

Freedom of Information request

Your request for certain information using Freedom of Information Act 2000 legislation has been received in the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner's office.

On 19 July 2017, you asked:

“

- 1. For each of the past five years (including 2017 to date), please provide a list of the local groups to receive funding from the PCC/Mayor/Authority for the provision of support to victims of rape and sexual assault; together with the amount of money provided.**
- 2. Has the PCC/Mayor/Authority given any consideration to any waiting lists for rape and sexual violence support, and how such waiting lists can be mitigated against. If so, please provide details.”**

I must advise you that prior to 2014-15, the PCC did not commission services for victims of crime and so can only provide information from that date onwards. Please see information available set out below:-

Response to Q1:

2014/15

Crisis Point:	£ 29,539
Coventry Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (CRASAC):	£125,681
Rape and Sexual Violence Project (B'ham and Solihull):	£160,875

2015/16

Crisis Point:	£139,078
CRASAC:	£182,492
Rape and Sexual Violence Project (B'ham and Solihull):	£ 80,000
Black Country Women's Aid	£ 80,000

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2015/16 Continued

Barnardo's	£ 83,013
Terence Higgins Trust	£ 13,500
Breaking the Silence	£ 13,000
UK Network of Sex Work Projects	£ 5,000
Kingstanding Regeneration Trust	£ 9,586

Aquarius Action Projects	£ 15,000
Can Digital Solutions	£ 5,000
LGBT Network Wolverhampton	£ 11,631

2016/17

West Midlands Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC):	£ 90,000
Rape and Sexual Violence Project (Birmingham and Solihull):	£155,077
Black Country Women's Aid:	£ 82,243
Birmingham Women's Aid:	£ 38,364
CRASAC:	£145,227
Crisis Point:	£ 59,078
The Children's Society	£ 14,975
Changing Lives	£ 14,499
Barnardo's National Counter Trafficking Service (NTCS)	£146,400
Cherished CIC	£ 15,000

2017/18

Allocation to date:

Rape and Sexual Violence Project (B'ham and Solihull):	£137,651
Black Country Women's Aid: (Sandwell, Dudley, Wolverhampton):	£115,326
Crisis Point (Walsall):	£ 71,160
CRASAC (Coventry):	£187,900
Street Team Walsall	£ 13,411
Muslim Women's Network	£ 4,000

Response to Q2:

Taken from the Victim Services in the West Midlands Report (Agenda Item 8), for the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Board in January 2015:

The ISVA service offers any support that is required such as emotional support; they can refer victims for counselling, assess needs and decide in partnership what type of support is required. The increasing demand on specialist sexual violence services has resulted in significantly longer waiting lists for counselling (currently between 6-9 months for all specialist agencies across the region). All Consortium member agencies have experienced not only this increase in demand for services, but also significantly more complex caseloads being referred to them for both the ISVA and counselling services. An example in relation to increased pressure on the ISVA service is not only the increase in referrals, but also the increase in the duration clients need the service as a direct result of the increase in waiting time from report to court (currently between 18-24 months). This increase has inevitably escalated pressure on ISVA services.

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In addition, funding cuts across statutory and voluntary sector services have resulted in the loss/dramatic reduction of services that victims may otherwise have engaged with, for example, mental health services such as Psychological and CAMHS Services.

Priorities

- To reduce waiting lists for counselling by up to 50% in six months, including increasing capacity via therapeutic groups.

The Commissioner allocated £320,000 to our Sexual Violence Consortium to respond to this issue: reduce waiting times and waiting lists.

<https://www.expressandstar.com/news/2016/01/07/sex-victims-waiting-nine-months-for-help-as-service-struggles-with-5000-referrals-to-counsellors-each-year/>

The information as set out details the information held in this office. Your attention is drawn to your right to request a re-examination of your case under the Police and Crime Commissioner's review procedure (see copy attached). Please note that such an appeal must be received within 20 working days of the date of this correspondence

Yours sincerely

Mark Kenyon
Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Chief Executive

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