



## OPCC Record of Decision

The PCC awards a grant to the Amber Foundation for the purpose of supporting up to 12 people aged 18-30 facing problems and offer homeless support to help them move away from homelessness, out of unemployment and work towards better, brighter and healthier futures in the sum of £144,000 (£48,000 per year for 3 years)

### **Decision Record prepared by**

Name:	Hannah Hurrell
Role:	Commissioning and Partnerships
Date of Decision:	April 2025

### **1. Background**

1. Amber centres are abstinent based environments, residents are tested for drug and alcohol use and are expected to abstain. However they are not a rehabilitation service and do not offer treatment or intervention to those with substance misuse or addiction issues. Instead, residents are encouraged and supported to access specialist support from external organisations. All residents are expected to participate in our employability and well-being programme as a mandatory condition of their stay.
2. To support up to 12 people aged 18-30 facing problems and offer homeless support to help them move away from homelessness, out of unemployment and work towards better, brighter and healthier futures.
3. The funding will fund 3 beds for a three-year period.

Support would include:

- Develop new skills, experiences and has the time to focus on themselves
- Training and education opportunities
- Employment skills
- Support with finding a sustainable place to call home

Amber Foundations referral criteria is based on the type of service they offer: Amber centres are abstinent based environments, residents are tested for drug and alcohol use and are expected to abstain.

They are not a rehabilitation service and do not offer treatment or intervention to those with substance misuse or addiction issues. Instead, residents are encouraged and supported to access specialist support from external organisations.



The Amber foundation can accept referrals from those who are in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse.

All residents are expected to participate in the employability and well-being programme as a mandatory condition of their stay at the Amber Centre.

**Objectives:**

1. To support individuals in finding a sustainable place to call home and reduce homelessness
  2. To support the individual to abstain from long term drug and alcohol use
  3. To increase the individual's social connections and confidence
  4. To increase the individual employability offering training & education, and support them in finding a job.
4. Other OPCCs have 'directly awarded' to the Amber foundation after assessing what competition is available locally.
5. In Devon and Cornwall the OPCC have looked at what there is available locally for people aged 18-30 who have complex problems and require this type of support. Other services offer similar support, but the amber foundation is unique as they are able to have more of a long impact on the lives of the people they support through an intensive programme of support in a residential setting
6. Strategic police and crime plan objectives that the direct award will support:
- Continue to invest in prevention and diversion activity to deter young people from being drawn into anti-social behaviour, with a focus on knife crime
  - Deliver service for young people who are victims or who are at risk of being drawn into crime and antisocial behaviour
  - Reduce Reoffending through behaviour change, prevention and diversion activities
  - Celebrate Community Cohesion and promote personal responsibility
  - work with partners to identify, support and rehabilitate those causing the most disruptions linked to drink and drugs use
  - Work with partners to educate young people about healthy relationships, community respect and the risks of exploitation and violence.

**2. Decision Record**

- 2.1 To issue a 3-year grant to The Amber Foundation to support young adults (aged 18-30) facing complex problems and offer homeless support.

The estimated Whole Life Cost value £144,000 (£48K per year for 3 years)





### **3. Consultation, Engagement and Communication**

- 3.1 A decision was made by the Police and Crime Commissioner at the Strategic Commissioning and Finance board in April 2025 to grant fund the Amber foundation for 3 years. Following a visit to the centre in Devon. (see minutes attached below)

### **4. OPCC Monitoring Officer advice**

#### **4.1 Legal, Management, Equality and GDPR Implications – Current and Future**

- The PCC's Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer has advised that the arrangements set out in the proposal meet the requirements of the relevant legislation and the needs of the organisation.
- The PCC's CEO and Monitoring Officer has advised that this decision is within the powers of those making it and that, from the information provided, there would not appear to be any adverse legal, managerial, equality or GDPR implications arising from the proposal.
- EDHR obligations have been considered when taking this decision and on this occasion it is not necessary to complete an Equality Impact Assessment. The decision will not impact on human resources, equality or diversity obligations.
- GDPR obligations have been considered when taking this decision and on this occasion it is not necessary to complete a Data Protection Impact Assessment

#### **4.2 Financial and Commercial – Current and Future**

- The PCC's Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer has advised that the arrangements are consistent with good governance and ensuring value for money.

### **5. Supporting documents:**

- 5.1 [DIRECT AWARD - Sole Source form Amber foundation.doc](#)  
5.2 [SCFB 01.04.25 Minutes and Actions.docx](#) – See item 3  
5.3 [Draft Amber Foundation Grant Agreement 1 Sept 25 - 31 Aug 2028.docx](#)

### **6. Official approval**

- 6.1 Following the appropriate approval, this decision sheet will be published, subject to FOIA classification, on the OPCC website.



**For OPCC office use:**

If FOI Closed at the current date under Section 22, please provide details of the future date by which this decision can be reconsidered for publication:	[DD/MM/YY] [insert date]
Is there a publication schedule that lists the documents relating to this decision that will also be published at a later date in the future? If yes, please attach a copy with this decision.	no

The Recommendation for Decision as outlined in this report is formally approved and subject to Freedom of Information Classification will be published on the OPCC website:

**Police and Crime Commissioner**

**Governance Signature by  
Monitoring Officer or  
Chief Financial Officer** *(Delete as appropriate)*

Signed  
Print: ALISON HERNANDEZ  
Date: 21/1/26

Signed FRANCES HUGHES  
Print:  
Date: 21/01/2026

Equality Impact Assessment attached *[Tick if completed]*

Data Protection Impact Assessment attached *[Tick if completed]*

Decision logged in register? *[Tick if completed]*

Decision published on OPCC website? *[Tick if completed]*