



**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Executive

**Date:** 13 April 2021

## **VICTIM SERVICES AWARDS 2020/21 & 2021/22**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to share with the Business Co-ordination Board (the “Board”) details of all funding awarded from the Ministry of Justice (the “MoJ”) ‘Victim Services Fund’ in 2020/21.
- 1.2 To highlight the additional MoJ funding awarded for 2021/22 for providers of domestic abuse and sexual violence support services and share a revised list of awards for this financial year.

### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report.

### **3. Victim Services Awards**

- 3.1 The **Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004, Section 56** gives the Ministry of Justice the power to ‘pay such grants to such persons as he considers appropriate in connection with measures which appear to him to be intended to assist victims, witnesses or other persons affected by offences.’ Police and Crime Commissioners (the “Commissioners”) have the power under the **Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 Section 143** to provide or commission services or grant (subject to any conditions). Commissioners are given an annual ‘grant’ for this purpose.
- 3.2 The Acting Police and Crime Commissioner (the “Acting Commissioner”) secured a number of **additional funding streams** for victim support services during 2020/21. This included:
  - Extraordinary Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Funding of £375,747 – a full list of the award recipients is attached at Appendix 2.

- An uplift to Cambridgeshire’s Rape Support Fund allocation of £216,739 – bringing the amount to £389,979 for 2020/21. The county is one of five areas taking part in a Home Office test to see if local devolution creates more responsive services. The test has been extended by a year (due to the impact of Covid) and will end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
  - Cambridgeshire’s successful bid for extra Independent Sexual Violence Advocates (ISVAs) of £108,125.
- 3.3 A final list of all victim services awards made in 2020/21 is attached at Appendix 1. This includes an award made in March 2021 by the Acting Commissioner to enable a local charity to develop its support offerings to adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.
- 4. Future awards 2021/22**
- 4.1 A list of indicative funding awards for 2021/22 were brought to this Board in January 2021. In early February the MoJ finally confirmed the Victim Services budget which was a total award of £1,538,619 and included:
- Core funding of **£996,552** (which had been budgeted for).
  - An additional **£193,014** (for one year only) to fund domestic abuse and sexual violence support services. These awards were made based on local assessment of need and demand and will enable grass roots organisations to continue their local work. The successful providers are included within the Victim Services Awards 2021/22 list at **Appendix 3**.
  - Cambridgeshire’s Rape Support Fund Allocation of £236,554 (this was uplifted by £63,304 for 2021/22).
  - Year two funding for Cambridgeshire’s successful bid for extra ISVAs (awarded in 2020) of £112,500.
- 4.2 The February letter from the MoJ also invited areas to bid for additional two-year funding for ISVAs and Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) (on top of previously successful ISVA bids). At the time of writing this report the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) had not been informed whether the bid for eight posts had been successful.
- 4.3 Two further ‘bid for’ funds are being released in May 2021: Extra funding to support men and boys who experience sexual abuse and a critical support fund for services with significant waiting lists. The countywide Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Delivery Group intends to support OPCC bids into both funds.
- 5. Recommendation**
- 5.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

<b>Source Document</b>	'Approach to Commissioning and Grants.' Agenda Item 9.0 Business Coordination Board, 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 <a href="https://s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/media.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/uploads/2021/01/21-01-20-BCB-Agenda-Item-9.0-OPCC-Approach-to-Commissioning-and-Grants.pdf">https://s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/media.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/uploads/2021/01/21-01-20-BCB-Agenda-Item-9.0-OPCC-Approach-to-Commissioning-and-Grants.pdf</a>
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