



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST:			
To agree to award My Sisters Place £21,000 to 31 March 2015.			
Title:			
Victims Funding - My Sisters Place			
Executive Summary:			
<p>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 of Victims Services within Cleveland. 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 31st March 2015.</p> <p>My Sisters Place was one of these organisations. They propose to use the £21,000 requested from the PCC in support of an existing Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) post (please see attached business case).</p>			
Decision:			
The PCC is asked to provide funding of £21,000 to My Sisters Place to continue an existing IDVA post.			
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 MOJ 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)

None arise - the proposed decision is within the statutory power of the PCC to commission services.

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: 17/10/14

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS / DOES NOT HAVE my approval.

Signed:  Date: 17/10/14

BUSINESS CASE TO CLEVELAND POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONERS OFFICE



Re: Continuation funding for a full time Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) to support very high risk domestic violence victims in Middlesbrough.-

Background: My Sister's Place is an independent specialist domestic violence service established in 2002, Registered Charity No: 1095827. Our core business is to provide accessible services to women 16 years of age and over, who are at risk of harm. The effects of domestic violence on families are wide ranging and we take a holistic approach to the problem, working in partnership with a range of statutory, voluntary and private sector providers and delivering a range of services in house to meet the identified needs.

This Post: Independent Domestic Violence Advisors address the safety of victims at high risk of harm from intimate partners, ex partners or family members to secure their safety and the safety of children. They are pro active in implementing plans which address immediate safety as well as longer term solutions. IDVA's are specially trained and work in the short to medium term to put victims on the path to long term safety. The role of the IDVA was established in 2005 and supports the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC); Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC) and more widely, Cleveland Police Vulnerable Persons Unit.

Evidence base: Research by Co-Ordinating Action against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) found that IDVA's have a significant positive impact on safety. They also found that victims are much safer when they receive intensive support and when multiple services are offered. Critically this not only refers to the safety of women but also their children.

Purpose: My Sisters Place IDVA's are part of a wider service offering a 'holistic' approach that includes a Sanctuary Scheme, Counselling, women's groups and Volunteers Scheme. We prioritise accessibility and responsiveness and offer an instant access Duty system dealing with a range of problems including immediate risk issues, homelessness, immigration problems, Criminal & Family Law matters. We provide a practical problem solving approach, legal advice, counselling, educational self development groups and homeless prevention. We have 12 years of experience in this field and have built strong partnership arrangements and pathways through related services in the region.

Accreditation: The 'IDVA' service is fully accredited through Caada as a 'Leading Lights' service and in this respect complies fully with national best practice standards.

Need: National data sets show that Middlesbrough has the highest levels of domestic violence in the Country. Domestic violence accounts for over 75% of homeless applications and is an issue in 80% of Children's Safeguarding referrals. In 2013/14 financial year we received 1650 referrals and supported 949 women (active cases with a full support plan in place). These figures do not include telephone advice and other 'one off' contacts.

Request: My Sister's Place is seeking £21,000 continuation funding to support an existing IDVA post; funded to September 2014 through the Ministry of Justice. This post is costed on a full cost recovery basis.

Budget 2014/15

Heading	Q3			Q4		
	Forecast	Actual	Variant	Forecast	Actual	Variant
Salary	£8,030.00		£8,030.00	£8,030.00		£8,030.00
Training	£135.00		£135.00	£135.00		£135.00
Travel	£135.00		£135.00	£135.00		£135.00
Office Cost	£150.00		£150.00	£150.00		£150.00
Admin	£475.00		£475.00	£475.00		£475.00
Premises	£370.00		£370.00	£370.00		£370.00
Professional fees	£178.00		£178.00	£178.00		£178.00
Mgt & Supervision	£1,053.00		£1,053.00	£1,053.00		£1,053.00
	£10,526.00	£0.00	£10,526.00	£10,526.00	£0.00	£10,526.00

Outputs:

- 100 Women a year will complete an initial risk assessment to inform a personal safety plan targeting identified risk areas to be addressed; supported emotionally and practically to implement their personal safety plan including signposting/referrals to a range of identified interventions to support the safety plan and reduce risk.
- 100 Women a year will have direct access to housing advice and support with access to secure long term housing including access to physical protection on their property through the Sanctuary Scheme - this includes outreach support for 6 months
- 50 Women a year will obtain Civil or Criminal Protective Orders and will be supported through judicial processes to enhance their safety through access to and enforcement of protective orders.

Outcomes measures:

1. Increased safety
2. Increase in Social Justice
3. Improved health and Well Being