

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner**Notice of Decision**

Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

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| Author: | Nicola Wade |
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| For Decision or Information | Decision |
| Date received*: | 17.07.2018 |
| Ref*: | 2018.053 |

*to be inserted by Office of PCC

TITLE: Provision of Interim Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) support in 2017-18

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The PCC is required to agree formally to his earlier verbal agreement to commission interim ISVA support services whilst funding arrangements for a more sustainable ISVA services are agreed.

Two ISVA posts were grant funded by the Home Office until March 2017, delivered by Nottinghamshire SVS Services (formerly Rape Crisis) as part of a long standing funding arrangement.

As the service was under threat of closure following the end of the Home Office's funding in March 2017, in February 2017 the PCC and City and County Councils submitted a joint bid to the Home Office's new Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Transformation Fund. The funding bid aimed to provide consistent domestic and sexual violence and abuse services across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. An element of the bid was to provide funding for 2 full-time complex needs ISVAs.

The funding bid was successful but was awarded in July 2017, during which time NSVSS had continued to deliver ISVA support.

During the summer of 2017 the PCC held a seminar with sexual violence stakeholders where partners identified a clear need to commission a new, bigger, ISVA Service. The PCC agreed that as part of the redesign of the sexual violence pathway, he would lead on ISVA commissioning. This resulted in him publishing an invitation to tender (please see Notice of Decision reference 2017.062).

As the PCC was leading on ISVA commissioning, the City Council then agreed that the VAWG funding for ISVA would be given to the PCC, who would use it and other funding to commission the ISVA service. As the Home Office funding was awarded retrospectively, NSVSS were already delivering the ISVA service, and the PCC intended to publish an open invitation to tender to deliver ISVA, the best option to ensure no loss of support to survivors was to award a contract to NSVSS to deliver interim ISVA support during 2017-8, to be funded by the VAWG Transformation Fund. As the service was under considerable strain, with unsafe levels of referrals, the PCC agreed to provide additional funding from December 2017 to boost capacity.

The PCC is therefore requested to confirm his earlier agreement to award a contract to NSVSS of £80,444 to deliver ISVA support during 2017-8. This will be funded by £65,457 of VAWG funding (via the City Council) and £14,987 from Victims Services Grant.

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

The ISVA service is a vital service for survivors of sexual violence, providing information, practical help, emotional support and advocacy including through the criminal justice system. As the service has been funded year on year by Home Office, it has long been precarious and vulnerable to changes in funding. The PCC agreed with stakeholders to take the lead to put the service on a more sustainable footing (see Notice of Decision reference 2017.062). The contract to NSVSS is therefore for interim support only. It has been made as a direct award for the following reasons:

- the VAWG funding, which funds the majority of the service, was awarded retrospectively;
- NSVSS were already delivering the service, it was not possible to change the provider retrospectively;
- it was important to ensure no loss of support for survivors
- the PCC was intending to publish an open invitation to tender later in the year.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (please include if it is 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 service is revenue and is funded almost entirely by the VAWG Transformation Fund. The remaining PCC funding is in budget.

Signature: 

Chief Finance Officer

Date:

17th July 2018

Is any of the supporting information classified as non public or confidential information?**

Yes

X

No

If yes, please state under which category number from the guidance**

3. information relating to business affairs

DECISION:

To approve the award a contract to NSVSS of £80,444 to deliver ISVA support during 2017-8. This will be funded by £65,457 of VAWG funding (via the City Council) and £14,987 from Victims Services Grant.

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:

17th July 2018

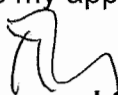
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DECLARATION:

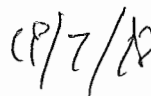
I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and I take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Any interests are indicated below:

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:



Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

** See guidance on non public information