



North Yorkshire Police

Community Connector Scheme



1. PROJECT SUMMARY

This pilot seeks to develop a Community Connectors Scheme to engage volunteers to provide a flexible service to a range of people identified with vulnerabilities that could put them at risk of social exclusion and other factors which impact upon public safety and victimisation. The NYP Community Connectors Scheme will be open to referrals through Community Safety Hubs or direct from the Neighbourhood Policing Teams that would benefit from a low-level intervention to prevent the escalation of needs. The following list of vulnerabilities have been identified as prevalent amongst the cohort of individuals this scheme seeks to support:

- Poor social/problem solving/ emotional management skills
- Anti-social attitudes
- Anti-social peers
- Lack of positive recreation or leisure activities / anti-social lifestyle
- Poor mental health (Low Level)
- Early onset dementia
- Isolated

This pilot therefore seeks to test this scheme in relation to recruiting and training volunteers to deliver community connector roles, and the impact of this scheme on reducing the needs of individuals and communities with these types of low-level of vulnerabilities.

2. KEY DELIVERABLES

This project will deliver:

- Volunteer role profiles
- Recruitment materials
- Training model and materials
- Volunteer supervision and support framework
- Three pilot areas for scheme delivery

3. PROJECT RESOURCING/TEAM/COSTINGS

North Yorkshire Police

- Project Manager – Natasha Almond, Citizens in Policing Lead
- Project support

Home Office Transformation Fund (£10,000)

- Team leader role
- Training materials, marketing leaflets
- Expenses for volunteers

Evaluation fund (£5,000)

- IPSCJ team to include Dr Laura Knight, Dr Berni Doran and Kath Cahalin

4. TIMELINE

October 2017 – November 2017

- Confirm pilot areas
- Design and produce recruitment materials
- Recruitment process for team leader role
- Role profiles

December 2017 – January 2018

- Produce policies and processes to support new volunteer recruitment and roles
- Volunteer recruitment begins

February 2018 – March/April 2018

- Delivery of induction and training for volunteers

April 2018 onwards

- Volunteers in roles and community connector scheme up and running

September 2018 – March 2019

- Evaluation data collection and report production

5. EVALUATION PLAN

The evaluation plan will be developed in detail during the initial design phase of the pilot project. A 'process' and 'outcome' evaluation will be undertaken, ensuring learning is captured about how the implementation of the new models of working were delivered in practice, and the impact is measured against key outcomes.

Based on initial discussion, this pilot is seeking to achieve:

- Specialist volunteer roles which support the reduction of demand on policing and public services
- Improved skills and competence, tailored to specific roles, raising credibility and respect for volunteers across policing, partners and the public
- Improved representation of diverse communities amongst volunteers
- Increased and improved voluntary contribution to policing
- Improved volunteer experience, motivation, personal and professional development and wellbeing
- Improved service delivery to individuals and communities requiring low-level interventions
- Improved relationships with individuals and communities where social exclusion and disengagement from policing and public services may be prevalent

6. PRODUCT

This project will deliver:

- A Community Connector Model
- Toolkit of policies and processes
- Volunteer recruitment approach
- Evaluation report