

ORIGINATOR: Amanda Murr

DECISION NO. 45 /2021

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: For Decision

SUBMITTED TO: Police and Crime Commissioner

SUBJECT: HIDDEN VICTIM FUND - BRITISH RED CROSS

SUMMARY:

Please note the following decision notice is an extension to the original Grant Decision Notice No 2019/35.

Human trafficking and modern slavery (HTMS) is a crime affecting every country in the world that forces millions of people into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

In 2019 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioners for Norfolk(OPCCN) identified a gap in provision for a co-ordinated and strategic response to enable statutory, non-statutory, private and third sector organisations to recognise and support victims of trafficking and slavery in Norfolk which would dovetail into the National Referral Mechanism. The OPCCN awarded a grant to the British Red Cross Society to develop and co-ordinate a Norfolk Anti-Slavery Network within Norfolk for all key stakeholders responding to MSHT under the Hidden Victims Fund. This British Red Cross Society is well recognised as an independent organisation and as a safe place. This pilot project sits firmly within British Red Cross Society's anti-trafficking function.

The Grant Agreement terms and conditions and Decision Notice (number 2019-35) were agreed and signed by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance/151 Office.

Within this grant agreement was the option to fund the Network for a further year past the original 2-year grant funding period, July 19 to end August 2021, to cover 1st Sept 21 to 21st August 22.

There is a need to continue and develop the work of the Norfolk Anti-Slavery Network under the coordination of the British Red Cross, ensuring it supports the work of the key strategic partnerships.

These details are published on the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioners website and outline full details of the Grant Agreement and the project.

In accordance with Section 143 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, the Commissioner, as the local policing body, has powers to provide or to commission: -

- (a) services that in the opinion of the local policing body will secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in the body's area;
- (b) services that are intended by the local policing body to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour;

The Hidden Victim Fund was developed to support one of the seven strategic aims within the then Norfolk Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020.

This strategic aim was:
Support victims and reduce vulnerability

Through engagement with partners and their clients it was highlighted that there were groups of 'hidden victims' where:

- crime is underreported
- there are no mainstream services or projects
- services or projects are outside the scope of existing commissioned services

Those who experienced victimisation fell within the following areas:

- Hate Crime
- Modern Slavery
- Human Trafficking
- Gangs, Guns and Knives
- Stalking and Harassment
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Criminal Exploitation of Vulnerable Groups
- Sex Workers
- FGM/Forced Marriage/Honour Based Abuse
- Domestic Abuse/Sexual Violence in groups with protected characteristics

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the PCC for Norfolk support the additional extended funding further year past the original 2-year grant funding period, July 19 to end August 2021, to cover 1st Sept 21 to 21st August 22.

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

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature

R. Am- Smith

Date: 03/11/2021

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. OBJECTIVE:

1.1 The objective of this fund is to support those victims who were 'hidden' and where:

- crime is underreported
- there are no mainstream services or projects
- services or projects are outside the scope of existing commissioned services

1.2 And will support pilot projects, preventative work and service delivery in the areas of:

- Hate Crime
- Modern Slavery
- Human Trafficking
- Gangs, Guns and Knives
- Stalking and Harassment
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Criminal Exploitation of Vulnerable Groups
- Sex Workers
- FGM/Forced Marriage/Honour Based Abuse
- Domestic Abuse/Sexual Violence in groups with protected characteristics

2. BACKGROUND:

2.1 This fund was developed to support Hidden Victims of Crime as outlined above.

2.2 Projects under this fund had to demonstrate clearly that they supported the delivery of local policy and strategy addressing one or more of the areas within 1.1 and 1.2. All projects had to demonstrate levels of need, why these needs were currently unmet and the risk and harm to victims if project/service did not go ahead.

2.3 Human trafficking and modern slavery is a crime affecting every country in the world that forces millions of people into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

2.4 The Police and Crime Commissioner in 2019 identified a gap in provision for a co-ordinated and strategic response to enable statutory, non-statutory, private and third sector organisations to recognise and support victims of trafficking and slavery in Norfolk which could assist and dovetail into the National Referral Mechanism. This grant was awarded to the British Red Cross Society to develop and co-ordinate a Norfolk Anti-Slavery Network within Norfolk under the Hidden Victims Fund.

2.5 This British Red Cross Society is well recognised as an independent organisation and as a safe place and this pilot project sits firmly within British Red Cross Society's anti-trafficking function.

