



Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Executive

Date: 24 July 2014

UPDATE ON LOCAL COMMISSIONING OF VICTIMS' SERVICES

1. Purpose

1.1 To update the Board on the progress against the Commissioning Intentions brought to BCB on January 14, 2014. This includes the successful outcome of the application to the Ministry of Justice's (MoJ) PCC Competed Fund for Victims' Services 2014/15 and the allocation of the 2014/15 Victims Services Grant.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Business Coordination Board (BCB) note the contents of the report.

2.2 The Business Coordination Board approve the:

- Ministry of Justice Competed Fund Awards
- Allocations from the 2014/15 Victims Services Grant
- Funding commitment for 2015/16 from the Victims Grant.
- Sustain the allocation to the Shrievalty Trust through the victims grant, allowing £50k of funding from the Community Safety Fund to fund other initiatives in 2014/15.
- Funding for Road Victims Trust in 2014/15.

2.3 Sir Graham Bright signs the decision making notice in relation to the above approval requests and accepting the MoJ Competed Fund award and projected spends from the 14/15 Victims Services grant.

3. Background

- 3.1 From October 2014 Police and Crime Commissioners will be responsible for commissioning the majority of support services for victims of crime locally to support them to cope and recover.
- 3.2 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) received a £299k Capability and Capacity Building Grant from the Ministry of Justice in December 2014. This grant was allocated within the period specified by the MoJ (refer to the paper “Item Agenda 12 – Victims Commissioning” presented to the BCB on February 27, 2014).
- 3.3 The MoJ has awarded funding totalling £454k for 2014/15 and an indicative allocation of £875k in 2015/16. This funding was to enable Cambridgeshire to take on the referral of victims to support services (as an early adopter) and the local commissioning of such services to enable victims of crime to cope and recover. For 2014/15 the grant also contained £18k ring-fenced for victims of domestic or sexual violence and £90k for restorative justice provision.
- 3.4 The Cambridgeshire Criminal Justice Board (CCJB) Victims and Witnesses Group has been engaging with service providers, through an OPCC-hosted Provider Forum, to ensure the providers’ voice and that of the victims they support, informs commissioning. This this engagement has been extremely well received by providers and complements the existing Victim and Offender needs assessment.
- 3.5 The county’s Victim Strategy (a Strategic Vision of Support for Victims in Cambridgeshire) has also provided a concrete platform from which all commissioning decisions have been taken.

4. Local Commissioning of Support Services for Victims of Crime

- 4.1 The research work funded by the MoJ Capacity and Capability grant has enabled the above mentioned CCJB Victims and Witnesses group to better understand the gaps in service provision. It has also enabled the provision of grants to allow the VCSE to develop innovative ways to support victims of crime such as: a pilot initiative to support exploited migrant workers in Fenland, training volunteers to provide counselling for the victims of sexual violence across the whole county and developing community capacity, by supporting Neighbourhood Watch, to build supportive communities.
- 4.2 The £454k core funding provided by the MoJ for commissioning victims’ services from October 2014 to April 2015 (which is separate to the Competed Fund) is expected to be largely used to fund the set-up of the Victims’ Hub (subject to the approval of a separate paper to this Board) and enable effective commissioning and monitoring of awards. A new post within the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) is also being progressed, which will be joint funded with Cambridgeshire County Council. This will address a lack of support for the families of young children who have been sexually abused and work in partnership with resources both within the SARC and Peterborough Women’s Aid.
- 4.3 Six months of funding for the Road Victims Trust (RVT) has also been secured from October 2014. The award of this £20k was made after consultation with county stakeholders (including road traffic officers) and Beds and Herts PCC offices and will

ensure stabilisation of the charity across the strategic alliance. Further collaborative consultation will determine future funding allocations from each OPCC. It has been identified that the allocation for the Shrievalty Trust would be more appropriate to be funded from the Victims Services Grant. This would allow £50k from the Community Safety Fund, to be allocated in part to fund the Road Victims Trust. The RVT saves 0.5FTE officer time each year in Cambridgeshire alone.

5. PCC Competed Fund for Victims' Service 2014/15

5.1 In March 2014 the Ministry of Justice announced that they were creating a £12million fund available for OPCC offices to bid into to effectively 'top up' their money for the local commissioning of victims' services.

5.2 Working with partners across the public and voluntary sector Cambridgeshire OPCC put together six bids totalling £345k to the fund. The bid ceiling was based on the 1.44 per cent population formula which the MoJ applies to Cambridgeshire's funding streams.

