

ORIGINATOR: Vicky Day

DECISION NO. 26 /2022

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: For Decision

SUBMITTED TO: Police and Crime Commissioner

SUBJECT: Children Impacted by Adult Incarceration – Research Report

SUMMARY:

No agency is required to maintain information about children impacted by adult imprisonment (CABAI). Without this knowledge services to support those children are not planned around their needs.

A literature review, commissioned by Norfolk's Reducing Re-Offending Board recognised this gap in knowledge. This board subsequently requested a piece of research eliciting the children's needs and how met, could inform agencies' responses and service delivery, and link with the Strengthening Family Ties agenda which also addresses the prisoner and family/children needs.

This research, conducted the end of 2021 and carried out by the OPCCN in partnership with Norfolk's Trauma Forum explored, described, and interpreted the lived experiences and needs of CABAI through the eyes of their incarcerated and non-incarcerated parent/caregiver.

The research gleaned an in-depth understanding of the impact on the children's psychological, social, emotional, educational, relational, and practical lived experiences. It also gained insight into what support they need and can access; whether there are any barriers to accessing services and what services are not available.

The research also explored whether, and if so how, the Covid-19 suspension of prison visiting has impacted children's relationship with their imprisoned parent/caregiver and changed their needs.

The Reducing Re-Offending Board continues to collaborate with the Norfolk Trauma Forum and have therefore awarded Elaine Bennett, Psychotherapeutic Counsellor – Children, Adolescents and Adults, Doctoral Student, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge a total of £160.00 to produce the research report and findings.

The research findings are pivotal for any future funding application for the provision of services and or interventions going forward.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the PCC for Norfolk supports the allocation of funding to Elaine Bennett to produce the research report and findings, which is pivotal for any future funding application for the provision of services and or interventions going forward.

OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY: ~~PCC/CHIEF EXECUTIVE/CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER~~ (Delete as appropriate)

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elaine Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Date: 14/04/2022

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. OBJECTIVE:

- 1.1 To approve funding to enable the completion of CABAI research report, which is pivotal for any future funding application for the provision of services and or interventions going forward.

2. BACKGROUND:

- 2.1 No agency is required to maintain information about children impacted by adult imprisonment (CABAI). Without this knowledge services to support those children are not planned around their needs. Children who witnessed domestic abuse were once hidden victims, so too are CABAI. A literature review recognised this gap in knowledge.
- 2.2 Norfolk's Reducing Re-Offending Board requested an additional piece of research. This research, elicited the children's needs and how met, could inform agencies' responses and service delivery, and will link with the Strengthening Family Ties agenda which also addresses the prisoner and family/children needs.
- 2.3 This research explored, described, and interpreted the lived experiences and needs of CABAI through the eyes of their incarcerated and non-incarcerated parent/caregiver.
- 2.4 The study also gleaned an in-depth understanding of the impact on the children's psychological, social, emotional, educational, relational, and practical lived experiences. It gained insight into what support they need and are able to access; whether there are any barriers to accessing services and what services are not available.
- 2.5 The research explored whether, and if so how, the Covid-19 suspension of prison visiting has impacted children's relationship with their imprisoned parent/caregiver and changed their needs.
- 2.6 This project is part of a wider response by the Reducing Re-Offending Board in seeking to meet the needs of CABAI for whom, having a parent/caregiver in prison is an Adverse Childhood Experience and, maybe one of several ACEs for those children. 69% of prisoner's sons enter the CJS or prison.
- 2.7 Meeting the needs of CABAI with a trauma informed approach could be an early intervention and enhance their wellbeing.

2.8 Norfolk's Reducing Re-Offending Board continues to collaborate with the Norfolk Trauma Forum strategic responses to ACEs. Working directly with Elaine Bennett Psychotherapeutic Counsellor – Children, Adolescents and Adults, Doctoral Student, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge.

2.9 The research findings are pivotal for any future funding application for the provision of services and or interventions going forward.

3. AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:

3.1 This funding will enable the completion of the research report including findings and recommendations.

3.2 Elaine Bennett, who is expert in this field, together with Sir Norman Lamb, established the multi-agency Norfolk Trauma Forum in March 2018 to explore how Norfolk might better respond to Adverse Childhood Experiences, the potential for early intervention and a trauma informed approach to service delivery. The Norfolk Trauma Forum secured development funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to investigate the potential for early intervention projects for Norfolk (of which CABAI is one) from which a substantive report was produced, including Norfolk's CABAI Literature review as commissioned by Norfolk's Reducing Re-Offending Board.

3.3 Currently the Norfolk Trauma Forum is working with partners to develop a bid for substantive Lottery funding, this will include the CABAI workstream.

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

4.1 Not funding the completion of the research report – this option has been rejected due the partnership funding application arrangements.

5. STRATEGIC AIMS/OBJECTIVE SUPPORTED:

5.1 This project supports the PCC's strategic aim of reducing offending.

6. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 A one-off payment of £160.00.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

7.1 None.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	Yes
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	Yes
Have human resource implications been considered?	Yes
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	Yes
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	Yes
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	Yes
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	Yes
<p>Is this report a Confidential Decision?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox" value="NO"/> </div> <p>If Yes, please state reasons below having referred to the PCC Decision Making Policy</p>	

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER (this approval is required only for submissions to the PCC).

Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report, that the recommendations have been reviewed and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.



Signature:

Date: 14/04/2022

Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

I certify that:

- a) there are no financial consequences as a result of this decision,
OR
- b) the costs identified in this report can be met from existing revenue or capital budgets,
OR
- c) the costs identified in this report can be financed from reserves
AND
- d) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

Signature:



Date: 14/04/2022

PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION: *Information contained within this submission is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and wherever possible will be made available on the OPCC website. Submissions should be labelled as 'Not Protectively Marked' unless any of the material is 'restricted' or 'confidential'. Where information contained within the submission is 'restricted' or 'confidential' it should be highlighted, along with the reason why.*