



POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE

DECISION 2019/16	DATE: 23 July 2019
TITLE: DRUG AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE FUNDING - LCC	
REPORT BY: LOUISE FAIRCLOUGH	

Executive Summary

1. The Commissioner's revenue budget for 2019 – 20 includes a funding allocation to support drug and substance misuse services across Lancashire including a provision for the two unitary authorities Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool Councils
2. The Commissioner invited applications for funding to be submitted from the Public Health Specialists within Councils for services that supported and complimented existing wider services around peer support and mentoring
3. Lancashire County Council – Public Health - Behavioural Change have submitted an application which seeks to support individuals in structured schemes of support leading to pathways of employment and training
4. This Decision seeks to confirm the allocation of £265,600 from the Tackling Crime and Reducing Reoffending Fund to the Recovery Infrastructure (RIO) via Lancashire County Council

Recommendations

The Commissioner is recommended to approve the proposed use of the Reducing Reoffending Fund as outlined in Appendix A.

Signature

Clive Grunshaw

Police and Crime Commissioner

Date

23rd July 2019

PART I

1. Background and Advice

Following previous years support for drug and substance misuse services across Lancashire via Lancashire County, Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool Councils. This application from Lancashire County Council (LCC) for continued funding to support this service

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

The application from LCC supports – the Police and Crime Commissioner's Priorities 2 - Tackling Crime and Reoffending, 3 - Supporting Victims and Vulnerable People & 4 – Delivering Safe and Confident Communities

3. Consultation

N/A

4. Implications

a. Legal

The award of these funds is in line with the Commissioner's Commissioning framework

b. Financial

The award is made from a budgeted allocation

c. Equality considerations

Equality data is currently gathered on all applications.



5. Background Papers

None.

6. Public access to information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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 available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form.

Officer declaration	Date
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS – As above	
CONSULTATION – As above	
Director to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Monitoring Officer) I have been informed 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 for Lancashire.	
Signature..... 	Date.....23/7/2019

APPENDIX 1

For a number of years the PCC's Office (and prior to this the Police Authority via Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Action Team [LDAAT]) have supported funding for non - medical interventions eg peer support and mentoring or abstinence based programmes in respect of drug and substance misuse.

Red Rose Recovery and the Recovery Infrastructure Organisation (RIO) are contracted by Lancashire County Council match funding comes from the Bric Fund together with the core treatment system.

Substance misuse is a significant social issue that negatively impacts on individuals, communities, and society. LCC through its commissioned services have developed highly effective treatment services with higher than England average performance for individuals leaving treatment successfully.

During 2017 successful completions without representing within 6 months for Alcohol was 54.9% in Lancashire against 38.9% in England.

The strong treatment system and its outcomes via the RIO are supported by a dynamic recovery led by people with lived experience. The recovery community is represented by the Lancashire User Forum which in turn is supported by the (RIO) commissioned by (RRR). It is the RIO service itself that LCC wish to channel the PCC's financial support.

The RIO provides the support necessary to enable people to live a sustainable live free from the harmful impact of chronic drug and or alcohol misuse. It seeks to give people recovering from drug and alcohol misuse the chance to contribute to their local communities by taking part in education, employment or volunteering. There are numerous community projects that involve the whole of the family promote visible recovery and crackdown barriers with victims of crime and local communities. Supported from local authorities, public and private sector, education and training suppliers and other charitable organisations.

The RIO seeks to give people recovering from drug or alcohol misuse the chance to contribute to their local communities by taking part in education, employment or volunteering. RRR deliver projects to the community, building sustainable recovery for service users, families and their carers (the 'recovery community')

The application and projected delivery plan meets three of the four PCC's priorities

Priority 2 – Substance misuse is directly linked to both acquisitive and violent crime. The treatment system works with convicted offenders and non-offenders to ensure that they receive the treatment necessary to break this cycle of addiction and crime. The RIO offers support to maintain recovery post-treatment to dependence and crime. It is a key element in building sustainable recovery communities and an alternative to addiction and dependence.

Priority 3 – The treatment system works with people who are vulnerable and have often been victims of crime and abuse. Substance misuse often begins as a coping mechanism, with people, self –prescribing, it helps people to deal with their trauma which often arises during childhood (adverse childhood experiences). Significantly numbers of people who use substances have a co-morbidity with mental illness making them particularly vulnerable.

Priority 4 – By supporting individuals to sustain recovery from substance dependence, RIO sustains the gains made in treatment to reducing reoffending and directly contributes towards safer and more resilient communities by turning people into local assets. Evidence shows that people who maintain recovery for 5 years plus are more productive members of society.

RIO supports the process of recovery and embeds it in community working with people who have been both perpetrators and victims of crime, their families and local communities. One of the key elements is using people with lived experience in positive roles, building positive social networks to reduce the stigma and barriers.

In view of the fact that support for this funding has been given previously it is expected, based on 2018's output that referrals will be expected to be above the 600 target (2018/19 was 709). RIO were able to engage with 94% of the referrals against a target of 60%. Through clear support the majority of referrals were self-referrals. An impressive number of staff led groups were run equalling 563 sessions and a similar number for peer led groups. RIO supported over 8,000 volunteer hours (this itself equates to over £50,000 and nearly 2000 attended the Lancashire User Forum last year.

On an extremely positive note RIO trained over 240 individuals against a target of 200 supported 28 individuals into work, training, education.

The current contract with LCC has been in operation since 2015 but the project itself has been in existence since 2009. The current performance framework is currently being refreshed to make better use of the information they can collate. However quarterly performance reports will be forthcoming providing an opportunity to demonstrate to the PCC where this service has made a difference to individuals.

Red Rose Recovery itself, as part of the wider organisation has recently been positively evaluated.

The RIO is now embedded as part of the wider substance misuse system in Lancashire and will focus on three key priorities for 2018/19

- RRR Board to investigate options and develop a plan for independent funding to ensure sustainability
- RRR to commission research to evidence effectiveness
- RRR to link with local academic partners to develop a behaviour change tool/training to help focus delivery and improve outcomes

This application is forwarded for recommendation for the contribution of £265,600 into the wider core treatment system (£15m) and Bric Fund (£100k) in view of the continuation of previous years funding.

Louise Fairclough
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Lead – Crime, Reducing Reoffending and Criminal Justice