2.6 Purpose/Key Deliverables

- To develop, maintain and support a multi-agency cross sectoral network
- To map, train and raise awareness to statutory, non-statutory, third and private sector of Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking the understanding of this complex area and how to respond
- Review/establish survivor pathways so there is a clear process to follow and all survivors are offered immediate safety
- Develop materials/resources to raise awareness of the issues

2.7 The Project Outputs

- Work in partnership (and exiting networks and partnerships) and develop key relationships with agencies (all sectors) across Norfolk
- Ensure learning and best practice on Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking be shared across Norfolk and fed into national portfolios and vice versa
- Organise strategic meetings working with key stakeholders with an enhanced working relationship with Norfolk Constabulary's Safeguarding and Investigation Directorate situated in Norfolk's Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at County Hall – work to dovetail into the Serious and Organised Crime Unit
- Employ 1 x P/T (0.6 FTE) based in Norfolk to carry out work associated within this grant agreement
- Map out needs and gaps in Norfolk (including a stakeholder analysis, needs assessment and draw from learning from other networks who support or work with victims who have been or at risk of modern slavery and/or human trafficking)
- Raise awareness of Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking and build capacity across the county to spot the indicators and where possible support organisations write a Modern Slavery Statement /respond to organisations with concerns over an individual
- Develop and organise 4 x quarterly network meetings
- Develop and organise training for new members of network
- Develop and organise Anti Trafficking Day Events - 1 per financial year
- Organisations recognise modern slavery and human trafficking
- Organisations have appropriate/relevant modern slavery/human trafficking policies and procedures, statements in place
- Organisations are equipped and have knowledge of how to support and refer those who are/maybe at risk of modern slavery/human trafficking to the appropriate specialist support/protection by statutory and third sector agencies
- Recognise indicators of trafficking and understand the complexity and nuances that existing between smuggling and trafficking and the different rights associate with each
- Victims are supported by clear developed pathways to organisations who offer immediate safety.

3 AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 3.1 The British Red Cross must demonstrate that the learning from projects/services delivered under this Hidden Victims Fund will be a learning experience within the county and beyond to improve services for Hidden Victims.
- 3.2 Findings/outcomes of the project/services are be disseminated by the British Red Cross and the OPCCN for use of partners, key stakeholders, communities or related organisations as part of this learning experience.
- 3.3 The British Red Cross must demonstrate that they are able to report quarterly on the following:
 - Narrative update on the service, challenges and risks
 - Financial update on spend against budget allocations
 - Number of victims referred to a follow-on service and where
 - Number of network meetings, members and developments/actions
 - Number /outcomes of Anti Trafficking Events
 - Monitor gaps, needs in Norfolk (including a stakeholder analysis, needs assessment and draw for learning for other networks and national perspective)
 - Number of volunteer hours delivered
 - Client/Network satisfaction feedback

- Number of formal complaints made about the service
- Any lessons learned

4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

4.1 Not funding The British Red Cross for a further year to facilitate this network. This option was rejected as The British Red Cross are well recognised as an independent organisation and as a safe place. The British Red Cross have set up the Norfolk Anti-Slavery Network and this pilot project sits firmly within British Red Cross Society's anti-trafficking function.

5. STRATEGIC AIMS/OBJECTIVE SUPPORTED:

5.1 This fund supports one of the seven strategic aims of the Norfolk Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020 and this is:

- Support victims and reduce vulnerability

6 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 Total of Grant Award in 2019 was £66,155 for Year 1 and 2 including mobilisation, with a possible extension of one further year with funding of £34,497

6.2 The total award of this grant period is £34,497

6.2 Financial Breakdown over the next 1 year:

Financial Year Breakdown	2021/2022	2022/2023
	£17,248	£17,248

7 OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

7.1 There are no major implications or risks associated with this decision paper.

7.2 An assessment of risk in delivery of this service has been undertaken. This assessment has considered the value of the grant sought, the duration of the delivery period, history of delivery and ability to deliver this project of the awardee.

7.3 Should there be any risk to the service being delivered; the British Red Cross is required to notify the PCC as per the conditions of the award.

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 data-bbox="204 1462 788 1496">Is this report a Confidential Decision?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <input data-bbox="1066 1473 1187 1547" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1259 1473 1380 1547" type="checkbox" value="NO"/> </div> <p data-bbox="204 1570 1430 1603">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: 03/11/2021

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: 03/11/2021

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.*