivered by Victim Support, in partnership with the Offices of the Police and Crime Commissioners for Norfolk and Suffolk.
- 1.3 The Victims of Crime Care Service for the populations of Norfolk and Suffolk contract was originally commissioned in April 2020 for a period of 3 years and extended for 2 years in 2023. Decisions C38-2019 and 8-2023 refer.
- 1.4 The OPCC commissioning leads in Norfolk and Suffolk have proposed an extension of six months to the current contract to allow sufficient time for a procurement process and mobilisation.
- 1.5 In agreeing to this extension Victim Support will: maintain the current monitoring and reporting requirements and staff structure of the service; support the transition of standard risk domestic abuse cases to new provision (once commissioned) and develop a plan to support transition of the service to the new specification by 1 October 2025.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The original 3-year contract value was £1,889,946 and was jointly funded by Norfolk and Suffolk on a 50/50 basis. The cost of the 2 year extension period was £1,274,919 funded on the same basis.
- 2.2 The cost for the proposed six month extension is £337,752 requiring £168,876 to be funded from Suffolk. This represents a 5% increase on the budget for this year (2024/25) and includes provision for: salary inflation, increased travel and accurate reflection of office costs. The budget for volunteer costs has been removed.
- 2.3 The cost for the delivery of this service has previously been met through the Ministry of Justice Victim Services grant to the PCC. At the time of writing, there is no confirmation of this grant for 2025/26 and this is reflected on the PCC risk register. However, due to the necessity of the service to victims of crime, it is proposed that the PCC commits to funding the service from his local commissioning budget, in the event of MoJ funding not being available.

3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 3.1 There are no other risks associated with this matter.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	NO
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

Acting 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: 24 September 2024