



Ministry  
of Justice

# Ministry of Justice Funding for Critical Support and Male Rape Support Services

Police and Crime Commissioner  
Funding Allocation Guidance

June 2021

## Background

1. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has announced two funds for:
  - Critical Support (for domestic abuse (DA) or sexual violence (SV) services)
  - Male Rape Support Services
2. Our aim is to ensure that the funding is allocated across the sector in England and Wales, reaching support organisations of all sizes and those with the greatest need.
3. This guidance covers the criteria and process for bidding into these additional funds. Please note that PCCs can submit bids to both funds at the same time using the relevant proforma.

<b>Critical Support Fund</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community-based support (£1.5m)</li><li>• ISVA/IDVA roles (£1.3m)</li></ul>	£2.8m
<b>Male Rape Support Service Fund</b>	£1.4m

## General Conditions

4. This funding will be subject to the same conditions as set out in the guidance titled “Ministry of Justice Funding for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Support Services” (February 2021) (“February Guidance”). This is attached as Annex B.
5. PCCs will need to undertake appropriate due diligence and fraud risk assessments in relation to organisations they fund through this allocation. **They are not required to undertake a full competitive bid process.**
6. PCCs are not required to conduct further engagement or new needs assessments but may utilise existing information gained from the previous exercises completed for the DA/SV uplifts and ISVA/IDVA EOI.
7. Organisations do not need to be currently funded by MoJ or the PCC.

## Ineligible Expenditure

8. Per Cabinet Office guidelines, none of this funding can support:
  - 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 outstanding debts; or
  - activities that make profit for private gain.

9. 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.
10. Funding for support for victims of domestic abuse in safe accommodation is subject to a separate funding process run by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). **MoJ funding must not be used to provide accommodation-based services.**
11. **Funding cannot be used for victims of any crime types** other than those listed in this document.
12. Funding must be spent within the relevant grant funding period.

## Critical Support Fund

13. The aim of this funding is to meet **any exceptional or additional need that cannot be met through existing allocations. £1.5m** is available for **community-based sexual violence and domestic abuse support (such as local helplines, counselling etc., but excluding ISVAs and IDVAs)** for this financial year - until March 2022. **£1.3m** is available exclusively for the recruitment of ISVAs and IDVAs and committed for two years until March 2023.

### Eligibility

14. To be eligible for this funding, the organisation must provide tailored support to all victims who have experienced DA or SV at any point in their life. This includes adults and children. The funding can be used to support existing clients as well as new referrals. This is exceptional funding and can be used for DA and SV community-based services or ISVAs and IDVAs (subject to which pot is bid into); however, it should be used only for core service capacity.
15. Organisations must be based in England and Wales. Organisations do not need to be a registered charity, a charitable incorporated organisation, or a social enterprise, including companies limited by guarantee and community interest companies, to be eligible for this funding. They must, however, provide support services which have the purpose of helping victims of SV or DA cope with the impacts of crime, and, as far as possible, recover from the harm they have experienced. Services must be free at the point of delivery.
16. Bids will be accepted for both funds from the same organisation as long as it is made clear what funding would be spent on ISVA/IDVA provision and what would be spent on community-based services. PCCs may submit bids to the Critical Support Fund for male SV services; however, these will only be considered if they demonstrate exceptional need. PCCs should highlight any duplicate bids for the Male Rape Support Service Fund.

### Evaluation Criteria (Community-based services)

17. This funding should be used for DA and SV organisations (in line with the conditions set out in the February Guidance) and be focused on community-based support **excluding ISVA and IDVA services**. Given the funding available, PCCs should consider priority of bids and the impact that additional funding will make at this time.
18. **Funding must be used to meet increased demand and not for development or transformational purposes**. This can include, but is not limited to, core staffing costs that cannot be met by any other current funding stream and known future funding streams, additional staff costs, service costs, and digital equipment to support better home-working and remote services.
19. All bids will be assessed on:
- local assessment of need and how it cannot be met through existing funding streams;
  - the impact of this funding i.e. how this will meet unmet need and help to support an increased number of DA and SV victims; and
  - assurance that this funding can be spent within the grant period.
20. The following outcomes should be met by this funding:
- Reduced waiting times for DA and SV victims, meaning they are able to access the support they need, when they need it, within their local area;
  - Reduced caseloads to safe and manageable levels; and
  - Service providers are better equipped to meet increased demand for DA and SV services, and to provide a high-quality service to victims.

