

# POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE



## MINISTRY OF JUSTICE VICTIMS GRANT FUNDING 2015/16

### SUPPORT FOR YOUNG VICTIMS IN LANCASHIRE

The Victim Services Review undertaken in 2013/14 identified a need to provide a specialist support service for young people who are victims of crime. British Crime Survey data indicates that young people are more likely to be victims of crime than the rest of the population and less likely to report it. Evidence also suggests that a young victim of crime has an increased propensity to become an offender.

The OPCC entered into discussions with The Health and Wellbeing Consortium and Greater Together to develop a model for a pan-Lancashire service to provide support and advice to young people who have been victims of crime.

The model developed would provide a service co-ordinator and three key workers located in each of the current Police Divisions. The service would also provide specialist "Train the Trainer" sessions for staff and volunteers in third sector organisations working with young people and develop a peer mentoring programme to provide medium to long term support for young victims.

Whilst a number of organisations, including Victim Support, provide on-line support material and resources discussions with staff and volunteers already working with young people indicated that the best support for a young victim would be through face-to-face engagement. The proposed service model provides for this either through dedicated key workers or through training provided to staff and volunteers in organisations already working with young people.

### **PROPOSALS:**

1. That the Commissioner supports the proposal to establish a Support for Young Victims Service in Lancashire.
2. That funding of up to £40,000 is allocated from the MoJ Victims Grant 2015/16.
3. That a commitment is made to provide funding of up to £220,000 from 2016/17 MoJ Victims Grant funding, subject to this funding being made available to the Police and Crime Commissioner at a suitable level.