

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Notice of Decision



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| For Decision or Information | Decision |
| Date received*: | 29.04.16 |
| Ref*: | 2016.027 |

*to be inserted by Office of PCC

TITLE: Extension of funding for Sexual Assault Referral Centre and sexual violence support services in Nottinghamshire

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.

Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

Crisis support for survivors of sexual violence is provided at the SARC (known locally as the Topaz Centre). The SARC is managed and run by Nottingham Rape Crisis. In 2015/6 the SARC was funded by NHS England and the PCC with in kind funding provided by Nottinghamshire Police. The SARC is facing substantial increased demand and has presented a business case to the PCC and NHS England for additional investment.

NHS England, which provides approximately 75% of the revenue funding for the SARC, has extended its 2015/6 contract with Nottingham Rape Crisis until March 2017, with the intention of working with the PCC to go through an open procurement exercise to identify a provider to deliver the SARC from April 2017. There is a need for the PCC to a) review the SARC to identify whether the service is fit for purpose and b) to continue to fund the SARC at current levels to ensure that a crisis service is still available to survivors.

To achieve this the proposal is for the PCC to:

1. Work with stakeholders to review the SARC by June 2016 to feed into a future procurement exercise during 2017;
2. Work with NHS England to procure, through open tender, a provider for the SARC from April 2017;
3. Award a grant of £74,000, to be funded by police budget, to fund the SARC for the 2016/7 financial year.

Other support for survivors

In the city support for survivors will be provided from 1 April by an integrated support service which the PCC has co-commissioned with the City Council and Clinical Commissioning Group.

In the county the commissioning of sexual violence support services continues to be fragmented,

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with disparate services funded through grants and contracts with Nottinghamshire County Council, Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group and PCC. The PCC has been working with the County Council and county clinical commissioning groups to try to co-commission an integrated single support service which will maximise the support available to survivors and provide best value for money for the PCC.

It has not been possible to co-commission a single service in the county before the beginning of the 2016-7 financial year. However, there is a need to ensure that a service is still available to survivors in the county. To achieve this the proposal is for the PCC to:

4. Continue to work with Nottinghamshire County Council and Clinical Commissioning Groups with aim of agreeing a co-commissioned approach to procuring an integrated support service in the county to deliver from April 2017.
5. Award a grant of £22,464 from Victims Services Grant to Nottingham Rape Crisis to continue to provide support to sexual violence services in the county during 2016/7. This is an extension of the support, originally funded by MoJ in 2013/4.
6. Award a grant of £58,374 from Victims Services Grant to ISAS to continue to provide support to sexual violence services in the county. This is an extension of the support originally funded by MoJ in 2013/4.

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

SARC

75% of the SARC is procured by NHS England, which has a contract already in place with Nottingham Rape Crisis. Currently the service cannot be disaggregated into elements funded by NHS England and elements funded by the PCC. There are therefore practical difficulties in the PCC publishing an invitation to tender for delivery of the PCC's share of the SARC.

NHS England's contract with Nottingham Rape Crisis finishes on 31 March 2017. The proposal is for the PCC to extend his funding to the SARC so that the PCC's funding is coterminous with NHS England's. The SARC will be reviewed during 2016/7 and as part of this review the PCC and NHS England will agree a future approach to funding the service. This will include publishing an invitation to tender for delivery of the service from April 2017.

Other support for survivors

The best outcomes for survivors will be achieved through the provision of a high quality integrated service which provides a clear referral pathway for support, managed through a performance framework, rather than by funders funding disparate services which may have no requirement to work together and which are unlikely to provide best value for money. In addition, the PCC's funding alone is insufficient to meet the need for SV support in the county. Extending the funding for another financial year allows the PCC opportunity to gain agreement for funding commitment from other county public sector bodies.

Despite this, the PCC considered procuring a service in autumn 2015. However, to go out to tender at that time would have disadvantaged local sexual violence providers, who were responding to the City Council's co-commissioned tender.

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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 demand on sexual violence support has risen and continued investment is required.

Signature: 
Chief Finance Officer

Date: 9th May 2016


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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** | | | | |

DECISION:

1. To work with stakeholders to review the SARC by June 2016 to feed into a future procurement exercise.
2. To work with NHS England to procure, through open tender, a provider for the SARC from April 2017.
3. To award a grant of £74,000, to be funded by police budget, to fund the SARC for the 2016/7 financial year.
4. To continue to work with Nottinghamshire County Council and Clinical Commissioning Groups with aim of agreeing a co-commissioned approach to procuring an integrated support service in the county to deliver from April 2017.
5. To award a grant of £22,464 from Victims Services Grant to Nottingham Rape Crisis to continue to provide support to sexual violence services in the county during 2016/7. This is an extension of the support originally funded by MoJ in 2013/4.
6. To award a grant of £58,374 from Victims Services Grant to ISAS to continue to provide support to sexual violence services in the county. This is an extension of the support originally funded by MoJ in 2013/4.

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: 10/5/16

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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:



Date:

11/5/16

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** See guidance on non public information