

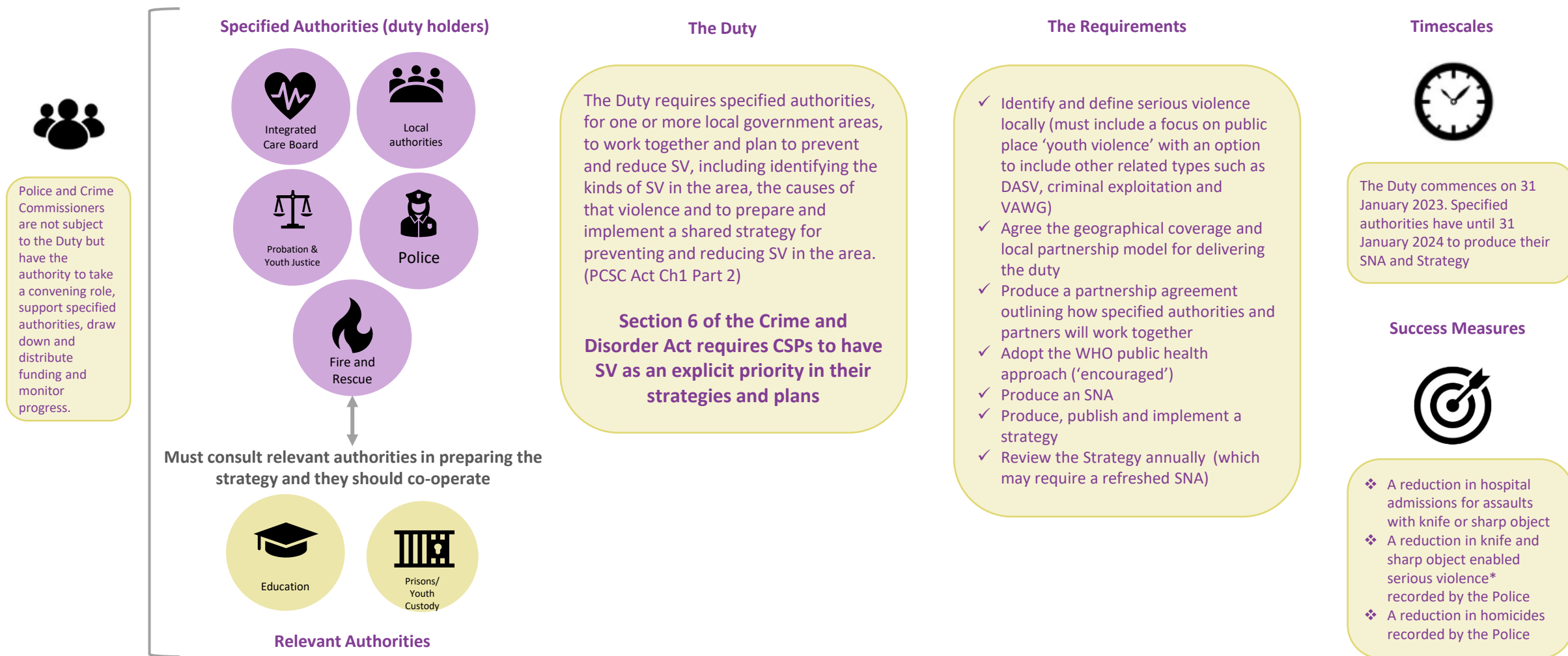


LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE
& RUTLAND

Serious Violence Duty
Update for the Leicestershire
Safer Communities Strategy Board
17 March 2023
Grace Strong, Director of the VRN

The Duty

The requirements of the duty are very similar to the work of our VRN partnership except it places a legal duty on specified authorities



