



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

Decision Application WPCC 20054 COMMISSIONING CONSULTANTS

Application Date:	29 th April 2018	Name of Applicant:	Sara Ansell
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Application Decision Reference: WPCC 20054

1. Summary of the application :

Warwickshire PCC will be commissioning victims, CSE, sexual violence and drugs and alcohol support services for the county from 1st April 2019. In order to ensure that appropriate services are commissioned in accordance with legal and procurement legislation that meet the needs of residents, it is looking to work with a consultant on the project. Tonic Solutions consultants were commissioned as part of a procurement exercise to undertake a needs assessment across these areas, and this decision notice seeks formal approval for extending the contract with them to work with the OPCC to achieve fully commissioned services in 2019/20.

2. Background information:

The Warwickshire PCC provides finance to deliver support services for victims, CSE, drugs and alcohol, and sexual violence across Warwickshire. Most of these services are delivered through the annual grants process and in the case of victim services a three year contract with Victim support which ended on 31st March 2018. This contract was duly extended by 1 year until 31st March 2019, for delivering victim services and restorative justice across Warwickshire. The office is now considering options regarding how this service is commissioned and provided from 2019/20 onwards.

The OPCC worked with Warwickshire legal services directly to prepare two specifications for undertaking needs assessments in these areas – one for general victims and one for sexual violence/CSE victims. The budget for each needs assessment was set at £15k. Invitations to quote, along with the service specifications were shared with various companies/universities that work in this area of business and they were also uploaded onto the PCC website. Tonic Solutions were awarded both contracts following the tender process and an evaluation of the quotes received.

The needs assessments were duly produced and the results and options identified in the needs assessment were considered, which included exploring fully all opportunities for working in partnership with WM. The best solutions for the provision of services for WM and Warwickshire from April 2019 are however different, and in order for Warwickshire to work independently and to embark on having fully commissioned services from 2019/20 this will require the use of a consultant to oversee the process and assist and facilitate the preparation of a specification to go out to tender. In order to ensure consistency and continuity of service and any resulting efficiencies the preferred option is to continue to use the services of Tonic Solutions, at an estimated cost of £15,150. It is therefore recommended that on the grounds of urgency to deliver such significant and important commissioned services for the PCC, and to ensure continuity of service provision and secure the benefits of the specialist and prior knowledge of Tonic consultants following them undertaking the needs assessment that this approach be approved.

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

No

List of additional information/report

a)

4. Expected benefits (non-financial)

The expected non-cashable savings include:

- Continuity of the preparation work for commissioned services in Warwickshire
- Ability to draw on the previous knowledge and specialist skills of the consultant developed whilst working on the Needs Assessments
- Ensure that the office is best placed to meet the tight timescales for commissioning services.
- Develop in-house knowledge and skills by working with the consultant that can be applied to other commissioning projects in the future.

5. Impact of not approving the application

If a consultant is not used and appointed in a timely fashion this risks the deliverability of the project and the commissioning of services to be introduced from April 2019.

6. Costs

Revenue: £15,150 for securing the ongoing services of Tonic Solutions that can be met from within the exiting PCC consultancy budget.

Capital: :

7. Savings:

Nil

8. Equality and Diversity Implications:

Nil

9. Treasurer's comments:

All the costs are outlined within the body of this report.

10. Legal/Monitoring Officer comments

This contract has been awarded after complying with procurement rules as set out in this notice.

Following a formal assessment, the contract was awarded to Tonic as the organisation best equipped to deliver a high quality service specification (having produced the needs assessment on which it would be based) which would then enable the OPCC to commission the required services in a timely fashion.

Decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Agreed.



PCC Signature:

Date of Decision: 5th September 2018