Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner – Notice of Decision

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DECISION OR INFORMATION:	Decision
DATE RECEIVED:*	15/10/2021
REF:* (to be inserted by the OPCC)	2021.103

TITLE:	Donation towards the cost of a video recorded interview suite in paediatric sexual assault referral centre

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Commissioner has received a business case proposal from Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust requesting a financial contribution towards the cost of building a police video recorded interview (VRI) suite in the East Midlands Children's and Young People's Sexual Assault Service (EMCYPSAS).

The total cost of the build is over £300,000, to be funded by Nottingham Hospitals Charity. The proposal costs were agreed in early 2020. However, since then building costs have increased since then, meaning there is a £95,000 shortfall for the project. NUH Estates has agreed to fund some of the shortfall. The Commissioner has agreed to donate £60,000 towards the cost of the build.

The Commissioner is requested to approve the revenue donation of £60,000 to Nottingham Hospitals Charity for the specific purpose of contributing towards the cost of building a video recorded interview suite in the paediatric SARC EMCYPSAS. This will be funded from reserves.

INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF DECISION: (eg report or business case)

Currently children and young people in Nottinghamshire who have experienced sexual assault have their formal video recorded interview in dedicated suites in police stations. The suites are not child friendly and children and young people requiring a forensic examination must travel to two sites to give evidence. A VRI suite within the paediatric SARC will create a child/young person friendly space for police interviews which is compliant with evidential requirements and will help achieve best evidence.

The provision of a VRI suite within the paediatric SARC will also reduce the trauma that children young people face, by ensuring they do not have to travel to two sites to provide evidence and because trained crisis workers at the paediatric SARC will be present to provide emotional support to children and young people and their families post interview.

The donation will pay for under 20% of the overall costs of the VRI suite. Although the suite will also be used by children and young from outside Nottinghamshire, data provided by NUH demonstrates that in 2019-0 just under 40% of the forensic cases seen in EMCYPSAS' Nottingham hub were from Nottinghamshire. In 2020-1 just under 50% of the cases were from Nottinghamshire.

Legal advice has confirmed that a donation to Nottingham Hospitals Charity for the purpose of contributing towards the cost of the VRI suite may lawfully be made.

** **See guidance on non-public information**

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Financial Regulations currently limit grants to £25,000, however this grant provides a way to reduce commercial risk to the PCC and is within legal financial limits for financial contributions.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Signature: **Chief Finance Officer**	
Date:	18th October 2021.

Is any of the supporting information classified as non-public or confidential information?**	Yes	☐	No	☒
If yes, please state under which category from the guidance**				

DECISION:
The Commissioner is requested to approve the revenue donation of £60,000 to Nottingham Hospitals Charity for the specific purpose of contributing towards the cost of building a video recorded interview suite in the paediatric SARC EMCYPSAS. This will be funded from reserves.

OFFICER APPROVAL:	
I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that the appropriate advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.	
Signature: **Chief Executive**	
Date:	20/10/21

** See guidance on non-public information

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DECLARATION:	
I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and I take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Any interests are indicated below: The above request has my approval	
Signature: Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner	
Date:	21.10.21

** See guidance on non-public information