

**ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING AND
GOVERNANCE**

DECISION NUMBER: 40 - 2025

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

**SUBJECT: GRANT OFFER AND DELIVERY OF PROPOSALS TO THE 'PCC
STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING FUND' 2025-26**

SUMMARY:

1. In November 2025 the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) made Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) aware that they had created a Strategic Commissioning Fund, through which all PCCs would be able to access additional funding of up to £40,000.
2. The broad aims of the Fund will be to strengthen OPCC victims' services commissioning and/or improve capacity/resilience within their commissioned victim support.
3. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner worked with partners to develop and submit four proposals to the Ministry of Justice and secured funding of £39,750.
4. The following activity will be delivered:
 - Independent Stalking Advocate Training for specialist support roles.
 - A robust communications campaign to raise awareness of non-intimate stalking and improved interventions for victims by the Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service (NSVCS).
 - Specialist Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) training for PCC commissioned services.
 - Improved data insight and increased awareness of local sexual violence provision through a dynamic, aggregated data dashboard and development of a dedicated website.

5. The proposed funding will support delivery of Theme 2, Objective 1 of the Suffolk PCC's Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029; to commission services which support victims of crime, and Theme 3 Objective 2; to act upon any recommendations for the PCC arising from inspections and super-complaints. It also supports the Suffolk Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy and associated action plan.
6. It is recommended that the PCC accepts the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) 'PCC Strategic Commissioning Funding' offer of £39,750 to be distributed in accordance with the four proposals submitted during the bidding process.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC):

1. Accepts the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) offer of £39,750 in additional funding, through the 'PCC Strategic Commissioning Fund'.
2. Approves the distribution of funding to deliver the proposals.

APPROVAL BY PCC

The recommendation set out above is agreed.

Signature:



Date: 23 December 2025

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to accept the additional funding on offer from the Ministry of Justice made available through the 'PCC Strategic Commissioning Fund.' The nature of the fund and the OPCC proposals are outlined in this report.

2. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - PCC STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING FUND

- 2.1 On 5 November 2025, the Ministry of Justice made the PCC aware of a new fund, the PCC Strategic Commissioning Fund, which offered up to £40,000 per PCC area to strengthen commissioning practices and improve the capacity and/or resilience of commissioned victim support services in 2025/26. The Fund has been set up as a one-off payment with activity to be delivered by 31 March 2026.
- 2.2 OPCCs were invited to submit one or more project proposals, meeting either of the fund requirements:
- Requirement 1: Funding shall be used to strengthen commissioning activity within the OPCC.
 - Requirement 2: Funding shall be used to improve the capacity and/or resilience of PCC-commissioned victim support services with an identified need.
- 2.3 It should be noted that the fund criteria explicitly excludes activities which directly deliver victim support services and cannot be used to contribute to staff salaries or increased National Insurance contributions.

3. SUFFOLK PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner liaised with key partners as far as possible within the timeframe for submission of the proposals and discussed options with: the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk (OPCCN), Suffolk Sexual Violence Action Group partners, Suffolk County Council (Public Health VAWG lead), local victim service providers and Suffolk Constabulary.
- 3.2 Four proposals were submitted to the Ministry of Justice requesting £39,750 of the funding on offer. An overview of each proposals follows.

PROPOSAL 1

Improving skills and capability of frontline workforce: Independent Stalking Advocate Training for specialist support roles.

This is a joint project between Norfolk and Suffolk OPCCs to provide specialist training to upskill frontline workers with accredited training (ISACs – independent stalking advocate caseworkers) within the Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service to support victims of stalking and harassment (non-DA related). The accredited training will also incorporate police colleagues in investigation and safeguarding directorates across Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies.

Delivery of the accredited training for twelve people is through the Suzy Lamplugh Trust. The cost of the proposal, for Suffolk, is £11,000.

PROPOSAL 2

This project will use the funding to deliver a targeted intervention for victims of non-intimate stalking within the Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service (NSVCS). The initiative covers a robust communications campaign to raise awareness and improve delivery of service to support victim resilience. It builds on proposal 1 which will upskill workers to support victims. Delivery, by Catch22 Charity, covers Norfolk and Suffolk and is co-commissioned by Norfolk and Suffolk OPCCs. The cost of the proposal, for Suffolk is £4,750.

- 3.3 Proposals 1 and 2 directly respond to Recommendation 15 in the super complaint submitted by the National Stalking Consortium and responded to by HMICFRS in 2024. This set out the recommendation to review whether the right specialist services have been commissioned to support stalking victims in their area, including provision of trained independent stalking advocate caseworkers. Additionally, it was recommended that PCCs provide the necessary services where they do not exist and consider collaborating across force boundaries to provide services if it would be efficient and effective to do so.

