

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	15th October, 2014
3.	Title:	Post Abuse Support Arrangements
4.	Directorate:	Neighbourhood and Adult Services

5. Summary

It has been recognised that additional capacity is required to enable immediate post abuse support to be provided to victims of abuse and child sexual exploitation in Rotherham. The Leader of the Council announced on 10th September 2014 that £120,000 has been made available for the period until March 2015 and will be utilised to provide an immediate response. This is short term funding until 31st March, 2015 whilst a future service model is being developed to commission post abuse service for the longer term from 1st April, 2015.

The report proposes the commissioning of this £120,000 to deliver increased capacity, counselling / family support services from the Voluntary and Community Services sector in Rotherham to support victims.

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet

- 6.1 Approves the proposals as set out to deliver immediate post abuse support across Rotherham until 31st March, 2015.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Background Information

Funding identified of £120,000 by the Leader is to be commissioned for front line post abuse support services and to increase capacity in the VCS. This support will be delivered in two phases with an immediate response with services commissioned until 31st March, 2015 and longer term commissioning arrangements from 1st April.

7.2 Proposed Organisations and Funding

It is proposed that the following organisations are funded from the £120,000 to provide post abuse support in Rotherham:

GROW - £20,000

GROW are currently commissioned by Safer Rotherham Partnership to deliver services to young people and families engaged in CSE activity and currently has 1 full time worker.

GROW proposes that the funding is used to appoint an additional 1.5 FTE staff. This will increase capacity to receive referrals for young people as both new victims and to those victims who are now coming forward and disclosing historical abuse. Also, to provide families with support to enable their recovery, and their ability to be a protective factor for their child/young person.

Rotherham Women's Counselling Service (RWCS)/Pit Stop for Men- £20,000

RWCS & Pit Stop for Men is a voluntary organisation providing specialist counselling for adults who have been traumatised by rape, or sexual/domestic violence. This professional counselling service offers the opportunity to reach a greater understanding of how past abuse has affected them, and so able to make informed choices whilst minimising the cycle of abuse.

The RWCS will use the additional funding to increase capacity and continue to provide counselling for adults aged 18 years and over living in Rotherham who have experienced rape, sexual/domestic abuse and/or previous childhood sexual abuse.

The South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (SYPCC) currently funds RWCS via a grant to provide this service. It is proposed that through working in partnership with the SYPCC the grant funding will be increased by £20,000.

South Yorkshire Community Foundation (SYCF) - £20,000

The SYCF have an established South Yorkshire CSE post abuse fund that can be accessed by VCS organisations to provide increased capacity to meet the post abuse needs of CSE victims. The £20,000 will be ring-fenced for increased capacity across Rotherham.

Additional Voluntary Sector Organisations - £49,000

This funding will be used to build capacity across the VCS to respond to the needs of victims of CSE. A commissioning process will be progressed rapidly to achieve this increased capacity.

Contingency - £11,000

This funding will be held in reserve to respond to any as yet unmet capacity requirements in the VCS until March 2015

8. Finance

The total value of additional funding to increase capacity in post abuse support services is £120,000.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

That demand for post abuse CSE support by victims will be more than the capacity generated by these additional monies.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

These proposals contribute to achieving the priorities in:

- Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012-2015
- Ofsted framework and evaluation schedule for the inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers
- the recommendations in the Jay Report 2014

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Jay Report 2014

Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy 2014-19

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