



POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE

DECISION 2020/18	Date: August 26, 2020
TITLE: FUNDING FOR OPERATION PROVIDE IN WEST DIVISION	
REPORT BY: LIZ CANAVAN	

Executive Summary

Operation Provide was launched across west division in March as a collaboration between Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Lancashire Constabulary, as a direct response to the withdrawal of face-to-face domestic abuse support services during the Covid-19 lockdown.

The pilot has seen a dedicated "DA Response car", staffed by a uniformed police constable and an IDVA, operational at dedicated times across west division, providing a second response to high-risk incidents of domestic abuse, with a focus on repeat victims.

The overall aim of the project is to secure engagement with victims who may ordinarily decline IDVA support or withdraw co-operation with the police, and support them to engage with both immediate and long-term safeguarding measures. The decision on which incidents to attend is made based on a combination of repeat victimisation, risk level and demand.

An interim evaluation conducted after 62 victims had engaged with the project found:

- 41 were known to be repeat victims
- Police engagement among these victims increased by 24%
- Safeguarding engagement increased by 9%

The pilot successfully secured funding through the Ministry of Justice's Extraordinary Covid-19 Domestic Abuse Fund, through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, to allow it to continue until October 31, 2020 and BTH has agreed funding until December 31, 2020.

BTH is now seeking funding of £34,087.32 to continue the operation during quarter 4 of 2020/21.

Recommendation

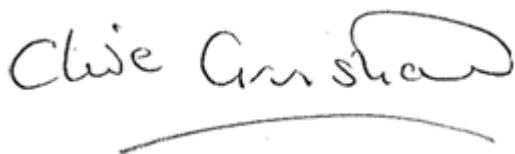
The Commissioner is recommended to fund Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to continue to deliver Operation Provide, in partnership with Lancashire Constabulary and Fylde Coast Women's Aid, until March 31, 2020.

It is recommended the funding contribution be subject to a further independent evaluation being completed by all partners involved no later than December 31, 2020. This evaluation should demonstrate that Operation Provide continues to provide improved outcomes for victims and an increase in the likelihood of offenders being charged following the easing of Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, when compared to traditional IDVA services offered by Lancashire Victim Services.

Financial Implications

The grant will be fully funded from the Commissioner's existing budget.

Signature

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Police and Crime Commissioner

Date 12th November 2020

PART I

1. Background and Advice

All applications have been assessed against the Fund Criteria and if recommended for approval meet all the criteria

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

All applications recommended for approval support one or more of the priorities detailed in the Police and Crime Plan

3. Consultation

N/A

4. Implications

a. Legal

None to consider.

b. Financial

The applications approved will be funded from the Ministry of Justice grant allocation to Lancashire.

c. Equality considerations

Equality data is gathered for all applications.

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 – Not applicable	

Director to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Monitoring Officer)

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.

Signature

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Date 12th November 2020