



## **Subject: Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Service, The Change Project – Serious Violence Duty**

**Originator:** Assistant Director Policy and Partnerships

**Decision no.** 15/2024

**Reason for submission:** For Decision

**Submitted to:** PCC

### **Summary:**

1. The Serious Violence Duty commenced in January 2023. The Duty places a new legal duty on a number of organisations to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence.
2. Under the Duty, local areas are required to develop a strategic needs assessment (SNA) to inform a local strategy setting out how the partnership will work together to prevent and reduce serious violence.
3. The Home Office have allocated funding to meet costs arising from the Duty. The funding is allocated to local policing bodies who can subsequently allocate funding to duty-holders.
4. Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner is the grant holder of Home Office funding to deliver a local response to the Serious Violence Duty.
5. As part of Norfolk's response, the Serious Violence Duty responsible authorities have agreed to allocate £100,000 of Serious Violence Duty Funding and the Office of the Police and Crime Commission for Norfolk (OPCCN) have agreed to provide £69,674.48 of funding to enable The Change Project to continue to deliver a dedicated Domestic Violence Perpetrator Intervention Service delivery in Norfolk from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024 until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2025.

## Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner provide Serious Violence Duty grant funding and OPCCN funding to The Change Project to continue to deliver the Domestic Violence Perpetrator Intervention Service to support Norfolk's partnership response to the Serious Violence Duty.

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

*The recommendations as outlined above are approved.*

Signature:



Date: 12/02/2024

## Detail of the submission

### 1. Objective:

- 1.1 The key objective for this Decision Notice is to provide the continuation of funding to the Change Project to deliver a community-based evidence led domestic abuse perpetrator intervention service which aims to address and manage risk and reduce harm. A dedicated Integrated Support Service for victims of domestic abuse and works in collaboration with NIDAS. This service will continue to support the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Partnership Approach (DAPPA) and the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Coordination (MARAC) process in addressing perpetrator abuse.
- 1.2 The service will support the Serious Violence Duty (the Duty) which is a key part of the Government's programme of work to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence: taking a multi-agency approach to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on prevention and early intervention, and informed by evidence.
- 1.3 The key objectives of the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Service are to:

- Build upon the current cohesive multi-agency operational delivery group to manage:
  - perpetrators, who are serious or repeated risk to harm, regardless of post-conviction, gender or geographical location.
  - Support the focused and dedicated referral team/partnership management process/intensive pathway to support enabling:
    - reduced reoffending.
    - impacting positively on offender's behaviour
    - improvement of victim safety, criminal justice outcomes and partnership working
  - Provide access to intensive, targeted positive behaviour change interventions on a 1-2-1 basis (inclusive of all protected characteristics or geographical location) which are not reliant on criminal justice outcomes.

## 2. Background:

2.1 The new Serious Violence Duty has been introduced to facilitate the partnership response to preventing and reducing serious violence.

2.2 The Serious Violence Duty requires organisations to develop an evidence base (strategic needs assessment) and create and implement a strategy containing bespoke solutions as to how the local partnership will work together to prevent and reduce serious violence.

2.3 The Home Office have allocated funding to meet costs arising from the Duty. The funding is allocated to local policing bodies who can subsequently allocate funding to duty-holders. This includes funding allocated to evidence informed interventions which are aligned to the response strategy.

2.4 Serious violence has a devastating impact on lives of victims and families and instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society.

2.5 Interpersonal violence can be viewed as the outcome of interaction among many factors at four levels – the individual, their relationships, their community and wider society.

2.6 The public health approach to serious violence means thinking about violence, not only as a problem for the police, but as a preventable consequence of a complex range of factors which influence the likelihood of being affected by violence. It recognises that to effectively tackle violence an approach is needed which does not just focus on those who are already affected by violence but also by addressing the underlying risk factors.

2.7 The public health approach involves interventions in three overarching categories, which focus on prevention for different population groups depending on the risk level:

