



Reference No: 26-2015

THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST:

Funding approval for the provision of an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate from 1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016.

Title:

My Sisters Place - Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA)

Executive Summary:

Historically the Ministry for Justice (MOJ) has provided funding to My Sisters Place for the provision of one full time senior IDVA post. From 1 October 2014 this funding for victims of crime was transferred to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to commission victims services locally.

Following a review of commissioned services locally it was recommended that the PCC continue to fund those areas previously funded by the MOJ until 31 March 2015. This was agreed (Decision Ref 54 - 2014).

Furthermore, the need for IDVA provision to support high-risk victims across the Cleveland area is imperative in safeguarding victims. It has therefore been agreed to continue this grant funding for a further 12 months from 1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016 based on the attached business case.

The IDVA Service will be available to victims of domestic abuse across Cleveland as part of the network of IDVA's funded or part funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Decision:

To award My Sisters Place £41,855 for the provision of one full time senior IDVA from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

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 CFO where the decision has financial implications)

The PCC has sufficient funds in the 2015/16 budget to support this case.

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

Equality and Diversity Implications

The grant will support victims from all areas and communities within Cleveland

Human Rights Implications

None arise

Sustainability Implications

The grant is sustainable for the 2015/16 financial year.

Risk Management Implications

None arise

OFFICER APPROVAL**Chief Executive**

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: _____

5/3/15

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS / DOES NOT HAVE my approval.

Signed: _____



Date: _____

5/3/15



Fund Application Form

Date of application

Becky rogeron

12/22/2014

Please tick

Application for Grant Funding	X
Application for Property Act Funding <i>[must be for charitable and non-policing activities and events]</i>	
Application for Community Safety Initiative Funding	

Completed forms should be emailed to pcc@cleveland.pnn.police.uk.
Details provided within this application form will be published on the PCC website at www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk.

Section 1 – Basic bid information

Contact details

Please make sure that this person knows **all** aspects of your project and is able to talk about it if required

Title:	Ms	First Name:	[REDACTED]	Last Name:	[REDACTED]
Role/Position in organisation:	Chief Officer				
Organisation Name:	My Sisters Place				
Organisation Address:	123, Borough Road				
	Middlesbrough				
	Postcode:	TS1 3AN			
Email address:	[REDACTED]				
Website:	mysistersplace.org.uk				

In the case of a joint bid, please list all organisations and agencies involved as well as all key individuals.

Organisation Name	Organisation Address	Contact name and details

How would you best describe your organisation?

Registered Charity Registration Number:

- Voluntary or community organisation/group
- Self help group/forum
- Company limited by guarantee
- Social Enterprise
- Local Authority
- Other

If other please clarify:

Aims and objectives of your organisation(s)

Please provide a summary of your organisation(s) aims and objectives in no more than 300 words.

My Sisters Place is a specialist domestic violence service established in 2002 under the Home Office Crime Reduction initiative. Now an independent Charity dealing with approx. 1,500 referrals a year; we provide a range of needs led services.

Our purpose

- To deliver accessible, effective, specialist services that are informed and evaluated by service users experiences promoting individual freedom and quality of life.
- To promote and secure equality of access to safety, justice, health and wellbeing, and campaign for change to shape future policy and practice.
- To work with the wider community through education and community involvement to create a cultural shift in attitude to domestic abuse, and better equip families to protect their members.

Section 2 – Strategy Statement

Brief description of proposed initiative or service (in no more than 300 words)

Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) – Middlesbrough

This initiative sits within a 'One Stop Shop' approach to supporting victims of domestic violence from the point of access, through our 'same day response' duty team, to achieving Safety, Social Justice and improved Health and Well Being. This post focusses on High Risk domestic violence cases working closely with Cleveland Police to provide Advocacy within Criminal and Civil Court processes; practical support and advice to progress criminal cases; Victim Personal statements to assist the Courts in Sentencing Offenders; arranging Special measures; and meeting a range of practical needs to enhance safety and increase confidence in the criminal justice system. The post also delivers a 'DIY' Injunction service for women unable to access legal Aid and we facilitate a weekly Legal surgery provided by local Family Law Firms. My Sisters Place holds Caada Leading Lights accreditation; all our IDVA's are Caada CAT trained ensuring a best practice approach.