* Details have been requested

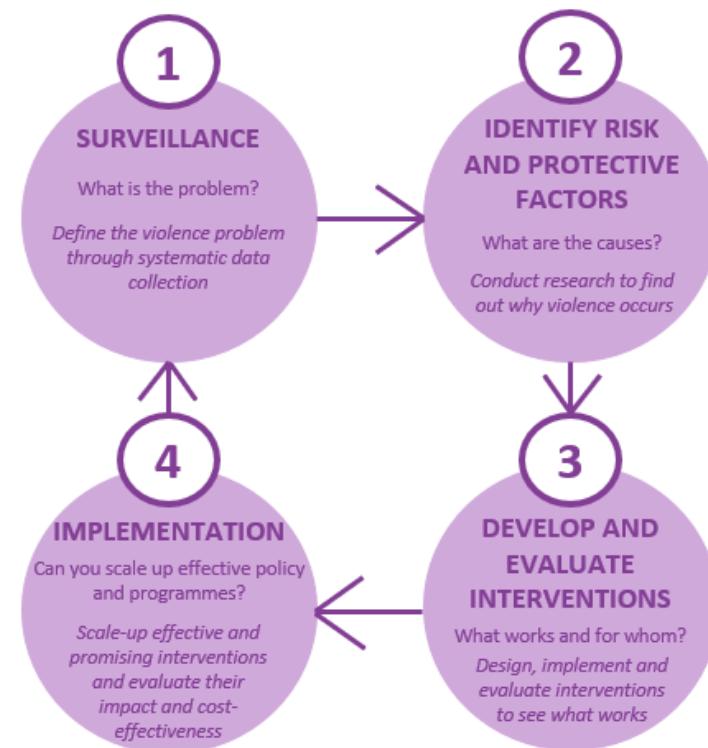
The Duty

Specified authorities are encouraged to adopt and apply the World Health Organisation's definition of a public health approach in implementing the duty:

Public Health Principles



Four Step Process



Requirements

1 Defining Serious Violence

Specified authorities (SAs) are expected to define serious violence.

A definition is not imposed by Government but local areas must include a focus on public place 'youth violence' including: homicide, violence against the person which may include both knife crime and gun crime, and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as county lines drug dealing. Section 13 of the PCSC Act makes it clear that violence is not limited to physical violence against the person. Local areas can include domestic abuse, sexual offences, violence against property and threats of violence in their definitions. Terrorism cannot be included.

Locally we will be including serious violence in public places, domestic-abuse related serious violence and sexual violence in the local definition.

2 Defining the Local Area

Specified authorities should agree the local partnership model (and its geographical area) for discharging the duty.

The legislation is flexible to allow SAs to determine the geographical extent of their collaboration (minimum permitted area is a local government area). It is not necessary to create a new partnership. SAs can use existing partnerships where possible and with appropriate modifications and can the geographical area of the partnership can extend to a wider area, such as a police force area providing this is agreed by all SAs. CSPs will need to be satisfied that the local partnership model complies with their requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 amendments to prepare and implement a SV strategy.

*A Partnership Agreement outlining these details and the roles and responsibilities of each partner should be submitted to the Home Office by **31 March 2023**.*

The Strategic Partnership Board Exec will provide the 'local partnership model' at force level with CSPs ensuring there are locality-based responses in place.

Requirements

3 Understanding Local Issues

The partnership should work together to establish the local Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA).

*The local partnership should produce an SNA based on an evidence-based analysis of information relating to the violent crime types, the drivers of crime within the partnership area and the cohorts most vulnerable through the gathering and analysis of data from specified and relevant authorities. The SNA may also draw on qualitative data gathered by the partnership and should identify any gaps in data or intelligence. The SNA has to be submitted to the Home Office by **31 January 2024**.*

The SNA findings should be used by the local partnership to define their serious violence issues and prioritise bespoke actions that the partnership will take forward (the Strategy).

The VRN team will produce the LLR-wide SNA on behalf of SPB/specified authorities with locality-based violence profiles being produced for CSPs through the additional funding.

The VRN team will coordinate the production of the LLR-wide strategy on behalf of SPB/specified authorities with CSPs including the prevention and reduction of serious violence in their existing, local strategies.

4 Preparation, Publication and Implementation of a Strategy

The partnership must collectively develop a strategy which should outline the multi-agency response that will be taken to prevent and reduce serious violence in the local area.

*The strategy should comprise of a range of new and existing actions that the partnership will take forward to prevent and reduce the issues and drivers identified in the SNA. The strategy should be published on the website of a specified authority or local policing body (OPCC) by **31 January 2024** and sent to the Home Office within 7 days of publication.*

The strategy should be reviewed regularly and updated where necessary (on an annual basis as a minimum).

