



OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORFOLK

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DECISION NO. 2019/03

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: For Decision

SUBMITTED TO: Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk

SUBJECT: Funding for the Community Chaplaincy Scheme

SUMMARY:

Community Chaplaincy Norfolk (CCN) works alongside offenders, ex-offenders and their families, offering mentoring and holistic support within prison, through the prison gate and out in the community and has been operating across Norfolk since 1st February 2017.

CCN offers a task orientated mentoring scheme that identifies attitudes and behaviours that previously led to criminality. Support is given to enable change to take place so that involvement in positive activities is undertaken rather than continuation of addictive and antisocial behaviours. These activities will involve regular meetings with mentors, identifying and encouraging personal interests of offenders and encouraging them towards education, training and employment.

A total of £31,800 will be provided from 1st Feb 2019 – 31st March 2020 inclusive to deliver a Mentoring Service in Norfolk to reduce the number of Referred Offenders who breach or are recalled to custody. This will contribute to a reduction in the frequency and seriousness of offending by providing role models for Referred Offenders to motivate them on the path to desistance and ensure they are supported and encouraged to achieve and maintain their goals leading to a more fulfilling life within their communities.

OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY: PCC

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature

Date 31/01/19

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. OBJECTIVE:

- 1.1 To approve funding to expand the Community Chaplaincy Scheme across Norfolk.

2. BACKGROUND:

- 2.1 Community Chaplaincies are independent faith based voluntary organisations working with offenders who serve a prison sentence, offering support and opportunities needed to free themselves from crime and build a brighter future in the community.
- 2.2 The work harnesses the extensive resources that are available within the faith communities, most particularly volunteers who give their time to support those who are seeking to make a fresh start. The scheme helps to improve the quality of life in communities by:
- helping those who have been in prison to settle back into their local community
 - reducing the negative impact of crime and reoffending
 - reducing the number of people who become victims of crime
- 2.3 In February 2017 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk awarded Community Chaplaincy Norfolk £20,100 to provide a two year mentoring service in Norfolk. Evidence through this project demonstrated that a mentoring approach is a successful way of engaging vulnerable people and their families. The Community Chaplaincy approach strengthened relationships and connected offenders back into their communities, whilst working closely in partnership with statutory and voluntary organisations to work to common outcomes.
- 2.4 Scheme clients reported enhanced skills with respect to recognising risky situations, walking away from arguments, stressful situations or anti-social behaviour; improved family relationships, higher self-esteem and respect for others; and a number re-engage with their families and communities.
- 2.5 This additional funding opportunity has enabled the Community Chaplaincy scheme to expand in scope and systemically. It will be able to support more clients across Norfolk and offer greater training and development opportunities for volunteer mentors.
- 2.6 The desired outcomes from the Scheme are:
- Targeted mentoring support for clients, many of whom are vulnerable and have complex needs
 - To contribute to a reduction in the frequency and seriousness of offending
 - To provide a role model for referred clients and motivate them on the path to desistance
 - Clients will be supported and encouraged to achieve and maintain their goals leading to a more fulfilling lifestyle within their communities

2.7 Short-term benefits are expected to be:

- Increased partnership working, both statutory partners and with the third sector
- Increased information sharing
- Improved problem-solving approach to offender management
- Improved quality of life for clients

2.8 Medium to longer term benefits are expected to be:

- Reduction in crime
- Fewer victims
- Reduction in re-offending rate
- Reduction in demand on the local CJS
- Savings to the public purse

3 AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:

3.1 As scheme operator, Community Chaplaincy Norfolk is required to:

- Seamlessly operate the scheme in the county of Norfolk from 1st February 2019
- Operate the scheme until 31st March 2020
- Collect and record data to enable adequate reporting to meet the requirements of OPCCN
- Recruit, train and develop volunteer mentors
- Recruit clients from HMP's Norwich, Wayland and Peterborough, whose progress will be mapped and monitored via a nationally recognised CCA Tool or equivalent case management system
- Ensure all clients meet with their mentor prior to discharge from prison and have an allocated mentor assigned to them
- Ensure mentees are met at the gate on discharge if requested
- Ensure that all future meetings are scheduled and recorded using CCA Tool or equivalent case management system
- Ensure mentors accompany mentees to appointments to act as advocates where necessary
- Clients to be introduced to debt advice and money management organisations, with clients being in a position to manage their finances through planned budgeting, as measured by CCA Tool or equivalent case management system
- CCN to work with local employers/agencies to afford all clients the opportunity to find suitable education, training or employment, as measured by CCA Tool or equivalent case management system
- CCN to work with local community groups to afford all clients the opportunity to participate in purposeful activity, as measured by CCA Tool or equivalent case management system
- CCN to offer advice on finding accommodation, as measured by CCA Tool or equivalent case management system
- Make quarterly operational reports to OPCCN.
- Make a scheme end report to OPCCN.

4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

- 4.1 Not funding the scheme – this option has been rejected due to the lack of provision within national contracts and the schemes ability to manage, change and resettle offenders back into their communities and prevent re-offending and victimisation in the future.

5 STRATEGIC AIMS/OBJECTIVE SUPPORTED:

- 5.1 The delivery of the Community Chaplaincy Scheme supports the Police and Crime Commissioners strategic aim of reducing offending, by identifying underlying circumstances and needs and providing mentoring, support and facilitation for clients to access the relevant range of services to meet their needs.

6 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 A total of £31,800 will be provided from 1st February 2019 – 31st March 2020 and this will be matched by a total of £6,000 from the Allen Lane Foundation.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

- 7.1 None arising from the report

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	Yes
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

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.*

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

31-1-19

Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

~~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,
AND

c) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

Signature:



Date

31/1/19