

**WEST MIDLANDS POLICE
AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

NOTICE OF DECISION

032/2016

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Title: Victims Fund Allocations

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 primarily provided by the voluntary and community sector.

The Commissioner has been allocated £3,319,355 in funding by the Ministry of Justice to commission victim services for 2016-17. Services commissioned form part of a complex and varied network of support that exists for victims in order to ensure the needs of victims are met through improved services.

In September 2016, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner received 69 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 organisations 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 to the successful projects.

DECISION

I approve the allocation of £187,963.20 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.....1.11.16.....

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 2016, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner received 69 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.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3. The allocation for the Victims Fund competitive process is £187,963.20. The Commissioners' total Victims Fund allocation from the Ministry of Justice is 3,319,355 for 2016-17.

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

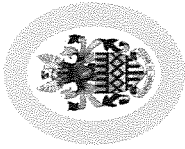
6. All agencies will ensure that, in conducting its work, it will integrate consideration of equality and diversity issues into each item of business, with a view to valuing and promoting equality and diversity and eliminating discrimination. The OPCC will monitor this area of business.

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.



west midlands
office of the police
and crime commissioner

Annex 1

Successful Applications Victims Fund 3 September 2016

Organisation	Project Proposal	Local Authority	Amount Awarded
New Heights	Wyrley Birch Domestic Abuse Counselling Service Warren Farm Community Project A partnership of Lakeside Children's Centre, Kingstanding Police, Urban Devotion to facilitate a holistic approach to Domestic Abuse.	Birmingham	£15,000
Citizens Coaching CIC	Citizens Coaching High quality counselling service to complex victims of crime. Delivered by counsellors in Digbeth, Hockley and Dudley	Birmingham and Dudley	£14,340
Relate	Relate & WDVF Working in partnership with Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum (WDVF) to provide a specialist, individual counselling and support service for victims of domestic violence living in Wolverhampton, to help them recover from the emotional and mental trauma of domestic abuse and develop the resilience	Wolverhampton	£14,046

Birmingham Crisis Centre	needed to help them move on with their lives. Birmingham Crisis Centre Twelve week programme aimed at enabling victims to understand abuse, illustrate the effects of domestic abuse on children, build confidence and self-esteem, to help them cope and recover and to recognise future abusers, this will ultimately help them move on to abuse free lives.	Birmingham	£9,545
Church Housing Association of Dudley and District	Older People Domestic Abuse Service Provide specialist refuge accommodation for older people who have been victims of domestic abuse and specialist outreach support. Raise awareness, early identification and responses to the hidden issue of domestic abuse in older people.	Dudley	£14,885.20
The Children's Society	Streetwise Coventry and Birmingham The aim is to develop some group work with boys and young men around the theme of being a victim of CSE/ Missing and also around addressing the issues of males as potential perpetrators and exploring areas around	Birmingham & Coventry	£14,975

	masculinity, gender roles and attitudes and relationships.			
Precious Lives	Precious Choices Education Programme To create a new learning stream in order to expand the 'Precious Choices Education Programme'.	Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell	£14,030	
Changing Lives	Changing Lives Project to support 20 women (sex workers) vulnerable to, or victims of, the most serious crime.	Wolverhampton & Walsall	£14,499	
Escaping Victimhood	Escaping Victimhood To provide residential workshop programmes for those still suffering the traumatic effects of serious crime sometime after any court process (if applicable) is completed.	All seven local authority areas	£15,000	
First Base Walsall	The Glebe Centre Walsall A counselling service for users of the Glebe Centre, an open-access drop-in for rough sleepers and socially-excluded adults (strictly 18+) in Walsall and the surrounding areas. For victims of crime and ASB from this cohort.	Walsall	£14,080	
Northfield Eco Centre Central England Quakers	Supporting Cyclists Who Are Victims of Crime To help cyclists who are victims of crime to recover by:	Birmingham	£3,920	

<p>Changing Our Lives</p>	<p>Working with partners to identify victims; Loan of a bike and lock to help them get back on the road; Advice on preventing bike theft; buying and insuring a replacement bike; cycling tuition to help people cycle safely and reduce the risk from dangerous drivers; bike maintenance tuition so that people don't have to abandon their bike in a vulnerable location if it breaks down.</p>		
	<p>Safer Places Scheme Project to strengthen and coordinate the Safe Places schemes across the West Midlands by: Working with local communities to identify Safe Places in areas where provision is poor; Ensuring the scheme works with both people with learning disabilities, older people, people with dementia and other vulnerable groups in each area; 3. Working with community organisations and local people to ensure they understand how the scheme supports them if are a victim of crime. Part of this work includes ensuring staff in Safe Places and local people link into Third Party Reporting Centres, also linking the scheme to Street Pastors, Neighbourhood Watch</p>	<p>All seven local authorities</p>	<p>£14,643</p>

	and where appropriate Street Watch.			
Small Heath Boxing Club	To engage and support victims of crime to help them better cope and recover from their experiences	Birmingham	£14,250	
Cannon Street Baptist Church	To use experience and expertise to support those with multiple disadvantages, to support over 100 victims of crime, recover from the harm experienced in their life.	Birmingham	£14,750	
Total			£187,963.20	

