



Reference No: 29-2014

THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST:

To approve the attached business case in relation to piloting a Tees Valley wide awareness raising campaign focussing on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) at the cost of 10k.

Title:

Tees Valley VAWG awareness raising campaign pilot project

Executive Summary:

A need has been identified in regards to a Tees Valley awareness raising campaign focussing on VAWG. Therefore it has been agreed that the PCC will support a pilot project as per the attached business case.

Decision:

To approve 10k funding for EVA Womens Aid in support of a pilot project raising awareness in schools focussing on VAWG.

Implications:

Has consideration been taken of the following:

	Yes	No
Financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equality & Diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(If yes please provide further details below)

Decision Required – Supporting Information

Financial Implications: (Must include comments of the PCC's CFO where the decision has financial implications)

The pilot will be funded at a cost of 10k with no on-going commitment and is affordable within the 2013-14 budget.

Legal Implications: (Must include comments of the Monitoring Officer where the decision has legal implication)

N/A

Equality and Diversity Implications

N/A

Human Rights Implications

N/A

Sustainability Implications

The pilot will be evaluated once complete and clearly identify the outcomes using assessments and feedback (verbal and written) by participants.

Risk Management Implications

N/A

OFFICER APPROVAL**Chief Executive**

I have been consulted about the decision and confirm that financial, legal, and equalities advice has been taken into account. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS / ~~DOES NOT HAVE~~ my approval.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Business Case – March 2014

About EVA

EVA is now in our 27th year and continues to support women (and their families) who are, or have been, victims of domestic/sexual abuse and violence. We have several current projects;

- two supported houses where women fleeing dv/sv can be accommodated and fully supported
- a range of programmes delivered by experienced and skilled staff
- drop in facility at our High Street premises
- a range of support packages tailor made to the service user needs
- Independent Sexual Violence Advocate and Independent Domestic Violence Advocate
- children's counselling
- skilled and experienced Support Workers
- counselling for female adult victims
- regular professional 'surgeries'
- support groups and service user groups
- IAG service (Information, Advice and Guidance)

We are the only agency in the area providing 'wrap-around' specialist domestic and sexual violence services. As such we are in a unique position to be able to offer a menu of services to victims – from accommodation and high intensity support, to programmes, professional advice and guidance, and lower-level support until a service user is ready to leave with an individually tailored exit plan in place. EVA acknowledges the benefits of partnership working and has excellent relationships with the Police, Courts, Housing providers, Legal Staff, Health Staff and a range of other specialist service providers in the area. EVA is involved at a strategic level with RCBC, Barnardo's, Victim Support, Cleveland Women's Network, Teesside Victim's Strategic Planning Group, Domestic and Sexual Violence Reduction Partnership, Tees Valley Sexual Violence Strategy Group. We are affiliated to Rape Crisis England and Wales with whom we have recently achieved 100% with their National Service Standards. EVA is also affiliated to BACP (British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy) and is an OCN (Open College Network) accredited training provider.

EVA relies solely on grant funding, plus other income from our own fundraising efforts and donations. We are currently funded by the Ministry of Justice (Victim and Witnesses Fund and the Rape Support Fund) The Home Office, Northern Rock Foundation, and The Big Lottery.

About the Need

EVA has undertaken work in schools in the past – we created the 'Expect Respect' programme – and based on this plus findings from our partnership working, we have identified a need for a Tees Valley wide awareness raising campaign focussing on violence against women and girls. It is acknowledged that young people can be perpetrators as well as victims, so sessions would encompass the range of abuse that can be against contemporaries but also against siblings and parents/carers. In addition, the sessions

would allow young people to expand their knowledge of the different types of abuse, and what constitutes a healthy/unhealthy relationship thus helping them to recognise when they are themselves victims and how they should respond to this behaviour. It is essential, therefore, that teachers and teaching staff are aware of the issues that may arise, and have the appropriate skills and sufficient knowledge to respond to students in a positive way.

Youth groups we have worked with in the past have highlighted a need for work around prevention work in terms of sexual violence and domestic violence. In challenging stereotypical behaviours and identifying the qualities of healthy relationships, EVA will promote violence free relationships but also raise awareness of how to access help, and how to keep themselves safe. Evaluations from EVA's Young People and Abuse conference 2013 identified the need for work in schools focussing on sexual and domestic violence whilst EVA's service users have also raised the issue of a lack of information and input in the school curriculum, suggesting an adapted version of the Freedom programme would be beneficial. In addition, Redcar and Cleveland Council gave excellent feedback regarding the work EVA completed in schools and recognised the need for specialist providers to be responsible for delivering this work.

About the Outcomes

This project contributes to the Police and Crime Plan in the following areas;

- Delivering a better deal for victims and witnesses
- Diverting young people from offending
- Making the best use of resources by forging links with other agencies
- Encouraging good community relations

EVA will evaluate the pilot project and clearly identify the outcomes using assessments and feedback (verbal and written) from the participants. Similarly, regular feedback and progress reports will be sought from the Teachers Network with additional training offered as required. The programme can be repeated in each school as students move into the relevant targeted year. We anticipate this being Year 9 at this stage, but will work with each individual school to identify their needs.

About the Project

EVA would complete the following;

- Acquire a list of secondary schools in the Borough, selecting four schools for the pilot
- Engage these schools and deliver a brief presentation about the project, rationale, methodology and expected outcomes
- Deliver training to teachers and identify a teacher 'champion' to take the lead in DV work.
- Facilitate a 'Teachers Network' and circulate contact details of other 'champions'
- Develop a DV focussed session to deliver to young people of secondary school age
- Deliver 2/3 sessions to young people in each school (depending on size of classes) to include assessment before/after the session to ascertain impact
- Develop links with other service providers to expand the material and identify follow up work/referral processes

- Develop and distribute resources focussing on DV issues and young people staying safe
- Analyse feedback and assessments
- Create evaluation report to include findings, recommendations and 'scaling up' plan for delivery Borough-wide

About the Finances

The costs of facilitating the pilot are as follows;

Staff – Trainer plus Support (Teacher training, planning and delivery)	2,800
Staff - Trainer plus Support (school liaison, planning and delivery, evaluation)	3,600
Resources – handouts, bookmarks, leaflets	2,100
Travel	530
Management	970
Total cost of pilot	10,000

In conclusion....

Recent publicity has highlighted the fact that more than 3,500 under 5s across the Cleveland Police Force area have witnessed domestic violence, and that this figure merely represents those cases that are known. EVA works with women, children and young people encouraging them expect respect in all areas of their lives, and this project aims to help students recognise the value of giving and expecting respect, thus helping to prevent offending, and reduce the number of, and harm to, victims of domestic abuse.

Richinda Taylor
CEO
EVA Women's Aid and Rape Crisis

