

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

REQUEST FOR POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER DECISION – 019-2019

TITLE: Women's Centre - Petals Programme 2019-2020

Summary:

The Petals programme supports the Commissioners priority to reduce reoffending. The request is for the Commissioner to approve funding Women's Community Matters to continue to deliver the programme in the South of the County and to provide a train the trainer model for the women's centres in the North and West of the County. This will enable the three women's centres in Cumbria to expand their offer therefore reaching more women in need and removing the postcode lottery that exists for women when accessing services.

This funding will enable Women's Community Matters to develop further the PCC's vision for Women's Centres across Cumbria

The Petals Programme is an 8 week intervention offered to women offenders and women at risk of offending.

The purpose is to:

- Provide timely support to women and families where ever they live in the county.
- Reduce offending and re-offending amongst women,
- Offer support to vulnerable women who may be at particular risk of or be experiencing domestic and/or sexual violence,
- Contribute to the reduction in anti-social behaviour and alcohol related crime.

The Petals Programme developed by Women's Community Matters with funding from the Innovation Fund in 2017 received 109 referrals onto the programme, of which 11 women declined to take up the offer and 98 women completed the programme.

The women reported improvements in the 5 measured issues known to be linked to offending patterns, with the following numbers stating that the issue was resolved by the end of the programme:-

- Housing 77%
- Money 69%
- Safety 82%
- Health 33%
- Mental Health 70%

Recommendation:

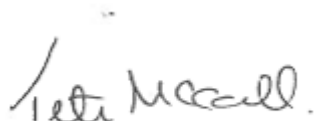
The commissioner approves funding of £29,936.48 to Women's Community Matters to deliver the Petals programme during 2019-20, and train staff at the Gateway 4 Women and Women Out West, so that by March 2020 the Petals programme will be available to women throughout Cumbria.

Police & Crime Commissioner

I confirm that I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for Cumbria Police & Crime Commissioner. Any such interests are recorded below.

I hereby approve/~~do not approve~~ the recommendation(s) above

Police & Crime Commissioner / ~~Chief Executive~~ (delete as appropriate)



Signature:

Date: 15th August 2019

PART 1 – NON CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE PCC

1. Introduction & Background

- The Women's Centres have valuable experience of delivering these types of programmes, are trusted within their communities, and are valuable in contributing towards the wider strategies of the PCC.
- This funding would allow women in the whole of Cumbria to access the programme with minimal delay between being referred and receiving support.
- The programme addresses the five underlying causes of female offending – domestic abuse, addiction, mental health, homelessness and debt, and also places simple structure into chaotic lifestyles.
- The programme focuses on long term sustainability and stabilisation for the women, supporting women as they form therapeutic relationships with other agencies, and strengthen community support.
- Women who engage with the programme are less likely to be involved in offending behaviour in the future, including benefit fraud.
- Children of the women who have accessed the programme are less likely to be involved in offending behaviour.
- Women who have engaged are more likely to seek support from services in the future before reaching crisis point.
- Preventative programmes like Petals are more cost effective to the public purse with wider reaching effects within the community and family.

2. Issues for Consideration

3. Implications

3.1 Financial

Total amount of funding requested from the commissioned services budget is £29,936.48 for April 2019 – March 2020.

3.2 Legal

There are no legal implications

3.3 Risk

Any potential reputational risks to the OPCC will be mitigated through robust contract management meetings.

3.4 HR/Equality

No risks have been identified at this stage.

3.5 ICT

No risks have been identified at this stage.

3.6 Procurement
This will be a grant agreement

3.7 Victims
Continued service provision will ensure support and intervention is available leading to a reduction in offences.

4. Backgrounds / supporting papers

(List any relevant business case, EIA, PID, Media Strategy and append to this form; list persons consulted during the preparation of the report)

This programme has been developed through discussions with Cumbria Constabulary, other agencies and participants.

The end of project evaluation report is available -
[..\Petals final report - March 19 V2.docx](#)

The proposal for the programme over the next year -
[Petals Programme 2019-20.docx](#)

And the financial forecast for the next year -
[Project budget 2019-20 Petals.xlsx](#)

Public Access to Information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) 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 automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form. Deferment is only applicable where release before that date would not compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

Is the publication of this form to be deferred? YES / **NO**

If yes, for what reason:

Until what date (if known):

Is there a **Part 2** form - YES / **NO**

(If Yes, please ensure Part 2 form is completed prior to submission)

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

I confirm that this report has been considered by the Executive Team and that relevant financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

Signed: *Alison Blenkharn*

Date: 8th August 2019

OFFICER APPROVAL

~~Chief Executive~~ / Deputy Chief Executive (delete as appropriate)

I have been consulted 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 / Chief Executive (delete as appropriate).

Signature: Vivian Stafford

Date: 15th August 2019

Media Strategy

The decision taken by the Police & Crime Commissioner may require a press announcement or media strategy.

Will a press release be required following the decision being considered? YES / NO

If yes, has a media strategy been formulated? YES / NO

Is the media strategy attached? YES / NO

What is the proposed date of the press release: