

## THE POLICE CRIME & VICTIMS' COMMISSIONER FOR DURHAM

### DECISION RECORD FORM

**REQUEST:**

**Title: The Grow Project and Community Peer Mentors**

**Summary:**

The Community Peer Mentor Network (the Network) ended 2017/18 providing coverage to the whole force area. This was facilitated by a combination of monies from the PCVC Community Safety and Prevention budget, MoJ Victims Fund and Police Transformation Fund (PTF). PTF monies enabled the PCVC to respond to demand for peer mentors support throughout the whole of the force area by the recruitment of two part time Area Coordinators.

The Network has trained over 130 mentors (21 from external organisations), with 74 still active; they have engaged with 73 clients having had 207 referred to the project, with 80 clients referred in the last quarter. The clients who have been supported represented a heavy demand on police time and, in 2017/18, peer mentor activities helped to release over 18,000 hours of police time (valued at nearly £500,000) for other duties.

The Network is just about to commence an educational programme with its first voluntary sector organisation. The programme is intended to equip volunteers of participating organisations with the skills to identify signs of vulnerability in people within their communities, win the trust of those people identified as vulnerable and/or isolated and work with them to find solutions that will alleviate or remove the vulnerability (or isolation).

The Home Office confirmed the second year of PTF funding at the start of April, which will allow us to progress the Grow Project with the confidence of secure funding to the end of March 2019.

One of the critical learning points is that challenges within communities are nuanced and unique to each community, even though the characteristics may initially appear to be similar to those elsewhere. The 'Grow Project' will be facilitating the creation at community level of skills (capability), capacity and confidence to continue to resolve problems that present within that community.

The Community Peer Mentor Network and Grow project is expected to cost around £141,000 in 2018/19, funded as follows:

- PCVC Community Safety & Prevention budget (£40,000);
- PCVC Victims budget (£24,000);
- Police Transformation Fund (£77,000).

**Decision: Agree the 2018/19 Grow Project and Community Peer Mentors budget**

**OPCVC Lead Officer: Charles Oakley**

**Contractor Details (if applicable):**

**Implications:**

Has consideration been taken of the following:	Yes	No	
Financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality & Diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Consultation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**(If yes please provide further details below)**

## Decision Required – Supporting Information

Financial Implications: (Must include comments of the PCVC's CFO where the decision has financial implications)

These are set out in the main body of the report.

Legal Implications: (Must include comments of the Monitoring Officer where the decision has legal implication)

No legal implications

Equality and Diversity Implications

No specific equality and diversity implications

Human Rights Implications

No specific human rights implications

Sustainability Implications

No specific sustainability implications

Risk Management Implications

No specific risk management implications

Consultations

No specific consultation took place

### OFFICER APPROVAL

#### Chief Executive

I have been consulted about the decision and confirm that financial, legal, and equalities advice has been taken into account. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

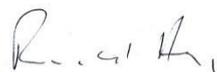
Signed:



Date: 06/04/2018

### Police and Crime Commissioner:

Signed:



Date: 06/04/2018