PROPOSAL 3

This project will deliver a range of specialist training activities to help build the capacity and capability of PCC commissioned Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence services. It delivers on two actions in the Suffolk Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) action plan (to commission trauma informed training and support marginalised groups) and on learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews.

The OPCC will work with Suffolk County Council, the Suffolk Violence and Abuse Partnership and a range of local providers to:

- Commission trauma informed training that is available to commissioned services (and partners) in Suffolk so there is consistency in approach and victims can make choices for support knowing all services will respond appropriately.
- Provide training for the Suffolk Independent Domestic Violence Advisors to better support victims who have no recourse to public funding.
- Provide stalking awareness training to a range of domestic abuse practitioners, DA Champions and frontline professionals to raise their capability to identify and support victims of stalking.
- Provide NSPCC accredited training 'Letting the Future In' for five practitioners working at local charity Brave Futures in order to continue their support to children and young people who have been victims of child sexual abuse.

A range of specialist providers will deliver the training, the total budget for which is £9,125.

PROPOSAL 4

This project will specifically support the implementation of recommendations in the University of Suffolk report "[Mapping Sexual Violence Service Provision in Suffolk](#) (2025).

The research found that the signposting to support for victim-survivors and their families is often unclear and deters victim-survivors seeking help. This proposal directly responds to the identified gaps and the following recommendations in the report:

- Recommendation 2: that terminology and language must be clearly defined in policy, practice and communication with service users and the public and should be co-produced and clearly defined, so it can be understood by all.
- Recommendation 3: Enhanced Collaboration and Multi-agency working.
- Recommendation 4: Co-ordinated Access/Demand should be managed through the co-ordination of a one-front door entry to enable a greater provision of services, whilst retaining direct access to existing services.

- Recommendation 7 Accurate collection and recording of data: a more robust and consistent approach to the accurate collection and recording of data. Higher quality data will provide greater insights into specific needs.

The proposal has been discussed with the Suffolk Sexual Violence Action Group (SVAG) which brings together key statutory and VCSE partners to review, improve, and coordinate the local response to sexual violence.

The following activity will be funded through this proposal:

- Creating a dynamic, aggregated dashboard will deliver system-wide intelligence to improve commissioning, service design, and victim outcomes across Suffolk.
- Development and initial hosting of a dedicated website or microsite for the '[No Wrong Door](#)' pledge. This will; provide a clear, accessible overview of all sexual violence support services in Suffolk; include a service directory with descriptions of each organisation's offer; map referral pathways and explain how services interconnect and improve visibility, coordination, and access to support for victim-survivors.

In line with the fund criteria, the project will strengthen partnership working, improve our data insight sand improve awareness of the local victim support offer.

Combined delivery of the project will cost £14,875 and will be delivered by the Suffolk ISVA Service and Survivors in Transition on behalf of the partnership.

- 3.4 The proposed funding and delivery of each proposal will support delivery of the following themes and objectives in the Police and Crime Plan:

Theme 2, Objective 1

- To commission services which support victims of crime by increasing the capacity and capability of commissioned support services in Suffolk.
- Listen to views of victims of crime and service providers to consider enhancement to services where funding allows, and evidence justifies need.
- Work with partners on initiatives, where partner agencies can utilise PCC involvement to enable them to draw down government funding.

Theme 3, Objective 2

- Act upon any recommendations for the PCC arising from inspections and super-complaints.

- 3.5 The activity also supports the Suffolk Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy and identified actions in the associated plan.

- 3.6 The OPCC was notified on 5 December that the proposals had been accepted and the offer of £39,750 was made, to be delivered as an addendum to the 2025-26 victims core grant agreement.

4. OUTCOMES AND MONITORING

- 4.1 Monitoring will form part of the end of year data report that the OPCC submits to the Ministry of Justice and will include:
- Outcomes and outputs of the proposals
 - Impact on the identified support providers/beneficiaries
 - Any lessons learned from the proposals

- Any ongoing actions/activities that are planned to follow the completion of the proposals.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposals will be fully funded from the MOJ through an addendum to the 2025-26 Victims Core grant agreement with the PCC. Any money that cannot be spent will be lost and cannot be carried over as per annularity terms.
- 5.2 Delivery will be enabled through a combination of contract variations and grant funding to existing suppliers and the purchase of services from specialist suppliers (e.g. training providers) in line with Contract Standing Orders.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 6.1 The compressed timescales for delivery (by 31 March 2026) are considered a risk but have been mitigated as far as possible by discussing deliverability with partners and potential suppliers. Should there be any risk to the service being delivered, delivery partners are required to notify the PCC.
- 6.2 The OPCC will need to administer the funding in a short space of time and monitor in accordance with the grant agreement terms.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	NO
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
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	YES

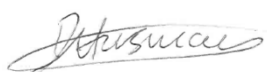
In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

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 PCC.

Signature:



Date: 23 December 2025