



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST: For Police & Crime Commissioner approval

Title: CURV Serious Violence Fund – Voluntary and Community Organisations Training and Support

In April 2022, Cleveland's OPCC was notified of its successful application for Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Funding from the Home Office over a 3-year period. This resulted in the establishment of the 'Cleveland Unit for the Reduction of Violence' (CURV), which was tasked with the role of bringing together all partners and stakeholders to develop and deliver an intelligence and evidence led strategy aimed at reducing serious violence across Cleveland through a Public Health agenda.

The Home Office funding will establish a partnership through the creation of CURV, the core function of which is to provide leadership and strategic coordination of Cleveland's response to serious violence. CURV will deliver this by strengthening partnerships, working with communities, and ensuring specified authorities, partners and key stakeholders collaborate across the whole of Cleveland to achieve agreed objectives. The primary measures of success are for VRUs to deliver:

- A reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object, and especially among victims aged under 25.
- A reduction in knife or sharp-enabled serious violence.
- A reduction in homicides, and especially among victims aged under 25 involving and in non-domestic settings.

As Cleveland ranks among the top ten local areas for police recorded knife crime and hospital admissions for knife sharp object assault – and with rates continuing to rise - CURV will prioritise activity that seeks to reduce these metrics. Activities to be funded will be aligned with CURV's Response Strategy and the evolving understanding of the nature, scale and drivers of serious violence in Cleveland.

In 2023/24 approximately £250,000 has been budgeted for commissioned interventions. CURV recognises the need for local training and support of local voluntary and community organisations (VCOs) to maximise the opportunity for applicants to make strong applications, well matched to defined CURV intervention requirement, supported by a Theory of Change (ToC) and with robust considerations of suitable evaluation metrics.

CURV funding is insufficient to meet the needs of all funding requests and seeks to upskill local VCOs to increase the level of funding achieved within Cleveland which indirectly supports

CURV's objectives.

Existing support and training for VCOs in Cleveland is provided through 5 Voluntary Development Agencies (VDA):

- Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency (MVDA)
- Catalyst (based in Stockton)
- Hartlepower (based in Hartlepool)
- Redcar and Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency (RCVDA)
- Tees Valley Rural Action

These organisations work together through the Tees Valley Infrastructure Partnership (TVIP), offering an extensive and deep level of knowledge, experience, trust and relationships ideally suited to provide the required training and support. Trainers from Middlesbrough VDA have been nominated by TVIP to deliver the training consistently in the 4 Cleveland local authority areas on behalf of CURV and TVIP.

The required training is time critical; it must be delivered in March 2023, with additional 1:1 support offered to coincide with the planned opening of CURV funding opportunities in April 2023.

At a local level, preventing, reducing, and tackling serious violence is a key priority in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan.

The performance against any funding agreements will be monitored and evaluated by CURV and its contracted evaluation partner alongside the enhanced evaluation conducted by the Home Office.

Decision:

That the Police and Crime Commissioner approves the allocation of funding from the CURV budget 2022/23 to the value of £7,600.00.

OPCC Lead Officer: John Holden, Head of CURV

Contractor Details (if applicable):

Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency, Charity No: 1094112

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)

Sufficient funding is available within the CURV budget to support this proposal.

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

None arising.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

The funding will support the goal of targeting CURV resources equitably across potential providers in support of the CURV Response Strategy. The purpose of the funding is to mitigate against identified disadvantage of smaller/less experienced organisations when making funding applications.

Human Rights Implications:

None identified.

Sustainability Implications:

The training enhances the level of skills and knowledge of Voluntary and Community Organisations in a way which applies beyond CURV specific opportunities; increasing the potential for funding to be sourced sustainably in the future.

Risk Management Implications:

The organisations providing training and support through this funding are experienced specialists providing services which form part of their day to day services and core function. The funding is allocated towards small and specific services which are considered low risk.

OFFICER APPROVAL

Monitoring Officer:

Signed



Date 17.03.2023

Police and Crime Commissioner:

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. U. King', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Date 21.03.2023