



Subject: Joint Project – East of England Probation Service/OPCCN HGV Training for ex-offenders

Originator: Stephanie Stearman

Decision no. 16/2024

Reason for submission: For Decision

Submitted to: Giles Orpen-Smellie – Police and Crime Commission for Norfolk (PCC)

Summary:

1. This Decision Notice seeks approval by the PCC to agree to a joint initiative with the East of England Probation Service (EEPS) to deliver HGV training programme for ex-offenders
2. Under a Memorandum of Understanding arrangement with the EEPS the Office Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCCN) will act a Lead Commissioner of a service to support Ex Offenders by way of training that leads to employment and supports breaking the cycle of offending.
3. The service will provide HGV Training Class 2 to ex-offenders, for 6-7 ex-offenders based in Norfolk.
4. The EEPS will support this initiative with funding of up to £20,000. The OPCCN will contribute £3000 towards the project.
5. Although the OPCCN will manage the procurement process, the management of the project and clients will sit with the EEPS.

Recommendation:

The PCC supports this decision to enter a joint initiative with the East of England Probation Service to act as Lead Commissioner and provide a contribution to support the project.

Outcome/approval by: PCC

(Delete as appropriate)

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature: 

Date: 15/02/2024

Detail of the submission

1. Objective:

- 1.1 The project is to provide HGV training class 2 to 6-7 ex-offenders with based in Norfolk. The aim is to prevent re-offending by supporting ex-offenders to achieve the above qualification to gain employment and break the cycle of re-offending.
- 1.2 The qualification will support the clients to become qualified HGV drivers – there is a recognised ongoing shortage of qualified HGV drivers following covid restrictions, so there are employment opportunities for newly qualified drivers.
- 1.3 The aim is to achieve a 100% pass rate. Therefore the project allows for test re-takes to ensure that each candidate has the best chance of success.
- 1.4 The training will be delivered at locations in Norfolk. Transport will be provided to ensure that candidates are able to attend all training sessions.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The EEPS service has run a small pilot to test the outcomes of a scheme to provide HGV driver training to ex-offenders in Suffolk. 3 ex-offenders (aged between 30-45) have taken part in the pilot with 100% pass rate. Each candidate has gained employment, and have described how the opportunity has helped them change their lives.
- 2.2 The project will be introduced to Norfolk and which will run until end July 2024.
- 2.3 This project supports the Police, Crime and Community Safety Plan 2022-24 in meeting its priority to prevent re-offending, working in partnership to ensure

offenders are managed effectively in the community and reducing the revolving door of crime.

2.4 This project will run for a period from 1st March 2024 to 31st July 2024

3. Areas for consideration:

- 3.1 The management of the project will sit with EEPS who will rigorously select candidates for the project. Each candidate will complete a medical and go through a full risk assessment process.
- 3.2 Each ex-offender will be allocated a Peer Mentor who will provide practical and motivational support throughout the process. The progress of each candidate and their well being will be monitored by EEPS.
- 3.3 Three quotes from training providers have been obtained and a preferred provider agreed with the EEPS.
- 3.4 The training will be provided by DMP training based in Bury St Edmunds. This provider delivered the Suffolk pilot and achieved positive outcomes. Using this provider will minimise time delays as there is already an information sharing agreement in place, and due diligence has been completed. This is important to ensure timely delivery of the project – allowing new Norfolk candidates to start their training without delay.
- 3.5 All training will be provided at Norfolk locations – the provider is providing free transport to the locations to ensure that candidates can attend. This is an added value from the provider.

4. Other options considered:

- 4.1 Not to support the project – this was rejected as this would mean that Norfolk ex-offenders would be unable to benefit from the scheme.

5. Strategic aims/objective supported:

5.1 The PCC has a statutory obligation to set out Police and Crime objectives through the Police, Crime and Community Safety Plan 2022-2024. The PCC's six priorities fall into the following categories each with detailed objectives in the plan:

- Sustain Norfolk Constabulary
- Visible and Trusted Policing

- Tackling Crime
- Prevent Offending
- Support Victims
- Safe and Stronger Communities

5.2 This Grant will support two of these pillars: Preventing Offending and Safe and Stronger Communities

6. Financial and other resource implications:

6.1 The Total Value of the project is £23000 (twenty three thousand pounds)

6.2 A contribution of £20000 from EEPS.

6.3 A contribution of £3000 from OPCCN.

6.4 The financial split across the funding period is as follows:

FUNDING	2024/25 1 st April 24- 31 st July 24
EEPS contribution	£20000
OPCCN contribution	£3000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING	£23000

6.5 The funding of this Grant Award will be paid from the OPCCN Commissioning Budget.

7. Carbon Emissions and Other Environmental Implications:

Carbon Emissions

7.1 The estimated impact on our carbon emissions that must be reported under current statute from this proposal is:

Emission Categories:	Increase in tCO ₂	Saving in tCO ₂
Scope 1 – Fuel – Building Heating	0	0

Scope 1 – Fuel – Transport	0	0
Scope 2 – Electricity	0	0

Environmental Implications

7.2 No material implications.

8. Other implications and risks:

8.1 There are no foreseen major implications or risks associated with this decision at this time.

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
Have sustainability and environmental factors been considered? (e.g. biodiversity, employee commuting, business travel, waste and recycling, water, air quality, food and catering and estates construction)	YES
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	YES

Is this report a Confidential Decision?

NO

If Yes, please state reasons below having referred to the [PCC Decision Making Policy](#)

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: 15/02/2024

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: 15/02/2024

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.*