

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health
Date:	21 September 2021
Title:	Grant to Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Appropriate Adult Service
Report From:	Director of Adults' Health and Care

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1. The decision:

1.1 That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health approves a grant of £386,085 to the OPCC for a 5-year period to contribute to the funding of an Appropriate Adult Service for Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Southampton.

2. Reasons for the Decision

- 2.1 As stated within the 'Appropriate Adult PCC-Local Authority Partnership Agreement (England)', Appropriate Adults help ensure children and vulnerable adults are treated fairly when the police suspect them of committing an offence. They reduce the risk of miscarriages of justice as a result of evidence being obtained from vulnerable adults and children in ways which, by virtue of their vulnerability, might lead to unsafe convictions.
- 2.2 Appropriate Adults are required whenever mentally vulnerable adults are detained in custody. However, there is no statutory provision for vulnerable adults.
- 2.3 Custody Suites have NHS funded Liaison and Diversion teams, which support vulnerable adults but don't act as Appropriate Adult: Liaison and Diversion services identify people who have mental health, learning disability, substance misuse or other vulnerabilities when they first come into contact with the criminal justice system as suspects, defendants or offenders. The service can then support people through the early stages of criminal system pathway, refer them for appropriate health or social care or enable them to be diverted away from the criminal justice system into a more appropriate setting, if required.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1 The County Council to continue to hold the contract for the Appropriate Adult Service with contributions from other parties. This was rejected as it is deemed more appropriate for the OPCC to enter into the contract for the

Appropriate Adult Service with other parties including Hampshire County Council contributing.

4. Conflicts of interest

4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: Not applicable

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

21 September 2021

Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health
Councillor Liz Fairhurst