



OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORFOLK

ORIGINATOR: Chief Executive

DECISION NO. 2014/35

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: For Decision

SUBMITTED TO: Police and Crime Commissioner

SUBJECT:

Ministry of Justice Competed Fund – Joint Bid, Norfolk and Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioners for the provision of remote court video links.

SUMMARY:

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) invited PCCs to compete for additional funding in April 2014 to help support victims in the priority categories:

- victims of the most serious crimes
- persistently targeted victims
- victims who are vulnerable or intimidated

Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner's Office submitted a number of funding bids and seven of these were successful. One of the successful bids related to a combined bid with Suffolk OPCC for the provision of two remote video links to the county's courts. Research has shown that vulnerable victims and witnesses do not feel comfortable attending a video link facility in a police station or court building. To overcome this each county will have a live video link established in their Sexual Assault Referral Centres.

This grant will provide for the Purchase and fitting of the necessary technical equipment in each identified location. The locations have been identified to offer an appropriate environment for the vulnerable, which at the same time allows for appropriately monitored and controlled access.

A total of £36,366 has been allocated to this bid.

RECOMMENDATION:

The PCC supports the allocation of £36,366 funding to provide a live video to Norfolk and Suffolk courts from two locations that provide victim/witness focussed facilities

OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY: PCC

The recommendation as outlined above is approved.

Signature

A.W. Bell

Date *12/9/14.*

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 1.1 The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) invited PCCs to compete for additional funding in April 2014 to help support victims in the priority categories:
 - victims of the most serious crimes
 - persistently targeted victims
 - victims who are vulnerable or intimidated
- 1.2 Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner's Office submitted a number of funding bids and seven of these were successful. One of the successful bids was a combined bid with the Suffolk OPCC for the provision of live video link to the court from two, victim centred locations.
- 1.3 A total of £36,366 had been allocated to this project.
- 1.4 The purpose of this grant is to provide a live video to Norfolk and Suffolk courts from two locations that provide victim/witness focussed facilities. The need for this has been identified following feedback from remote link users who find it uncomfortable to present at court, or in a police station, to give their evidence.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 2.1 This grant will be paid in a single payment of £36,366.

3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

- 3.1 None.

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.*

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

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

Chief Executive

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

Signature:



Date

9.9.2014