



Decision Reference: 2022-0008

THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST: For PCC approval.

Title: Appropriate Adult Service Extension - 1st October 2022 – 31st December 2022

Executive Summary:

An Appropriate Adult ensures that a detainee understands their rights and entitlements as outlined in the Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Act (1984) Code of Practice, to facilitate communication and witness that the investigation processes are carried out fairly. Volunteers will pass relevant safeguarding information to the local authority, but they will not have a role in determining or influencing longer term support given to individuals on release from custody.

Cleveland's Appropriate Adult Service is available across Custody Suites in the Cleveland Police Force area in addition to other locations across Cleveland as and when necessary. The service assists partners in maintaining the most effective use of resources and to enhance the overall commitment between local statutory agencies working together to deliver a high-quality service across Cleveland.

Middlesbrough and Stockton Mind have been delivering this volunteer model in Cleveland since 2009, and support the Police and Crime Plan priorities of:

- Bringing offenders to justice
- Helping to provide an effective police and Criminal Justice System
- Building confidence in Cleveland's communities

Between April 2021 and March 2022, the service swiftly provided an Appropriate Adult to over 1,600 vulnerable adults at custody, requested by Cleveland Police, an increase of 28% on the previous twelve-month period, with recent data highlighting an average response time of just 50 minutes. This demand is why the service is regarded as a critical service in supporting effective management of custody.

In April 2022, the OPCC conducted a competitive tendering process to appoint the future Appropriate Adult service provider from the 1st October 2022 onwards. Middlesbrough and Stockton Mind received a six-month extension to support this procurement exercise to ensure that an Appropriate Adult service was still in place, as any gaps would have a significant impact on Cleveland Police, and the efforts of the wider Criminal Justice System.

The procurement process resulted in a low number of submissions that were over the agreed budget allocated. As a result, the OPCC decided to re-start the tender process to include a

market engagement session for any organisation who may be interested in the opportunity to find out more. In addition to this and following consultation with the National Appropriate Adult Network (NaaN), the budget was increased to attract market interest and ensure bids for consideration were fit for purpose, whilst at the same time able to provide value for money.

To ensure maintained access to an Appropriate Adult provision, this decision notice requests an extension to the current grant arrangements with Middlesbrough and Stockton Mind from 1 October 2022 – 31 December 2022. After this time a future delivery partner will be confirmed and mobilised.

Decision: To approve funding of up to £12,000 to provide a three-month extension of the Appropriate Adult service.

OPCC Lead Officer: Chris Guttridge

Contractor Details (if applicable): Middlesbrough and Stockton Mind

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 Chief Finance Officer where the decision has financial implications)

Funding is available within the 2022/23 budget to support the decision that is set out within this form.

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

None arising. An existing grant agreement is in place with Middlesbrough and Stockton Mind; therefore a contract variation will be drafted to reflect this extension.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

The Appropriate Adult Service is available to any vulnerable person held in police custody, or voluntarily interviewed under caution across Cleveland.

An Equality Impact Assessment was completed in June 2022 and is available via the Cleveland OPCC website.

Human Rights Implications:

None arising.

Sustainability Implications:

This funding is to support continued delivery of the Appropriate Adult Service whilst the OPCC conducts a competitive tendering exercise for future service delivery.

Risk Management Implications:

None arising.

OFFICER APPROVAL

Monitoring Officer:

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 20/09/2022

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS my approval.

Signed



Date 20/09/2022