

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Notice of Decision



Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

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For Decision or Information	Decision
Date received*:	04 July 2018
Ref*:	2018.047

*to be inserted by Office of PCC

TITLE: Procurement of paediatric SARC services 2018-21

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Currently children and young people who have been recently sexually assaulted or raped visit Nottingham's Sexual Assault Referral Centre ("SARC", known locally as the Topaz Centre), if they are aged 13 or over. The Topaz Centre provides crisis support for recent and non-recent sexual assault and rape, as well as access to healthcare, forensic examinations for recent assault and rape and referrals to ongoing emotional and other support. It is funded by NHS England (NHSE) and the PCC, who also provides the building and utilities as an in kind resource.

Children aged under 13 visit the Queen's Medical Centre ("QMC") where they are seen by paediatricians. Forensic medical examinations are provided separately at the Topaz Centre and the QMC as part of Nottinghamshire Police's Healthcare in Custody Contract. Delivery of forensic examinations in custody and SARC are delivered as distinct elements within the contract. There have been some problems with the delivery of forensic examinations in SARC, with victims and survivors sometimes having to wait several hours for an examination. In addition, the separate of paediatric and forensic examination services means that children and young people are examined by two healthcare professionals.

National Guidance ("Public health functions to be exercised by NHS England Service Specification 30") sets out the role for NHSE and PCCs to work together to commission adult and paediatric SARCs.

Following consultation with partners including paediatricians, police forces, PCCs and other stakeholders, NHSE will commission a regional paediatric SARC service based on the national specification. The consultation findings also indicate that children and young people would receive a better service if paediatricians were forensically trained, thereby reducing the number of people examining them.

The new regional paediatric SARC service will be commissioned by NHSE on behalf of all the East Midlands PCCs, under the umbrella of a partnership agreement.

The PCC is requested to agree:

1. To co-commission, with NHSE as the lead commissioner, a new regional paediatric SARC service, this will be delivered through the publication of an invitation to tender;
2. That the new paediatric SARC will include the provision of forensic medical examinations;
3. To contribute £20k pa towards the cost of the paediatric SARC for the years 2018-9, 2019-0 and 2020-1, to be funded from police grant.

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

During consultation, it was clear that NHSE, police forces, PCCs and other stakeholders all agreed that children and young people would receive a better service by being examined by an appropriately qualified paediatrician rather than by two separate people (a paediatrician and a forensic medical examiner).

The paediatric SARC will be commissioned regionally rather than one per county, in line with the paediatric SARC Health Needs Assessment which indicated that a paediatric SARC in each county was not financially viable. However, the tender did allow for bidders to set up more than one SARC across the region. This allows NHSE and the PCCs to test the market response to the number of paediatric SARCs across the region.

NHSE will pay the majority of the cost for the paediatric SARC, with PCCs contributing £20k each per annum. Whilst the current forensic medical examinations to children are integrated in the healthcare in custody contract it is difficult to pull out costs. £20,000 pa is a reasonable cost for the PCC to ensure that children receive a better service.

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)

The funding is revenue and will come from Nottinghamshire Police's budget for healthcare in custody.

Signature:
Chief Finance Officer



Date: 5th July 2018

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

DECISION:

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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:

5/7/18

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:

5/7/18

** See guidance on non public information