



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

DECISION 2015/56

DATE: 5 OCTOBER 2015

TITLE: REQUEST FOR FUNDING – VICTIM AWARENESS COURSE

REPORT BY:

**LOUISE FAIRCLOUGH - CRIME, REOFFENDING AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE OFFICER**

Executive Summary:

- Application received from the Head of CJS – Lesley Miller to deliver a number of courses to offenders with a victim focused content that can identifies offenders who may be suitable for RJ
- Courses to be delivered across four Lancashire Prisons Kirkham Preston Wymott and Lancaster by the newly formed RJ team (funded by the OPCC)
- 21 Courses to 10 offenders each course equalling a total of 210 offenders
- Whilst match funding isn't apparent support is engendered by the facilitation of such courses within the prisons
- Total cost £15,098

Recommendation:

The Commissioner is recommended to approve the proposed funding as outlined in the proposal below.

Signature

Police and Crime Commissioner

Date

1. Background and Advice

The Commissioner has indicated his intention to work in partnership to support the delivery of his priorities and outcomes in particular in respect of tackling crime and reducing re-offending together with championing victims of crime. The allocation of this funding supports this intention and demonstrates the Commissioner's commitment to work pan-Lancashire with all local authorities and other key partners.

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

The proposal links directly to the Police and Crime Plan in particular the aim to work together with partners to deliver better services and ensure that resources are used effectively. A comparison bid has been received but is not cost effective.

3. Consultation

N/A

4. Implications

- a. Legal
- b. Financial
- c. Equality considerations

5. Background Papers

None

6. Public access to information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation.

Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PCC website within 3 working days of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form.

Officer declaration	Date
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS – As above	
CONSULTATION – As above	
<p>Director to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Monitoring Officer)</p> <p>I have been informed about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire.</p> <p>Signature.....Date.....</p>	

'Appendix B

A report has been received from the newly appointed head of CJS Lesley Miller for consideration to fund a reoffending programme which is victim focussed and potentially identifies offenders who may be suitable for Restorative Justice.

The courses will run across four Lancashire Prisons eg HMP Kirkham, Preston, Wymott and Lancaster Farms.

Each course would be 4 – 5 sessions – bespoke to each particular prison schedule, amounting to each course being 15 hours in duration

The Constabulary aims to hold 21 courses and each would be delivered to 10 offenders equating to a total of 210 offenders over a period of 12 months.

These courses have been run successfully before and it is felt with the newly enhanced RJ team set up in the Constabulary including an RJ Manager and an extra Co-ordinator and admin support more progress can be made in respect of changing behaviours.

Previous successes have seen 40 % referrals for RJ to be explored which equates to 85 referrals from 200 offender participants.

Information received from HMP in support of this application is that prison staff can enable RJ through their other work look at consistency across HMPs

Adam Connolly from HMP has indicated that the Police RJ Team could undertake the prison induction process which would go some way to easing their movements into and around prisons

In addition it has been advised that Jonathan Kidd the Prisoner Officer from Lancaster Farms has had his secondment to the CRC RJ Team extended to 31 Dec which will establish a link in respect of the facilitation of such a service within the Prison. One of the newly appointed RJ co-ordinators is also an ex prison officer and can use these links to keep a good relationship and easy access.

Similar schemes are in operation in other force areas in particular the Prison Fellowship which has secured funding from a number of PCCs yet is considerably more expensive than the in house proposal (Estimate £45,000 and has over £5k on administration and £5k on management which is at no cost on the in house model)

Aims and objectives of the Course

Opportunity for offenders to change their lives for the better, meet their victim and raise awareness of the impact of offending behaviour not only on the victim but on family, friends and community.

Typical Timetable

Victim Spot Exercise – my offence, victim – my perspective
Gains and Losses of Offending (and my offending)
How does it feel to be a victim?
Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority
Restorative Justice – meeting your victim (pros and cons)
Reflection – Would I do anything different?

Write a letter to your victim (not sent)
Summary of learning

Costings

Detail	Costs	Notes
Certificate for attendees	£315	Prison Fellowships estimate for the same/similar course = £45,000 and in addition to the types of expenditure here they are considerably more expensive in these areas and in addition have Admin and management costs of over £5k each and a total of £18 k on volunteers and over £5k on Course accreditation
Course Stationery	£210	
Victim's attendance Costs	£798	
Facilitator costs*	£6,825	
Staff & Team Development*	£2,600	
Facilitator /mileage costs **	£4,350	
Total	£15, 098	
*pay rate plus on-costs **estimated at 50 miles per day@ £0.60 per mile		

In comparison the Prison Fellowship have contacted the OPCC with information regarding their own course. They are a volunteer led charity and operate a similar scheme around the country called the Sycamore Tree project.

Recommendation

That support is given for the Constabulary to resource 21 courses over 12 months in rotation to 4 prisons, raising victim awareness. This should generate 85 RJ referrals. This commitment still abstracts 2 facilitators from the Police RJ team and it is anticipated that support will be provided from CRC and the Prisons to assist in the facilitation of these courses.

If approved this money could come from the MOJ grant funding

Louise Fairclough
Crime, Re-offending and Criminal Justice Officer