

ORIGINATOR: Stephanie Stearman

DECISION NO. 38 /2022

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: For Decision

SUBMITTED TO: Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk (PCC) – Giles Orpen-Smellie

SUBJECT: Ministry of Justice Sexual Violence and Domestic Abuse Fund

SUMMARY:

For 2022/23, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) confirmed that PCCs would receive £69.1m 'core' funding, which would be funding delivered over a multi-year basis until the end of 24/25.

PCCs were required to pass the multi-year commitment onto the local services they commission, to ensure frontline service providers receive the full benefits.

In order to inform the MoJ and enable them to decide on funding allocations, PCCs were asked to complete a needs assessment so that the MoJ would gain an up-to-date picture of local need.

The MoJ's funding allocation to increase Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence provision for England and Wales was £15.7m.

All Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC's) we instructed they must conduct an open and transparent process and invite agencies (including all sectors) to put forward a needs assessment for their organisation that was sent to the Ministry of Justice for consideration.

The Ministry of Justice were the authority responsible for reviewing assessments and would make decisions as to the settlement that each PCC area would receive based on the needs assessment that was put forward.

The Norfolk PCC received and put forward bidding applications to the value of £1,378,861.

The PCC was awarded £185,728 per annum by the Ministry of Justice to support DA/SV services in Norfolk up to 24/25.

RECOMMENDATION: The Police and Crime Commissioner is in support of Grant Allocations as laid out within this Decision Notice.

OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY: PCC/

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature



Date: 04/07/2022

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. OBJECTIVE:

- 1.1 To support the Governments strategy to increase provision of services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and to provide longer term funding options.

2. BACKGROUND:

- 2.1 For 2022/23, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) confirmed that PCCs would receive £69.1m 'core' funding, which would be funding delivered over a multi-year basis until the end of 24/25.
- 2.2 PCCs were required to pass the multi-year commitment onto the local services they commission, to ensure frontline service providers receive the full benefits.
- 2.3 In order to inform the MoJ and enable them to decide on funding allocations, PCCs were asked to complete a needs assessment so that the MoJ would gain an up-to-date picture of local need.
- 2.4 The MoJ's funding allocation to increase Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence provision for England and Wales was £15.7m.
- 2.5 Organisations did not need to be a registered charity, a charitable incorporated organisation, or a social enterprise to be eligible for this funding. They had to however, provide support services which have the purpose of helping victims of SV or DA cope with the impacts of crime, and, as far as possible, recover from the harm they have experienced.
- 2.6 If a PCC believed that they could most appropriately meet local need by allocating their funding to a Local Authority or other local body, they were permitted to do so provided they were able to evidence how this met local need.
- 2.7 Reporting would need to come through the PCC and meet grant conditions.
- 2.8 Each PCC area has received notification of the allocation of funds as set out above. The DA and SV ringfenced funding was combined and the MoJ did not specify the proportion of the overall spend needed to be on DA or SV. The MoJ hoped that funding for three financial years would allow greater flexibility to allocate locally according to PCC needs.

3. AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 3.1 Funding is subject to Grant Agreement conditions as laid out by the MoJ which must be adhered to when allocating funds.
- 3.2 Organisations had to be based in England and Wales to be eligible for this funding.

- 3.3 PCCs had to undertake an assessment of need in relation to both DA and SV support services in their local area.
- 3.4 PCCs had to ensure that the assessment process fulfilled a number of general conditions as follows:
- the process had to be open and transparent, with assessment criteria published
 - the process was open to all relevant support organisations in the PCC area – and encourages applications from small organisations that support victims with protected characteristics
 - the process was undertaken in collaboration with Local Authorities
 - there are named contact points in each PCC office for queries
 - the names of all organisations that requested funding, and those that were successful, would be published on completion of the process
- 3.5 PCCs had to ensure DA and SV organisations that have a proven track record of providing tailored services for particular groups such as LGBT, disabled, BAME and male victims are included when establishing local need, and ensure they are proportionately represented within funding allocations.
- 3.6 PCCs had to engage with other local commissioners, including the Local Authority, when establishing and assessing local need.
- 3.7 PCCs were responsible for undertaking the appropriate due diligence and fraud risk assessments in relation to organisations they fund through this allocation.
- 3.8 PCCs were asked to check that bids met the stated eligibility.
- 3.9 No bids were permitted to be filtered out by the PCC all bids had to be put forward to the MoJ for further consideration.
- 3.10 To be eligible for DA and SV ringfenced funding, the organisation must provide tailored support to female and/or male victims who have experienced domestic abuse, rape or sexual abuse at any point in their life. This included adults and children. The funding could be used to support existing clients as well as new referrals.
- 3.11 DA and SV support services could include, but were not limited to:
- Family court support
 - Court support
 - Face to face or remote counselling for individuals and / or their families
 - Support for particular groups such as BME/ Disabled/ LGBT/male victims.
- 3.12 Funding for support for victims of DA in safe accommodation is subject to a separate funding process run by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and

