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FOI Response

Information provided under the Freedom of Information Act

Freedom of Information Request	
FOI Reference: FOI/OPCC/24-006	
Date of Request: 26/02/2024	Date of Response: 18/03/2024
Information Requested:	
1.	<p>Question:</p> <p>A copy of your most recent Executive Summary/Evaluation of your Perpetrator Programme(s) funded fully or in part by the Home Office Perpetrator Fund.</p>
	<p>OPCC Response:</p> <p>This information was presented at the countywide Domestic Abuse/Sexual Violence (DA/SV) Strategic Board on 31 October 2023. The Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA) work delivered by YMCA Trinity was funded by the Home Office DA Perpetrator Fund until 31 March 2023. It is now funded through the Police and Crime Commissioner's Crime and Disorder funding.</p> <p>The model put in place enables high risk offenders to be appropriately managed by the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Panel. Funding for a dedicated co-ordinator has been secured who will also explore what a potential Stalking</p>

Perpetrator Panel could look like. The original DA Panel has been recently externally evaluated and found the panel's engagement with National Probation Service provides a successful multi-agency platform in jointly managing prolific offenders and that the panel is an effective mechanism in disrupting the behaviours of prolific and high-risk offenders.

4.2 A Probation-run StepWise Programme (previously called Healthy Relationships) accepts up to 50 **medium risk** offenders a year onto their ten-week course as part of an Out of Court Disposal. In the first half of this year 27 men were referred and 16 have completed the course, taking the total number of completions since funding began to 58. Where end of programme evaluations were completed 100 per cent felt that they had a greater understanding of why they needed to change their behaviour to reduce risk to others and that the programme had given them skills to better manage conflict in their family and elsewhere. Evaluation of recidivism rates of 35 perpetrators who had completed the programme showed that in the 12-month period following completion only three people had re-offended, and these were not all for DA offences.

4.3 For '**standard risk**' cases up to 133 perpetrators a year are funded to complete the Hampton Trust run Cautioning And Relationship Abuse (CARA) programme. In Q1 32 perpetrators attended the CARA programme with a completion rate of 89 per cent and in Q2 there were a further 32 completions but this time with a completion rate of 91 per cent. Evaluations completed by perpetrators at the end of the intervention showed 98 per cent felt the programme had an impact on how they view their own behaviour and 92 per cent felt the intervention had an impact on their motivation to change aspects of their behaviour or life.

4.4 Feedback given by offenders at the end of the intervention included 'It helped me be aware of my actions and how I can prevent them in the

future' and 'I think this is positive actually, I am walking away when I feel some triggers and this is at work and at home. I think maybe I know myself a bit better.'

4.5 Feedback from victims where the perpetrator had completed CARA includes 'The CARA Intervention has had really good positive impact.' and: 'He has felt it has helped him he now has a different attitude which is positive.'

4.6 A new IDVA has been appointed to work with the Out of Court Disposal Team staff within the new Constabulary Prevention Hubs to ensure the voice of the victim informs decisions to offer OoCDs. This also ensures victims are offered quality support.

5. Perpetrators are appropriately pursued and challenged – Stalking

5.1 The Multi-Agency Stalking Intervention Team, now made up of two dedicated IDVAs, a police officer and a Consultant Counselling Psychologist is managing the risk posed by stalking perpetrators. Since the original Home Office funding began in August 2021 until 30th September 2023 the team has assessed over 300 cases.

5.2 In the first six months of this financial year the Psychologist provided 96 one to one sessions to 15 high risk perpetrators and advice to professionals in 19 cases where it would not be appropriate to work directly with the perpetrator due to issues such as severe mental health issues or the perpetrator being in custody. She has also supported eight cases where the perpetrator was transitioning to the community after a period in custody.

5.4 The specialist IDVAs supported 62 victims in the first six months, including 50 new referrals, ensuring crucial safety planning is in place

and where appropriate referring victims to have their properties made more secure.

5.5 In one particularly high-risk case the multi-agency work of the team helped to prevent a probable murder suicide and ensured that the level of risk was highlighted to the court to help ensure sentencing was appropriate to the seriousness of the situation.

5.6 Feedback from a victim of a workplace stalker, following support by a specialist IDVA, was that she had increased feelings of safety since the Stalking Protection Order (SPO) and target hardening had been provided. Although she had ongoing fears of persistence or recurrence of stalking, in general her health and wellbeing had improved as a result of the support provided and the SPO being in place. She was able to return to work after a period of absence, caused by the effects of the stalking behaviours on her health and wellbeing and had support and strategies to help build her resilience and manage her feelings of anxiety and stress.

5.7 Since August 2021 the team has helped to obtain at least 14 SPOs. A constabulary solicitor now co-locates with the team part of the week, this will help to facilitate the application of further SPOs.

6. Supporting and working with families experiencing CAPVA

6.1 Thanks to a successful 18-month pilot the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed to provide funding for YMCA Trinity to continue delivering the Respect Young People Programme (“RYPP”) in the county. The team are commissioned to triage 150 referrals and support 40 families a year to complete the full RYPP. In the pilot more than 200 families received initial support and professional guidance with 40 going on to complete the full 12-week RYPP.

- 6.2 Feedback from young people who completed evaluations at the end of the programme revealed 86 per cent of young people showed a positive change in their behaviours. Parent / Carer evaluation showed more than 91 per cent experienced a reduction in risk posed by the young person.
- 6.3 Of the first 15 young people to complete the programme, twenty months after completion the police had received 34 calls for service across eight of the 15 young people. This included one young girl who has complex mental health issues and two young men are from the same family and had begun to offend outside of the home, these three young people accounted for 85 per cent of the calls post intervention. The majority of calls were for low-level incidents not involving CAPVA. Prior to completing the programme these 15 young people were responsible for 330 calls to police.
- 6.4 At 18 months post intervention of the 15 young people in cohort two there had been 34 calls regarding nine of them. One of the young people who has diagnosed additional needs accounted for 41 per cent of the post intervention calls which involved CAPVA, the majority of the other calls were low level offences that did not involve CAPVA.
- 6.5 The third cohort of 11 young people had been the cause of 176 calls to police before the intervention. At nine months post intervention there had been 36 calls to police of which 47 per cent were for one young person.
- 6.6 The new contract will enable a DA Worker to be located within YMCA to offer support to parents and carers where completing the RYPP programme is not appropriate. The location of the worker within YMCA will enable a more joined up approach and enhanced service provision to families. It is anticipated that this worker will support parents / carers in approx. half of all referrals.