### Evaluation Criteria (ISVA/IDVAs)

21. Please refer to the outcomes and evaluation criteria as set out in the February Guidance, which will be applied to this funding.
22. In addition, MoJ will consider how posts cannot be met by existing allocations and will use the previously supplied information of need to assess bids. Previous posts considered to be ineligible will **not** be reconsidered. If there is any further or updated information, PCCs should submit this as part of their bid.

### Application

23. PCCs must complete the attached proforma and return to [victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk](mailto:victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk) by **12pm Friday 25 June**. The full allocation timetable is set out below.

## **Male Rape Support Service Fund**

24. The primary purpose of the service bidding must be to provide specialist support to men and boys who have experienced rape or sexual abuse at any point in their life.

Eligibility and evaluation criteria have been set out in **Annex A** and can be shared with providers. **£1.4m** is available for **one year only** (until 31 March 2022).

25. While there will not be a formal cap placed on the amount a single organisation can bid for, we require all bids to demonstrate that they are scalable.

### Application

26. **Those organisations already in receipt of a direct grant from the MoJ Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund should submit their application directly to the MoJ.** They will receive the application guidance under separate cover.

27. If an organisation is not already in receipt of a direct grant from the MoJ Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund but meets the published criteria, these organisations may submit bids through PCCs. **PCCs should collate local bids from providers and submit to the MoJ.** PCCs may prioritise bids; however, quality will be the primary consideration in the assessment.

28. PCCs will be asked to check that bids meet the stated eligibility, but all bids should be submitted to MoJ for further consideration. **No bids should be filtered out by the PCC at this stage.**

29. PCCs should submit bids utilising the attached proforma to [victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk](mailto:victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk) by **12pm Friday 25 June.**

### **Allocation Timeline**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>3 June</b>	Funds open
<b>25 June 12pm</b>	Deadline for submitting bids to the Critical Support Fund and Male Rape Support Service Fund
<b>w/c 19 July</b>	Funding offers communicated to PCCs and grant addendums to follow
<b>Late July – early Aug</b>	Grant addendums signed by PCC areas and returned to MoJ
<b>August</b>	Payments start

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Critical Support Fund

### **1. Which organisations are eligible for this funding?**

Organisations must provide community-based 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. This funding can be allocated to other public bodies, as well as to third sector organisations and to fund directly commissioned posts, as long as this can be justified within the local needs assessment and funding criteria.

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

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

- Court or family support
- Face to face or remote counselling for individuals and/or their families
- Support for particular groups such as BAME/disabled/LGBT/male victims.

Funding allocations must adhere to the grant conditions in grant agreements.

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

No. This funding has been ringfenced to provide tailored provision for domestic abuse and sexual violence victims only.

### **4. Are 'honour based' abuse charities (including forced marriage and FGM) 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.

### **5. 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.

### **6. Will the MoJ require PCCs to evidence spend and impact of this funding for domestic abuse and sexual violence support services?**

Yes. PCCs will be asked to report as set out in the grant agreement for mid-year and end of year returns.

## **7. How long is the duration of this fund?**

The community-based services element will be for one year until 31 March 2022. The ISVA/IDVA element will be for a period of 2 years until 31 March 2023.

## **8. How will the bids be evaluated?**

The bids will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria outlined in this document.

## **9. What reporting requirements will be required?**

Grant recipients will be asked to report as set out in the grant agreement for mid-year and end of year returns.

## **10. How do we submit bids?**

Bids must be submitted to [victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk](mailto:victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk) using the attached proforma for the Critical Support Fund by **12pm on Friday 25 June**.

Please ensure the name of your PCC area is detailed on the bid and in the subject line of your email.

## **Male Rape Support Service Fund**

### **11. Why are you focusing on expanding the availability of male support?**

Year on year, more male survivors have the confidence to come forward and report to the police, and men are increasingly seeking support from voluntary sector services. Through this bidding process we want to ensure specialist sexual violence services are equipped to deliver quality services that meet the specific needs of men and boys, and to respond to demand arising as a result of the pandemic. This bidding process forms part of a holistic funding package for sexual violence services, including additional investment in community-based sexual violence services (including ISVAs) and national remote services.

### **12. Can I bid for funding if working in partnership to offer support across PCC boundaries or on a regional basis?**

Yes. Though significant increased funding has already been provided to community-based sexual violence support services, we recognise that some organisations providing services over a wide geographical area cannot easily apply to a single local commissioner for funding.

This fund is therefore open to collaborative bids either within or across PCC boundaries.

There are no restrictions on the type of partnership, so we welcome partnership proposals that aim to improve collaboration and joined up working between commissioners, service

providers and community organisations to provide better support male victims of sexual abuse.

