

## Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey – Decision Making Record

### Victims Fund

**Decision number:** 006/2018

**Author and Job Role:** Damian Markland, Policy and Commissioning Lead for Victim Services

**Protective Marking:** OFFICIAL

## 1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1 In October 2014, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) took on responsibility for commissioning support services for victims of crime to help them cope and recover.
- 1.2 For the financial year 2017/18 the PCC was allocated £1,370,103 by the Ministry of Justice for the commissioning and/or provision of emotional and practical support services for victims' of crime.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Police and Crime Commissioner's Commissioning Strategy, a proportion of this funding is set aside at the start of the financial year to support a number of 'core services'. A proportion of funding is also made available to support ad-hoc projects and initiatives and on this basis the PCC has agreed to the following funding requests:

## 2.0 Agreed funding

### 3.0 North Surrey Domestic Abuse Services: DA Outreach Advocate

- 2.1 To support the continuation of the Domestic Abuse Outreach Advocate pilot. This DA Specialist works alongside officers in the Area Policing Teams (APT) and Safeguarding Investigation Unit (SIU) to provide an enhanced level of support to survivors of domestic abuse, whilst supporting the professional development of officers and staff. Data for the previous year of operation shows a clear increase in positive outcomes and the number of offences being classified as high and medium risk.

**Total:** £25,000

### 2.2 RASASC: (multiple)

- 2.3 To support a 'bank' of qualified trauma counsellors who can help to support survivors of rape and sexual abuse. RASASC does not currently have enough volunteer counsellors with the specialist skills to deliver specialist trauma counselling. Whilst initial counselling assessments are currently undertaken very quickly, the waiting list for commencement of counselling sessions now exceeds 12 months. During this time the mental health of victims tends to decline further and their chance of overcoming the trauma is reduced.

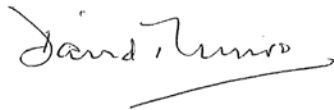
- 2.4 This project will address the problem by developing a 'bank' system. This will see the recruitment of 6 counsellors who have the skills and flexibility to deliver professional trauma counselling to highly vulnerable clients for up-to twenty-six sessions. RASASC's Trustee Board have approved funding for a further six, so combined with OPCC funding brings the total number to 12.

**Total:** £19,720

### **3.0 Police and Crime Commissioner Approval**

I approve the recommendations as detailed in **Section 2.0** of this report.

**Signature:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Tunno", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

**Date:** 14/3/2018

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

## **Areas of consideration**

### **Consultation**

Consultation has taken place with appropriate lead officers depending on the application. All applications have been asked to supply evidence of any consultation and community engagement.

### **Financial implications**

All applications have been asked to supply accurate financial information including the total costs of the project with breakdown where the money will be spent; any additional funding secured or applied for and plans for on-going funding.

### **Legal**

Legal advice is taken on an application by application basis, although this was not required in this instance.

### **Risks**

No risks identified.

### **Equality and diversity**

Each application will be requested to supply appropriate equality and diversity information as part of the monitoring requirements. All applicants are expected to adhere to the Equality Act 2010

### **Risks to human rights**

Each application will be requested to supply appropriate human rights information as part of the monitoring requirements. All applicants are expected to adhere to the Human Rights Act.

### **Data protection and safeguarding**

Applicants must comply with the current national and local legal framework with regard adult and child safeguarding, information sharing, and data protection including compliance with Local Safeguarding Children Board's policies and procedures and any obligations that may ensue as a result of a child being made subject to a Child Protection Plan.