



Decision Reference – 009 – CURV  
Serious Violence Duty Funding

## THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

### DECISION RECORD FORM

**REQUEST:** For Police and Crime Commissioner approval

**Title** CURV Serious Violence Duty Funding – Night-Time Economy (NTE)

**Executive Summary:**

In April 2022, Cleveland's OPCC was notified of its successful application for Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Funding from the Home Office over 3 years. This resulted in the establishment of the 'Cleveland Unit for the Reduction of Violence' (CURV), which was tasked with bringing together all partners and stakeholders to develop and deliver an intelligence led strategy aimed at reducing serious violence throughout Cleveland through a Public Health agenda.

In 2022, the Serious Violence Duty was introduced through the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act, which requires specified authorities to work together to plan and prevent and reduce serious violence within the local government area.

As part of this work, CURV commissioned Crest Advisory to undertake a [Strategic Needs Assessment \(SNA\)](#) outlining the scale, nature, and drivers of serious violence in Cleveland. Which was updated further in 2024. The SNA identified that rates of serious violence offending are highest on the weekend, particularly in the evening and early morning, potentially aligning with peaks in the night-time economy and geographical zones. In order to further understand this, CURV commissioned a bespoke [Night Time Economy Problem Profile](#) that provided a more in-depth understanding of the causes and drivers of serious violence within the NTE, and which allowed the development of a NTE Action Plan, which focused on reducing incidents of serious violence within and around those NTE zones.

The interventions were approved after consultation with key NTE stakeholders, who have attended a series of workshops and forums facilitated and delivered by CURV during late 2023 and are in line with the NTE Action Plan. The Funding, totalling, £45,339.43, will enable the following:

**1) Barnardos (Child Sexual Exploitation Training)**

Barnardos is one of the largest children's charities in the UK, supporting children, young people, parents and carers across a number of different services. There is a specific focus on children made vulnerable through exploitation. In support of Operation Makesafe, developed to raise awareness of child exploitation in the business community (such as hotels, licensed premises, taxi companies), Barnardos will deliver education sessions alongside the Cleveland Police Child Exploitation Team to hotel staff in Redcar and Hartlepool. With previous CURV funding, this has been delivered across hotels in Middlesbrough and Stockton, with positive outcomes being reported by staff members and at least one Op Makesafe job being reported.



The session covers:

- What is child sexual exploitation.
- What are the signs to look for.
- What are the laws concerning businesses.
- What policies should hotels have in place.
- What the reporting procedures are in concerns are identified.

Barnardos will also deliver CSE training that is tailored to licensed premises, NTE volunteer groups and taxi drivers at the NTE Safety forum in January 2025.

Furthermore, this training will also be expanded to include transport companies, targeting Northern Rail, TransPennine Express, Arriva and Stagecoach, subject to further conversations with the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

## **2) Stakeholder Engagement**

In January 2025, the second NTE Safety Forum will be held. This will bring together key partners such as community safety teams, licensing officers, licensees, NTE volunteer groups and taxi companies. There is still importance in embedding relationships between trade and partners to ensure that resources funded by CURV are used as effectively as possible to create a safer NTE.

## **3) Additional Radios for Licensed Premises**

CURV previously funded Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council for the purchase of a radio system to support communication between licensed premises during peak NTE times. This is to be expanded in Yarm's NTE area with the purchase of additional radios. Premises in Yarm have reported a number of incidents being caught or prevented with a limited number of radios.

## **4) St John's Ambulance**

St John's Ambulance is a first aid charity offering training courses, advice and volunteering opportunities. This programme will be aimed at three key groups: NTE volunteer groups, Pubwatch groups and students and staff at Teesside University. The sessions will focus on one theme: catastrophic bleeds. This will include instruction on how to use equipment within a bleed kit and what other everyday items can be used if a bleed kit is not available.

There is further opportunity to expand this training to cover further themes, such as how to respond to spiking incidents.

## **5) Community Pot**

As part of phase 1 of the NTE Action Plan, CURV committed to holding a community pot that was accessible to all four areas across Cleveland. If needed this funding will be used towards the replenishment of bleed kits and the repair/replacement of bleed cabinets or radios if damaged.

If unspent this financial year, the pot can be used towards key resources such as anti-spiking equipment.

## **6) ARCH – Education Work in Higher Education**

ARCH Teesside is a specialist sexual violence service offering free and confidential support, help and advocacy to people in the Teesside area who have experienced rape and sexual abuse, at any point in their lives.



This programme will see a specialist Education worker from ARCH deliver a comprehensive training session to young people in higher education. The sessions will cover consent, sexual violence, spiking, bystander approaches and support services available. There will be a clear link to the NTE running through the content.

### **7) NTE Volunteer Group Resources and Training**

Provide support to NTE volunteers with items such as anti-spiking resources, flip flops and bottles of water. Funding will also go towards first aid training and conflict management training for new volunteers.

