

**ORIGINATOR: POLICY OFFICER (VS)**

**DECISION NO.** 16 - 2017

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION**

**SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**SUBJECT: FUND TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE  
WITH COUNSELLING/THERAPEUTIC SERVICES**

**SUMMARY:**

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:
  - a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
  - b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.
 This is in accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. In applying this provision, the PCC will ensure that the services commissioned are also consistent with the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021.
2. This report seeks approval to establish a counselling fund of £150,000 to offer support for victims of sexual abuse.
3. The funding will support the Police and Crime Plan by directly addressing Objective 3, Action 9 in the action plan, to ensure the provision of high quality services to victims of sexual abuse.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. It is recommended that the PCC establishes a fund of £150,000 for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 to offer counselling/therapeutic support to victims of sexual abuse in Suffolk.

**APPROVAL BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**Signature**

*Tim Parry*

**Date**

*19th May  
2017*

## **DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:
- a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
  - b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.
- This is in accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. In applying this provision, the PCC will ensure that the services commissioned are also consistent with the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021.
- 1.2 It is recommended that the PCC establishes a fund of £150,000 for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 to offer support to victims of sexual abuse in Suffolk.

### **2 POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 Following the issue of the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 work has been on-going to ensure that the Police and Crime Objectives and the Plan's principal themes will be achieved. A key theme within the Plan is ensuring the provision of high quality services to victims of sexual abuse.
- 2.2 The proposed grant will contribute to the Police and Crime Plan by funding much needed provision of counselling support to victims of sexual abuse.

### **3 COUNSELLING/THERAPEUTIC SERVICES FUND**

- 3.1 Since October 2014, when provisions were put in place to enable the PCC to commission services to support victims, the PCC has received a number of requests to fund counselling provision for victims of sexual abuse.
- 3.2 Many survivors of sexual abuse (including sexual violence) need dedicated counselling/therapeutic support to help them to cope and recover from the impact of the crime. Demand for counselling is such that those organisations which support survivors of sexual abuse operate waiting lists for victims who need counselling/therapy and in many cases the time victims wait for counselling/therapeutic interventions is very lengthy.
- 3.3 Accordingly since 2014 a number of grants have been awarded to service providers for services for victims of sexual abuse. As a consequence in 2016, it was agreed that a more strategic approach to the commissioning of services for victims of sexual abuse was vital. It was agreed that any future funding needed to demonstrate transparently that it could be open to any victim of sexual abuse regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, any other protected characteristics or geography. It was also recognised that although Suffolk had key specialist sexual violence providers, none of them, in isolation, could meet all of the requirements for a cross-county provision for all victims.
- 3.4 The PCC began discussions with a variety of providers in December 2016 about establishing a pilot initiative for a counselling fund. The fund would be based on providers working in partnership and would directly support counselling/therapeutic interventions for victims of sexual abuse.
- 3.5 An open commissioning exercise did not result in a suitable arrangement so since that time, work has been ongoing with Survivors in Transition, Suffolk Rape Crisis and Fresh Start-new beginnings to develop a scheme and consider the partnership principles and the reporting requirements which should apply.

- 3.6 The pilot for 2017/18 is posited on the basis that providers will work collaboratively to share data and information. Providers will also subscribe to key expectations such as regular review, consistent psychometric measurement and will ensure that counselling/therapy is undertaken by qualified and accredited counsellors with demonstrable experience of working with victims of sexual abuse.
- 3.7 The pilot year will be used to reduce the length of time victims are waiting for counselling/therapeutic interventions and will enable better information of the needs of victims and the demand on the system to be captured to support future commissioning discussions.

#### **4 OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES**

- 4.1 Providers will have monthly meetings to discuss cases and quarterly meetings will take place with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Providers will develop a standardised set of data and an agreed terms of reference to support partnership working.
- 4.2 Agencies will work together to ensure that cases are subject to regular review (timeliness to be agreed by partners) so that the sessions are used carefully to support as many victims as possible and that each victim supported can be offered the number of sessions they need.
- 4.3 Output, outcome and financial data will be reported quarterly and, while some detail is still being developed, it will include the following:

##### Outputs:

- Profile of victims (gender/ethnicity/sexual orientation/age/geography)
- Number of victims receiving support who had not presented to the police at engagement
- Numbers of referrals from other agencies, *and breakdown by agency*, and the number of self-referrals.
- Timescales between referral and allocation
- Proportion of clients/victims who have presented previously (i.e. repeat users)
- Support hours/sessions delivered
- Number of counselling sessions delivered
- The number of sessions each victim supported is provided (this can only be reported once sessions have finished)
- Type of SSO (parameters to be agreed)
- Age at onset of counselling
- Abuser profile (family / institution / stranger)
- Other services accessing
- Onward referrals

##### Outcomes:

- Client satisfaction with the counselling service
- Survivors 'distance travelled' to indicate how the service has helped the victim to cope and recover (there is agreement amongst partnership providers that they will establish a common measure for evaluating outcomes).

