



The Cleveland Drive Project

December 2025 – March 2027

(with potential extension for up to a further 24 months)

Guidance notes

October 2025

Introduction

Following the government announcement in July 2025 setting out a £53 million investment in tackling perpetrators of Domestic Abuse, Cleveland has been identified as part of phase one delivery covering the period December 2025 – 31 March 2027 (with potential extension for up to a further 24 months).

The Project will play a key role in supporting delivery of the **Police and Crime Plan 2024-2029** specifically the priorities relating to:

- Improve safety for women and girls
- Build trust and confidence in policing and the justice system
- Tackle offending and reoffending

In addition, the project is fundamental in supporting delivery of the **Tees Tackling Domestic Abuse Perpetration Strategy 2025-2035** by contributing to the **Intervene, Disrupt and Deter Delivery Workstream**, in support of the local vision:

‘For all adults and children in Teesside to be safe from the harm, fear and control associated with domestic abuse’

Purpose

The Cleveland Drive Project (‘Drive’) is a response to Domestic Abuse that aims to reduce the number of child and adult victims by disrupting and changing perpetrator behaviour. It implements a whole-system approach through an intensive individual case management intervention, alongside a co-ordinated multi-agency response to drive perpetrators to change their behaviour. Drive focuses on increasing victim safety alongside the crucial protective work of victims’ services. The service model has been developed to knit together existing services, complementing and enhancing existing interventions.

Drive focuses on priority high-risk or serial perpetrators, both male and female, aged 16 and over, as this group carries the greatest risk of serious harm and engage poorly in available services. By addressing perpetrators’ behaviour, Drive targets the root cause of Domestic Abuse to improve outcomes for victims and children.

Alongside one to one case management, Drive will also push systemic change in Cleveland, by supporting the implementation of a multi-agency response to perpetrators of Domestic Abuse. It will play a key role in the perpetrator panel - (Multi-agency Tasking and Co-ordination (MATAC) panel, or similar forum) - at which Drive and other cases will be heard.

The key objectives of the service include:

- Reduce the number of serial perpetrators of domestic abuse
- Reduce the number of repeat and new victims
- Reduce the harm caused to victims and children

Please note: Specific IDVA provision to support the Drive Project is outside of the scope of this opportunity. Dedicated IDVA Provision will be subject of separate arrangements.

The Service will be expected to work closely with the Drive Partnership Central Team, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), Police, Local Authorities, Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) services and other local stakeholders to contribute to building this evidence base and adapt the delivery model and practice in line with learning to deliver the best possible outcomes for victims, perpetrators and their families.

As the Drive Project is responsive to and has streams of on-going learning and evaluation, the nature of the Drive intervention is subject to flexibility and change, in response to evidence on what works for whom in working with high-risk, serial perpetrators.

Leadership and Governance

The service provider is required to have a transparent governance structure in place for this opportunity, including any meetings / forums which form part of governance arrangements. Governance includes but is not limited to:

- Quality assurance
- Performance Management
- Risk Management
- Business Continuity Plans
- Incident Management
- Compliments and Complaints
- Audit
- Policies and Procedures including Standing Operating Procedures
- Escalation Processes
- Workforce Planning

The leadership approach must ensure that everyone takes responsibility for the success of the service – by creating positive, supportive working environments.

Performance and Activity Reporting

Monitoring and Review

There is a requirement that the successful provider will attend and present a service performance report to grant and performance meetings on a minimum, quarterly basis (likely to be more frequent during initial stages of development and delivery). A performance monitoring workbook will be developed between the OPCC and service provider during mobilisation to monitor the key outcomes and outputs of the service. As a minimum this workbook will include key outcomes and outputs such as:

- Number of perpetrators referred
- Number of perpetrators contacted
- Number of perpetrators engaged
- Number of perpetrators disrupted
- Breakdown of perpetrator and victim safety meetings attended
- Number of victim-survivors associated with individual perpetrator
- Number of children associated with individual perpetrator
- Breakdown of identified pathway needs and agencies engaged with

The Commissioner may make amends to the performance monitoring workbook throughout the duration of the grant although this will be kept to a minimum.

In addition, the provider is required to complete a quality framework on a quarterly basis as per the template below (please note this is subject to change):



Draft%20Quality%20
Schedule%20-%20sta

Who can apply?

This funding opportunity is open to **registered charities** (registered charity numbers must be provided) working in the Domestic Abuse or Criminal Justice Sector. Applicants should either already be Respect Accredited or committed to working towards Respect Accreditation within the first year to demonstrate competence in working with perpetrators of Domestic Abuse in accordance with best practice standards, with the safety of victims-survivors and children at the heart.

