

Avon & Somerset Police Deferred Prosecution Model

In November 2023 the Avon & Somerset PCC approved the implementation of a Deferred Prosecution Model (see below extract).

The PCC agreed that year 1 would be funded using £356,300 from reserves.

A full copy of the notice can be found on the PCC's website:

https://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2023_006-Deferred-Prosecution-Model_signed.pdf

Decision summary:

Approval of the Deferred Prosecution Model Business Case as presented at the OPCC Governance & Scrutiny Board on 12/09/23. The Deferred Prosecution Model Business Case proposes a service commissioned through the Constabulary.

Background or reference to supporting papers:

A Deferred Prosecution gives an individual accused of an offence the opportunity to complete specific conditions as an alternative to a formal prosecution. It does not require an admission of guilt. Under the Business Case, a Deferred Prosecution would be available in certain circumstances to individuals aged between 18 and 24.

The proposal builds on the experience and learning of successful projects run in both London and Birmingham.

A Deferred Prosecution Model would reduce demand across the entire criminal justice system, as a proportion of cases that would originally have gone through the court process would no longer be required to do so.

Upon approval the work to commission this service will commence. To the extent that any cost is incurred in the 2023/24 financial year this will be covered through existing budgets and underspends. For 2024/25 it is requested that the estimated annual cost as set out in the business case be funded through one-off use of reserves. For 2025/26 and thereafter the cost of sustaining this service will be covered through the identification of savings from the Constabulary's revenue budget.

The model will be subject of ongoing evaluation to demonstrate it is achieving the benefits and goals anticipated and set out in the Business Case.



OPENNESS



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