



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST: For Police and Crime Commissioner approval

Title: Serious Violence Duty Night Time Economy Research Funding 2022/2023

In April 2022, the Government announced that 20 police force areas across the country would receive funding to support the Violence Reduction Units (VRU's), where it was confirmed that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland would receive a budget of £3.5m over the next three years to establish a local VRU. Locally, the VRU was named Cleveland's Unit for the Reduction of Violence (CURV). The work of CURV will be supported by a range of complementary partnership action, with £1.4m of investment in 'Grip' activity, which will support the police to take additional enforcement activity in specific hotspot locations most affected by serious violence.

In addition to CURV, the Government introduced the Serious Violence Duty through the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts (PCSC) Act 2022, which places a duty on specific organisations such as the police, the fire service, justice partners, health and local authorities to collaborate to prevent and tackle serious violence in their local area. The Duty intends to create the right conditions for authorities to collaborate and communicate regularly, using existing partnerships where possible, to share information and take effective coordinated action in local areas. Under the Duty, all statutory partners must work together to develop a strategic needs assessment of the unique causes of violence in their area and then publish a strategy on how they will tackle it.

CURV's core membership, which exceeds that of the specified authorities, recognises the benefits of using CURV's governance arrangements as the mechanism through which specified authorities will deliver their statutory obligations under the Serious Violence Duty. The funding allocated to Cleveland in the current year (2022/23) of Serious Violence Duty funding was:

Twenty-nine thousand, four hundred and nine pounds, ninety-three pence (£29,409.93)

It was agreed at the CURV Governance Group through the specified authorities in their capacity as core members, that this amount would be divided into:

- £17,242.66 - Labour costs, allocated towards analytical spend
- £12,167.27 – Non-labour costs, allocated towards equipment spend ([DRF 2022/23-0037 relates](#))

It was further agreed that the labour costs would be used to commission Crest Advisory to complete a Night-Time Economy (NTE) 'Problem Profile'. Once compiled into a final report, the research and analysis findings will be used to understand the key issues regarding serious violence and the NTE.

This will aid CURV and the wider partnership in the commissioning and evaluation of any related services and interventions aimed to tackle the issues identified. This will include a common definition (currently not in place) to ensure all stakeholders have a shared understanding of the issue (including the potential positive impacts of improving perceptions of NTE), and to support consistency in approach across Cleveland.

To maximise the value and impact of this research, and in recognition of its alignment with CURV's strategic priorities, CURV 2023-2024 budget will supplement the serious violence fund budget from 2022-2023 to fund the full research, which will be delivered in quarter 1 of the 2023-2024 financial year.

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

Decision: That the Police and Crime Commissioner approves the allocation of funding from the CURV and Serious Violence Duty labour cost grant to the value of £24,180.00, broken down across two financial years:

- 2022/2023: £17,242.66 (Serious Violence Duty labour cost grant)
- 2023/2024: £6,937.34 (CURV budget)

OPCC Lead Officer: Lynsey Blas, CURV Analytical and Insights Officer

Contractor Details (if applicable):
Crest Advisory.

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 the proposal outlined within this decision are affordable to the PCC from funding received/receivable in relation to the Violence Reduction Unit and the Serious Violence Duty.

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

There are no legal implications arising.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

None arising.

Human Rights Implications:

None arising.

Sustainability Implications:

This research will provide a consistent, Cleveland wide understanding of the NTE and how it contributes to overall serious violence and its drivers in our area. This foundation will support a more aligned, evidence-based approach beyond the current funding period of CURV.

Risk Management Implications:

This works is covered by a variation in contract for wider research and support services provided by Crest Advisory, and as such is covered by contractual terms and conditions and a contract management process.

OFFICER APPROVAL

Monitoring Officer:

Signed



Date 26/04/2023

Police and Crime Commissioner:

Signed



Date 26/04/2023