- Primary prevention – aims to stop risk factors from emerging or promotes protective factors
  - Secondary prevention – aims to address risk factors and stop issues from escalating
  - Tertiary prevention – aims to manage an ongoing problem and reduce harm
- 2.8 There is growing body of research exploring why some people or groups are at higher risk of violence while some are protected from it. Although risk and protective factors are not predictive of future behaviour, research has found that reducing risk factors and strengthening protective factors has been found to be effective in preventing violence. A review of interventions for domestic abuse shows a range of encouraging evidence for interventions at an individual, relationship or community level.
- 2.9 For those individuals where abuse has become an ongoing pattern, longer term interventions and specific services offer the possibility of rethinking and changing how they relate to others. Often combined with risk and needs assessment, individual one to one work where needed, case management inclusive of intensive multi agency case management, identification of individuals before crisis intervention provides a whole systems response.
- 2.10 This perpetrator intervention service and approach supports the wider safeguarding system, including statutory and non-statutory partners, to work together effectively, sharing the responsibility to identify perpetrators and hold them to account for their behaviour, offering them opportunities to change. Interventions offered to the right people at the right time enables safeguarding support to be implemented and enhance safety for victims and children.
- 2.11 The key objectives of The Change Project provision is to deliver community-based evidence led domestic abuse perpetrator intervention service which aims to address and manage risk and reduce harm. A dedicated Integrated Support Service for victims of domestic abuse and works in collaboration with NIDAS. This service will continue to support the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Partnership Approach (DAPPA) and the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Coordination (MARAC) process in addressing perpetrator abuse.
- 2.12 The DAPPA team and MARAC process, in partnership with key stakeholders will use an evidence-based approach to refer those perpetrators who would benefit from engagement with this intervention service to The Change Project. The service aims to assist in a positive change in attitudes, associated behaviour and in turn reduce the risk of repeated high risk, high harm abusive behaviour amongst service users.
- 2.13 Our Serious Violence Duty Strategic Needs Assessment identified tackling domestic abuse perpetrators behaviours is a key priority for this partnership and thereby protecting the most vulnerable victims and children. This service will support the

recommended focus on the prevention of domestic abuse across all age groups, with a particular focus on preventing perpetration. Interventions to be aimed at all three levels of the public health approach (primary, secondary and tertiary).

### **3. Areas for consideration:**

- 3.1 The benefits of this project align with the evidence base developed through the Serious Violence Duty Strategic Needs Assessment and the priorities of Norfolk's Serious Violence Duty Strategy.
- 3.2 The service provides accessibility of systematic intervention system to support perpetrator behaviour change work and intensive multi agency case management. This approach will support the future evidence base research regarding perpetrator intervention, prevention, and protection which is key to stop repeat and serial perpetrators from reoffending and reduce crisis intervention.
- 3.3 This project will be complemented through collaborative OPCCN funding.
- 3.4 The outcomes of the project will be monitored and reviewed through the current partnership governance structure and OPCCN grant monitoring.

### **4. Other options considered:**

- 4.1 Do nothing: Without funding Norfolk's response will predominantly remain reactive and Criminal Justice driven. Interventions will be subject to criminal justice sentencing tariffs.

### **5. Strategic aims/objective supported:**

- 5.1 The intervention and approach will directly benefit the following:
  - Strategic intent of both the Office of the Police and Crime Commission, Police Crime and Community Safety Plan 2022-2024 and the Norfolk County Community Safety Partnership, Safer Norfolk Plan 2021-2024 .
    - Police and Crime Plan 2022-24 priorities (pillars):
      - a. Support Victims
      - b. Tackling Crime
      - c. Prevent Offending
- 5.2 This intervention contributes to a range of national and local strategies, including:
  - a. Home Office Tackling VAWG Strategy (Nov 21)
  - b. HM Government Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan (Mar 22)
  - c. Home Office Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Standards principles and practice guidelines for perpetrator intervention (Feb 23)

- d. Serious Violence Duty (Jan 23)
- e. Norfolk Serious Violence Strategy (Jan 24)

## 6. Financial and other resource implications:

6.1 To deliver the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Service, the OPCCN will grant fund The Change Project a total of £169,674.48. Funded by:

- a. Home Office Serious Violence Funding 24/25 £100,000
- b. OPCCN Core Commissioning Budget 24/25 £69,674.48

6.2 The Home Office has provided confirmed multi-year grant agreement for the financial year 2024/25.

## 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 <sub>2</sub>	Saving in tCO <sub>2</sub>
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 If funding for financial year 2024/25 is not provided or is reduced by the Home Office, the project will need to be scaled back accordingly.

8.2 In line with usual government grants, PCCs must ensure that organisations do not use the funding for any of the following activities:

- religious activities outside of projects benefiting the wider community and not containing religious content;
- political or lobbying activities;
- loan repayments; or
- activities that make profit for private gain

- 8.3 Should there be any risk to the service being delivered, Norfolk County Council is required to notify the OPCCN as per the conditions of the award.

<b>Originator checklist (must be completed)</b>	<b>Please state 'yes' or 'no'</b>
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	<b>No</b>
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	<b>Yes</b>
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	<b>Yes</b>
Have human resource implications been considered?	<b>Yes</b>
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	<b>Yes</b>
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	<b>Yes</b>
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	<b>Yes</b>
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)	<b>No</b>
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	<b>Yes</b>

**Is this report a Confidential Decision?**

**No**

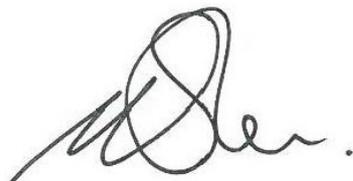
If Yes, please state reasons below having referred to the [PCC Decision Making Policy](#)

**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: 12/02/2024**

**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: 12/02/2024**

**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.*