

## **Police and Crime Commissioner COVID-19 Extraordinary Funding**

### **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence**

#### **Questions and Answers**

**1. Which organisations are eligible for COVID-19 extraordinary Ministry of Justice (MoJ) funding for Domestic Abuse (DA) and Sexual Violence (SV) support services?**

To be eligible for the funding, organisations must be a registered charity, a charitable incorporated organisation, or a social enterprise, including companies limited by guarantee and community interest companies in England and Wales. They must also provide tailored support services to help victims of DA and/or SV cope with the impacts of crime, and, as far as possible, recover from the harm they have experienced.

**2. What can organisations spend this money on?**

Funding can be used to provide support to domestic abuse and sexual violence victims and their families. Support services could include, but are not limited to:

- IDVAs/ ISVAs;
- CHIDVAs/ CHISVAs;
- court support;
- face to face or remote counselling for individuals and/or their families; and
- support for particular groups such as BAME/Disabled/LGBT victims

Funding can be used to address short term income disruption where organisations are unable to take advantage of existing government measures.

Funding can be used to meet essential costs of sustaining current activities, such as the move to remote working and digital rather than face to face offer.

Funding can be used to address increased demand, including adapting services to address more immediate beneficiary needs in light of COVID-19.

For example, funding could be used for:

- Short-term contracts for additional staff up to 31 October 2020 (or earlier).
- Additional expenditure on existing staff (for example overtime or increased hours), lasting up to 31 October 2020 (or earlier)
- Purchase of new equipment, for example laptops and mobile phones, to allow staff to work from home
- Online platforms through which to deliver support or counselling
- Essential spend on existing staff and equipment which can no longer be met during the lockdown because of reduced access to usual sources of funding.

This list is not exhaustive, further details will be set out in Covid-19 specific grant agreements with PCCs, conditions of which must be adhered to when allocating funds. Any spend that organisations commit to beyond the six-month period must be met through their own funds.

**3. Are there any restrictions on how PCCs can spend the funding?**

In line with usual government grants, PCCs must ensure that organisations **do not** use the funding for any of the following activities:

- campaigning activities (this fund is to support the delivery of direct services for vulnerable people);
- religious activities outside of projects benefiting the wider community and not containing religious content;
- political or lobbying activities;
- loan repayments; or
- activities that make profit for private gain

Funding must not be used for capital works e.g. building repairs but can be used for other capital costs such as ICT equipment to enhance your communications and help reach local people.

Funding cannot be used to pay for goods or services that have been bought or ordered before the 24 March 2020, start of lockdown.

Funding cannot be used to pay for any outstanding debts, which an organisation incurred prior to 24 March 2020.

**4. My service/organisation receives funding for SV services both from the PCC and the MoJ Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund. Do I need to submit a funding request to the PCC as well as a funding request to MoJ for different elements of our service?**

Yes, you will need to submit a funding request to the national Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund to cover COVID-19 related costs associated with the services usually funded by the national Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund, and to the PCC for COVID-19 related costs associated with the services usually funded by the PCC.

**5. Some of our technology, such as laptops and virtual platforms, are used across services that funded by both the PCC and the national Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund. Which fund should I request funding from to cover these costs?**

You can request funding for items that are used across services provided through both commissioners from either fund, however you must only submit a funding request to one fund for this equipment. You must not request funding from both pots for the same equipment.

**6. Can funding requests be made to multiple government funds?**

Whilst organisations can request funding from any of the funding pots, you cannot receive funding for the same purpose from multiple pots e.g. if an organisation is allocated funding via a PCC for purchasing IT equipment to enable remote working, the organisation cannot then request funding for further IT equipment from one of the other government funding pots. They could, however, request funding for counselling sessions from a different fund, as this has not already been requested elsewhere.

**7. If I am a centre based in a PCC area that provides local support, but I am one centre of a larger organisation which has a more national footprint, should I request funding from the PCC administered fund or the Home Office administered fund?**

If you provide local services exclusively within one PCC area, but are part of a larger, more national organisation, you should request funding through your PCC.

You may operate an exclusively local service, but have a national helpline, in which case you can request funding from the PCC for the local service, and the Home Office for the national service. You must not request funding from both pots for the same thing.

**8. Can we use the funding to support victims of other types of crime?**

COVID-19 extraordinary MoJ funding has been ringfenced to provide tailored provision for domestic abuse and sexual violence victims only.

**9. What do you mean by PCC area?**

We mean the Humberside area which takes in Hull, the East Riding of Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire. There are 42 Police and Crime Commissioner areas across England and Wales with the same boundaries as their respective Police Forces.

**10. Are 'honour based' (which includes forced marriage and FGM) abuse charities eligible for domestic abuse funding?**

Honour based abuse falls within the government definition for domestic abuse. Any organisation that provides tailored support to victims of domestic abuse and their families is recognised as a domestic abuse support service.

**11. Are stalking charities eligible for domestic abuse funding?**

Stalking carried out by a former intimate partner or by a family member falls within the government definition for domestic abuse. Any organisation that provides tailored support to victims of domestic abuse and their families is recognised as a domestic abuse support service.

**12. I run a service that sits near the boundaries of three different PCC areas and my service covers users in all of those PCC areas. Should I request funding from the Home Office or through PCCs? If PCCs, which one?**

As your service is covering a local area, and all your users are local to the service, you should request funding from PCCs.

You should request funding from the PCC in which you are physical situated, unless you have pre-existing funding relationships with multiple PCCs, in which case you should request funding through each of them for the elements they already fund, as you would in a usual funding cycle.

**13. I provide a national service, but I have a base in just one PCC area. Do I request funding from the Home Office or my PCC?**

As your service is national, you should request funding from the Home Office.

**14. I am an organisation delivering services to my local community, and also a national service. Should I request funding from the Home Office or the PCC?**

You should request funding from the Home Office for the national service and the PCC for the local one.

**15. I run a service which is based in one PCC area, but supports victims across a number of PCC areas and who are not concentrated in one local area. Do I request funding from the Home Office or my PCC?**

As your service is covering a wide geographical area over a number of different PCC areas, and not all your users are local to the service, you should request funding from the Home Office.

**16. Is the £3m additional funding for Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVAs) on top of the £1m already announced this year?**

Yes. This is additional funding to recruit more ISVAs to enable local flexibility and coverage. More information will follow shortly

If you have any further enquiries about applying, please contact Robbie Walker-Brown at the PCC's Office at [robbie.walker-brown@humberside.pnn.police.uk](mailto:robbie.walker-brown@humberside.pnn.police.uk)