## **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Full conditions of award are contained in Appendix A.

## **6 RISKS**

- 6.1 This is a pilot year of funding to establish key data to support an understanding of demand in Suffolk.
- 6.2 An assessment of risk in delivery of the service has been undertaken. This is a new way of working and depends of co-operative engagement from the partners working together to build an evidence base and provide appropriate levels of support to help victims to cope and recover. Any learning from this year and use of this fund will be fed into future commissioning.
- 6.3 There is also an inherent risk related to working with a partnership of smaller bodies, such as the ongoing financial stability, viability in terms of specialist staff and expertise. All three bodies would be required to notify the OPCC immediately of any relevant issue or change that may have an impact on the service delivered.
- 6.4 This is a one off fund for the period stated and is a pilot exercise.

## **7 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 It is recommended that the PCC establishes a fund of £150,000 for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 to offer counselling/therapeutic support to victims of sexual abuse in Suffolk.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	YES
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	YES
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	YES
Have human resource implications been considered?	YES
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	YES
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	YES
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	YES
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	YES
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	YES

#### APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER

##### Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signature:



Date 19 May 2017



## VICTIMS' SERVICES GRANT 2017/18

## CONDITIONS OF AWARD

1. Victims' Services Grant

## 1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:

- a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
- b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.

This is in accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

## 1.2 The PCC's victims commissioning approach will prioritise grant applications which:

- (a) fulfil the requirement to provide services for victims who are entitled to enhanced services, and
- (b) address gaps in service provision.

## 1.3 Commissioning decisions will be made on the basis of those which are considered to have the greatest likelihood of delivering the best possible outcome, in terms of helping victims to cope and recover from their experience and take into account the following:

- Innovation - an innovative approach to delivering victims' services;
- Working in partnership/collaboration - working in partnership or collaboration with one or more additional victims' services providers;
- Hard to reach/hear groups – services that are aimed at supporting victims from hard to reach/hear groups;
- Gaps in services – services that will address an unmet need/gap in services.

## 1.4 The Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk will establish a fund of up to £150,000 for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 to enable a partnership of bodies in Suffolk to deliver counselling to victims of sexual abuse.

2. Conditions of Award

## 2.1 This award is a one-off award and is made on the basis of understanding the demand for counselling (including supporting capacity and capability building, future sustainability of the service and innovation in delivery of the service). The agreement of this award is based on the service a) supporting increased demands and b) improving its sustainability and does not place any ongoing responsibility on the PCC to fund the service beyond the period of this grant.

- 2.2 The award is also made on the basis that the grant recipient uses the grant for the service (as defined at paragraph 1.4 above). In the event that the grant is not used for these purposes the monies must be repaid to the PCC.
- 2.3 The grant must be used to provide services which are free of charge to victims of crime who are entitled to enhanced services.
- 2.4 The grant recipient must comply with the conditions placed upon the PCC by the MoJ grant agreement which includes strict criteria regarding use of the grant and monitoring requirements.
- 2.5 The following costs are not Eligible Expenditure: Payments that support activity intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, government or political parties, or attempting to influence or awarding or renewal of contracts and grants, or attempting to influence legislative or regulatory action.
- 2.6 The grant recipient must be able to evidence appropriate safeguarding procedures for those using their services and have due regard for the Local Children Safeguarding Board policies and guidance. The grant recipient must ensure that its services, policies, training, recruitment, vetting and referral processes appropriately safeguard children and vulnerable adults.

### 3. Bureaucracy

- 3.1 The grant recipient must be able to demonstrate that they are managing the grant in an efficient and effective manner, and are actively seeking to minimise bureaucracy and streamline processes in order to deliver the best possible outcomes.

### 4. Transfer of funds

- 4.1 Payment will be made on a 'monthly' basis.
- 4.2 The grant recipients will invoice the PCC for the sessions after which transfer of funds will be arranged within 21 working days of receipt of the invoice.
- 4.3 The PCC will not pay in advance of need being determined. If the PCC reasonably believes that payment is being requested in advance of need being determined, the PCC may change the timing and/or the amount of any payments.
- 4.4 In order for any payment to be released, the PCC will require the grant recipient to:
- have accepted these conditions by signing and returning a copy of this Conditions of Award agreement,
  - have provided a communications plan;
  - have provided appropriate bank details, and
  - be in compliance of the terms of award (including the MoJ conditions).

