

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



Nottinghamshire  
**POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER**

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<b>For Decision or Information</b>	Decision
<b>Date received*:</b>	14.05.20
<b>Ref*:</b>	2020.030

\*to be inserted by Office of PCC

**TITLE:** New Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (ASARC)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Office of the Police Crime Commissioner (OPCC), National Health Service England (NHSE) and Nottinghamshire Police have worked together to review the current provision of Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) services in Nottinghamshire and to identify the changes required to provide a better standard of victim care and an improved standard of forensic evidence as required in forthcoming accreditation standards.

The current adult SARC (Topaz Centre) was assessed as being unsuitable for future use when assessed against operational need and forthcoming forensic accreditation requirements. There is no scope for extending the building, nor the opportunity (which has been extensively explored), for co-locating and integrating support services to provide a seamless support package for victims. In addition, and from a justice perspective more critical, the Topaz Centre is in need of reparation and improvement from a forensic standard perspective. This required urgent mitigation works in 2017 at cost of £20,000, with significant further expenditure required to try to bring the building up to United Kingdom Accreditation Standards (UKAS) forensic standards.

The proposal is to construct a new SARC building which will provide a purpose built, high quality facility, meeting both UKAS forensic standards and user/operational requirements. This will enable the provision of an improved standard of victim care in addition to an improved standard of forensic evidence. The building will also provide a high standard of environmental credentials.

**OPCC Observation on Business Case**

The Force's business case confirms that the force has no policing operational reason to keep the existing TOPAZ centre and it is recommended that the building is sold to offset the cost of the SARC new building. The wider victim services system is currently under review and this review has highlighted some opportunities and accommodation risks. In consultation with the Police and Crime Commissioner the Chief Executive has agreed that the existing TOPAZ building is not sold for now. The new SARC presents an enormous opportunity to build a facility that is fit for purpose and is sustainable into the future. The final foot print and size of the building needs to meet all stakeholder requirements. The recommendations have been amended to reflect this change.

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

Please see the attached confidential Business Case.

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**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 capital cost of designing and constructing the new SARC building is estimated to be in the region of £1,600,000. Taking into account a contribution from NHS England, the net capital cost to the Police is estimated at £1,300,000.

The current Topaz Centre is estimated to have a revenue cost of £98,200 per annum, comprising building running costs and forensic consumables, IT and furnishings. The new build is estimated to have an ongoing revenue cost of £118,000. This uplift of approximately £20,000 is due to an increase in building running costs due to the increased size of the proposed new build.

Signature:   
Chief Finance Officer

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

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			

**DECISION:**

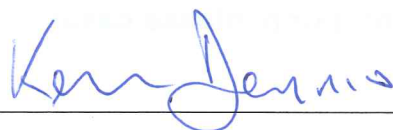
- 1: To fund the estimated cost of £1.6m (£1.3m new spend) to design and build a new SARC building and include this in the capital programme spread between the years 20/21 & 21/22.
- 2: To close the current Topaz Centre upon completion of the new purpose built SARC.
- 3: To not sell the Topaz Centre Building for now until the review and development of victim services has been completed.

**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.

Recommendation 3 has been amended by the Chief Executive to reflect the views and discussion with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signature:  
Chief Executive



Date: 20.5.20

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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:

20/5/2020

**Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner**

\*\* See guidance on non public information