



Subject: Brave Futures – Extension of provision for children aged 11-18 years who have experienced sexual abuse.

Originator: Stephanie Stearman

Decision no. 22/2023

Reason for submission: For decision

Submitted to: The Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk – Giles Orpen-Smellie

Summary:

Brave Futures, formerly Fresh Start New Beginnings are commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to provide intensive support to children aged 11-18 years and who are victims of child sexual abuse.

This commissioned service complements the support in place commissioned by the Great Yarmouth & Waveney Integrated Commissioning Board (ICB) who are lead commissioner for commissioning support for children who have been sexually abused between 0-11yrs.

The Ministry of Justice recently have confirmed a one off 'uplift' for the financial year 2023/24 to the Norfolk PCC, a proportion of this fund will utilised to fund this initiative during this financial year and for 2024/25 financial year funding will come from the Core Commissioning budget.

As part of Norfolk's Response under the MoJ's Victims Grant, specifically victims of child sexual abuse, this Decision Notice seek approval from the PCC to award Brave Futures the sum of £30,000 (thirty thousand pounds) to extend provision due to cases since the coronavirus pandemic being more complex and requiring more in-depth work, to those children affected by sexual abuse.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the PCC supports this decision to extend provision during the financial years 2023/24-2024/25.

Outcome/approval by: PCC/~~chief executive/chief finance officer~~
(Delete as appropriate)

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature: 

Date: 31/07/2023

Detail of the submission

1. Objective:

- 1.1 To address the need to extend provision of support for children aged 11-18 years affected by Sexual Abuse in Norfolk due to post impact of the coronavirus where there are now more cases with complex needs thus requiring longer and more in-depth work.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The Norfolk PCC has commissioned Brave Futures to provide specialist services that support children aged 11-18 years and their family who have experienced sexual abuse. This arrangement is by way of a Grant Agreement.
- 2.2 This Decision Notice is to seek approval from the PCC to award additional funding to support Brave Futures who have reported that children post the coronavirus have additional complex needs and require more in-depth support.
- 2.3 A proportion of this funding has been devolved by the Ministry of Justice under their Victims' Fund as a one-off funding uplift that has to be spent by 31st March 2024. It is the responsibility of each PCC to award this funding within the terms and conditions of the MoJ Victims' Grant Agreement. The balance of funding for 2024/25 will come from the core Commissioning Budget.
- 2.4 This funding will support work of the charity to deliver specialist services which will in turn address this need for children.

3. Areas for consideration:

- 3.1 This funding aligns with specialist sexual violence services currently commissioned by the OPCCN and will form part of a formal review of need in readiness for a tender that is currently planned to go out to market during 2024.

4. Other options considered:

- 4.1 Not to fund this organisation and address additional complex need for those children affected by child sexual abuse – this option has been rejected based on evidence of need that additional capacity and accessibility for services is required to support the complex needs of victims of child sexual abuse within the county.

5. Strategic aims/objective supported:

- 5.1 The PCC has a statutory obligation to set Police and Crime objectives through the Police, Crime and Community Safety Plan 2022-24. 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 Variation supports the PCCs 'Support for Victims' priority as outlined in the Police, Crime and Community Safety Plan 2022-24.

- 5.3 Quality standards that will be supported as set out in the following documents:

- NICE Guidance on Child Abuse and Neglect
 - (<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng76>), which makes recommendations for a range of therapeutic interventions for children, young people and families after sexual abuse
- The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) Ethical Framework (<https://www.bacp.co.uk/about-us/about-bacp/>). The counsellor

recruited for the SV pilot will be accredited with the BACP or UKCP with the relevant competency levels in place to support this group of clients (this includes highly complex cases and those who have experienced historic childhood sexual abuse).

- The Norfolk Sexual Violence Strategy produced by the County's Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) that supports the work of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Group (DASVG).

5.4 The primary statutory legislation that drives the support of commissioning services that support victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence across the Local Authority and Police Force areas are:

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- Health and Social Care Act 2012
- Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012
- Equality Act 2010
- Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime Directive 2012/29/EU
- Code of Practice for Victims of Crime –MoJ Victims Code 2020
- Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls – July 2021
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021

6. Financial and other resource implications:

6.1 This Decision Notice seeks to extend the original Grant Agreement from 1st September 2023 up to 31st March 2025.

6.2 Cost of Grant Variation:

Table 1 Cost of grant variation

Item	2023/24- 2024/25
To provide additional capacity for children affected by sexual abuse where there are complex needs and more in-depth support required.	£30,000
Breakdown of Financial Year 2023/24	£10,000
Breakdown of Financial Year 2024/25	£20,000

Based on a full-time member of staff working for 46 weeks per year (setting aside time for annual leave, staff training, management/Clinical Supervision), the charity anticipates that this member of staff will be able to see 34 children/young people each year (based on 20 sessions per child).

Table 2 Breakdown of sessions

September 2023 – March 24	April 2024 – March 2025
Number of sessions per week: 15 x 24 weeks Total = 360 sessions	Number of sessions per week: 15 x 46 weeks Total = 690 sessions
Number of young people receiving 20 sessions delivered by one staff member = 18	Number of young people receiving 20 sessions delivered by one staff member = 34
Total number of children and young people supported:	52 over an 18-month time frame.

7. Other implications and risks:

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

7.2 The OPCCN has assessed the eligibility of Brave Futures and the appropriate due diligence checks have been completed.

Table 3 Originator checklist

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

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: 31/07/2023

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: 31/07/2023

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.*