



Decision Reference: 2023/2024 -0015

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 exploitation workers.

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 services by:

- Working closely with the CET team, providing support submitting safer referrals
- Linking in with Barnardo's exploitation 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.

This decision replaces a [previous decision record](#) due to a change in timescales for delivery (and minor change in costs). This is as a result of staffing challenges faced over the previous number of months.

Decision: That the PCC approves £46,361.75 to fund a Barnardos worker to be co-located with the Cleveland Police Complex Exploitation Team for a 12-month period at 29.6 hours per week. The post will commence once recruitment and vetting has been undertaken of Barnardo's staff – recruitment will commence on 2 October 2023.

OPCC Lead Officer: Sarah Wilson, Policy, Partnerships and Delivery Officer

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)

Funding to support this proposal is held within an Earmarked Reserve and will be released to fund this proposal should the PCC approve this decision. This reserve will however only fund this proposal for a 12-month period and should there be a want/need to continue to provide this resource/service then additional funding will be required.

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 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.

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 disruption/prosecution of offenders and improving partnership working arrangements to support better outcomes for victims.

OFFICER APPROVAL

Monitoring Officer:

Signed



Date 27.09.23

Police and Crime Commissioner:

Signed



Date 29.09.2023