

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner – Notice of Decision

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DECISION OR INFORMATION:	Decision
DATE RECEIVED:*	09/08/2022
REF:* (to be inserted by the OPCC)	2022.068

TITLE:	Provision of comprehensive needs assessments for Divert Plus project participants
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This decision form seeks approval of a £10,000 spend to Hays Independent Services Limited – Whats The Big E for the provision of comprehensive needs assessments, aligned to EHC (Education, Health and Social Care) needs. This is to complement the speech and language element of the Divert Plus project.

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

Divert Plus is a Youth Endowment Fund project, funded to 31st March 2024 and is currently in the pilot phase prior to the efficacy phase commencing in September 2022. Divert Plus aims to successfully divert 10 to 17 year old children and young people (CYP) away from the Criminal Justice System (CJS) at teachable moments before court action is taken, ensuring they do not become involved in crime or violence in the future and to reach children who are most at risk of becoming involved in the CJS.

The intervention includes:

- Engagement and assessment within the custody setting or within 24 hours,
- Youth Justice workers will support non-custodial options including Restorative Justice and Out Of Court Disposals,
- Support with mentoring and activity agreed with the child, and where possible involving the family,
- Access to speech and language therapy where the need is identified.

We have been working closely with Notts Healthcare Trust colleagues to source the required speech and language therapy provision. This has been a project risk and has highlighted a shortage in availability of such resources. Recruitment has been less than anticipated however during this time CYP have continued to complete speech and language assessments but without access to further support.

The proposed services are in mitigation to the project risk and will provide additional support for the top 20 highest scoring CYP. This is complementary to traditional speech and language

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therapy and is aligned to EHC (Education, Health and Social Care) needs including the following:

- Reading skills
- Math skills
- Spelling
- Comprehension
- Social skills
- Sensory behaviour
- Social thinking
- Communication

As well as:

- Speaking to the young person and their family
- Reading of previous reports and supporting documentation
- Speaking with their placements/schools/colleges if deemed necessary

Assessments and recommendations will provide support for CYP and provide the NNVRU with a richer picture of this issue, following the Speech and Language Therapy in Youth Justice Evaluation, Nottingham City Council, 2020. (89% of CYP who have been arrested have speech and language needs. If these are not identified and addressed, then the risk of the CYP going on to commit violent offences is increased.)

It is proposed to contract Haye Independent Services Limited to undertake this work. A quote has been provided, and the NNVRU are satisfied that this meets the requirements of the project objectives. This is in agreement with the Contract Standing Orders which require one quote for activity up to a £10,000 threshold.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The cost will be up to £10,000 which will be funded from the YEF Divert Plus budget.

Signature:
Chief Finance
Officer

REDACTED

Date:

12/08/2022

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Is any of the supporting information classified as non-public or confidential information?*	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, please state under which category from the guidance**				
DECISION:				
This decision form seeks approval of a £10,000 spend to Haye Independent Services Limited – Whats The Big E for the provision of comprehensive needs assessments, aligned to EHC (Education, Health and Social Care) needs. This is to complement the speech and language element of the Divert Plus project.				

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:	12/08/2022

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:	15/08/2022