## 5 Monitoring

- 5.1 The grant recipients will meet monthly together to discuss cases and key principles for recording information. The grant recipients will meet quarterly with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to discuss progress against the specified output and outcome measures and the financial expenditure to date and to resolve any issues. The monitoring information will be shared in advance of those meetings which are yet to be arranged.
- 5.2 The PCC requires the output and outcomes listed in the decision paper to be reported upon.
- 5.3 The PCC may require attendance at a public meeting of the PCC's Accountability and Performance Panel, on dates as determined by the PCC's Chief Executive.
- 5.4 The grant recipients must notify the PCC as soon as reasonably practicable if the organisation ceases operation, the service does not proceed or if an underspend is forecast. Any underspend must be returned to the PCC.

## 6. Commissioning Principles

- 6.1 In the circumstances where the grant recipients commission services from other bodies applications must be assessed (by the grant recipient) with good practice commissioning principles in mind (e.g. guidance on commissioning issued by the Association of Policing and Crime Chief Executives), and having due regard to equality, diversity and human rights issues.

## 7. Publicity and Marketing

- 7.1 By accepting the award from the PCC the grant recipients make a commitment to acknowledge the PCC's support publicly and must acknowledge their funding from the PCC in all their promotional work. Any recipients of funding via the grant recipient must display the PCC's logo in all publicity for the life of the initiative. Logo artwork can be provided upon request. Any exceptions must be agreed with the PCC.
- 7.2 The grant recipients will liaise with the PCC's Communications Manager to agree a communications plan.

## 8. Access to Information

- 8.1 The PCC expects reasonable access to any records and information held by the grant recipients for purposes associated with the award.
- 8.2 The PCC reserves the right to withhold all or any payments of the award if the PCC has reasonably requested information/documentation from the grant recipients and this has not been received by the PCC in the timescales reasonably required.



9. Miscellaneous

- 9.1 The award may not be used to support or promote religious activity. This will not include inter-faith activity.
- 9.2 The grant recipients must ensure that all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that it and anyone acting on its behalf complies with any applicable law for the time being in force (so far as binding on the recipient).
- 9.3 The grant recipients, and their employees, shall be careful not to be subject to conflicts of interest.
- 9.4 The grant recipients shall ensure that third party recipients have adequate insurance coverage (including but not limited to public liability insurance) in place and shall provide evidence of such insurance to the PCC on request.
- 9.5 The PCC accepts no liability to the grant recipient or third party recipients for any costs, claims, damage or losses, however they are incurred, except for to the extent that they arise from personal injury or death which is caused by the PCC's negligence.
- 9.6 The grant recipients agree to indemnify the PCC for any costs, claims, damages or losses which arise as a result of negligence by the grant recipient or out of any breach by grant recipients of any of the conditions of award.

10. Termination

- 10.1 This agreement may be terminated by either party giving the other at least three months' notice in writing.

**ACCEPTANCE OF VICTIMS SERVICES GRANT**

I agree to work in partnership with the agencies below, and in line with the terms of reference, and the conditions to deliver counselling/therapeutic services to victims in Suffolk.

Signed .....

On behalf of Fresh Start -new beginnings

Signed .....

On behalf of Suffolk Rape Crisis

Signed .....

On behalf of Survivors in Transition

## **ACCEPTANCE OF VICTIMS SERVICES GRANT**

Suffolk Rape Crisis accepts the conditions stated in the partnership agreement and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant on which the draw down of funding can be made.

Suffolk Rape Crisis agrees to work in partnership to resolve monitoring and data issues outlined in section 4 of the main decision paper.

On behalf of Suffolk Rape Crisis:

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	

### **Bank details for grant payment:**

Bank name:	
Branch name:	
Sort Code:	
Account name:	
Account number:	
Address:	
Postcode:	

### **Signed on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk:**

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	

## **ACCEPTANCE OF VICTIMS SERVICES GRANT**

Survivors in Transition accepts the conditions stated in the partnership agreement and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant on which the draw down of funding can be made.

Survivors in Transition agrees to work in partnership to resolve monitoring and data issues outlined in section 4 of the main decision paper.

On behalf of Survivors In Transition:

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	

**Bank details for grant payment:**

Bank name:	
Branch name:	
Sort Code:	
Account name:	
Account number:	
Address:	
Postcode:	

**Signed on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk:**

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	

## **ACCEPTANCE OF VICTIMS SERVICES GRANT**

Fresh Start –new beginnings accepts the conditions stated in the partnership agreement and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant on which the draw down of funding can be made.

Fresh Start –new beginnings agrees to work in partnership to resolve monitoring and data issues outlined in section 4 of the main decision paper.

On behalf of Fresh Start –new beginnings:

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	

### **Bank details for grant payment:**

Bank name:	
Branch name:	
Sort Code:	
Account name:	
Account number:	
Address:	
Postcode:	

### **Signed on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk:**

Signature	
Name:	
Position:	
Date:	