

## THE POLICE CRIME & VICTIMS' COMMISSIONER FOR DURHAM

### DECISION RECORD FORM

**REQUEST:**

**Title: Secondment of a Peer Mentor Coordinator from Safe in Tees Valley (£36,800)**

**Executive Summary**

The Community Peer Mentor Scheme which commenced in 2016 has provided solid evidence that vulnerable people who are leading chaotic lives contact the police and emergency services because they feel there is no other choice. Within this group of vulnerable people are many that fall beneath the radar of local health and social services, sometimes because they fall outside the thresholds for support or more disturbingly because they do not know where to go for help. Some have undiagnosed medical conditions or are too embarrassed to seek help.

The role of the Peer Mentor Coordinator is to develop community peer mentor groups that respond to vulnerable people who frequently contact the emergency services, local health services or local authorities simply because they do not know where else to raise their concerns, so they can be paired with someone who has walked in their shoes and can relate to the person's concerns and refer them to the right place for support (often a community or voluntary organisation).

Community Peer Mentor groups have been established in Darlington and Bishop Auckland. The proposal is to extend these groups across the rest of County Durham and build on the success of the project to date. To date 66 active peer mentors (volunteers) have been recruited and trained helping 35 of the most vulnerable members of community.

Help from the peer mentors is triggered by the volume of calls made by a vulnerable person to the police. The interventions, in addition to supporting the vulnerable person, has reduced their need to contact the police. Whilst the police can respond to the circumstances that present at the time of the call, the peer mentors get behind the reasons that prompted the call and work to resolve the underlying needs.

The Peer Mentor Coordinator is the pivotal role leading the support activities and fundamental to the continued success of the scheme. It's recommended that the secondment continues for another 12 months from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

**Decision:** To agree the secondment of a Peer Mentor Coordinator from Safe in Tees Valley at a cost of £36,800.

**OPCC Lead Officer: Charles Oakley**

**Contractor Details (if applicable):**

**Implications:**

Has consideration been taken of the following:

Financial

Yes

No



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 PCC's CFO where the decision has financial implications)

This has been considered as part of the 2017/18 MOJ Victims monies and is included within the budget, (£36,800).

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

No specific 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

Consulted with Safe in Tees Valley.

### 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.

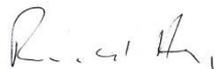
Signed:



Date: 24/03/17

### Police and Crime Commissioner:

Signed:



Date: 24/03/17