We are unable to fund:

- Political activities
- Organisations not registered as a charity

Financial Envelope

Applicants are eligible to apply for funding as below:

December 2025 – 31 March 2026: Up to £95,330

April 2026 – 31 March 2027: Up to £286,000+

The funding breakdown template must be completed and returned as part of the application process. Funding should be broken down under the below key headings and as per the template provided:

- Service Provider Delivery
- Service Provider Delivery – non-staff costs
- Service Provider Delivery – Training and expenses

- Service Provider Delivery – Fixed costs
- Service User enablement costs

Application Process

Applicants should consider how they meet the criteria outlined in the service specification. **Applications should be submitted no later than 12 noon on Friday 14th November 2025** (applications received outside of this timescale will not be considered) to:

Email to: pcc.office@cleveland.police.uk
 Post to: Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
 c/o St Marks House
 St Marks Court
 Thornaby
 Stockton-On-Tees
 TS17 6QW

Funding Timeline

Stage	Date and Time
Grant Opportunity launches	Friday 24 th October 2025
Deadline for Submissions	Friday 14th November 2025 at 12 Noon
Evaluation	Week commencing 17 th November 2025
Outcome Notifications	Week commencing 24 th November 2025
Anticipated Grant Commencement	1 st December 2025

Whilst the OPCC does not intend to depart from the timetable, it reserves the right to do so at any time.

Award Criteria and Evaluation

Evaluation Criteria

Bidders should complete the question response template provided – questions are however summarised below:

Evaluation Questions			
	Area of Weighting	Information to be evaluated	% of overall score
1	Implementation and Service Management	Drawing on evidence from previous experience, explain how you will successfully set up and deliver the Drive Service that meets the requirements of the Service Specification	25%

2	Case Management and behaviour change	The Cleveland Drive Service aims to reduce abuse and increase victim safety by using an intensive case management approach as well as a coordinated multi-agency response to disrupt abuse and drive attitudinal and behaviour change. Drawing on evidence from previous experience, please provide details of how you intend to deliver the impact that the Drive Service seeks to achieve	20%
3	Multi-Agency Working	The Drive Service aims to achieve impact through a coordinated, multi-agency response to high-risk perpetrators of domestic abuse. Please explain how your organisation would meet the multi-agency partnership working criteria required for successful Drive Service implementation in the local area	20%
4	Data and Information Management	Identify the processes you will adopt to: (a) manage the sensitive and confidential data required to deliver the service including the requirement to share with multi-agency partners and (b) meet the data collection and reporting requirements, recognising that the Drive Partnership will be providing a pre-configured case management system	10%
5	Organisation Governance	Describe how you plan to embed the Cleveland Drive Service into your organisation and where the Service will fit in terms of structure/governance in order to maintain high quality service delivery and monitoring.	10%
6	Innovation	The Drive Service is an innovative response to tackling domestic abuse perpetrator behaviour. It is recognised that the Delivery Partner may not have implemented the Service before, but will bring their own set transferable skills, practices and knowledge to enhance the response. Please describe how your	10%

		organisation would contribute/enhance this innovative approach	
7	Commercial and Financial	Describe your organisations' financial status and how you would work to achieve value for public money	5%

Responses to questions will be evaluated in line with the following scoring.

Assessment	Score	Interpretation
Excellent	5	A response that meets the requirement which is detailed, relevant, descriptive and clearly evidenced. Demonstrating comprehensively the ability, understanding, skills, resource and quality measures required. The response clearly explains how outcomes will be achieved that are relevant to the requirement.
Good	4	A response that meets the requirement and demonstrates the ability, understanding, skills, resource and quality measures required and is evidenced and relevant.
Acceptable	3	A response that meets the requirement. However, the ability, understanding, skills, resource and quality measures required are not fully evidenced, detailed and relevant.
Minor Reservations	2	A response with minor gaps but satisfying a reasonable proportion of the requirement. Minor reservations of the Bidder's relevant ability, understanding, skills, resource and quality measures required to provide the supplies / services/ works, with some clarification required to support the response.
Major Reservations	1	A response with major reservations that only satisfies a small part of the requirement. Considerable reservations of the Bidder's relevant ability, understanding, skills, resource and quality measures required to provide the supplies / services, with little evidence to support the response.
Unacceptable	0	Does not meet the requirement. Does not comply and/or irrelevant information provided to

		demonstrate that the Bidder has the ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the supplies / services, with no evidence to support the response.
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The bidder with the highest score will be awarded the grant funding opportunity. Should there be two bidders with the same score then these bidders will be invited to deliver a presentation based on an additional question.

Additional Documents

[Cleveland Police and Crime Plan 2024 - 2029](#)

[Teesside Tackling Domestic Abuse Perpetration Strategy 2025 - 2035](#)

[University of Bristol evaluation of The Drive Project](#)