



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Executive

Date: 25 November 2013

A STRATEGIC VISION OF SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE

1. Purpose

1.1 To share the Draft Strategic Vision of Support for Victims in Cambridgeshire with members of the Board and outline next steps for implementation.

2. Recommendation

2.1 Members of the Board are invited to formally comment on the document. The six-week consultation period runs until December 20.

2.2 Members are also asked to consider proposals to take forward commissioning in this area.

3. The Draft Strategic Vision of Support for Victims in Cambridgeshire

3.1 Members of the CCJB Victim and Witnesses sub-group, made up of representatives from the statutory and voluntary sector, jointly developed this document.

3.2 The document has been informed by:

- Cambridgeshire's Victim and Offender Needs Assessment 2012
- Cambridgeshire's Listening and Learning Report (commissioned by the former Victim's Commissioner)
- A local mapping event to look at the services already in place for victims, the

gaps in service provision, the opportunities to improve support for victims, and prioritise future work.

- National documents such as Draft Code of Practice for Victims of Crime and the Ministry of Justice's 2012 'Getting it right for victims and witnesses'.

3.3

Initial feedback on the strategy from both statutory and voluntary agencies has been positive.

4. Funding of victims services

4.1

The transfer of funding for local victims' services to Police and Crime Commissioners is scheduled for late 2014.

4.2

Following significant input from the OPCC Cambridgeshire, the Ministry of Justice has supported work to allow the process to refer victims of crime to support services (referral process) to be initially commissioned through a regional model.

4.3

Cambridgeshire has also stepped forward to pilot the local delivery of this referral process and share the learning with others. This service will allow improved integration of referral into local working and would run alongside the regional model. This will ensure victims who live in Cambridgeshire and experience crime outside Cambridgeshire do not fall through the net.

5. Development of Commissioning Capacity

5.1

As set out in the strategy, for victims to effectively cope and recover following the most impactful crime an inter-agency response can be required. Responsibility to work with others to commission co-ordinated local support services for victims, which meets their needs, will lay with Police and Crime Commissioners from October 2014.

5.2

An inter-agency Victims' Commissioning Group has been established to overview the creation of an implementation plan and develop appropriate co-commissioning arrangements. It recognised that both the Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council have significant co-commissioning expertise and work is on-going to explore how best to link with this and in this way minimise additional costs.

5.3

Additional revenues for Victims' Commissioning have been raised from offenders through increased and extended Victim Surcharge, increased Penalty Notices for Disorder and increased motoring Fixed Penalty Notices. On November 4, 2013 the Minister of State for Policing, Criminal Justice and Victims informed OPCCs that as receipts from offenders are already beginning to flow, they have been able to make

additional funding of £18m available to Commissioners. This grant is for:

- Building RJ capacity
- Building capacity and capability of wider VCSE support providers in advance of local commissioning
- Commissioners to prepare for local commissioning.

Planning for use of this additional resource is at an early stage. It is recognised that Operations Pheasant / Endeavour (multi-agency intelligence gathering initiative involving multi occupancy houses and the potential risks of exploitation) and Operation Erle (current investigations into Child Exploitation) have identified new groups of victims.

6. Recommendations

6.1 Members of the Board are invited to formally comment on the Draft Strategic Vision of Support for Victims in Cambridgeshire. The six-week consultation period runs until December 20.

6.2 Members are also asked to consider proposals to take forward commissioning in this area.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document (s)	Contact Officer	Location
Draft Strategic Vision of Support for Victims in Cambridgeshire	Nicky Phillipson Interim Strategic Advisor	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA