



## THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

### DECISION RECORD FORM

**Request:** For Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) approval.

**Title:** Ministry of Justice (MoJ) Strategic Commissioning Fund

#### **Executive Summary:**

In December 2025, the government launched the Strategic Commissioning Fund to support OPCCs to strengthen their commissioning practices and improve the capacity and/or resilience of commissioned victim support services. The fund was a one-off payment of up to £40,000 which must be spent by 31 March 2026.

Cleveland OPCC successfully bid for funding to support three separate projects:

#### **Communications campaign to increase awareness of generic victim support service – Safer Communities Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS) - £10,000 (Silver Lining Animation Ltd, Safer Communities)**

- Animation focusing on the services and support that victims of Hate Crime can receive from VCAS
- The creation / use of attractive crime specific materials that can be used to promote the Safer Communities VCAS service in accessible and high-crime locations
- Promotional materials to raise awareness of the service and support available
- Targeted social media advertising based on data collected through the exercise referred to above.

#### **Power BI and Microsoft Excel staff training - £5,000 (Four Square)**

OPCC team to upskill around the development and use of Microsoft Excel and Power BI. This will enable the team to have confidence in creating victim services data dashboards that will support and strengthen contract and performance arrangements, enabling greater oversight, scrutiny and comparison of service data that can support future reporting and decision making.

#### **Development work to inform the establishing of a Lived Experience Victims Panel - £25,000 (Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency)**

To reach and understand the needs and views of those victims that do not engage with traditional organisations or victim services, commission a provider to identify participants, provide support and develop a Lived Experience Victims Panel. This will ensure a more representative victims' voice perspective in local commissioning, policy work and decision-making where victim experience is impacted.

**Decision:** To approve the allocation of £40,000.00 funding from the MoJ Strategic Commissioning Fund to support the delivery of the above three projects.

**OPCC Lead Officer:** Sarah Wilson

**Contractor Details (if applicable):** As set out in decision

**Implications:**

Has consideration been taken of the following:	Yes	No	
Financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality & Diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**(If yes please provide further details below)**

**Decision Required – Supporting Information**

Financial Implications: (Must include comments of the PCC's Chief Finance Officer where the decision has financial implications)

The proposals set out within this Decision Record Form are in line with the specific requirements of this additional funding that has been awarded to the PCC.

Legal Implications: (Must include comments of the Monitoring Officer where the decision has legal implication)

No legal implications arising.

Equality and Diversity Implications:

None arising.

Human Rights Implications:

None arise.

Sustainability Implications:

This is a one off funding stream, therefore each of the projects are designed to offer sustainability in terms of staff training, public awareness of services and embedded processes around lived experience.

Risk Management Implications:

None arising.

**OFFICER APPROVAL**

**Monitoring Officer:**

I have been consulted about the decision and confirm that financial, legal, and equalities advice has been taken into account. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signed



Date 06.02.26

**Police and Crime Commissioner:**

The above request HAS my approval.



Signed

Date 09.02.26