



Decision Reference: 2022/23-0038

## THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

### DECISION RECORD FORM

**REQUEST:** For Police and Crime Commissioner Approval

**Title:** Funding for Barnardos worker co-located with Cleveland Police Complex Exploitation Team

**Executive Summary:**

The goal of Barnardos is to achieve better outcomes for more children. Barnardos already have close partnership working arrangements with the community safety and criminal justice services operating around the exploitation of children in Cleveland through Local Authority funded specialist posts.

This funding for a co-located member of Barnardos staff working within the Cleveland Police Complex Exploitation Team (CET) builds on the pilot delivered over the last two years – initially funded through the Child Sexual Abuse Transformation Fund and more recently (2022/23) through Project ADDER. The aim of the role is to support and enhance existing Barnardos exploitation support services by:

- Working closely with the CET team, providing support submitting safer referrals.
- Linking in with Barnardo's exploitation support services across the Tees Valley to promote cross boundary working and to share information about hotspots/places of interest/persons of interest and exploitation case work.
- Creating closer working relationships with social care services and other agencies to promote working together to disrupt exploitation.
- Assisting the CET team during home visits to build trusted working relationships with children, young people and carers during investigations linked to grooming/CSE/CCE/abuse.
- Ensuring the CET Team are informed in 'Relationship Based Practice'.
- Providing information, support and guidance to parents, carers and professionals on grooming and exploitation.
- Providing 1-2-1 support sessions to children and young people being worked with by the CET team.
- Supporting Police operations as and when requested to ensure children and young people are effectively supported through the process and best evidence is obtained.
- Facilitating access to safe and trusted therapeutic services.
- Seeking service user 'views' to inform training needs, gaps in service, service development and quality assurance.

The post will ensure that children, young people and their parents/carers are supported as effectively as possible through the process of an exploitation investigation, and that agencies work together as cohesively as possible to maximise the disruption and penalties for those who exploit children and young people in Cleveland.

**Decision:** That the PCC approves £46,364 to fund a Barnardos worker to be co-located with the Cleveland Police Complex Exploitation Team for a 12-month period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

**OPCC Lead Officer:** Sarah Wilson, Commissioner’s Officer for Consultation & Engagement

**Contractor Details (if applicable):** Barnardos

**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)

The funding to support this proposal is within an Earmarked Reserve, which was established from underspends within the commissioning area, and therefore this proposal is affordable to the PCC.

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

There are no legal implications.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

The funding will support at risk children and young people to be better supported through a traumatic process

Human Rights Implications:

None identified

Sustainability Implications:

By establishing an effective performance management framework an evidence base will be established to support future commissioning/grant funding arrangements from April 2024 onwards.

Risk Management Implications:

Exploitation is a complex area with high associated risks – funding for this post will minimise risks by ensuring effective support for victims, facilitating maximum evidence gathering to assist in the disruption/prosecution of offenders and improving partnership working arrangements to support better outcomes for victims.

**OFFICER APPROVAL**

**Monitoring Officer:**

Signed



Date 26/04/2023

**Police and Crime Commissioner:**

Signed



Date 26/04/2023