

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE  
DECISION RECORD**

Decision Record Number **37/2024**

Title **Additional ISVA Fund 2024/25**

**Executive Summary**

Humberside OPCC have been successful in a grant application to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The total grant of £94,500 and is over 1 annual period. The grant is to enhance the provision Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA) in the community, supporting victims of Sexual violence. The grant enables additional resilience within the ISVA service, currently commissioned via the Blue Door CiC.

**Decision of the PCC**

That Humberside OPCC fund the Blue Door an additional £94,500 to recruit additional ISVA's to work in partnership with key stakeholders in delivery of interventions and support for victims of sexual violence.

**Background Report: Open**

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside**

I confirm I have considered whether I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.

Any such interests are recorded below.

The above decision has my approval.

**Signature**



**Date 12/11/2024**

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE**

**SUBMISSION FOR: DECISION**

**OPEN**

**Title: Additional ISVA Fund 24/25**

**Date:5/11/24**

**1. Executive Summary**

Humberside OPCC have been successful in a grant application to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The total grant of £94,500 and is over 1 annual period. The grant is to enhance the provision Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA) in the community, supporting victims of Sexual violence. The grant enables additional resilience within the ISVA service, currently commissioned via the Blue Door CIC.

**2. Recommendation(s)**

It is recommended that Humberside OPCC fund the Blue Door an additional £94,500 to recruit additional ISVA's to work in partnership with key stakeholders in delivery of interventions and support for victims of sexual violence.

**3. Background**

- 3.1 The purpose of this funding is to increase advocacy support for victims and survivors of sexual violence (SV), including children and to support the recruitment of a resilient ISVA workforce, reducing caseloads, waiting times and enabling enhanced case management for vulnerable victims.
- 3.2 In 2023/24 Police and Crime Commissioners were requested to provide the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) with a local needs assessment, to support decision making in funding additional ISVA's. Humberside OPCC received an additional £94,500. This funding was profiled within the re commissioning of the ISVA service in 2023/24.
- 3.3 The fund has been repeated for 2024/25 in addition to the successful application in 2023/24, granting Humberside with an additional £94,500 and 1.5 WTE ISVA. There are no assurances for the future provision of this fund (Beyond March 2025), and as such the posts will be fixed term.
- 3.4 Funding decisions have been based on adherence to Humberside needs assessment and ISVA service specification, seeking to fill identified gaps in service for children, young people, families, and protected characteristics.

3.5 The additional funding will contribute towards to wider service delivery objectives of the Blue Door service:

- Deliver ISVA and counselling services appropriate to survivors' wants and needs within a person-centred, trauma informed approach.
- Provide high-quality, timely and accurate information to service users and key stakeholders about their care and support options, to ensure that service users are fully involved in decisions about their care and support.
- Maximise the use of the justice system in holding perpetrators to account and increasing personal and public safety. Working effectively with all existing stakeholders, including sexual violence and abuse services, criminal justice system agencies and the wider community.
- Provide Clear access and contact points for survivors across a continuum of need, including acute, non-acute, recent, and non-recent cases in Humberside.
- Collaborate with domestic abuse services, leads and stakeholders in liaison with NHS services, SARC and mental health care providers to ensure best care for service users and exit strategies from support.
- Co-locate services with key stakeholders to ensure equitable access and engagement
- Target service promotion into hidden populations and multi-agency approaches on national and local police initiatives, VAWG plan.
- Support and enable peer led recovery groups and service user involvement that informs service development and improvement cycle, regular reporting to demonstrate achievement of outcomes, goals in relation to service user wants, accessibility, safeguarding, coping and improved service user wellbeing.
- Provide training and awareness for partner agencies and frontline staff to understand the needs of survivors and assist them in responding appropriately to access relevant support and services.
- Support referrals into appropriate community based and voluntary sector support services, i.e., housing, employment, financial advice, parenting advice.
- Aid service users to use self-help materials, recovery toolkits, accessibility, and neurodiversity.
- Provide contract and performance data to ensure services and specifications are fit for purpose.
- Deliver successfully against the Victim's Law and Humberside Police and Crime Plan Indicators of Performance.

#### 4. Options

##### 1) Award the additional grant:

This option is recommended because it allows the OPCC and the respective Partnership collaboration to proceed and bring increased value, resilient service provision and evidence-based interventions to the Humber region.

This option enables identified need to be met and obligations detailed within section 3 of this report.

##### 2) Do not award contract:

This option is not recommended:

- Does not represent any added value.
- Reputation risk to the OPCC and partnership collaboration by not meeting MoJ grant and Victims Law obligations/Victim and Prisoners Bill/Police and Crime Plan Priorities and meet highly prioritised services for victims.
- Reputational risk in terms of stakeholder expectations.
- The market landscape is limited and there aren't any alternative providers enabled to deliver ISVA services.

#### 5. Financial Implications (Seek financial advice from Chief or Deputy Chief or Deputy Chief Finance Officer)

The grant offer is an annual commitment from the MoJ, the value of the additional grant is £94,500 and is within the ceiling of OPCC standing orders.

#### 6. Legal Implications (Seek advice from Legal Services)

None

#### 7. Driver for Change/Contribution to Delivery of the Police and Crime Plan

This investment will contribute directly to aims one and two of the Police and Crime Plan through:

- **Engaged, resilient and inclusive communities:** communities are confident that they can access support, receive a proportionate, speedy, and effective outcome and sense of justice.
- **Safer Communities:** The service provides specific safety information to service users, whilst also raising awareness within the criminal justice system about the safety options and risks facing victims.
- **Effective organisations:** Liaising and advocating with a range of criminal justice system agencies, enabling the system work better for local communities. The aim is to enhance the criminal justice system and in particular the police response to all victims, working together and providing a multi-agency approach to the support, advocacy, and communication with victims.

- 8. Equalities Implications (Have due regard to the Public Section Equality Duty)**  
Full EIA has been completed as part of the ISVA service commissioning (ITT).
- 9. Consultation**  
Extensive consultation has taken place to inform the specification, not least between:
  - Marketplace and visioning event held in May 2023.
  - Op Soteria group and Humberside RaSSO team
- 10. Media information (Seek advice from Communications Officer)**  
Publicity opportunity and service promotion regarding ISVA service.
- 11. Background documents (This will be published if open)**  
None
- 12. Publication**  
Open
- 13. DPIA considered (Data Protection Officer will complete full checklist)**  
Yes, completed in full with the service mobilisation in April 2024.