



WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

17th July 2020

Commissioning Strategy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the panel members with an update on the Police and Crime Commissioners strategy for commissioning and inform of our current commissioning approach.

2. Background

To achieve the Police and Crime Commissioners priorities and outcomes in our Police and Crime Plan, we commission a number of different providers to help with the delivery of services, which will benefit the communities of West Yorkshire, reduce crime and help victims to cope and recover from the harm they have suffered. It is through a combination of partnership working and working with West Yorkshire Police that the Plan will be delivered, and ensure that the communities of West Yorkshire are safe and feel safe.

Funding streams from 2018 to 2021

Funding stream	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Victims and Witnesses funding via the Ministry of Justice (MoJ)	£2,672,833	£2,668,818	£2,712,200
Community Safety Fund	£5,172,840	£5,181,702	£5,181,702

Historically we also have made use of Partnership Executive Group and Community Safety Reserves specifically funding innovation and prevention services across West Yorkshire.

3. The Commissioning Strategy

Our Commissioning Strategy sets out the principles, approach and framework we use to ensure that all commissioning decisions are undertaken openly and transparently, and are informed and supported by evidence. All our decisions are published on our website on the decision-making pages.

<https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/our-business/making-decisions>

Our commissioning practices

Significant development work has taken place by the Head of Commissioning since September 2019 to ensure our commissioning practices remain up to date and all areas are informed including;

- **Our Commissioning Toolkit**

Our commissioning toolkit is designed to help all the staff team and is based on recognised good practice. Some elements of the toolkit will be available to stakeholders enabling them to have a transparent view of how we commission, how decisions are made and the routes to engage and influence and over time, tools will be updated, developed and added as required. It is essential that we reflect on the quality of our process as well as the outcomes to help develop the way we work together to support the communities of West Yorkshire. Key elements of the toolkit include;

- The four key stages of our commissioning cycle with detailed actions
- Managing risk
- Legal guidance of contacts and grants
- Service specification and templates
- Commissioning timelines and templates
- Equality Impact Assessment and templates

- **Internal Commissioning Group**

The Internal Commissioning Group advises the PCC on development and implementation of strategy for commissioning, agrees commissioning priorities and resource allocation, and receives assurance that performance, quality and financial outcomes are delivered. It also oversees assurance and development of the commissioning system. Membership and representation includes PCC Office, Regional Procurement and Legal. The Terms of Reference have been updated and include and now includes an annual work plan and specific processes for funding request.

4. Recent commissioning practice case example

West Yorkshire Perpetrator Programme

The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner's commitment to tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence was supported by his published Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy in 2017. The strategy underpins the need for partnership working, providing the framework for a West Yorkshire Domestic and Sexual Abuse Partnership to jointly plan and deliver support services. A two-year pilot programme was commissioned and the learning from this led the PCC to re-commission a West Yorkshire wide service with a

focus on first time/standard perpetrators of domestic abuse who receive a conditional caution.

The Head of Commissioning worked closely with the Criminal Justice Advisor, Police colleagues, Procurement Team, and OPCC colleagues to start the process of a full review. The Internal Commissioning Group met in November 2019 and completed costs models required to ensure the additional information and data provided a sound informed specification.

The essential requirement of market engagement was identified as this specialist service required provider knowledge such as volume and capacity in the market, programme design and the best value of limited resources. The PCC hosted a successful Market Engagement event in January 2020 with 30 professionals from 23 different organisations to inform and shape the service requirements.

Following the re-scoping of the full service specification the PCC undertook an Invitation to Tender Open Process on the procurement portal BlueLight. The Invitation to Tender Open Process ran through March and April 2020. A total of 3 qualifying bids were received and the evaluation panel undertook a comprehensive scoring exercise.

The PCC awarded a two-year contract to Restorative Solutions CIC. They will be working with the Police & Crime Commissioner and West Yorkshire Police, in partnership with the Hampton Trust, to set up and mobilise Project CARA (Cautions and Relationship Abuse) across the force area. We firmly believe that CARA offers an improved criminal justice response to victims of domestic abuse by enhanced risk management and holding standard risk offenders to account for their actions. Restorative Solutions will work with The Hampton Trust to build on the success both of similar CARA sites elsewhere in the country and the Restorative Justice Service for victims of crime in West Yorkshire, which Restorative Solutions have been delivering since 2018.

5. Commissioning amid COVID-19 Pandemic

In late February, the Head of Commissioning contacted all PCC funded services due to the increasing presences of COVID-19 not only in the UK but also in the West Yorkshire area and requested copies of organisations Business Continuity Plans. This enabled the office to understand any service disruption that may occur and to ensure we are well informed of planning and support that maybe required.

We received Business Continuity Planning questionnaires from our funders providing an opportunity to highlight the speed at which our providers were adapting provision, mobilising services and highlighted that changes were taking place weekly if not daily especially related to impact, demand and

disruption. This information was updated regularly and enable us to respond the emergency funding required and available.

To date the following has been allocated to organisations across West Yorkshire as follows;

- Safer Communities Fund - Extra-ordinary Grant Round to the total of £174,304.93.
- COVID-19 Extraordinary Ministry of Justice Funding for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Support Services to the total of £495,640.
- NHS England Covid Sexual Violence Support Services to the total of £15,864.

The following funding provision is still underway;

- Violence Reduction Unit emergency support funding for small/micro charities working with vulnerable young people at risk of being involved in serious violence to the total of £285,168.

6. Horizon scanning

The following areas are on our commissioning horizon;

- The uncertainty of ongoing funding from central government and this landscape has become increasingly uncertain due to the pandemic.
- Challenges of increased need in provision for PCC priority areas due to expectations of hidden harm due to the pandemic and the reduction in funding.
- Opportunities in co commissioning for example with NHS England and the Dynamic Commissioning Framework for HMPPS Probation services.
- The current strategy required to be re-aligned to the refreshed 2020 Police and Crime Plan.