



**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Executive

**Date:** March 25 2014

## REGIONAL VICTIMS COMMISSIONING

### 1. Purpose

1.1 To inform the Board of the progress made by the Eastern Region Victims Commissioning Group to secure the smooth transition from national to local commissioning of victims services.

### 2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board approves the signing of a Section 22 agreement to create a post to act as the link between the six Police and Crime Commissioner offices in the Eastern Region to ensure: budgets and resources available to support victims of crime are used as efficiently and effectively as possible and there is a smooth transition from national to local commissioning.

### 3. Background

3.1 In October 2014 the responsibility for commissioning initial support for victims of crime will pass to Police and Crime Commissioners.

3.2 Commissioners from the six regions committed to work together on this transition at the Eastern Region meeting in January 2014 and approved the creation of an Eastern Region Victims Commissioning Group. This group agreed to undertake a strategic options analysis, including risks, benefits and costs in relation to models of regional collaboration and commissioning, and use this to inform the development of an action plan, to be signed off by the Regional Alliance.

3.3 In taking this forward, it was proposed that each Commissioner pools a small amount of their 2013/14 Preparatory Capacity and Capability Fund for Victims to employ an Eastern Region Victims Services Co-ordinator/Senior Project Manager.

The post holder will support the work of the working group and implementation of the action plan. It is estimated that this will cost up to £10k per county. A twin track recruitment approach has been taken looking for both individuals on a 12 month secondment and agencies interested in completing this project. The final decision will be made based on both the quality of applications and anticipated value for money.

- 3.4 The successful post holder/agency will also ensure that the rest of region learn from Cambridgeshire’s experience as an ‘early adopter’ providing victim referral mechanisms locally through a Victims’ Hub from October 2014. The rest of the region will remain within the MoJ national Victim Support funding extension until April 2015.
- 3.5 It is also anticipated that this post holder will feed into the national Victims Working Group (comprising of Kevin Hurley, Alun Michael and Dorothy Gregson) to support effective transition. The group represents PCCs on the victims commissioning programme, influencing the MoJ’s planned work including the commissioning of national services and wider policies that affect the victims’ journey. The group also raises emerging issues with the MoJ on behalf of PCCs, helps to plan the devolution of funding for victims’ services, and engages with Victim Support on relevant issues.

**4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Board approves the signing of a Section 22 agreement to create a post to act as the link between the six Police and Crime Commissioner offices in the Eastern Region to ensure: budgets and resources available to support victims of crime are used as efficiently and effectively as possible and there is a smooth transition from national to local commissioning.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Source Document (s)	Contact Officer	Location
Eastern Region Victims Services Co-ordinator/Senior Project Manager – Policing Body Collaborative Service Agreement	Strategic Advisor Nicky Phillipson	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA