

Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision	
PCCG-2019-23	Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision Session
Subject	Commissioning Fund Grant Allocation 2019/20 – Early Action Together
Summary	To record the decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner to provide funding to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, and Newport City Council and Gwent Police to deliver a whole system response to vulnerability, by implementing Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) informed approaches for operational policing and key partners.

DECISION

1.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) provides under sections 9 and 10 that the Police and Crime Commissioner for a police area makes crime and disorder grants and acts in co-operation with responsible authorities and makes arrangements with criminal justice agencies for the exercise of functions so as to provide an efficient and effective criminal justice system for the area. This provision was further supplemented by virtue of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014) which provided specific arrangements for the provision of commissioning services for victims.
2.

In November 2017, the four Welsh Commissioners and Forces, Public Health Wales and Barnardo's Cymru were successful in receiving £6.9m of Police Transformation Funding (over the three years until March 2020) from the Home Office, to deliver a pan-Wales programme of work to deliver an 'Adverse Childhood Experiences' (ACE) approach to policing vulnerability. This programme of work was subsequently named the Early Action Together (EAT) Programme, which since inception, has been co-ordinated via a multi-agency National Board, supported by Local Project Boards in each Force area.
3.

The Home Office grant covered not only Core Programme Delivery Staffing costs, but also an element for each Force area to deliver 'Enhanced Services', across a thematic area, that would deliver long-term sustainable improvements to both the thematic and geographic areas. The 'Education' thematic area was awarded to Gwent.

The local Gwent project team of the overall EAT Programme has therefore been working with local partners teams in the two pathfinder areas of Blaenau Gwent and Newport to:

 - Identify opportunities for system change to improve offers of timely, early intervention and support for families who have had contact with

Gwent Police;

- Identify opportunities to strengthen, integrate and build into existing responses;
- Explore and develop models of practice that would enhance the whole system response to vulnerability; and
- Develop proof of concept models to be tested and evaluated.

Proposals have therefore been submitted from the two pathfinder areas to deliver on the above objectives.

Blaenau Gwent

The EAT Local Delivery Team has worked alongside key partners in Blaenau Gwent including Police, Children's Services, Families First and Education to develop a concept that builds into existing systems and responses to vulnerability.

The proposal builds into the Information, Assistance and Advice (IAA) service which provides a 'one front door' for referrals to Children's Service.

Police and partners recognised an opportunity to enhance the existing arrangements by co-locating a police resource with the IAA service to provide early, effective information sharing that can contribute to collaborative decision-making regarding safeguarding. Every referral would be jointly screened by Police and Children's Services, with safeguarding decisions being made by the delegated, responsible decision maker from Children's Services having received timely and relevant information from the Gwent Police resource.

If the referral meets the statutory safeguarding threshold then the police resource would participate in strategy discussions / meetings as required by the All Wales Child Protection Policies and Procedures and the South East Wales Safeguarding Board Inter-Agency Protocol for conducting Section 47 Child protection Enquires ratified in December 2018.

For referrals that do not meet statutory safeguarding thresholds relevant police / children's services information will be shared with the referral / screening officers based at IAA who will contact the family, understand what matters to them and act as social navigators; identifying whether a single agency or Families First intervention would best meet the needs as described by the family.

As a result of earlier information sharing and identification of families who do not meet statutory safeguarding thresholds, partners recognised the potential for increased referrals to the Families First service and therefore the programme will fund two Family Support Workers to respond to this anticipated increase in demand.

I have therefore awarded a grant of up to £78,858 to Blaenau Gwent County

Borough Council to fund:

- **2 x Family Support Workers; and**
- **Business Support.**

I have also provided additional funding of £50,000 to Gwent Police for:

- **1 x Police Resource.**

Newport

Similarly, the EAT Local Delivery Team has worked alongside key partners in Newport including Police, Children's Services, Families First, Safeguarding and Prevention teams to develop an 'Early Intervention Project' that builds into existing systems and responses to vulnerability.

The proposed project builds into the existing Safeguarding Hub response to safeguarding in Newport.

Police and partners recognised an opportunity to develop a concept that would offer families not meeting statutory safeguarding thresholds an early help offer at the point of referral, which would essentially offer a service for families that would otherwise result in 'No Further Action' (NFA).

The Early Intervention Project will focus on the early identification of families who do not meet statutory safeguarding thresholds, providing an offer of direct interventions and support to meet the family's needs at that time.

The project will fund two prevention Social Workers and two Family Support Workers, who will be co-located with the Safeguarding Hub.

I have therefore awarded a grant of up to £188,903 to fund:

- **2 x Social Workers;**
- **2 x Family Support Workers; and**
- **Business Support.**

- 5. The arrangements for each award will be set out in a Grant Agreement which includes appropriate terms and conditions, purpose of the award, payment, monitoring and reporting arrangements.**

As a minimum, in order to monitor the progress of funded projects, and provide reassurance that funding allocated is effectively meeting Policing Priorities in Gwent, as outlined in the Police and Crime Plan, grant recipients are required to complete a mid-year and an end of year monitoring report which will require the following information to be provided:

- **Project Activity**
- **Project Outputs**
- **Project Outcomes**

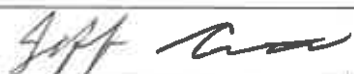
- Breakdown of financial expenditure
- Risks
- Learning

Applicant organisations will be required to accept the terms and conditions of the grant which will be outlined in a Grant Agreement and Grant Offer Letter by signing and returning the relevant documentation. Payment of grants is subject to ongoing compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant and satisfactory monitoring and reporting.

Mr Jeff Cuthbert, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

My decision is as I have recorded in this paper

Signed



Date

8/7/19

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Background papers

Gwent Project Board Proposals for the implementation of early intervention concepts in Blaenau Gwent and Newport – February 2019.