



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

## **Decision Application WPCC20028**

### **Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of a multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH)**

|                          |          |                           |              |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Application Date:</b> | Sept. 17 | <b>Name of Applicant:</b> | Neil Hewison |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------------|--------------|

**Application Decision Reference: WPCC20028**

#### **1. Summary of the application**

To enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with WCC and the Chief Constable of Warwickshire Police to formalize the strategic arrangements for the establishment and operation of a multiagency safeguarding hub (MASH) across Warwickshire.

#### **2. Background information:**

The Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable of Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council are working together on a project for the establishment of a multi-agency safeguarding hub across Warwickshire.

The vision of the project is that people in Warwickshire are safeguarded from harm, receiving the services they need, at the right time, effectively and efficiently. The purpose is to better protect vulnerable people from harm through a joined up multiagency approach that improves timeliness, effectiveness and understanding.

##### **Timeliness:**

- Speeding up safeguarding decision making
- Ensuring users of safeguarding services are quickly directed to the right service appropriate to need

##### **Effectiveness:**

- Reducing the number of inappropriate referrals into safeguarding functions and making the right onward referral decisions to the most appropriate agency as early as possible
- Reducing and managing demand and dependency on traditional methods of support for safeguarding related cases
- Ensuring a co-ordinated agency approach which allows early identification of threat, risk and harm and a focus on early intervention (preventative action) at the right level and at the right time
- Ensuring a 'person centred' and 'think family' approach to managing individual need and improving the user experience of those receiving safeguarding

services

**Understanding:**

- Ensuring that the business intelligence arising from the MASH helps services work together to improve consistency, to address gaps and duplication in service provision and to improve outcomes for those in need of services
- Creating an environment which encourages feedback and shared learning across agencies to improve service provision
- Providing a consultation service to professionals seeking safeguarding advice about thresholds, referrals and early help assessments and advice about domestic abuse

**3. Whether additional information/report is attached to support this decision application**

**YES / NO**

**List of additional information/report**

- a) MOU MASH and appendices – not for publication
- b)
- c)

**4. Expected benefits (non financial)**

The purpose is to better protect vulnerable people from harm through a joined up interagency approach that improves timeliness, effectiveness and understanding.

The MASH will speed up safeguarding decision making and ensure that users of safeguarding services are quickly directed to the right service to address their needs appropriately.

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

The PCC has a statutory duty to prepare a Police and Crime Plan. One of the key objectives of the Police and Crime Plan is to protect people from harm. The plan was to do this by safeguarding vulnerable children and adults by working in partnership with other agencies through MASH. If the application is not approved then the PCC will be failing to follow this plan.

The Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner will not comply with his duties under s1(8)(h) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

**6. Costs**

**Revenue:** The revenue costs for the MASH are included within the 2017/18 and

2018/19 baseline budgets. Costs are monitored closely throughout the year, and any variations are reflected in the payments made by partners to the MASH.

**7. Savings**

Any savings or underspends on the budgeted costs will be passed on to partners based on the agreed cost-sharing model.

**8. Equality and Diversity Implications:**

None

**9. Treasurer's comments**

The costs of the MASH are fully included within the annual budget.

**10. Legal/Monitoring Officer comments**

The PCC has a statutory duty under The Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 to prepare a Police & Crime Plan. One of the key objectives in the PCC's plan is to protect people from harm. In order to achieve this part of the plan is to work with other agencies to ensure the safeguarding of vulnerable children and adults via MASH.

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has a legal duty under section 1(8)(h) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to hold the Chief Constable to account for the exercise of duties in relation to safeguarding children, and the promotion of child welfare under sections 10 and 11 of the Children Act 2004.

**Decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner** - Chief Executive

**PCC Signature:**

 CH. Ex.

**Date of Decision:**

September 2017

11/7/18