Requirements: Summary

Date	Milestone	Details
9 January 2023	Deadline for application for SV Duty grant funding	PCCs can draw down funding to cover the costs associated with delivering the activity mandated under the duty
31 January 2023	Serious Violence Duty Commences	Specified authorities must begin to collaborate and communicate regularly, using existing partnerships where possible to share information and take effective coordinated activity in their area
31 March 2023	Partnership Agreement	Specified authorities will need to identify an existing partnership or establish a new partnership. This should outline the R&R's for specified and relevant authorities and the OPCC in delivering against the specific objectives of the duty (format flexible).
30 April 2023	Provisional Delivery Plan (grant-related)	OPCC to submit high level monthly forecast expenditure for 23/24 24/25 grant
29 Sept 2023	Updated Delivery Plan (grant-related)	OPCC to submit further detail for forecasted expenditure for 23/24 24/25 grant
31 Jan 2024	Strategic Needs Assessment	To identify the kinds of serious violence that occur locally through an evidence-based analysis of the causes of SV – to inform the strategy.
	Local Strategy	To include activity to prevent and reduce SV based on the needs of their area. Must be published.
	Final Delivery Plan (grant-related)	OPCC to submit final forecasted expenditure and detail for 23/24 24/25 grant
31 Jan 2025	SNA and Strategy Review	Specified authorities must complete annual reviews

NB: The OPCC is also required to submit quarterly returns for the SV duty grant funding outlining the progress specified authorities are making in relation to their SNAs and local Strategies and in relation to any intervention delivery once commissioning has begun.

SV Duty Additional Funding

- The OPCC can apply for funding to cover labour and non-labour costs associated with delivering the duty. This can be distributed amongst specified and relevant authorities or used to fund additional resources within the OPCC to reduce the burden on specified authorities (with their agreement – confirmed with SPB Exec on 17 Jan 2023).
- The VRN's work places the partnership in a position of strength and we have an opportunity to use this funding to offer additional support to CSPs and work across the wider SPB Exec agenda including in relation to data usage and strengthening the link between system-level and locality-based working (for all types of violence and vulnerability).
- The local plan is to use the labour-cost funding to increase the resource within the OPCC to deliver the above. There are currently no plans for the non-labour costs (to be decided by specified authorities and SPB Exec by end March 2023).

Our provisional allocation:

	Labour costs	Non-labour costs
22/23	38,795	13,692*
23/24	182,091	41,343
24/25	173,343	20,968

* Optional for 22/23

Labour costs: Costs associated with preparing and developing SNAs and strategies

Non-labour costs: Costs associated with implementing the local strategy (e.g. interventions and other activity identified in the strategy)

SV Duty Additional Funding

Additional Roles:

- **1 FTE Data Analyst** to build on VRN's data sharing/usage capability, produce locality-based profiles and offer more analytical support to CSPs and SPB Exec.
- **2 FTE Partnership Officers** (Violence and Vulnerability) to offer hands-on support to SPB Exec and CSPs including in relation to strategy development and delivery.
- **1 FTE SPB Board Officer** to offer enhanced administrative support and strengthen connections between the business of all SPB Boards and locality-based delivery.

Roles and Responsibilities:

VRN Team

Leads production of partnership agreement and LLR-wide SNA
Leads production and continues to co-ordinate delivery of LLR-wide Strategy for SV
Supports specified and relevant authorities to mobilise for duty including self-assessments and on-going support
Provides data reports to SPB Exec
Works closely with and supports new staff in OPCC team

OPCC Team

Produces locality-based profiles for CSPs
Supports CSPs in strategy and plan development and delivery
Acts as link between system-level work and localities
Provides data insights to CSP strategic boards
Offers Board support to SPB Exec
Increases sustainable data sharing and products across broader SPB Exec priorities