This will include Boro Angels, Women's Street Watch and Hartlepool Town Pastors.

### **8) Drug Dog Operations in the NTE**

CURV will support Cleveland Police in funding two drug detection dogs for operations in Hartlepool and Stockton. The operations will take place between the hours of 6pm and midnight, subject to the Operation Order. This is a preventative measure and acts as a deterrence for both individuals attempting to bring drugs into the NTE, but also to licensed premises who should have stringent drug policies in place.

### **9) Redcar Angels**

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Subject to CSP match funding, establish a Street Angels group to operate in the Redcar NTE area; each defined NTE zone across Cleveland would have dedicated vulnerability support at peak times. The group will be volunteer driven. Funding will be allocated to the marketing and outreach to recruit volunteers, and comprehensive training will be taken including conflict resolution, emergency response and community engagement. Funding will also be allocated for the purchase of APEX radios that will ensure the group can remain in communication with venues and the CCTV control room.

### **10) Drug Interventions**

An additional number of drugs boxes and registers will be installed in licensed premises within Middlesbrough's NTE area, locations will be chosen based on intelligence. Drug searches and the use of drug boxes are included as licensing conditions for some premises, and it is strongly suggested as an element of good practice by the council's Statement of Licensing Policy. This will encourage SIA licensed staff to be more proactive in searching individuals for drugs, as well as evidencing what drugs are circulating in the NTE and at what intensity.

### **11) Media Campaign**

CURV will collaborate with Middlesbrough Council to produce a multimedia behaviour change campaign to prevent actions that may lead to violent incidents in the NTE. This campaign will focus on calling out perpetrator behaviour through messaging round five key issues: spiking, knife crime, respect for NTE workers, VAWG and one punch. Middlesbrough council have also received funding from Grip, additional to CURV contribution; this will go towards the design and production of posters, social media content, development of a video, social media adverts, radio adverts and Gobo lighting.

The campaign will be rolled out Cleveland wide. Many of the resources developed can be utilised across Cleveland, however, funding will also be used towards individual plans for each local authority area. This can be used towards printing costs, bus adverts and digital adverts.



## 12) Licensee Fee for radio users

CURV previously funded the purchase of approximately 60 APEX radios in Redcar and Middlesbrough's NTE areas. This has proved to be successful in encouraging communication between venues and reducing violence seen by NTE workers, with some premises reporting a 95% reduction in violent incidents. CURV will fund a further year of the licensee fee, in line with fees across resources, with the agreement that licensed premises will begin supporting this the next year.

### Decision:

- **Barnardos (Child Sexual Exploitation Training)** - To approve funding of £7,000 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Stakeholder Engagement** - To approve funding of £2,568 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Radios** - To approve funding of £3,545.43 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **St Johns Ambulance (Young Responder)** - To approve funding of £3,300.00 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Community Pot** - To approve funding of £1,000.00 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **ARCH (Consent/Sexual Violence/Bystander Education)** - To approve funding of £600 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **NTE Volunteer Groups** - To approve funding of £3,000 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Drug Dog Operations** - To approve funding of £1,392.00 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Redcar Angels** - To approve funding of £3,000 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Drug Testing Pilot Scheme** - To approve funding of £8,504 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Media Campaign** - To approve funding of £7,500 for Financial Year 2024/25.
- **Radio License Fee** - To approve funding of £4,080 for Financial Year 2024/25

**Total: £45,339.43**

**OPCC Lead Officer:** Anna Waddington

**Contractor Details (if applicable):**  
AS ABOVE.

### Implications:

Has consideration been taken of the following:	Yes	No	
Financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality & Diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	





(If yes please provide further details below)

**Decision Required – Supporting Information**

Financial Implications: (Must include comments of the PCC's Chief Finance Officer where the decision has financial implications)

The funding to support this proposal is affordable from the funding provided to the PCC from the Serious Violence Duty and CURV budget and is therefore affordable to the PCC.

Legal Implications: Must include comments of the Monitoring Officer where the decision has legal implication)

There are no legal implications arising.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

The services are available to clients from all backgrounds, including, gender, race, sexuality, disability status and age groups. They all will receive equal access to the programmes in the identified areas. Some measures will ensure that vulnerable individuals are given the appropriate care in NTE settings.

Human Rights Implications:

None arising.

Sustainability Implications:

Interventions will be monitored and reviewed by CURV to inform future commissioning/ grant funding opportunities.

Risk Management Implications:

Any risk minimised and mitigated by performance framework requirements in grant agreements which will include full insurance documents, safeguarding policies and working practice.

**OFFICER APPROVAL**

**Monitoring Officer:**

Signed



Date 08.11.24



**Police and Crime Commissioner:**

Signed

Date 11/11/2024

*Matt*

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