

THE POLICE CRIME & VICTIMS' COMMISSIONER FOR DURHAM

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST:

Title: Additional Independent Sexual Violence Advisor support

Background

While the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) continues to provide a first class service to victims of rape and serious sexual assault, voluntary and community sector partners are crucial in delivering support across the wider sexual assault service pathway. The main provider of these services in County Durham and Darlington is the Rape and Sexual Assault Counselling Centre (RSACC). RSACC currently delivers a counselling service on behalf of the SARC but also receives a significant number of self-referrals for the more generic support typically delivered by Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVA). In order to establish a better understanding of the nature and scale of any unmet need, the PCVC has agreed to fund additional ISVA support based in RSACC for an initial period of 12 months.

Executive Summary

The decision to fund additional ISVA support based within the voluntary and community sector is underpinned by the need to:

- Ensure all victims of rape and sexual assault have access to high quality, safe and effective services;
- Respond appropriately to those victims who prefer not to go through the SARC;
- Offer choice to victims;
- Provide a level of independence where victims express a wish for this;
- Increase the resilience of existing services.

The main role of the ISVA will be to:

- Provide pro-active support and advice to victims (age 16+) of rape/sexual violence and sexual abuse;
- Support service users to make informed choices about their future options;
- Explain relevant criminal, legal and civil remedies and housing options to service users as required;
- Assess the risk and support needs of service users;
- Develop individual support plans to address risks /support needs of service users;
- Ensure that service users are aware of the services to which they are entitled and advocate for them to help them access services;
- Understand the legal framework relating to the protection of children and vulnerable adults, including the policy and procedures in relation to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults;
- Support ISVA service users through the Criminal Justice System, explaining the procedures and their role and rights within that system, referring on to other services as appropriate.

Decision: To fund RSACC to provide a service that supports victims of rape and sexual assault in County Durham and Darlington at a cost of £21,600 for 2017/18.

OPCC 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 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, (£21,600)

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

Grant arrangement pursuant to the PCVCs commissioning powers set out in s143 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

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 implications

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.

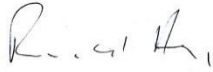
Signed:



Date: 30/04/17

Police and Crime Commissioner:

Signed:



Date: 30/04/17