



Philip Seccombe  
**Police and Crime  
Commissioner**  
for Warwickshire

## Decision Application WPCC200025

### Contribution to Rural Crime Network

<b>Application Date:</b>	June 2017	<b>Name of Applicant:</b>	Sara Ansell
<b>Application Decision Reference: WPCC20025</b>			
<b>1. Summary of the application</b>			
To agree a contribution to the Rural Crime Network from the Warwickshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.			
<b>2. Background information:</b>			
<p>The Warwickshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner contributed to the National Rural Crime Network (NRCN) in 2016/17 and has again been approached to renew that membership for the year 2017/18 at a cost of £2,000. The NRCN's vision is to improve the service to the public provided by the police and their partners in rural areas. They aim to do this by developing an in depth understanding of the needs and concerns of rural communities and facilitate policy and practice improvements based on this understanding. In 2017/18 the NRCN will be increasing its focus and budget for research works and one area that it will be progressing research on is gaining a better understanding of domestic abuse in rural areas. It is hoped that this research will help the PCC to ensure that Warwickshire has the right services in place to deal with this crime type. The research work undertaken by the NRCN will also provide evidence which may prove useful in assisting any future discussions with the Home Office on funding levels.</p> <p>Over 30 other PCC's have agreed to be part of the NRCN in 2017/18, and the research budget has been increased to almost £45,000, enabling innovative and important research work to be undertaken. This pooling of resources enables NRCN members to access nationwide, unique research at relatively low cost</p>			
<b>3. Whether additional information/report is attached to support this decision application</b>			
NO			
<b>4. Expected benefits (non financial)</b>			

The PCC would have access to specific and topical research works undertaken by the NRCN to help inform decision-making around local service provision, specifically in relation to often 'hidden demand' for services within rural communities.

The research and best practice identified by the RCN will be utilised within the County and that will help to deliver elements of the Police and Crime Plan in rural areas.

**5. Impact of not approving the application**

The PCC would not have access to the research information provided by the NRCN. This information would be used to inform future service provision at a local level. If the contribution and membership of the NRCN was not approved, Warwickshire would not benefit from the collective lobbying ability that the network may have on future funding decisions.

**6. Costs**

**Revenue:** The annual contribution requested for 2017/18 is £2,000

**7. Savings:**

There are no direct savings arising from this contribution. However, it should ensure that local service provision is targeted and based on evidence, thus ensuring that value for money is achieved.

**8. Equality and Diversity Implications:**

None identified.

**9. Treasurer's comments**

The costs can be met within the existing 2017/18 budget.

**10. Legal/Monitoring Officer comments**

**Decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

Agreed

**PCC Signature:**



**Date of Decision: June 2017**