

Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey – Decision Making Record

Victims Fund – Change of Use

Decision number: 145/2016

Author and Job Role: Damian Markland, Victims Policy Officer

Protective Marking: Part One

1.0 Executive Summary

The purpose of this document is to provide confirmation that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey has formally agreed a 'change of use' for funding previously allocated via the Victims Fund.

2.0 Background

2.1 Original service

In March 2016 the then Police and Crime Commissioner, Kevin Hurley, agreed to award £22,000 to yourSanctuary to support the development and delivery of the county-wide Men's Outreach service for male survivors of domestic abuse and violence (DVA). For 2016/17 funding was to be used towards uplifting support hours and the production of marketing materials in order to raise awareness of the service.

However despite this funding and the efforts made to ensure that both professionals and members of the public were made more aware of the issue of male victims of DA and the specialist service available, this has not resulted in an increase in referrals rates.

Prior to the provision of OPCC funding, yourSanctuary were providing 20 hours of specialist male outreach support. As referrals have not significantly risen, 20 hours remains sufficient to safely manage an average case load of 20 cases and yourSanctuary have therefore requested to use the funding provided to support the 24 hour Domestic Abuse helpline, as detailed below.

2.2 Recommended service

yourSanctuary currently provide the 24 hour Domestic Abuse specialist helpline which is used county-wide and publicised by the police, Surrey County Council and other DA providers. It is the only specialist DA helpline in Surrey and regularly gives local information, support and signposting to callers who may be victims themselves, friends and family members, colleagues or professionals. All local DA campaigns drive traffic towards the helpline and all printed publicity materials display the helpline number.

There is a growing need to develop the helpline from a phone service into a multi-channel service which would dramatically improve the ability to help more people

affected by domestic abuse, including men, young people, disabled people, and other hard to reach groups.

This development would also be linked to the development of the yourSanctuary website in order to have dedicated areas for men and young people as well as the capability to provide support through webchat.

It is therefore proposed that the £22,000 that has already been allocated to the male outreach service is instead used by yourSanctuary to recruit a Helpline Development Manager who would manage the day to day activities of the helpline, develop the three new service channels: email, webchat and text, and recruit/train/support more helpline volunteers in order to support the wider offering.

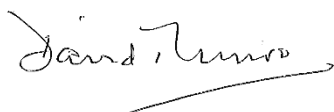
It is estimated that this would enable yourSanctuary to recruit 15 to 20 more helpline volunteers in a year which would allow the organisation to double the number of helpline responders during the day. This would also enable the development of the service from signposting to active referral to the other DA outreach providers in Surrey during the working day, thus giving a much improved service to callers.

2.0 Recommendation

The Police and Crime Commissioner approves:

- the change of use of funding previously allocated under the Victims Fund, as detailed in Section 2.0 of this report.
- the grant agreement between the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and yourSanctuary to be updated to reflect the change of use and new intended outcomes.

Police and Crime Commissioner Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Tunno', with a horizontal line underneath.

Date: 01/08/2016

(All decisions must be added to the decision register.)