

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Notice of Decision



Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

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For Decision or Information	Decision
Date received*:	17.07.18
Ref*:	2018.055

*to be inserted by Office of PCC

TITLE: Extension of funding for sexual violence counselling services in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire in 2018-19

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The PCC has a responsibility to commission services for victims of crime, and to prioritise the victims of the most serious crime.

Victims (survivors) of sexual violence require a range of help to cope and recover from crime, including crisis support, help through the criminal justice system, counselling and peer support.

In 2017 the PCC commissioned independent specialist SV consultancy Lime Culture to review Nottinghamshire's sexual violence support and make recommendations for future service provision. One of the recommendations was that mental health commissioners (clinical commissioning groups or "CCGs") identify how they can better meet the needs of victims and survivors in Nottinghamshire.

To implement Lime Culture's recommendation, the PCC has been in extended discussions with CCGs about the future of therapeutic support (ie counselling) for sexual violence victims and survivors. Following his meeting with CCG chief officers, a health led commissioning task and finish group has been set up. The purpose of this group is to identify how specialist therapeutic support will be commissioned from April 2019. An options paper will soon be published to take this work forward.

In the city, the contract co-commissioned in 2016 by the PCC, Nottingham CCG and Nottingham City Council continues to deliver. However, there is no co-commissioned contract for the county. In order to ensure no loss of support to providers, the PCC is requested to approve the following funding to ensure existing counselling support services are extended for a final year:

1. Funding of up to £117,510 to Notts SVS Services to continue to provide counselling as follows:
 - £22,464 from Victims' Services Grant for the provision of counselling in the county;
 - £39,402 from Child Sexual Abuse Grant for the provision of counselling for survivors of child sexual abuse in the city and county;
 - £55,64 for the provision of counselling support for survivors of child sexual abuse who were failed by a person in authority, this to be funded by £18,490 from Child Sexual Abuse Grant and £37,160 from Victims' Services Grant;
2. Funding of up to £91,898 from Victims Services Grant to ISAS to continue to provide counselling support in the county, this to be funded by £58,374 from Victims Services Grant and £33,524 from MoJ Childhood Sexual Abuse Grant ("CSA grant").

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INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF DECISION: (e.g report or business case)

NHS England in its document "Strategic Direction for Sexual Assault and Abuse Services 2018-2023" identifies that services for depression and post traumatic stress disorder, which should understand the specific needs of victims and survivors, are the commissioning responsibility of CCGs.

However, the county CCGs do not currently commission any specialist support. Support has instead been funded to date by the PCC and County Council. This funding is under historic arrangements, has been agreed year on year and is vulnerable. Following the Lime Culture report, and to achieve the recommendations in the report, the PCC has held extensive discussions with the County Council and clinical commissioning groups in the county to agree how CCGs can sustainably meet the mental health services of victims and survivors in future.

These discussions have resulted in an options paper recommending that the CCGs work with stakeholders to develop a bespoke pathway for victims and survivors. The pathway should be in place from April 2019.

As there was no agreement for co-commissioned approach in time to co-commission a new service for 2018-9, and as the PCC wishes to ensure no loss of support, he is requested to continue to fund the existing county services. The CCG's pathway should be clear by the autumn of 2018, at which point the PCC will review provision and decide on his future commissioning approach. Any contracts for counselling support to be delivered from April 2019 will be awarded following an open tender.

In addition to the county counselling services delivered by ISAS and NSVSS, the PCC is requested to continue to fund some counselling support across the city and county by NSVSS. This funding is to ensure continuation of a service previously funded by MoJ specifically for survivors of child sexual abuse. Finally, the PCC is also requested to approve the continuation of additional counselling support that was put in place following the City's listening event in September 2016. The listening event brought together NSVSS as the city provider with victims and survivors of non recent child sexual abuse, following which the PCC agreed to boost the capacity of city and county services in order to ensure that victims and survivors did not have to wait for a service.

In order to allow time for further discussions with partners, and to ensure that a specialist counselling service is still available to survivors in the county direct awards to continue the existing arrangements is recommended.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (please include if is it capital or revenue or both. What the split is and the totals being requested. Is this a virement/ something already budgeted for or something that requires additional funding. Are there any savings that can be offered up/or achieved)

Revenue funding is requested. The amounts requested are within budget. The demand for sexual violence support has risen and continued investment is required.

Signature: 
Chief Finance Officer

Date: 17th July 2018

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Is any of the supporting information classified as non public or confidential information**?	Yes	✓	No	
If yes, please state under which category number from the guidance**	3. Information relating to business affairs			

DECISION:

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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: 17th July 2018

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 and Crime Commissioner

Date: 18/7/18

** See guidance on non public information