



Reference No: **45-2016**

THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST: For PCC approval following agreement at the funding approvals meeting held on 21 March 2016

Title: Prisoner Earning Act Funding

Executive Summary:

The Prisoners Earnings Act 1996 (PEA) was brought into force on the 26th September 2011 and formed part of the Government's commitment to ensure more of the costs of supporting victims of crime fall to offenders.

At the time of implementation in 2011, the Ministers decided that all the funds generated by deductions, and retained by the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), should be paid to a voluntary organisation to support victims, and decided that Victim Support should receive all of the money collected. This is the current arrangement.

Since the end of 2011/12 Victim Support have received all revenue from the PEA. Victim Support used the funding to provide what they refer to as commissioned services. Access to a commissioned service is considered as part of the victim's needs assessment. Requests are decided by the Victim Care Unit (VCU) manager who had responsibility for the local budget.

In 2014/15 this funding was devolved to PCCs, who are responsible for commissioning victim referral services locally. The MOJ now confirms that the PEA funding will be included in the PCC grant agreements for 2015/2016 and 2016/17.

As a result of these changes a review has taken place in respect of the need for additional funding to be made available for the use of the Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS) to help victims cope with the immediate impact of crime and assist them in their subsequent recovery. This fund will only be used for the following purposes:

- Provide target hardening measures i.e. repairs, window locks, door security etc. to improve security in the home.
- Provide crime prevention devices i.e. personal attack alarms etc. to provide reassurance when outside the home.
- Assist with essential transport and travel costs.
- Cover the costs of translation when supporting victims that have difficulty speaking and understanding English.
- Provide support for young victims of crime. This may be to purchase items that were needed for them to engage with activities aimed at reducing the risk of repeat victimisation and aiding their recovery.
- Provide therapeutic support / counselling that would not otherwise be available.
- Support emergency accommodation and if necessary assist with some costs towards removals.
- Assist with cleaning premises i.e. following a burglary or an assault in the home.
- Subsistence to cover costs connected with engagement and support for victims

Decision: For the PCC to grant fund the Victim Care and Advice Service £5,000 per annum to provide practical support for victims of crime across Cleveland as detailed above.

OPCC Lead Officer: Joanne Hodgkinson

Contractor Details (if applicable): Safe in Tees Valley

| 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 financial implications of this decision are affordable within the 2016-17 Budget that was approved by the PCC in February 2016.

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: 23/3/16

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS my approval.

Signed: _____



Date: _____

23/3/16