Which geographical area(s) will benefit most from your initiative for which this application relates. Please tick all boxes which apply:

Redcar and Cleveland

Stockton

Middlesbrough

X

Hartlepool

Stakeholders

Who will benefit from the proposed initiative or service (in no more than 300 words).

My Sisters Place provides services to women 16 years of age and over. In 2014 we supported 924 cases within the centre; 80% from Middlesbrough, 8% Stockton, 8% Redcar 4% Other area. Of these, 648 were new referrals, 256 (27%) were repeat referrals (remainder were open cases). This post will directly support a minimum of 100 victims (National Standard for IDVA Caseloads) and as a One Stop Shop, we are able to use our resources cost effectively and across disciplines – beneficiaries therefore also have access to 1 to 1 counselling, Sanctuary Scheme, Support/Educational groups. This ‘integrated’ approach is proving highly effective and in a 2014 evaluation of this approach demonstrated a reduction in police call outs of 80% for very high risk cases.

There are additional beneficiaries beyond the direct victim as domestic violence impacts on children, family members and local communities; the most ‘measurable’ of which is a reduction in Children’s safeguarding cases subject to ‘Plan’.

Will this application support or enhance other services that you intend to commission? (in no more than 300 words)

This is a senior IDVA post working within the Specialist Domestic Violence Court: The IDVA carries a full caseload of 100 clients and through this role MSP delivers: attendance on the LCJB Operational group (and the Strategic group); collects and shares data, conducts research and feeds examples of good practice into the criminal justice system. We also support other providers across the 4 Boroughs by identifying cases needing support and making the necessary referrals; sit on the Crown Prosecution Service Regional Scrutiny Panel; the Police Domestic Violence Disclosure Panel (Claire’s Law), and support the implementation of DV Protection Notices through a direct Cleveland Police referral pathway; providing a 24 hour response to cases.

Section 3 – Financial information

Funding requested

Senior post calculated on a full cost recovery basis (Previously funded through the Ministry of Justice)	Total funding requested: £41,855
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Funding period and payment schedule

April 2015	March 2016
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Payment schedule (single payment, quarterly, etc)

2 x Payments (the second subject to satisfactory reporting returns) in April and September 2015

Bid elements

Service/Initiative	Amount Requested
Salary, NI & Pension	£31,769
Travel and training	£500
Admin & Finance support	£1773
Premises Costs	£1239
Insurance & Professional fees	£339
Office Costs	£1963
Project Costs	£413
Management & Supervision Costs	£3805
Total funded requested	£41,855

Start and End Dates

April 2015	March 2016
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Bank details

If your application is successful, we will pay your organisation by BACS transfer. It is therefore very important to ensure that the details below are accurate.

Yorkshire Bank, Central Branch, Middlesbrough.	[REDACTED]
Sort Code	[REDACTED]
Account Number	[REDACTED]

Exit Strategy – Can you secure alternative funding or to have plans to scale down your proposal if required? (in no more than 300 words)

My Sisters Place is dealing with a high demand for services and shrinking resources in partner agencies that impacts upon our referral rates. Like all services; we are all responding to budget cuts – in our case: the loss of £80k a year from the Northern Rock Foundation; £42k from the Ministry of Justice and £20k from the Home Office. With a total budget of £400k per annum this is a loss of over 30% of our budget and reduces statutory funding for IDVA services to 5% of our total income.

There is a potential for scaling: but I hope this application might be considered as an investment that offers significant added value through the substantial Charitable Grant funding of over £250,000 My Sisters Place attracts, that supports the overall approach in Middlesbrough; with recognition that a loss of statutory investment can jeopardise future Grants.

Section 4 – Meeting the Police and Crime Commissioners Objectives

Which of the following Police and Crime Plan objectives will your initiative contribute towards?