**13. As part of this bid, can services request funding to progress accreditation for male services?**

No. The funding is specifically intended for the delivery of support services for male victims of sexual violence and sexual abuse. It **cannot be used toward the costs of accreditation for quality standards.**

**14. What reporting requirements will be required?**

Grant recipients will be asked to report as set out in the grant agreement for mid-year, a checkpoint review in January 2022, and end of year returns.

**15. How do we submit bids?**

Bids must be submitted to [victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk](mailto:victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk) using the attached proforma for the Male Rape Support Service Fund **by 12pm on Friday 25 June.**

Please ensure the name of your PCC is detailed on the bid and in the subject line of your email.

**16. How will the male funding be confirmed and distributed?**

As soon as the funding outcome is confirmed, grant funding offer letters will be issued to confirm the level of funding. Subject to acceptance of the offer letter, the Ministry of Justice will issue grants in the following way:

- If the organisation is a rape support service and already in receipt of a MoJ Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund grant from the MoJ, then we will issue a grant addendum notice to their existing grant;
- If the organisation is a provider in one of the five devolved sexual violence commissioning test areas (Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hampshire, MOPAC/London and Nottinghamshire) or a new provider that does not have an existing rape support service grant awarded by the MoJ, funding will be delivered through the PCC via an addendum to the existing Local Commissioning of Victims' Support Services Grant between the MoJ and PCC.

Once all of the above documentation has been signed and returned payment will be made in accordance with the payment schedule (to be agreed at a later date).



## ANNEX A

### MALE RAPE SUPPORT SERVICE FUND ELIGIBILITY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. This Fund is open to MoJ directly commissioned services (those in receipt of grants from the Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund) and PCC commissioned and non-commissioned specialist services (i.e. those not currently receiving grant funding from either MoJ or a PCC, but who can evidence they meet the criteria of the Fund).
2. Proposals must be focused on the delivery of high-quality specialist sexual violence services to meet the specific needs of men and boys, and aim to respond to demand arising as a result of the pandemic.
3. As well as considering bids from individual providers, we will also consider partnership/collaborative bids, including those that seek to cover more than one geographical area.
4. £1.4m is available for **this financial year only**, until 31 March 2022. While there is no formal cap on the amount a single organisation can bid for, we require all bids to demonstrate they are scalable.
5. Bids should be submitted to [victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk](mailto:victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk) by **12pm on Friday 25 June**.

#### Eligibility

6. To be eligible for this funding, the organisation must currently provide support specifically tailored to meet the needs of male victims of rape and sexual abuse, including recent and non-recent child sexual abuse. Organisations must have a proven track record of effectively supporting male survivors, ideally over several years, and be able to evidence how funding will enable more male survivors to be supported.
7. Priority will be to allocate funding to trauma-informed sexual violence support services, rather than to generic mental health services.
8. Bids must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:
  - a) The service must be able to provide specialist support to **male victims** who have experienced rape or sexual abuse at any point in their life. This includes specialist male-only organisations, as well as organisations that support all genders and whose offer includes tailored support for men and boys.
  - b) The organisation must be a registered, independent charity and/or a service that operates in the public interest.

- c) The organisation must be not for profit.
- d) Services must be free at the point of delivery.
- e) Services must be independent of the Police and the Criminal Justice System.
- f) The organisation must ensure it meets and maintains current national standards<sup>1</sup> for quality and best practice throughout the Funding Period.

## Evaluation Criteria

9. Bids will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

- **Need** – the proposal must address unmet need for men and boys as a result of the pandemic; bids should indicate how many victims will benefit from the support offered.
- **Specialism** – understanding of the gender-specific needs of male victims and survivors of sexual violence and abuse; experience of providing tailored sexual violence support to men and boys.
- **Delivery of a high-quality service** – service providers must evidence the skills and capacity to deliver effective support programmes and interventions to enable men and boys to cope and recover from their experiences.
- **Ability to deliver** the proposed support as soon as possible and demonstrate the ability to spend the grant monies in the period for which they are allocated (i.e. by 31 March 2022).
- **Value for money.**

## Outcomes

10. This Fund seeks to deliver the following outcomes:

- Male survivors have access to high quality services that are sensitive and responsive to the gender specific needs of men and boys.
- Service providers are better equipped to provide a high quality and bespoke support offer for men and boys.

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<sup>1</sup> At the time of competition, national standards include those established by The Male Survivors Partnership, The Survivors Trust and Rape Crisis England and Wales.

- Male survivors are empowered to identify and report what a positive outcome of the support would be for them and this is captured by the service.