SV Duty Delivery

Specified and Relevant Authorities

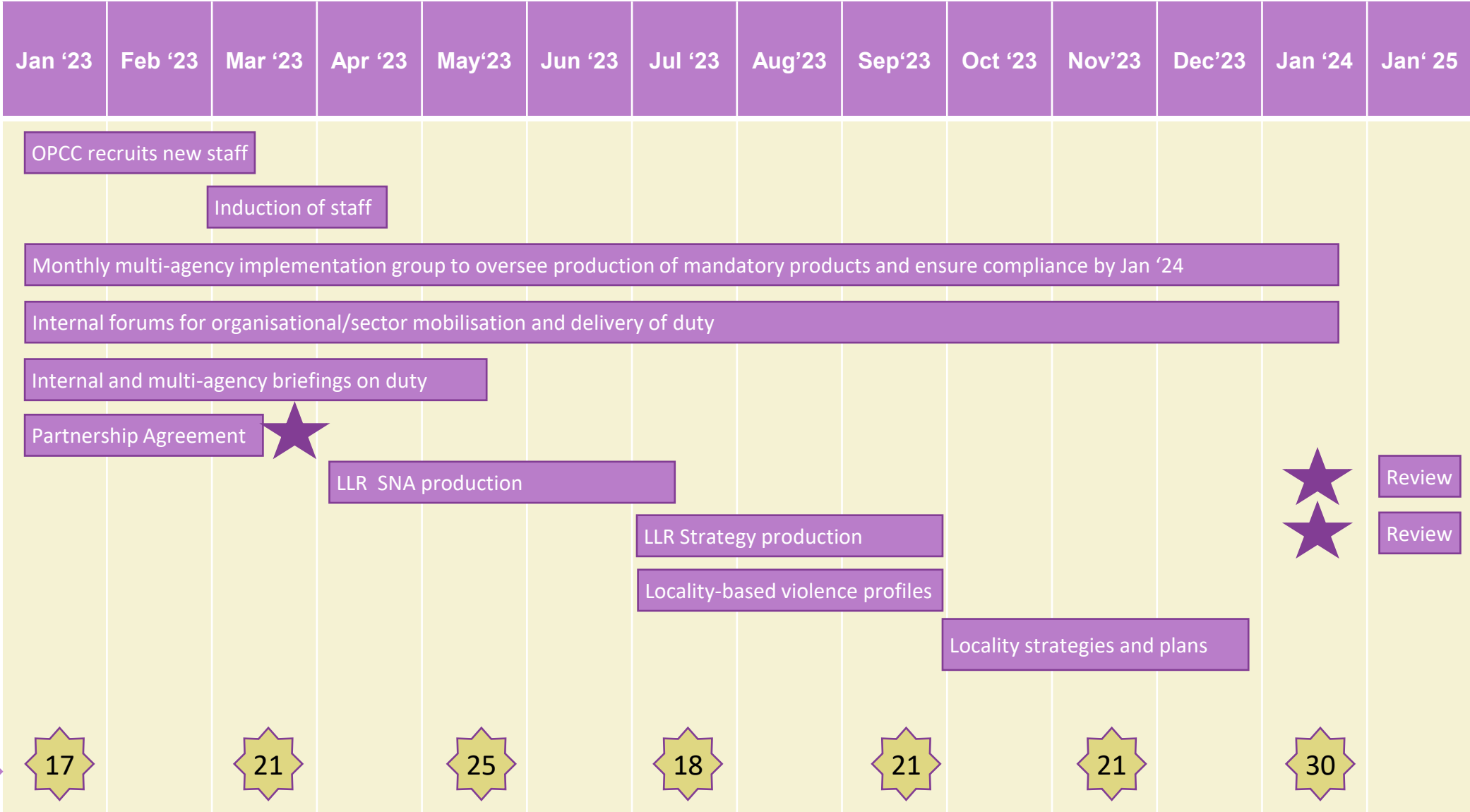
Continue to work with the wider VRN partnership including communities
Confirm your SRO and a colleague to join the oversight group (if different) to support SNA and strategy development
Disseminate internal briefings and develop organisational/sector plans for delivery of the duty
Ensure CSP representation at locality-level

Community Safety Partnerships

Arrange a time to brief CSP members on the new duty
Continue to engage with VRN briefings and products and attend the SV Delivery Group
Work with the OPCC team to inform the structure and content of locality-based profiles and an approach to including SV in CSP strategies and plans

Proposed Local Timeline

★ = deadline



Next Steps and Local Support

- ✓ VRN Director to offer to meet with SROs and convene the implementation group throughout 2023/24
- ✓ VRN team to circulate briefings and provide input to organisations and other partnership boards as required
- ✓ VRN to draw up a plan for production of the LLR-wide SNA and the process for strategy development which will include specific sessions with relevant authorities and communities
- ✓ OPCC to recruit to additional roles and agree the support offer with specified authorities/CSPs and with SPB/sub-board chairs
- ✓ OPCC to consult with specified authorities and CSPs and bring back a proposal to SPB Exec on how the non-labour costs element of the grant should be spent