- Retaining and developing neighbourhood policing
- X Delivering a better deal for victims and witnesses
- Diverting people from offending through rehabilitation
- X Ensuring better links between agencies to make the best use of resources
- X Valuing those who deliver community safety services and encouraging good community and industrial relations

Please summarise how the initiative(s) will contribute towards the above objectives (in no more than 300 words)

This initiative is clearly aimed at **objective 2 'Getting a better deal for victims and witnesses'** as all activities target this objective through direct support to victims and through Institutional Advocacy to ensure Rights and Responsibilities and adhered to.

Objective 4: Ensuring Better links with agencies to make the best use of resources. With recognition that no single agency can fully meet the needs of victims of domestic violence, we are committed to partnership working, improving pathways, better information sharing and a joined up approach.

Objective 5: Valuing those who deliver community safety services and encouraging good community relations.

The IDVA acts as a single point of contact for the victim and promotes engagement through liaison and a better understanding between the victim and the criminal justice system. A key aspect of the role is increasing trust, confidence and engagement through a better understanding of the process – this cuts across all community safety and safeguarding services.

Section 5 – Performance Criteria

What are the expected outcomes and performance measurement criteria to be used (including as appropriate indicators and trend analysis).

Indicator/Trend	Outcome expected
100 Women per annum receive direct support through CJS processes – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of victims 'Feeling Safe'• Number of victims satisfied with the support received	Increase the Safety of Victims and Reduce Repeat victimisation
Support the ongoing improvement and delivery of the Specialist domestic Violence Court: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase in supported criminal cases• Number of Victim Personal Statements presented in court• Number of Protection Orders granted	Increase in the number of 'successful outcomes' through the criminal Justice System.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the LCJB Scrutiny Panel• Support Cleveland Police in the implementation of DVPN's• Support Cleveland Police in the delivery of the DVDP	Increased confidence in Community Safety and better communication between agencies and the public.

Section 6 – Governance, Reporting and Communications Plans

Please add details of your communications plan, showing how the initiative(s) will be communicated to stakeholders, service users and other partners (where appropriate). (in no more than 300 words)

This is a well established role and a cornerstone in My Sisters Place approach to Safety and Justice for victims. This work is communicated from grass roots up (via face to face contact) and top down through more formal messaging.

- Our primary referral source is 'self referral' (60%) through word of mouth – our strategy to increase this is to continue to build on our reputation and increase confidence in our services.
- Through public Awareness events and fundraising events in the Borough, engaging with community members and ensuring they know about the subject, how to help and where to go.
- Through the delivery of training and by 'having a presence' in public buildings such as Children's Centres and Housing Offices.
- Use of the press via Radio, Print and TV – My Sisters Place has managed to establish a positive profile and are consulted regularly on issues relating to our work.
- Through our website www.mysistersplace.org.uk
- Through Social Media such as facebook and twitter
- Through our partners by demonstrating a joined up approach.

Declaration

I certify that all the particulars given in the form are correct, that I agree with the Privacy note, and that any grant money received from Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland will be used for purposes stated in this form. The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland reserves the right to reclaim any grant not used for the purposes stated on this form.

I understand that the grant applied for is for this financial year only and that any grant provided will not be provided on an ongoing basis in future years.

I agree to provide a report detailing the outcomes of this project/activity (a form will be sent out for completion at the relevant time) if our application is successful and will acknowledge the Police and Crime Commissioner in any publicity relating to the project.

Please tick here to accept the above declaration.

Note: Your application will not be processed if this box is not checked.

Privacy Note

The information you have supplied in this form will be used to process your grant application. In order to make a decision on your application some of the de-personalised information provided may go into a public decision report. In addition your application form may be shared with third parties and partner agencies who may be involved in the decision making process or whom can verify specific facts within your application.

In addition we may be required to disclose information outside the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland to help prevent fraud, or if required to by law.

We may not be able to process your application if you do not provide all the requested information.

Full grant applications will be retained for a maximum of 6 years (plus current year). Information will be retained on a database at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland for statistical and monitoring purposes.

Transparency/Open Data

If your application is successful, details of grants will be published on the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland's website; www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk No personal information will be published.
