

**WEST MIDLANDS POLICE
AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

NOTICE OF DECISION

029/2015

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Title: Victims Fund

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From April 1 2015, Police and Crime Commissioners took on responsibility for commissioning locally most of the emotional and practical support services for victims of crime that are provided by the voluntary and community sector.

The Commissioner has been allocated £2,344,273 in funding by the Ministry of Justice to commission victim services and £625,140 for restorative justice. Services commissioned will form part of a complex and varied network of support that exists for victims, to ensure the needs of victims are met through improved services.

In September 2015, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner received 50 applications for funding for services of victims after providers were invited to put forward proposals for services to help victims cope and recover from the impacts of crime. An assessment panel met and made recommendations to the Commissioner based on the criteria within the application form and the proposals submitted. This process ensures that the Commissioner works with and funds a broad range of organisation from the voluntary and community sector, all who have a shared interest in delivering positive outcomes and improved services for victims. Annex 1 sets out the funding awarded in the first round.

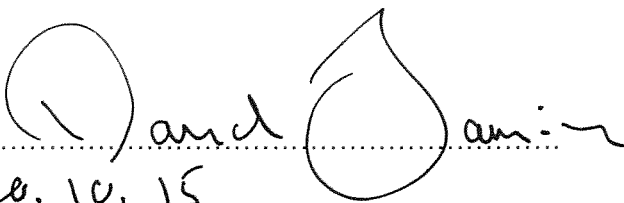
DECISION

I approve the allocation of funding to the projects as detailed at Annex 1.

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime. Any interests are indicated below.

Signature.....



Date.....

20.10.15

NON - CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. The Commissioner launched the new Victim Service on the 1 April 2015. This service provides support and information to all victims and ensures that specialist help is provided when needed, and will help victims to cope and recover from the impacts of crime.

2. In September 2015, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner received 50 applications for funding for services of victims after providers were invited to put forward proposals for services to help victims cope and recover from the impacts of crime. An assessment panel met and made recommendations to the Commissioner based on the criteria within the application form and the proposals submitted. This process ensures that the Commissioner works with and funds a broad range of organisation from the voluntary and community sector, all who have a shared interest in delivering positive outcomes and improved services for victims. Annex 1 sets out the funding awarded in the first round.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3. The first round allocation is £241,669. The Commissioners' total Victims Fund allocation from the Ministry of Justice is set out in the table below

Victims Fund Allocation	£2,344, 273
The allocation is broken down as below:	
- Victim Referral, assessment and local support service delivered by Victim Support	£1,385,000
- Specialist Support services	£959,273
- SV/DV	£65,933
Prisoners Earnings Act	£48,839
Restorative Justice	£625,140
Total allocation	£3,084,184

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4. Funding is issued as a grant under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2014 to support victims, witnesses or other persons affected by offences.

5. Schedule 9 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides Commissioners with the powers to award crime and disorder grants to any organisations and projects they consider will help them achieve their crime prevention and wider priorities.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

6. All agencies will ensure that, in conducting its work, it will integrate consideration of equality and diversity issues into each item of business, with a view to valuing and promoting equality and diversity and eliminating discrimination. The OPCC will monitor this area of business.

Schedule of Background Papers

None

Public Access to Information

Information contained in this decision is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation. This decision will be made available on the Commissioner's website.

VICTIMS FUND - SUCCESSFUL ORGANISATIONS: ROUND 1 SEPTEMBER 2015

Local Authority Area	Organisation	Priority	Annex 1	
			Amount Requested	Amount Approved
BIRMINGHAM			£	£
	Women Acting in Today's Society	Providing women who are experiencing domestic abuse and homelessness with practical support, access to housing, training and employment in order to integrate them into the community	14,540	14,540
	Aspiring Futures CIC	Support services to women victims of domestic abuse, FGM and HBV; women who face multiple barriers including language and cultural barriers, negative assumptions or past experience of reporting crime to the police in their country of origin	15,000	7,500
	New Heights Warren Farm Community	Facilitation of a focus group, comprised of victims./survivors of domestic violence and abuse	750	750
	Amirah Foundation	Change the lives and future experiences of 30 women who have fled domestic abuse	15,000	7,700
	Anawim	Continue Independent Domestic Violence Adviser work at Anawim, supporting women who are at risk of homicide and suicide	15,000	7,500
	Allens Croft Project	Delivery of awareness and empowerment programmes for victims of domestic abuse	15,000	7,500
	Kingstanding Regeneration Trust	Young people led campaign to identify those who have been victims of face to face or online mobile phone CSE, also a support service	14,380	9,586
	Aquarius Action Projects	Support for victims of CSE that currently use their drug and alcohol services	15,000	15,000
	Birmingham Chinese Society	A 6 month pilot service in the heart of Birmingham's Chinese community to encourage vulnerable victims of crime of Chinese heritage to access mainstream resources	14,970	14,970

	Narthex	Support victims socially and culturally isolated from society living in fear or reporting their crime, those particularly in situations or circumstances out of their control	26,840	13,420
COVENTRY				
	Valley House	Engage and support up to 30 victims of crime (particularly domestic violence and abuse or hate crime) who are accessing no other support services to enable them to cope with and recover from the impact of crime	14,819	14,819
		Preventing victims of CSE before they become known to the police and other agencies. Using existing internet adverts targeting technology, specific groups, thought to be most of risk can be identified, informed and directed towards voluntary organisations and other third sector agencies or local authority assistance	5,000	5,000
DUDLEY				
		Provide support to victims or witnesses of crime to cope, recover and move forward positively,		
	Universal Support Project CIC	provision of a mentoring service	14,990.02	8,390
	Summit House	Hate incident, advice and safety project in Dudley for the LGBT community	14,608	14,608
	CHADD	Single point of contact for domestic abuse support services to help victims cope with the impact of domestic abuse and access support to help them recover	14,832	13,892
	CFEED - Hate Crime Advocacy and Empowerment Service	Provide real and lasting practical and emotional support to victims of hate crime living across the Borough and surrounding areas	11,366	11,366
SANDWELL				

	Trident Reach	Recovery Programme for women living in Refuge	14,970	7,651
	Kaleidoscope Plus Group	A weekly support group and separate one to one drop in will be provided for victims of crime and their family members or close friends to attend as a family unit or on an individual basis	6,996	6,996
SOLIHULL				
	Solihull Action through Advocacy	Enable victims of crime to have a voice and be heard	8,895	8,895
WALSALL				
	Manor Farm Community Association	A range of support strategies for older victims of crime in Walsall. Including a bespoke mentoring service for victims aged 55 and over, enhanced home security in line with legal requirements, on-going social activities that reinforce personal and community safety, reducing the fear of crime	13,513	13,513
WOLVERHAMPTON				
	LGBT Network Wolverhampton	Hate crime/SV/DV - confidential, practical and emotional support to 100 victims (or significant other) of crime, sexual assault and/or domestic violence. Services will be available whether victims have reported the crime or not	11,631	11,631
	African Women of Substance	A holistic service which offers support, advocacy and information to all African women and children experiencing or fleeing abuse	10,061	8,720
BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL				

	Birmingham Disability Resource Centre	A weekly support group and separate one to one drop in will be provided for victims of crime and their family members or close friends to attend as a family unit or on an individual basis	14,632	10,282
WEST MIDLANDS				
	Muslim Women's Network	Providing a specialist culturally sensitive counselling service for women of all Black, Asian and Minority backgrounds of all faiths regarding DA/FM/HBV	15,000	7,500
			317,793	241,669