5.3 The bids included:

Home Security for Victims of Domestic Violence	£36k
Mental Health Pathfinder Project (in partnership with local mental health trust)	£150k
Co-ordinators working between the Victims' Hub and Troubled Families	£51k
Young Persons' Independent Sexual Violence Advocate	£46k
Sexual Violence Telephone Helpline	£30k
Sexual Violence Peer Support Group	£36k
Total fund allocation	£345k

5.4 The OPCC were informed in July 2014 that all six bids were successful with Cambridgeshire being one of only two OPCC offices who secured just short of 100 per of the funding available to them. The shortfall was only due to a rounding to the nearest £,000.

5.5 Work is now ongoing to enable the delivery and effective evaluation of each successful bid. The OPCC are also working with partners to look at securing funding to enable several of the bids to be developed into longer term initiatives to enable proper comparative evaluation.

5.6 As a result of the successful Competed Fund bid, and allocations of current grants, along the victim grant allocations, the commissioning intentions will be updated over the coming months. This is to ensure they are aligned with the Police and Crime Plan as updates for this as presented.

6. Recommendation

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6.3 Sir Graham Bright signs the decision making notice in relation to the above approval requests and accepting the MoJ Competed Fund award and projected spends from the 14/15 Victims Services grant.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document(s)	
Contact Officer	Nicky Phillipson, Strategic Advisor

Appendix 1

MoJ Capacity and Capability Funding – December 2013 – March 2014

Recipient	Award	Rationale
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	£100k	Development of Victim Hub to act as a local referral pilot. This will include: funding a project manager post and developing a virtual resource centre for victims of crime.
Cambridge Rape Crisis Peterborough Rape Crisis	£35k	Joint funding to build capacity and capability in areas of need.
Drug Link (VCSE)	£30k	One off set up costs for Alcohol Diversion Scheme
Cambridgeshire County Council	£25k	Expertise and resources provided to enable effective commissioning
OPCC	£13k	
Cambridgeshire County Council Research Team	£5k £5k	Research to better understand the rate of victimisation in Cambridgeshire to enable effective strategies to be put in place to reduce the number of victims. Research to better understand why some people choose not to report crime.
Cambridgeshire YOS	£10k	Accelerate roll out of, and build RJ capacity, in Cambridgeshire schools
Peterborough YOS	£10k	Build RJ capacity in Peterborough
Women's Aid Cambridge	£10k	Work to support capacity and capability of potential providers of services to enable the victims of most serious crime to cope and recover.
Peterborough Neighbourhood Watch	£2.5k	Development of local scheme and training of local co-ordinators to provide community-level support
Restorative Justice Research and Audit	£14k	Research work to understand the impact of Restorative Justice Interventions on victims to inform future commissioning.
Regional Co-ordination	£10k	Establish a collaboration agreement co-ordination post
Supporting exploited migrant worker	£29.5K	Pilot post to build capacity within the VCSE to support victims of human trafficking and exploitation.
Total spends	£299k	

Appendix 2

Victims Services Funding 2014/15 and 2015/16 projected spends based on indicative budget

Recipient	Award 2014/15	Projected Awards 2015/16	Rationale
Cambridgeshire Constabulary – Victims Support Hub	£271k	£334k	Victims’ Hub – the forecasted spends are the subject of a separate paper to BCB. The total cost for 2015/16 is projected to be £446k. The difference is proposed to be funded from reserves
Support for parents whose children are sexually abused	£21k (This is using the £18k allocated for victims of SV/DV)	£42k	Continuation of pilot post within the Sexual Assault Referral Centre jointly developed and supported by Cambridgeshire County Council
Young Persons’ IDVA		£40k	Support for young victims of domestic violence (previously funded from CSF)
ISVA Young Persons’ Independent Sexual Violence Advocate		£80k	Support for young victims of sexual violence – extension of posts funded from competed fund.
Supporting exploited migrant worker		£29.5k	Extension of post to support victims of human trafficking and exploitation – initially funded from Capability and Capacity Fund.
Mental Health Pathfinder Project		£75k	Continuation of the mental health pathfinder project. Collective match funding is expected from Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.
Security for older victims of burglary		£50k	This Constabulary grant which transferred to the OPCC more appropriately should come from the Victims’ Services Grant.
Restorative Justice	£90k	£184k	Scoping report from Restorative Solutions (expected end of July) will inform this spend
Total spends – Victims Hub costings is subject to approval	£432k	£834.5k	