

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Notice of Decision



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For Decision or Information	Decision
Date received*:	08.05.19
Ref*:	2019.023

*to be inserted by Office of PCC

TITLE: Re co-commissioning of domestic abuse support services in the city 2019-2028

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Re co-commissioning approach

In 2015 the PCC agreed a co-commissioning approach with Nottingham City Council, where the City Council would act as the lead commissioner for domestic and sexual violence and abuse support services in the city on behalf of the PCC, City Council and Clinical Commissioning Group. This was done under the legal umbrella of a tripartite Partnership Agreement and governed by the DSA Joint Commissioning Group ("JCG"), which is a sub group of the Crime and Drugs Partnership.

A number of domestic abuse contracts were awarded under these arrangements, not all of which are funded by the PCC. The contracts ran for 3 years and expired in March 2019. This is outlined in Notice of Decision reference 2016.009.

Following discussion at the JCG, and discussion with the PCC during 2018, it was agreed that:

- A. The PCC would continue to work with the City Council to co-commission support services, with the City Council acting as the lead commissioner and both parties maintaining their 2018-9 investment;
- B. Some women's domestic abuse support services would be combined into a single female DVA contract, including the IDVA and teens service, family support (Stronger Families service) and outreach support (RISE service);
- C. The City Council as lead commissioner would conduct an open tendering exercise to award the single female DVA support contract;
- D. The City Council as lead commissioner would award a grant to WAIS to continue to deliver the 24/7 domestic and sexual violence helpline;
- E. The City Council as lead commissioner would award a contract to Equation to continue to deliver the male support service;
- F. The City Council as lead commissioner would extend the prevention and professional development contract delivered by Equation for the period 2019-0.

With the exception of F, the contract/grant lifetimes for the above would be for 3 years from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022, with 3 possible 2 year extensions to March 2028 (9 years in total).

Award of contract

Following the PCC's verbal agreement, a tender for the delivery of B above was published in October 2018. A panel was convened by Nottingham City Council on 29 November and agreed to

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award the contract to WAIS for the period 2019-22, with 3 possible 2 year extensions. The published value of the contract was £584,155 pa, of which the PCC's contribution is £144,873 pa.

Additional financial support for MARAC IDVA

In 2018 the PCC agreed to provide additional funding to pay for two more MARAC IDVA posts in the city (see Notice of Decision reference 2018.049). The funding expired in March 2019.

Following a brief review of the need for the additional post by the Crime and Drugs Partnership through the city's MARAC steering group in October 2018, it was clear that the high presenting demand at city MARAC could not safely be met without continuing to provide additional MARAC support.

The PCC is therefore recommended to continue to fund the MARAC IDVA for 2019-0.

Approval

The PCC is asked to confirm his verbal approval for the following:

1. To continue to co-commission city domestic abuse support services, with the City Council acting as the lead commissioner;
2. To maintain the 2018-9 level of domestic abuse support funding in 2019-0;
3. To co-commission a single contract for female domestic abuse support in the city (excluding the helpline and refuge), with the City Council as lead commissioner
4. To provide £144,873 pa for the female domestic abuse support contract for the period 2019-22, delivered by WAIS as recommended by the City Council and to be funded by Victims Services Grant;
5. To provide £71,245 pa for the DSVSA helpline for the period 2019-22, delivered by WAIS as recommended by the City Council and to be funded by Victims Services Grant;
6. To provide £49,000 pa for the male support contract for the period 2019-22, delivered by Equation as recommended by the City Council and to be funded by Victims Services Grant;
7. To agree that the contract/grant lifetimes for numbers 3, 5 and 6 will be 2019-2022, with 3 possible 2 year extensions to March 2028;
8. To provide £107,500 pa for the prevention and professional development contract 2019-0, delivered by Equation and extended as recommended by the City Council. This will be funded by Community Safety Grant;
9. To provide £78,012 to continue to fund two additional MARAC IDVA posts in the city, delivered by WAIS and funded by Victims Services Grant.

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

Helping and supporting victims of crime is one of the PCC's key strategic priorities. The Police and Crime Plan 2018-21 has an objective to continue to support domestic abuse services. The PCC is committed to working with partners and is represented on the city's Joint Commissioning Group (JCG). The co-commissioning approach enables greater financial security and reduced bureaucracy for providers.

The draft domestic and sexual violence chapter within the city's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2018 concluded that there is still a need for domestic violence services in the city and for

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some services, this need is increasing. It also concluded that the current configuration of service provision overall is effective in meeting that need but that it may not be sufficient in terms of meeting demand. For example, demand for the helpline is increasing. The conclusions were based on consultation with previous service users, frontline staff supporting survivors, current providers, data analysis, national and local research and policy papers.

The JCG conducted an options appraisal and identified that the best option going forward was to procure a single service for female survivors. This would deliver value for money by reducing service costs and eliminating some duplication across separate services, and allow the provider greater flexibility.

The JCG also considered whether to combine the male support into the female service contract and whether to publish a tender. It was decided not to take this approach, given the unique needs of male survivors and the need to ensure that no perpetrators of abuse do not use the male service to harm women.

The DSVA helpline is funded by a number of funders including the City Council, County Council and the PCC. In addition, the provider contributes around £30k pa towards the cost of delivery, through voluntary sector fundraising and owns the phone number. No funder, either singly or working together, would be able to fund the service in entirety and it would not be sensible to tender part of the service. The City Council therefore recommended a grant funding approach to ensure stability of the service.

The original tender for the prevention and professional development contract, awarded to Equation in 2015, allowed for two one year extensions.

Continued funding is required for additional MARAC IDVAs in city. The presenting demand for MARAC in the city is high, with the new arrangements put in place during 2017-8 to accommodate additional demand now becoming business as usual. MARAC IDVAs support women with the highest levels of risk. The resource invested into two new IDVA posts in 2017/8 is still required in order to ensure a safe and effective service.

All the above service will be covered by the existing Partnership Agreement in the city. The Agreement will be varied for 2019-0 to include the additional MARAC IDVA funding.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (please include if it is 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)

The funding is revenue and is in budget. As the contracts do not increase year on year there are efficiency savings built in.

Signature: 
Chief Finance Officer

Date: 13th May 2019

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

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to business affairs

DECISION:

To approve the following:

1. To continue to co-commission city domestic abuse support services, with the City Council acting as the lead commissioner;
2. To maintain the 2018-9 level of domestic abuse support funding in 2019-0;
3. To co-commission a single contract for female domestic abuse support in the city (excluding the helpline and refuge), with the City Council as lead commissioner
4. To provide £144,873 pa for the female domestic abuse support contract for the period 2019-22, delivered by WAIS as recommended by the City Council and to be funded by Victims Services Grant;
5. To provide £71,245 pa for the DSVa helpline for the period 2019-22, delivered by WAIS as recommended by the City Council and to be funded by Victims Services Grant;
6. To provide £49,000 pa for the male support contract for the period 2019-22, delivered by Equation as recommended by the City Council and to be funded by Victims Services Grant;
7. To agree that the contract/grant lifetimes for numbers 3, 5 and 6 will be 2019-2022, with 3 possible 2 year extensions to March 2028;
8. To provide £107,500 pa for the prevention and professional development contract 2019-0, delivered by Equation and extended as recommended by the City Council. This will be funded by Community Safety Grant;
9. To provide £78,012 to continue to fund two additional MARAC IDVA posts in the city, delivered by WAIS and funded by Victims Services Grant.

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:

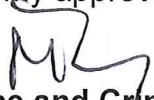
16th May 2019.**DECLARATION:**

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:

17/5/19

** See guidance on non public information