



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Constable

Date: 10 November 2016

APPROPRIATE ADULTS – OUT OF HOURS PILOT

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to update the Business Coordination Board (“the Board”) and Police and Crime Commissioner (“the Commissioner”) with outline proposals to initiate a three month pilot which will ensure a quality, out of hours appropriate adult provision across Cambridgeshire for children and mentally vulnerable adults who are held in police custody overnight.

2. Background

- 2.1 Cambridgeshire Constabulary received joint Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) and Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) inspections of custody in 2008 and 2011. Both inspections identified a need to secure out of hours appropriate adult services for children and vulnerable adults. The current custody management team and Independent Custody Visitors identify this as an operational need which should be addressed. Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) are members of the local community who volunteer to make unannounced visits to police station custody suites to check and report on the treatment and wellbeing of detainees. The ICV Scheme is managed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 2.2 Current Appropriate Adult schemes are commissioned by Peterborough City Council and Cambridge City Council and each contract suppliers to provide services between 0900hrs-2200hrs, seven days a week.
- 2.3 Since the implementation of the Concordat on Children in custody in April 2016, the number of children held in custody overnight has fallen significantly. However, in the

absence of an effective out of hour's provision, there have still been occasions where detention periods have been unnecessarily protracted or investigative requirements such as forensic capture have been delayed. This pilot seeks to address these issues.

- 2.4 Both schemes have been approached and options to provide a cost effective solution have been explored. At the custody governance meeting of 4th October 2016, these options were presented to the Commissioner who has agreed to respond quickly and fund a 3 month pilot commencing 1st November 2016.
- 2.5 Between 1st November 2016 and 31st January 2017, the YMCA has agreed to supply on call and out of hours call out arrangements for trained appropriate adults for children and mentally vulnerable adults across Cambridgeshire. The YMCA will achieve this by working together with Peterborough service providers. Cover will be provided between the hours of 10pm and 9am seven days a week. On call and call out costs have been agreed and will be met by the Commissioner.
- 2.6 A service level agreement (Appendix A) between the service provider and head of custody is in place for the duration of this pilot.

3. Post pilot review and evaluation

- 3.1 At the conclusion of the pilot, an evaluation will be conducted by the head of custody to assess the effectiveness and costs of the provision and dependant on outcome, explore options to continue or revise as necessary. The head of custody will report back in the second half of January 2017.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of this report.

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