

ORIGINATOR: Vicky Day

DECISION NO. 2019/ 58

REASON FOR SUBMISSION:

For Decision

SUBMITTED TO:

Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance Officer.

SUBJECT:

Extension of service provision of the WONDER+ Programme in response to a review of the service and financial underspend within the original budget.

SUMMARY:

The WONDER+ scheme is a Whole System Approach (WSA) to rehabilitating female offenders and supporting women at risk of offending, funded by the Ministry of Justice, Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner, Norfolk County Council Public Health and the Norfolk and Suffolk Community Rehabilitation Company (NSCRC).

The WONDER+ scheme commenced on the 1st March 2018 and will cease operation on the 31st January 2021.

Following a review of the service and budget, there is a financial underspend which will allow for the service to be delivered until 31st March 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk supports this revised term for contract delivery.

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

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature

Date 04/11/19

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. OBJECTIVE:

1.1 To approve revised term for contract delivery.

2. BACKGROUND:

- 2.1 In January 2017, the Ministry of Justice made £800k available over the rest of this Parliament to support local areas to develop a joined-up, multi-agency approach to improve support for female offenders and other women with complex needs who may be at risk of offending. The OPCCN submitted a bid and successfully gained an award, of £178,247 in April 2017. The OPCCN is contributing a sum of £345,853 over the project life.
- 2.2 In addition, funding has been committed from partner organisations including Norfolk and Suffolk Community Rehabilitation Company (NSCRC) and Norfolk County Council Public Health.
- 2.3 The WONDER+ scheme was put out to tender at the beginning of December 2017 and the chosen, preferred bid was that submitted by St Giles Trust in partnership with Future Projects and City Reach.
- 2.4 This additional funding opportunity has enabled the WONDER project to be expanded in scope geographically and systemically. It has spread across all of Norfolk, covering all rural and urban areas. It has also allowed the WONDER+ project to include pathways for diversion at the point of community resolutions, in the County, Magistrates and Family Courts, while also linking in relevant prisons and rehabilitation pathways thereafter, and also using health services to identify and refer vulnerable women who have a likelihood to offend. The 'WONDER+' project commenced on the 1st March 2018.
- 2.5 Following a review of the service and budget, there is a financial underspend which will allow for the service to be delivered until 31st March 2021.

3. AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 3.1 The desired outcomes from the Scheme are:
 - Targeted support for female offenders and those at risk of offending, many of whom are vulnerable and have complex needs:
 - Reductions in the reoffending rate of female offenders;
 - Reductions in the number of women going to court;
 - Reductions in the number of women going to prison on short sentences;
 - Better engagement with appropriate services to improve outcomes for identified needs amongst this cohort including: domestic violence and sexual abuse, mental and other health issues, substance misuse, accommodation, finance and debt, education/training needs and employment, learning difficulties and disabilities issues.

3.2 Short-term benefits are:

- Increased partnership working, both statutory partners and with the third sector
- Increased information sharing
- Improved problem-solving approach to offender management
- Better Quality of service for women offenders
- Improved quality of life for Women and their children
- 3.3 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

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

4.1 Not to extend the term for contract delivery – this option has been rejected based on evidence of need for service provision.

5. STRATEGIC AIMS/OBJECTIVE SUPPORTED:

5.1 The delivery of WONDER+ supports the Police and Crime Commissioners strategic aim of reducing offending and reoffending by women, by identifying underlying circumstances and needs and providing mentoring, support and facilitation for women to access the relevant range of services to meet their needs.

6. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 A total of £33720.28 financial underspend will allow for the service to be delivered until 31st March 2021.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

7.1 None arising from this report

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?	No

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 4-11-19

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: 4,11,2019

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.