

PFCC Decision Report

Report reference number: 069-24

Classification: Not protectively marked

Title of report:

Essex Criminal Justice Board and Reducing Reoffending Board Strategic Workshop
– Venue Costs

Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide

Report by: Nikki Essex, Community Safety and Criminal Justice Manager

Chief Officer: Greg Myddelton, Strategic Head of Partnerships and Collaboration

Date of report: 5th April 2024

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The Essex Criminal Justice Board (ECJB) and Reducing Reoffending Board (RRB) currently have individual strategies which run from 2020-24. As the timelines for both strategies are coming to an end, 2025-2030 strategies will need to be developed to ensure that each board's visions and priorities are up to date. This decision report seeks approval to use PFCC funding for venue costs for a proposed 2025-2030 ECJB and RRB strategy development workshop at Braxted Park in July 2024.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of up to £2,880 to Braxted Park for venue costs associated with the ECJB and RRB strategy development workshop on 9th July 2024.

3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 set out in law the reciprocal duty on Police and Crime Commissioners and other criminal justice

agencies to work together to provide an efficient and effective criminal justice system (CJS) for police force areas. One way this works effectively is through Local Criminal Justice Boards, of which the majority are currently chaired by PCCs.

- 3.2. The Essex Criminal Justice Board provides a unique opportunity for partners to work together in the common interest to improve the CJS in Essex through bi-monthly meetings, sub-groups, and a local strategy which outlines the ECJB's priorities, how it will meet these priorities, and how success will be measured.
- 3.3. The RRB meets on a quarterly basis and works collaboratively across a range of partners, which is crucial for driving our reducing reoffending ambitions forward. The current strategy demonstrates how we will work together to provide high-quality interventions and services to achieve better outcomes for victims, our communities, and offenders.
- 3.4. It has been agreed that the next "Three Boards" meeting (also with Safer Essex) on 9th July will be used for the workshop. Unfortunately, there is no room big enough available at ECFRS HQ, Kelvedon Park on this date. It was explored whether other partners could host this event, but this also wasn't an available option. Three separate quotes were therefore obtained for this event from the County Hotel, Braxted Park and Chelmsford City Racecourse. Braxted Park was considered to be the venue that provided the best overall offer for price, quality, and convenience.

4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

- 4.1. The ECJB's strategy outlines the board's vision, delivery and monitoring arrangements in order to ensure that an efficient, effective and legitimate criminal justice system is being delivered. The RRB strategy also outlines the board's vision, delivery and monitoring arrangements to make communities safer and reduce reoffending.
- 4.2. The workshop seeks to hold a variety of discussions around where we are now, what the successes have been, what the residual challenges are, what the future priorities are, and what the opportunities are. The results from these discussions will feed into the development of the 2025-2030 ECJB and RRB Strategies which will be ready to be published at the end of 2024.
- 4.3. The current strategies (2020-24) were developed pre-Covid 19. The pandemic has seen a shift in how services operate and deliver, so it is essential that this is considered and reflected in the new strategies.
- 4.4. Having an ECJB and RRB Strategy allows partners involved to have meaningful, focused discussions so that inter-dependencies can be identified, and plans can be aligned.

5. Options Analysis

- 5.1. The PFCC could opt not to support this decision, but without two up to date strategies it will be challenging to provide a clear vision and mission to enable partners to deliver an:
- Efficient and effective CJS
 - Strategic plans to make communities safer and reduce reoffending.

6. Consultation and Engagement

- 6.1. The PFCC's Community Safety and Criminal Justice Manager has consulted with the PFCC's senior management team to gain their support for a strategy workshop at the July "Three Boards" meeting.
- 6.2. The ECJB board members have also been consulted on this and are supportive.
- 6.3. RRB members will be informed at the next board meeting (on 11th April).
- 6.4. Sub-group chairs have also been informed of the plans and are supportive.

7. Strategic Links

- 7.1. The proposed strategies would support the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan priorities on increasing collaboration and increasing support for victims of crime and will contribute towards broader crime prevention through having clear visions and missions set out in both strategies.
- 7.2. Both boards work in close collaboration with Safer Essex to ensure we deliver an end-to-end response to crime and criminal justice.

8. Police operational implications

- 8.1. Essex Police is a key member of both boards and will be involved in the development of the strategies. The force will use the information from both strategies to inform how it shapes and delivers operational policing across Essex.

9. Financial implications

- 9.1. The PFCC will allocate up to £2,880 to Braxted Park to host this event. This funding will be allocated from the PFCC's 2024-25 Community Safety Fund. The PFCC's CSF budget will have around £52k remaining after this allocation.

10. Legal implications

- 10.1. There are no legal implications identified in booking this venue.

11. Staffing implications

- 11.1. The development of the new strategy is being supported by the PFCC's Community Safety and Criminal Justice manager, who is seeking to engage partners through this strategy workshop.

12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications

- 12.1. There are no diversity or equality implications in the hire of this venue. Full consideration will be given to all equality and diversity matters in the development and implementation of the strategies.

13. Risks and Mitigations

- 13.1. There is a small risk that, following financial reconciliation, there is insufficient capacity in the CSF to afford this venue hire. In that case we would look to cancel the event and reschedule, making use of a free venue. This may limit attendance of partners and delay the timescales for publishing the updated strategies.

14. Governance Boards

- 14.1. The strategies will be discussed and presented at the Essex Criminal Justice Board and Reducing Reoffending Board.

15. Links to Future Plans

- 15.1. The strategic workshop discussions will inform performance against the Police and Crime Plan and help inform engagement plans, operational plans and the delivery of key services across the criminal justice and community safety environment.

16. Background Papers and Appendices



ECJB Strategic Plan
2023-24 final 24 Mar



SET Reducing
Reoffending Strategy

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the PFCC's Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Chief Executive / M.O.

Sign:

Print: P. Brent-Isherwood

Date: 12 April 2024

Chief Finance Officer

Sign:

Print: Janet Perry

Date: 30 April 2024

Publication

Is the report for publication?

YES

NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'None' if applicable)

None

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet?

YES

2. Of Appendix?

YES

NO

NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

Pricing should be redacted as is commercially sensitive

Date redaction carried out:

Chief Finance Officer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only

If redaction is required, the Chief Finance Officer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed.

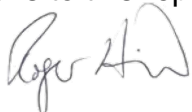
Sign:

Print:

Chief Executive / Chief Finance Officer

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: Roger Hirst

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: 07/05/2024

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: