

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE VICTIMS GRANT FUNDING 2015/16

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MASH – DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT TEAM

The LCC MASH has struggled to cope with the level of low/standard risk Domestic Abuse victims that have been referred into the centre. As a result it is acknowledged that a large number of cases either receive no support or are offered support services at an inappropriate time.

To assist with resolving this situation it is proposed that an experienced Domestic Abuse support worker is funded specifically to deal with low/standard risk cases providing an ability to case managed some victims and to signpost or refer on others. It is proposed that this post is employed by Victim Support so that the worker will receive support and mentoring and will be able to refer cases direct to the Community Support Team at Victim Support

In parallel to referrals being made into the MASH a percentage of Domestic Abuse cases are also referred to Victim Support as part of the automatic daily transfer of crime data.

It has been identified that it is possible that victims may be receiving contact and/or support through both the MASH and Victim Support or alternatively some of the low/standard risk cases in the MASH may be receiving services from Victims Support.

It is proposed that an Administrative Support officer, also employed by Victim Support, works alongside the Domestic Abuse support worker to enable data from both the MASH and Victim Support to be cross referenced to reduce duplication and improve the provision of support services for victims.

Victim Support have supported this proposal and following discussions have indicated that they can provide this service for the period October 2015 – March 2016 for £30,174 and for a further 12 month period (i.e. April 2016 – March 2017) for £54,649.00.

PROPOSALS:

1. That the Commissioner supports the proposal to establish a Domestic Abuse Support Team within the MASH for a period from October 2015 to March 2017.
2. That funding of £30,174 is allocated from the MoJ Victims Grant 2015/16.
3. That a commitment is made to provide funding of £54,649 from 2016/17 MoJ Victims Grant funding, subject to this funding being made available to the Police and Crime Commissioner at a suitable level.