

Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision	
PCCG-2020-047	Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision
Subject	Investment into Female Offending Blueprint
Summary	To record the decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner to contribute to the development of the Joint Ministry of Justice and Welsh Government Female Offending Blueprint.

DECISION

- The joint Ministry of Justice and Welsh Government Female Offending Blueprint (2019), provides an opportunity to accelerate the reform and transformation of services for women in the Criminal Justice System (drawing on the lessons learned from the Women's Pathfinder). The Female Offending Blueprint will focus on creating sustainable community-based solutions to keep women and communities safe and free from crime, based on an evidence-led approach.

The Female Offending Blueprint is being delivered via six individual workstreams, led by multi-agency, multi-disciplinary leads, providing a pan-Wales approach. The six individual workstreams include:

 - Early Intervention and Prevention
 - Courts and Sentencing
 - Custody and Resettlement
 - Community Sentences
 - Research and Evaluation (joint workstream with Youth Justice Blueprint project), and
 - Systems and Governance (joint workstream with Youth Justice Blueprint project).

Since the commencement of the project, the Female Offending Blueprint delivery team has sought to identify opportunities to streamline workstreams (including merging workstreams with Youth Justice Blueprint workstreams) and jointly resource wherever possible, to minimise demand both on individual leads and on wider partners. However, workstream leads have committed to delivering this ambitious programme of work on top of their existing day jobs. Feedback from workstream leads therefore, has highlighted a need for additional project resource to provide workstream support and to support workstreams in taking forward identified research and evaluation activity, enabling an evidence-led approach to delivery.

A business case for additional resource was submitted by the Female Offending Blueprint Project Senior Responsible Officer (Emma Wools) and agreed in principle by the Female Offending Blueprint Programme Board in February 2020. The Business Case sets out a proposal for a shared investment by partners including Welsh Government, Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service and Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) for additional resource to support the Female Offending Blueprint project. PCCs were asked to collectively contribute, as part of the partnership investment, approximately £30,000 in order to secure resource including a Project Support Manager and Blueprint Research Officer (shared across both the Female Offending and Youth Justice Blueprints) to enable successful delivery of the Female Offending Blueprint project.

2. The one-off £30,000 investment requested from PCCs is broken down into the following contributions:
- South Wales Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) - £15,000
 - North Wales OPCC - £5,000
 - Dyfed-Powys OPCC - £5,000
 - Gwent OPCC - £5,000

South Wales OPCC will act as the 'banker' for this funding.

The funding will be pooled with the contributions from the other partners to fund:

- A Blueprint Research Officer - fixed term post until Sept 2021.
- A contribution towards the Programme Support Manager role - fixed term role with length of contract to be confirmed upon appointment.

No funding commitment has been requested beyond that outlined above. A review date has been requested but has not yet been set in order to discuss the need for future funding.

3. I have decided to provide the one-off £5k investment requested of Gwent OPCC, to contribute towards funding the resource required to support the Blueprint project.

Jeff Cuthbert B.SC., MCIPD, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

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.

Signed

Date

<i>D. J. Garwood - Pch</i>	12.01.2021
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*This report has been signed by the Chief Finance Officer on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner as per Part 3c, Scheme of Consent and Delegation, Paragraph 9 of the Manual of Corporate Governance.

Contact Officer	
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Background papers	Business Case