Communities (DLUHC). MoJ funding was not permitted to be used to provide accommodation or the support services within it.

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

- 4.1 Only applications submitted in response to the open process by those who support victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and met the published criteria were considered.

5. STRATEGIC AIMS/OBJECTIVE SUPPORTED:

- 5.1 The primary statutory legislation that drives the commissioning of domestic abuse service across the Local Authority and Police force areas are:

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- Health and Social Care Act 2012
- Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012
- Equality Act 2010
- Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime Directive 2012/29/EU
- Code of Practice for Victims of Crime –MoJ Victims Code 2020
- Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls – July 2021
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021

6. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 PCCs had to submit all bidding applications to the Ministry of Justice which were received under the open SV/DV funding process.
- 6.2 The Norfolk PCC received and put forward bidding applications to the value of £1,378,861.
- 6.3 From this, the PCC put forward 3 x Family IDVAS to the IDVA/ISVA fund which was awarded and reported under Decision Notice 2022/30.
- 6.4 The Ministry of Justice awarded the Norfolk PCC £185,728 per annum to support DA/SV services in Norfolk. The PCC will receive this annual amount up to and including the financial year 2024/25.
- 6.5 Organisations that received funding listed in Table 1 and are subject to terms and conditions as laid out within the PCC's Grant Agreement and will be subject to reporting under the Ministry of Justice outcomes framework as published alongside terms and conditions of the bidding process.

Table 1.

NAME OF ORGANISATION	PROJECT/SERVICE	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA)	Support for Victims who have been bereaved by suicide/Domestic Homicide Reviews in Norfolk	£10,500	£10,500	£10,500
Sue Lambert Trust	1 X FTE Group Lead and Outreach Worker including offering a 'step down programme' and outreach programme to work with underrepresented groups (protected characteristics) 12 Sessions Per Month for Victims of sexual violence to enhance capacity for a further 12 persons per session.	£49,610	£49,610	£49,610
Leeway Domestic Abuse & Violence Services for NiDAS	.8 LGBTQ+ IDVA 1 x FTE BAME IDVA To work within Norfolk's Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (NiDAS)	£59,065	£78,753	£78,753
Norfolk Community Law Service	To provide and fund specialist support for those affected by Domestic Abuse through the courts.	£44,599	£46,865	£46,865
Magdalene Project	To provide specialist support for sexual violence victims who have been sexually exploited or groomed, who live chaotic lifestyles and have complex needs	£21,995		
	TOTAL	£185,728	£185,728	£185,728

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

7.1 There are no foreseen major implications or risks associated with this decision paper.

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
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	Yes
<p data-bbox="204 1424 788 1458">Is this report a Confidential Decision?</p> <div data-bbox="1066 1440 1187 1509" style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; width: 76px; height: 31px; vertical-align: middle;"></div> <div data-bbox="1262 1440 1383 1509" style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; width: 76px; height: 31px; vertical-align: middle; text-align: center; margin-left: 20px;"> NO </div> <p data-bbox="204 1536 1430 1570">If Yes, please state reasons below having referred to the PCC Decision Making Policy</p>	

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER (this approval is required only for submissions to the PCC).

Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report, that the recommendations have been reviewed and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.



Signature:

Date: 04/07/2022

Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

I certify that:

- a) there are no financial consequences as a result of this decision,
OR
- b) the costs identified in this report can be met from existing revenue or capital budgets,
OR
- c) the costs identified in this report can be financed from reserves
AND
- d) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

Signature:



Date: 04/07/2022

PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION: *Information contained within this submission is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and wherever possible will be made available on the OPCC website. Submissions should be labelled as 'Not Protectively Marked' unless any of the material is 'restricted' or 'confidential'. Where information contained within the submission is 'restricted' or 'confidential' it should be highlighted, along with the reason why.*