



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST: For PCC approval following agreement at the funding meeting on 25/02/16

Title: Regional Refugee Forum (RRF) – Tackling Refugee and Asylum Seeker Hate Crime

Executive Summary:

The RRF is an independent grass-roots membership organisation created in 2003 by and for the region's diverse Refugee-led Community Organisations (RCOs). It empowers them to work together to recognise the distinct disadvantages and challenges to settlement, integration and equality in local services they share because of their lived experience as Refugees and Asylum Seekers (RAS), to collect evidence to identify root causes and what works, then present their own authentic Collective Advocate Voice to decision makers to influence change in policy and practice.

In 2015 RRF members identified distinct factors deterring RAS from reporting Hate Crime. Because of their unique status, they perceive the risks outweigh the advantages, therefore most victims don't access support, justice or protection. RCOs felt under-supported and underutilised by Criminal Justice Agencies (CJAs), more often seen as gateways to the community rather than partners in the delivery of solutions.

This project aims to plug knowledge gaps, promote reporting pathways, options for anonymity, response and escalation, allow discussion of what should happen to perpetrators, promote access to support for victims, provide more accurate mapping, and build competencies of services to deliver to the needs of RAS. This will be achieved by brokering direct engagement and developing collaborative working over 9 months between 14 RCOs active in the Force area and Cleveland Police, PCC, CPS, Victim Care and local 3rd party reporting centres.

Project actions include:

- 3 strategic level meetings between RRF's Community Safety Working Group and CJAs
- 9 or monthly meetings/workshops between key volunteers from the 14 RCOs and CJAs
- 9 or monthly learning visits/walkthroughs by key volunteers to CJAs services and facilities
- 2 upskilling sessions delivered by RRF's Working Group to front line staff in CJAs
- Support each RCO to cascade the learning to its community and develop its partnership role
- Create a DVD of peer voices and key messages from CJAs and promote its use in welcome projects
- Sharing what works at local and regional meetings of the NE Migration Partnership.

Decision:

To approve £14,765 spend from the PCC Community Safety Initiative Fund to the Regional Refugee Forum to undertake a project to increase engagement between Criminal Justice Agencies and Refugees and Asylum Seekers and encourage reporting of incidents, in particular hate crime.

OPCC Lead Officer: Sarah Wilson

Contractor Details (if applicable): Regional Refugee Forum

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 PCC has sufficient funding available to fund this proposal

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

Grant arrangement pursuant to the PCC's commissioning powers set out in s143 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014

Equality and Diversity Implications

None arise

Human Rights Implications

None arise

Sustainability Implications

None arise

Risk Management Implications

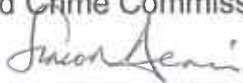
None arise

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: _____



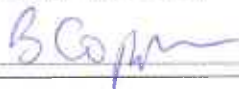
Date: _____

14/3/16

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS my approval.

Signed: _____



Date: _____

15/3/16