



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST:

To agree to award Arch North East £16,128 to 31 March 2015.

Title:

Victims Funding - Arch North East

Executive Summary:

From 1 October 2014 funding for victims of crime transferred to Police and Crime Commissioners from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) to commission victims services. In advance of this responsibility the PCC commissioned a review Victims Services within Cleveland, the recommendations of this report have subsequently been accepted by the PCC. One of the recommendations within the report suggested that the PCC continues to fund the areas that were previously funded by the MOJ but for which the funding has now passed to the PCC, until the 31st March 2015.

Arch North East was one of these organisations. They propose to use the £16,128 requested from the PCC to continue to provide the service that is summarised below:

Arch North East would provide an Advocacy, Counselling and Life Enhancement services to victims and witnesses, across Teesside, on both an outreach/ safe venue and in house basis, delivering holistic support from complaint to court and after.

The service will provide an individually assessed package of care to each service user including

- Client needs assessment and care plan.
- Home visits by the Advocacy and LESA Service.
- Regular contact with client either face to face or by telephone or email
- Working in partnership with other agencies, eg: Mind, Addictive Behaviour Services, Citizens Advice Bureau on behalf of the client
- Attending appointments with or on behalf of the client.
- Liaising on behalf of the client with all statutory agencies within the CJS
- Preparation for court for both victims and CPS witnesses
- Pre-trial familiarisation visits to the court.
- Support during Trial, which may be up to 5 days
- After Court care and support.
- Therapeutic Counselling both pre and post Trial (in line with set protocols with CPS and Police)

With the support of these services the Victims and Witnesses will feel safer, informed, empowered, included and respected. This results in an increased confidence in the Criminal Justice System and an overall satisfaction that their needs have been met.

The consequences of failing to meet this need would be that victims and their families would have limited services available to them, resulting in victims failing to report offences due to lack of support from the outset, withdrawing statements part way through the investigation due to lack of confidence, or not attending court as a witness due to fear and lack of clarity around the court process.

Decision:

The PCC is asked to provide funding of £16,128 to Arch North East £16,128 to provide an Advocacy, Counselling and Life Enhancement Service across Teesside.

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 received Grant funding from the Ministry of Justice to provide services to Victims and Witnesses within the Cleveland area and the funding to support the proposal set out within this Decision is affordable within the budget that the PCC set at the start of the financial year.

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

Equality and Diversity Implications

Human Rights Implications

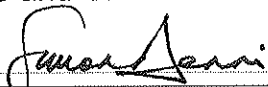
Sustainability Implications

The organisation in receipt of the funds have been advised to consider an exit strategy once the funding comes to an end on 31st March 2015.

Risk Management Implications

OFFICER APPROVAL**Chief Executive**

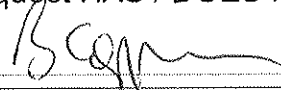
I have been consulted about the decision and confirm that financial, legal, and equalities advice has been taken into account. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signed: 

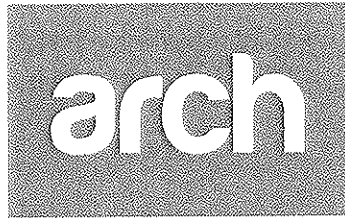
Date: 7 October 2014

Police and Crime Commissioner:

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

Signed: 

Date: 7/10/14



MOJ funding transferred to Police Crime Commissioner

From October 2014 to March 2015

£16,128.

This funding will support Arch to continue and sustain the level of service provision we currently deliver across Teesside and to extend our opening hours by 15 hours per week, providing services between 8.30am and 7pm Monday to Friday (currently 8.30am to 4pm), this will ensure accessibility to clients who work or are in College / School and cannot access our services at the moment without disruption to their employment or education.

We are the only organisation in Teesside providing Advocacy, Counselling and Life Enhancement services to victims and witnesses on both an outreach/ safe venue and in house basis, delivering holistic support from complaint to court and after.

Currently we provide an individually assessed package of care to each service user including

- Client needs assessment and care plan.
- Home visits by the Advocacy and LESA Service.
- Regular contact with client either face to face or by telephone or email
- Working in partnership with other agencies, eg: Mind, Addictive Behaviour Services, Citizens Advice Bureau on behalf of the client
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- Preparation for court for both victims and CPS witnesses
- Pre-trial familiarisation visits to the court.
- Support during Trial, which may be up to 5 days
- After Court care and support.
- Therapeutic Counselling both pre and post Trial (in line with set protocols with CPS and Police)

With the support of our services clients feel safer, informed, empowered, included and respected. This results in an increased confidence in the CJS and an overall satisfaction that their needs have been met. The consequences of failing to meet this need would be that victims and their families

would have limited services available to them, resulting in victims failing to report offences due to lack of support from the outset, withdrawing statements part way through the investigation due to lack of confidence, or not attending court as a witness due to fear and lack of clarity around the court process.

Loss of income to our service could result in

- Decrease in the number of clients registered with our services
- Decrease in the length of time that services can be offered to each client
- Waiting lists for services (currently services are delivered with 48 hours of referral)
- Decrease in the geographical area covered (currently Middlesbrough/ Hartlepool/ Stockton (male and female victims) and Redcar & Cleveland male victims
- Potential decrease in staffing hours

Our agency is well established with Police, Witness Care Unit, CPS, Mental Health, Social Services, Probation, Benefits and Housing Agencies; as such our service is easily accessible, respected and trusted, with well-established care pathways and working agreements in place. Any decrease in our services or changes to our current service provision would prove problematic not only for current clients and future clients, but for all of our partner agencies.

This funding will be used to enhance and expand our service by paying for an additional 270 support sessions for victims and witnesses over the 6 month period. This equates to an additional 45 people receiving quality support services over the 6 month grant period.

FULL COST OF SERVICE:

480 Sessions @ £*47.50	(A)	22,800
Plus On Costs		
Additional mileage (50ml per week @40pper mile)		
50 x 40 x 52		1,040
Additional supervision(1 mthly session @ £50 pm)		
12 x 50		600
Additional office running costs		
Current costs for 6 staff @ £17k pa= 2833 pp (17000/2833)		
15 hrs equates to 0.43 staff (based on 35 hr week)		
(0.43 x 2833)		1,218
Total On Costs	(B)	2,858
TOTAL COST 2011/12 (A+ B)		25,658

Activities in 2013/14 We will provide an additional 600 sessions at a cost of £32,257

600 Sessions @ £47.50	28,500
Plus on costs as in 2011/12	2,858
	31,318
Inflation @ 3%	939
TOTAL COSTS 2013/14	32,257

