



THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

Request: For Police and Crime Commissioner approval.

Title: Capital expenditure for the adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) premises to meet the ISO15189 standard and renewal of the building lease from March 2027.

Executive Summary:

The Teesside adult SARC provides confidential support and forensic services to people who have recently been raped or sexually assaulted.

The Forensic Science Regulator (FSR) has established a new Code of Practice which mandates that all SARCs must achieve UKAS accreditation to ISO 15189:2022. This is to ensure that all SARCs operate to a consistently high standard. Along with all the other SARC sites in the country, the Cleveland SARC is working towards accreditation to this new standard. Although the deadline to achieve accreditation, was 02/10/2025, no SARC has been formally accredited to ISO15189.

The service provider for Cleveland, Mountain Health Care (MHC), has been recommended for accreditation, which should be processed in early 2026. Once accredited, each of the SARC sites ran by MHC are to be assessed independently and the Cleveland SARC is currently scheduled for assessment in May 2026. In order to be ready for the assessment, building works must be completed to meet the physical and environmental requirements for ISO15189.

To date, the architecture plans and a specification of works has been produced to complete the required changes. A total of £28,875 has been committed to produce the design specifications for the SARC works. The cost of these works has been quoted as £265,000.

The lease for the SARC building at 16 Trinity Mews, North Ormesby, currently runs up until March 2027. The building works need to be completed in conjunction with the renewal of the lease to ensure that the investment in the works is sustainable for the future and that we have surety of tenure before committing capital investment in the building works.

The landlord has given four options for renewing the lease and a business case has been presented to explore the costs, benefits, risks and timescales associated with each option. This was presented to the Police and Crime Commissioner on 5 December 2025 for consideration and this decision record sets out that decision.

This links to the Police and Crime Plan priority: Ensure the right support for victims and vulnerable people. This is achieved by ensuring that the SARC meets the requirements in the ISO15189 standard, to achieve the best quality evidence and contribute to the best possible outcomes for patients.

Decision:

To approve the capital expenditure of up to £300,000 to cover the costs associated with the building works required for the SARC building to meet the ISO 15189 standard. This covers the costs given above of, £293,875, with a small contingency of £6,125.

To approve the extension of the current lease for the SARC building for a new 10 year term commencing March 2027. The total cost for the lease over the 10 years is: £1,154,111 (including rent, services and utility costs)

OPCC Lead Officer: enise Holian

Contractor Details (if applicable):**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 capital expenditure of £300k will be added to the Capital Programme and as with all expenditure of a capital nature in relation to Estates will be funded by borrowing.

Currently just over £83k of the annual rent and service costs are recharged to the NHS. This is expected to continue as part of the extended lease, however discussions will take place for the full costs of the new lease to be fully covered by the NHS when the new lease takes effect from April 2027.

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:

There are no equality and diversity implications directly related to this decision.

Human Rights Implications:

There are no human rights implications directly relating to this decision.

Sustainability Implications:

Extension of the lease will ensure continued use of the premises for the SARC services until March 2037. In the longer term, there is an opportunity to consider purchase of another building that could accommodate the SARC services, should a suitable building become available.

Risk Management Implications:

A ongoing risk register is maintained in relation to this piece of work.

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 18.12.2025

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS my approval.

Signed



Date 19/12/2025