



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST: For Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) approval.

Title: Anti-social Behaviour Immediate Justice Pilot

Executive Summary:

Following the government’s pledge to clamp down on anti-social behaviour the anti-social behaviour action plan was launched in March 2023. A key objective of this plan is to see perpetrators of anti-social behaviour facing swift and visible justice for their actions.

Under the plan, 16 areas in England and Wales will be funded to support either new ‘hotspot’ police and enforcement patrols in areas with the highest rates of anti-social behaviour or trial a new ‘Immediate Justice’ scheme to deliver swift and visible punishments. A select few areas, including Cleveland, will trial both interventions, and following these initial trailblazers, both schemes will be rolled out across England and Wales from 2024.

Cleveland has been allocated up to £1,000,000 from the Department of Levelling Up to run the Immediate Justice (IJ) Pilot within Cleveland from July 2023 to March 2024 (allocation for 2024/25 are currently unknown).

Cleveland is proposing to deliver this through existing partners with an adult referral pathway (delivered by Probation North East) - similar to the existing Divert model, which will identify those suitable for the IJ scheme after a full needs assessment. Those individuals who accept responsibility for their actions will make good by contributing to activities within the community, designed to create benefits and improvements to community spaces. We aim to deliver community payback activities within 48 hours of the individual being referred onto the IJ scheme. Where possible and practicable the scheme will include engagement with the victim as part of the IJ process in order to ensure that victim’s needs and wishes are incorporated into the activity undertaken by the offender.

In addition, we propose to include a youth referral pathway for IJ, through the existing Youth Offending Services (YOS) across Cleveland. This will identify young people from the age of 12, who have reached the stage of a second warning letter for anti-social behaviour. After an initial assessment to identify support needs for the young person, those individuals who are suitable for IJ will be placed on the scheme. The scheme will have a greater focus on restorative / educational activity through existing frameworks in place in local YOS services. Where possible this will be victim informed with the option of linking in with YOS restorative workers.

To ensure a level of sustainability and to generate interest in the posts, it has been agreed that any newly recruited job roles by our delivery partners - for the purpose of these pilots - will be recruited on a 12 month fixed term basis with the option to extend subject to available funding.

Decision:

To approve the following funding allocation:

Up to £497,698 to the **National Probation Service** to run the IJ scheme for adults (age 18 and over).

Up to £447,000 to the Youth Offending Services within Cleveland to deliver Immediate Justice for young people (age 12 – 17). This is broken down as follows:

- South Tees Youth Justice Team:** Up to £223,500
- Hartlepool Youth Justice Team:** Up to £111,750
- Stockton Youth Justice Team:** Up to £111,750

Up to £55,000 will be held by the OPCC for admin, analytical support, management and communications.

Total value requested from central government: **£999,698**

The costs for job roles between April 2024 – August 2024 (to account for the provision of 12 month contracts) can be broken down as below:

- Probation Service:** Up to £142,120
- Youth Offending Services: Up to £113,333 broken down as follows:

- South Tees Youth Justice Team:** Up to £56,667
- Hartlepool Youth Justice Team:** Up to £28,333
- Stockton Youth Justice Team:** Up to £28,333

A further decision record will be completed following government allocations for 2024/25.

OPCC Lead Officer: Denise Holian

Contractor Details (if applicable): Probation North East / South Tees Youth Justice Service, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and Stockton Youth Justice

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 affordability for this decision is to be provided from the Government and therefore affordable to the PCC, there is however a risk in making this decision that the funding is currently only confirmed for 2023/24 and there is no ability to carry forward the funding. There is a risk therefore that the PCC will need to find £255,453 of funding in 2024/25 if funding to continue this area of work is not continued.

Correspondence from the Government provides an element of risk mitigation in relation to this, with a letter from the Home Office setting out that:

“However, the Anti-social Behaviour Action plan – including in the Prime Minister’s foreword – is very clear that the Immediate Justice approach will be rolled out to every police force in England and Wales in 2024/25.

Paragraph 15 of the Action Plan sets out that there is around £50m available for Immediate Justice work. Of this, £10m is being used in 2023/24, leaving around £40m in 24/25, which would be enough for each force to receive £1m each. The precise division of the pot in 2024/25 is still to be determined – and will be influenced by the outcomes of the pilots – but the clear intention is that every force (with the possible exception of the City of London) should receive funding and clearly each force would need to receive a sufficient sum to make the activity worthwhile”

The PCC CFO is therefore assured that while there is a risk that the funding is not extended to 2023/24 that it is a minimal risk and therefore believes this is a reasonable decision for the PCC to make.

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:

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed to consider any impacts on individuals with protected characteristics.

Human Rights Implications:

No human rights issues have been identified.

Sustainability Implications:

At the end of the pilot period, the scheme will be evaluated to determine if it has delivered value for money. The funding allocation from central government for the scheme beyond March 2024 is unknown but we have been given assurance that the scheme will continue beyond March 2024.

Risk Management Implications:

A risk register has been created and will be maintained throughout the project. The main risk at present relates to uncertainty in relation to future funding allocation.

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

05 July 2023

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS my approval.

Signed



Date

06 July 2023