

24<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
CON-028730/CP/RD

Sent via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI840– CON-028730**

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) office have now completed the search for the information which you requested on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**Your request:**

I would be grateful if you could please provide the following information:

**A list of all joint projects with health partners in the last two years;**

**For each project, a clear indication of the health partner involved;**

**For each project, a description of the aims, priorities and features of the intervention.**

**Our response:**

*The below table hopefully responds to your questions as listed above. It must be noted that most of the information shared relates to commissioned services as opposed to one off projects. Some of these services have been commissioned prior to the two years stated but are still running to date. These services are a combination of OPCC led and OPCC supporting health partners commissioning imperatives.*

Question 1: Projects/Services	Question 2: Health Commissioners working with OPCC	Q3: Summary of the project/service
SARC -UHBT The Bridge	NHSE	<p>The Bridge (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) which offers support to survivors of recent or historic sexual assault.</p> <p>What it delivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free and confidential advice line</li> <li>• Medical care</li> <li>• Advice on practical issues such as helping with housing, benefits and support at work</li> <li>• Information and support to friends and family of victims</li> </ul>

		The service offers support with current and historical crime.
<b>Acute Sexual Violence therapeutic services – SV Consortium (Sarsas Lead)</b>	NHSE and 3 CCGs – BNSSG and Somerset and BANES Swindon and Wiltshire *BNSSG Lead Commissioner	Sexual Violence Consortium of SARSAS, The Green House and Womankind providing therapy for adults where offences occurred less than 12 months ago and Children and Young People at any time
<b>Mental Health Triage Provider: AWP</b>	BNSSG CCG Somerset CCG BANES CCG	Dedicated police phone line for consultation in the event of a s136 decision and for lower-risk level concerns relating to mental health experienced by call handlers or response officers.
<b>ASCC - Liaison and Diversion Provider: AWP and Sompar.</b>	NHSE	Advice and Support at Custody and Court Service, which provides assessment and referral for vulnerable individuals throughout the criminal justice system from police custody, voluntary attendees and courts. The service works with individuals who are vulnerable due to their mental health, learning disability or substance misuse issues and provides referrals onto relevant support agencies as well as providing expert input into court reports. The service operates across Avon and Somerset and includes delivery of the Drug Education Programme (DEP) across the area.  The DEP is a diversionary scheme that treats drug possession offences as a health issue and allows a one-time opportunity to engage in an awareness raising, health based intervention on the impacts of drug use. Police can refer to this intervention as opposed to criminally charging, however if the individual does not engage they will be summoned to court.

**Other:**

Through Home Office funding, PCC's have been able to commission the work of [Violence Reduction Units \(VRUs\)](#). The funding has been devolved to the 5 local authorities in Avon and Somerset, therefore there are locally led projects delivered by these individual authorities that might be relevant to this request. For example working with A&E departments to provide live time intervention to those believed to be involved in serious violence. To understand more about this work, requests would need to be made directly to the local authority areas.

On a more strategic, level there is work being done with local hospitals in the area to develop data sharing processes under the [ISTV](#) protocol. The data can be used to help focus and target VRU and Police resource to help with tackling serious violence, this is starting to deliver but requires ongoing work. On a national level, Avon and Somerset are also involved in the South West Regional Serious Violence and Contextualised Safeguarding Data Set Group which is being led by NHSE.

If you have any queries about this letter then please contact me, quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy about how your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision then you should write to:

The Interim Chief Executive  
Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's Office  
Valley Road  
Portishead  
Bristol  
BS20 8JJ

Please note, Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's office provides you with the right to request a re-examination of your case under its review procedure. The appeals document is attached for your reference.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <http://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

***Freedom of Information Officer***

**Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioners Office**