

OPCC RECORD OF DECISION

PROJECT:

FUNDING FOR PRISON RESETTLEMENT SUPPORT – JULIAN HOUSE

DECISION RECORD PREPARED BY:	
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Name:	Sophie Baker
Role:	Policy and Performance Officer
Date of Decision:	18/02/2019

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The OPCC part funded Devon and Cornwall Prison Resettlement supported housing during 2018/19 for a one year period. The programme is being extended for a further year at a total cost of £83,000 (1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020). The OPCC commitment of funding will be £19,130 for the stated period.
- 1.2 The service is for referrals from HMP Exeter and HMP Eastwood Park and is designed to be of short stay duration with identification and move on to secure suitable independent living accommodation within a 9 month period. During engagement service users develop increased independent living skills.
- 1.3 The focus of the service is to break the cycle of offending behaviour. This is achieved through a structured programme of support, compliance, engagement and motivation to address a range of underlying causes that may have led to previous offending. The service works to provide wider service user engagement and inclusion opportunities within the local community and has an enhanced focus on volunteering, training, education and into employment skill building.
- 1.4 The Police and Crime Plan priorities include prevention of crime and protecting the vulnerable. Julian House work with the most complex and vulnerable individuals leaving prison who would otherwise be homeless (men and women, with women in female only accommodation, each unit is limited to 2 bed flats) and support them to lead a crime free life.
- 1.5 The risk in not providing the funding is that those already housed will have to be quickly moved into temporary accommodation, such accommodation is hard to find and will not provide them with the support they need, which could lead to them reoffending and returning to prison.
- 1.6 Procurement: Exeter City Council procured the service last year with the ability to extend for a further year and their legal department will extend the contract. There is a Service Level Agreement between all parties covering the funding agreement and



the evaluation of the service will remain with the Short Term Prisoner Resettlement Group (STPRG).

2.0 DECISION RECORD

- 2.1 Decision made that the OPCC provides the funding of £19,130 for 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 to enable the service to continue for another year.

3.0 CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Consultation has occurred with LCJB Short Term Prisoner Resettlement Group including probation (both NPS and CRC), all local authorities, prisons and police. This group are evaluating the Julian House scheme. Agreed consensus that Julian House are providing in invaluable service and value for money, eagerness amongst partners for service to continue and contributions from partners made. Devon, Cornwall and Dorset CRC provider (Working Links) have been unable to contribute due to this organisation going into administration.

4.0 OPCC MONITORING OFFICER ADVICE

4.1 Legal, Management and Equality Implications – Current and Future

The CEO and Monitoring Officer has advised that all legal and management issues have been addressed and there are no equality implications arising from this proposal.

4.2 Financial and Commercial – Current and Future

The PCC's Treasurer and s151 Officer has advised that the decision is within budget and is reasonable and deliverable. The intention to seek alternative sources of funding is supported.

5.0 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- 5.1 N/A – evaluation reports can be provided if requested.

6.0 OFFICIAL APPROVAL

- 6.1 Following the appropriate approval, this decision sheet will be published, subject to FOIA classification, on the OPCC website.

7.0 MONITORING OFFICER REVIEW

- 7.1 The funding of the Prisoner resettlement support means the priorities within the current Police and Crime Plan. Agreements have already been reached with the National Probation Service and local authorities for the balance of the



funding for 2019/20. In addition a joint funding bid will be prepared for submission to MHChG for future funding.

The contract includes an agreed exit strategy in the event that future funding cannot be secured.

FOR OPCC OFFICE USE:

If FOI Closed at the current date under Section 22, please provide details of the future date by which this decision can be reconsidered for publication:	N/A
Is there a publication schedule that lists the documents relating to this decision that will also be published at a later date in the future? If yes, please attach a copy with this decision.	NO

The Recommendation for Decision as outlined in this report is formally approved and subject to Freedom of Information Classification will be published on the OPCC website:

Police and Crime Commissioner

**Governance Signature by
Monitoring Officer**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. S. A.', written over a dashed line.

SIGNED

PRINT:

DATE: 5 April 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. K. Hughes', written over a dashed line.

SIGNED

PRINT:

DATE: 28th March 2019

Decision logged in register? [Tick if completed]	
Decision published on OPCC website? [Tick if completed]	