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SUMMARY DECISION SHEET

Purpose: Commissioner Decision – Ref. DLI392

Timing: Singular

Title: Victim-Survivor Advocate Network

Category of Decision / Business Area Impact: Engagement / Assurance

Executive Summary:

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) co-ordinates the Victim Engagement Forum (VEF) on behalf of the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB). The VEF is being rebranded as the Victim-Survivor Engagement Network following receipt of feedback regarding the use of the terms 'victim' and 'forum': Not all affected by crime see themselves as victims, and the term 'forum' was deemed misleading, alluding to a greater commitment than expected from members.

The Victim-Survivor Engagement Network enables the OPCC to gather feedback from victims-survivors both in relation to their experiences and in terms of policies/processes/documents. Historically, this platform has not however enabled us to gather current and live-time feedback from victims-survivors. Therefore, it is proposed that a Victim-Survivor Advocate Network run alongside the Engagement Network.

The OPCC will engage individuals in victim-survivor advocate roles across our commissioned services to gather current feedback which their service users share with them. This will include New Pathways, the Dal i Godi Consortium, Victim Support, and Paladin, with whom a Terms of Reference will be agreed.

This approach will enable the OPCC to collate live-time feedback on areas of concern, and areas of best practice, highlighted by victims-survivors.

On a quarterly basis, themes identified through both Networks will then be presented at the Victim and Witness Sub-Group of the LCJB, to senior representatives from criminal justice and support service organisations. This approach will give victims and survivors a voice at the LCJB, and result in improvement in victims' services.

Recommendation:

That a Victim-Survivor Advocate Network is developed alongside the Victim-Survivor Engagement Network.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Nolan Principles for Conduct in Public Life.

The above recommendation has my approval.

Signature: Date: 14/01/2025