

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE  
DECISION RECORD**

Decision Record Number: **13/2022**

Title: **Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service Humberside:  
Hub E Interactive, Telephone and Court Support.**

Date: 22/2/22

**Executive Summary:**

This paper outlines the case for providing additional funding to the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service (ISVA) to facilitate a hub and additional court provision to ensure resilience and capacity to meet increasing demands. Extending the provision for a further two years, from March 2022 to April 2024 at a fixed budget of £50,000 per annum, and a total cost of £100,000

Extending the provision will continue to provide a high standard of support to victims of high harm sexual violence within Humberside whom are impacted by the pandemic in terms of engagement and accessibility into the service. This directly supports the Police and Crime Plan in delivering effective organisations, Engaged, Resilient and Inclusive Communities and Safer Communities. Ultimately ensuring effective services for victims and the most vulnerable.

The Commissioner directly provides funding for the existing sexual violence service from the MOJ Victims grant. There is available budget to fund this requirement.

**Decision:**

That the request for additional funding for the hub the contract for a further 2 years from April 2022 to March 2024 at a fixed budget of £50,000 per annum, and a total cost of £100,000 be approved. There is available budget to fund this requirement.

**Background Report:** OPEN

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside**

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct. Any such interests are recorded below.

The above request has my approval.

**Signature**



**Date 28/02/2022**

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE**

**SUBMISSION FOR: /DECISION  
OPEN**

**Title: Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service Humberside:  
Hub E interactive, telephone and court support.**

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**1) Executive Summary**

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The Commissioner directly provides funding for the existing sexual violence service from the MOJ Victims grant. There is available budget to fund this requirement.

**Recommendation(s)**

That the request for extending the service for two twelve month periods at the value of £50,000 per annum and a total cost of £100,000 be approved. Funded via the MoJ victims grant. There is available budget to fund this requirement.

**2) Background**

2.1 The Blue Door have delivered Independent Sexual Violence services for children, young people and adults within the Humberside region since 2014. The organisation has grown considerably within this period to meet local needs and an increasing demand.

2.2 The pandemic also presented significant opportunities for additional funding, Humberside OPCC were successful in attracting additional investment for ISVA's. The service has increased resilience and is flexible to increasing demands in sexual violence. One element of funding is the Hub (additional £40,000 of MoJ funding),

the additional elements are for court support workers, meeting the needs of backlogs and waiting lists and latterly a male bespoke peer recovery worker. This was annual cliff edged funding which will cease in March 2022.

2.3 The additional funding of the ISVA service enabled a remodelling of the service into a hub model to manage lower level risk and client check-ups. Essentially supporting engagement throughout the pandemic and help manage demand and waiting lists. This model was also replicated within court settings. The benefits of providing the hub service has been recognised in terms of engagement with the clients, maintaining response times, demand management and rationale to continue to provide this facility as business as usual. The same is said for having consistent presence with court.

2.4 The Hub serves the inward demand into the ISVA service and within court, providing telephone/interactive media support for those accessing and awaiting allocation. Those with less complex/severe needs receive ongoing support via the hub team. Advice on options is provided at all stages of access into the Hub and this is beneficial for knowledge of the process if reporting to the police is decided for those individuals who self-refer.

2.5 There are considerable benefits in terms of managing fluctuating demands throughout the pandemic both via Hub approach and in court settings, such as; increased waiting lists and backlogs, increasing needs and vulnerabilities, increased calls for lower level support and reduced staffing due to sickness and time off for dependents. Losing this element of service at this time will have a huge impact.

2.6 The service has witnessed continual increase in demands, and has continued to see an increase in referrals since Q3 2019-20 and numbers are now at the same as pre-Covid levels.

Current Demand as of December 2021:

- Increase of 10% in the number of incidents from Q1 in the last financial year.
- Increases in the 18-25 and 36-45 brackets.
- 80% of all clients have engaged with the service

In the most recent quarter the ISVA service had engaged with 126 new individuals and is engaging with an increased number of repeat victims. This also creates additional demands, whilst displaying significant confidence in clients in the manner in which they are re contacting the service.

