

Approved By: Greg Myddelton, Assistant Director Commissioning)	Classification of Paper: Not Protectively Marked
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Report to PCC	Report reference number PCC/ 0041/15
Date of Report 27 March 2014	Area of County/Stakeholders affected Countywide
Title of report PCC NIF – Victim Awareness Course	
Report by Greg Myddelton	
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of £2,520 in the form of a crime and disorder reduction grant from the NIF to Essex Police, whose activities will contribute to the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for Essex.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of the NIF grant to deliver the pilot Victim Awareness Course project.

3. Benefits of Proposal

- 3.1. Essex Police are proposing to pilot the Victim Awareness Court scheme with offenders who are subject to Community Resolutions and are identified as in need of some victim awareness in order to reduce their risks of further offending. It is proposed to run six 'back to back' courses – the courses are two hours long and are run by Victim Support.

- 3.2 The courses would be attended by a maximum of 20 offenders who would all be subject to a community resolution for various low level offences.

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1 Other police forces such as Hampshire and Sussex have been running the scheme, and most recently Kent Police has signed up to this initiative.

- 4.2 If the pilot courses are successful, Essex Police would seek to use the VAC more widely with those subject to a community resolution and offenders who

are subject to a mandatory conditional caution. This would be an aspiration for 2016 and based on evaluation from the pilot.

- 4.3 In the future, out of court disposals may change significantly in Essex – it may be that ‘Simple Cautions’ are withdrawn as a disposal for adult offenders and the only options available will be those of Community Resolutions and Conditional Cautions. If this becomes the case, Essex Police would like to be able to offer this course to those subject to a conditional caution but at a charge of £55 to the offender so that the costs of the course can be covered by the offenders themselves.
- 4.4 The pilot courses will however, only be offered to those subject to a voluntary community resolution contract and therefore funding is sought to test the effectiveness of such an intervention.

5. Police and Crime Plan

5.1 Supports priorities in the Police and Crime Plan as follows;

- Improving crime prevention
- Supporting victims of crime
- Ensuring local solutions meet local problems
- Increasing efficiency in policing through collaborative working and innovation

6. Police Operational Implications

6.1 There are no operational implications

7. Financial Implications

7.1 The PCC would fund a £2,520 contribution to Essex Police

8. Legal Implications

8.1 The award of the grant is subject to the PCC's standard funding agreement.

9. Staffing and other resource implications

9.1 There are no staffing issues

10. Equality and Diversity implications

10.1 There are no equality and diversity implications

Publication

Reasons for non-publication (state 'None' if applicable)

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Signed/Print name

Report for publication

YES

NO

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.