

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**TITLE: The Drive Project (Herefordshire)**

Ref: PCC/D/2021/04

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Drive Project is a new response to domestic abuse that aims to reduce the number of child and adult victims of domestic abuse by deterring perpetrator behaviour. Drive provides a case manager who acts as a single point of contact for priority (high-risk or serial) perpetrators on a 1-2-1 basis. The model has been developed between a partnership of SafeLives, Respect and Social Finance.

The PCC has successfully led a joint application with Herefordshire Council to the Home Office Perpetrator Fund to expand the current Drive provision in Worcestershire into Herefordshire. The funding is for 6 months up to March 2021 with a requirement to provide match funding for a minimum of a further 6 months.

The programme is in response to a gap in service provision of programmes which target high harm domestic abuse perpetrators who are not necessarily in the criminal justice system.

The Drive Project pilot focuses on priority (high-risk or serial) perpetrators, as this group carries the greatest risk of serious harm and engage poorly in available services.

**PROPOSAL**

To implement the Drive programme in Herefordshire for an initial 18 month period.

**APPROVAL OF  
West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner**

I hereby approve the above proposal.

Signed



## PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL/EXEMPT FACTS AND FIGURES

### SUPPORTING REPORT

#### 1. Background

The Drive Project launched in April 2016 and was piloted in three areas across England and Wales (Essex, South Wales and West Sussex) from 2016-2019. In the second stage of the Drive sites in 2017, the PCC was awarded funding to implement Drive in Worcestershire. With the continued success of Drive in Worcestershire, the evaluation from the University of Bristol of Drive, the Home Office announced their perpetrator fund in 2019. This became available in 2020 with a dedicated pot of funding for new sites and expansion of existing sites for Drive.

After working with each local authority across West Mercia a decision was made to roll out Drive in Herefordshire.

#### 2. Proposal

It is suggested that the Police and Crime Commissioner agrees for Herefordshire to expand their current Drive service provision from Worcestershire and that the PCC commits to providing some match funding to deliver the Drive project in an area of West Mercia. Herefordshire County Council have agreed to match fund

Confirmation of Home Office funding was received October 2020.

#### 3. Recommendation

It is proposed that £259,662 20 is allocated for the project to be expanded into Herefordshire. Herefordshire has been suggested as the location for the following reasons,

- A needs analysis of Herefordshire showed that they had the most prolific, high harm, domestic abuse perpetrators out of the 5 LPA's.
- Herefordshire Council are offering up some match funding to support the pilot
- Herefordshire has a strong working MARAC which is one of the key factors required for the project to be a success
- Herefordshire and Worcestershire Councils have a good working relationship and with the tight timescales of the bid to be able to extend the current contract into Herefordshire provided a more feasible option than procurement of a full service.

Implementing the Drive programme in Herefordshire for an initial 18 month period will require extending the current Drive provision in Worcestershire to cover Herefordshire. The current Worcestershire service manager will cover both local policing areas, with the recruitment of a part time team leader to support across both sites and one part time admin support 2 x FTE Case Managers will be

recruited. As we are expanding the current site no procurement activity needs to take place.

Funding will be committed from the PCC, Herefordshire Council and the Home Office Perpetrator Fund.

A Grant agreement is to be set up by the Home Office between PCC and the Home Office. The Worcestershire MOU and contract will be adapted and expanded to include Herefordshire Council regarding the financial and monitoring requirements of the funding.

An MOU has also been agreed between the PCC and the central Drive team as the Home Office are funding Drive to support new sites with implementation for the first 6 months.

## **STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS**

This decision supports the following element(s) of the Safer West Mercia Plan

- Putting Victims and Survivors First
- Building a More Secure West Mercia
- Reforming West Mercia
- Reassuring West Mercia's Communities

The decision supports this/ these objective(s) through the following:

**Putting Victims and Survivors First** – The DRIVE programme's fundamental aims is to protect victims and survivors from future harm from perpetrators of domestic abuse. It also aims to reduce the numbers of future victims through behaviour change work with perpetrator and disruption actions.

**Reforming West Mercia** – The DRIVE programme is a behaviour change programme aiming to support perpetrators to change their behaviour and ultimately stop the abuse

**Building a More Secure West Mercia** – With the DRIVE programme working to reduce the number of perpetrators of domestic abuse it is protecting the communities of West Mercia from harm or further harm caused by those perpetrators of domestic abuse.

**Reassuring West Mercia's Communities** – The PCC's office continues to make communities aware of the DRIVE programme so that they can be reassured that some of the highest harm or repeat offenders of domestic abuse are being worked with to change their behaviour and reduce future offending, or disrupt abuse and prevent future offending.

## **FINANCIAL COMMENTS**

The total cost to deliver the Drive project in Herefordshire for 18 months is budgeted at\*:

	20/21 (Nov – March)	2021/22
Home Office Funding	£154,379 50	£0 00
PCC Contribution	£4,599	£255,063.20
HC Contribution	£0.00	£0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£158,978.50</b>	<b>£255,063.20</b>

A breakdown of the local financial contribution is made up as follows,

Core delivery	20/21 (Nov – March)	2021/22
Service Provider ongoing (staff, overheads, training)	£58,005	£116,009
Admin	£2,722	£5,444
Additional IDVA Capacity	£18,852	£71,110.20
Spot Purchase Intervention	£5,000	£10,000
Perpetrator Panel support (DA support officer)	£17,500*	£35,000*
DRIVE Central Costs	£0.00	£17,500**
Project Manager	£50,000	£0 00
Workshop sessions	£2,000	£0.00
RESPECT accreditation	£2,900	£0.00
Laptops	£2,000	£0 00

These contributions will cover the 20/21 and 21/22 financial years

\*These are budget figures not the finalised figures

\*\*This total covers both Worcestershire and Herefordshire

### TREASURER COMMENTS

Funding for this project has been included in the 2021/22 revenue budget.

### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

By virtue of section 143 of the Antisocial Behaviour, Policing and Crime Act 2014 the Police and Crime Commissioner may provide or arrange for the provision of services to secure crime and disorder reduction, services to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour, and other services specified by the Secretary of State.

By virtue of schedule 11, paragraph 14 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Police and Crime Commissioner may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of commissioner. That includes. entering into contracts and other

agreements (whether legally binding or not) and acquiring and disposing of property (including land).

## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the West Mercia Commissioner's website. Any facts and advice that should not be made automatically available on request are not included in Part 1 but instead in a separate Part 2 report.

## **OFFICER APPROVAL**

**Chief Executive Officer**

Signature



Date 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021