### 3) Options and Risks

Please see options appraisal below, option 1 is considered as the preferred option based on least risk and most benefit.

#### **Option 1 – Fund the desired additional elements of service provision.**

This option is recommended because it allows the PCC to capitalise on the innovation which was realised through key learning within contingency planning and additional investments throughout the pandemic.

The current service is responsive and delivering well, continuing to fund the hub adds value in terms of resilience and offers additional continuity for two further years. The service is continuing to develop, is quality assured (Lime culture) quality assurance standard for ISVA Services for both adult and children and young people's service. This provides assurance of quality and enables continued service development.

The learning from contingency management and additional funded elements within the covid period have enabled the service to improve flow for service users and deals cases more efficiently. Where clients are not sure if they require the ISVA service, they are often provided with information detailing what support can be offered and that they can take this up in their own time.

There are a number of local and rationales which support this funding:

- This approach allows additional time allows for service stability, continuity of care and the future funding arrangements to be secured and agreed and future specifications post 2024 .
- Helps to consolidate tupe lists in light of additional grant funded posts.
- Additionally there has been an unprecedented amount of one year cliff edged grants specifically for sexual violence and domestic abuse services. This is enabling best practice to be developed and integrated into sustainable service models/ responses.
- Provides continuity in partner relationships encouraging service awareness
- Provider is connected to partnerships and actively supporting the London Rape review recommendations, active RASSO partner.
- Meets the terms of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) grant
- Allows time for added value to be realised, from recently awarded MOJ central grant (SV toolkit development). Also in terms of receiving emergency funding and reducing waiting lists for therapeutic support
- Recently successful in several bids into MoJ for generic and specialist Male rape support fund, providing added value and resilience.
- Enables time to meet PCC's new Police and Crime Plan priorities
- Meets the PCC's obligations to provide effective organisations and victim services.

**Option 2 – Fund partial contribution (fund only the hub or court worker)**

The PCC could make a partial contribution but this would then require further grants to be identified for the full resilience in service to be realised.

This option would also present a gap in service for court provision and require ISVA's to attend court against a backdrop of increasing demands and complexity. This would increase capacity issues.

**Option 3 - Do nothing - don't fund**

This option is not recommended as it would be a lost opportunity to realise innovation and service development. This option would create a gap in service and contribute towards increasing capacity issues.

**4) Financial Implications**

- Hub worker plus volunteer management and supervision £25,000 per annum
- Court ISVA £25,000 per annum
- Total annual cost £50,000 per annum
- Total contract cost for 2 year funding - £100,000

**5) Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications

**6) Equalities Implications**

There are no equalities issues to be considered.

**7) Consultation**

There is frequent consultation with service users, reviewed quarterly via case studies and self-reported outcomes monitoring. This consultation is fed into the quarterly Rape and Sexual Assault Service Improvement Group (RASSO SIG) meeting with stakeholders and force scrutiny over service provision, pathways and intervention. There is regular feedback provided from a variety of victim circumstances.

**8) Media information**

None.

**9) Background documents**

None.

## 10) Publication

Open

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND APPEND THE FOLLOWING TABLE TO ALL REPORTS THAT REQUIRE A DECISION FROM THE COMMISSIONER**

This matrix provides a simple check list for the things you need to have considered within your report. If there are no implications please state

I have informed and sought advice from HR, Legal, Finance, OPCC officer(s) etc prior to submitting this report for official comments	Yes
Is this report proposing an amendment to the budget?	Yes
Value for money considerations have been accounted for within the report	Yes
The report is approved by the relevant Chief Officer	Yes
I have included any procurement/commercial issues/implications within the report	Yes
I have liaised with Corporate Communications on any communications issues	No –None required
I have completed an Equalities Impact Assessment and the outcomes are included within the report	No - None required
I have included any equalities, diversity and or human rights implications within the report	Yes – There are none
Any Health and Safety implications are included within the report	Yes
I have included information about how this report contributes to the delivery of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan	Yes