



COMMUNITY FUND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP FUND

Application No 02

Organisation:	Blackpool Community Safety Partnership
Contact:	Dominic Blackburn (CSP)

Project Brief:	<p>Project Name: Virtual Emersion Duration: 7 Months Funding Requested: £5,000</p>
	<p>Proposed Dates: Start: 8 September 2025 End: 27 February 2026</p> <p>Community Safety Issue Addressed: Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), particularly harassment and intimidation affecting young women in educational and community settings. The project responds to findings from focus groups at Blackpool and The Fylde College, which highlighted underreporting, lack of confidence in intervention, and normalization of harmful behaviours.</p>
	<p>Project Aim: To educate and empower young people to become active bystanders in preventing VAWG, fostering cultural change through immersive, student-led Forum Theatre performances.</p>
	<p>Key Interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development and performance of a Forum Theatre piece based on the Green Dot initiative• Engagement of over 2,500 students and apprentices• Pre-training for tutors on VAWG context and support strategies• Creation of social media content to amplify awareness• Cross-disciplinary collaboration involving acting, fashion, media, music, photography, and fine art students• Daily performances over two weeks in an immersive auditorium
	<p>Partners & Roles:</p> <p>Blackpool and The Fylde College (B&FC):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lead educational partner• Student engagement and performance hosting• Tutor training delivery <p>Blackpool Public Health Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic co-lead• Facilitation of trauma-informed focus groups• Contextual insight and educational content development

Expected Impact:

- Increased awareness of VAWG among young people
- Improved confidence to intervene and challenge inappropriate behaviours
- Enhanced visibility and access to support services
- Staff better equipped to support disclosures
- Cultural shift towards zero tolerance of harassment and violence

Evaluation Methods:

- KPIs including number of students reached (target: 2,500+)
- Staff training numbers (target: 100+ tutors)
- Creation and reach of social media assets
- Production of two “talking head” videos on sexual misconduct and harassment
- Pre- and post-performance surveys measuring:
- Understanding of VAWG
- Willingness to intervene
- Knowledge of support services

Cost Breakdown:

Item	Cost (£)	Notes
Acting (50 Performances)	£3,750	£75 per performance
Fashion	£1,000	Costuming materials
Graphics	£1,000	Marketing materials
Media	£500	Social media video production
Music	£500	Studio engineer hire
Photography	£500	Equipment for performance/marketing
Script Writing	£1,000	40 hours @ £25/hr
Digital Product Final Edits	£500	—
Transport (5 Coaches)	£3,000	£600/day hire
Technical Support	£2,000	Immersive theatre support

Total Project Cost: £13,750**Match Funding (in-kind/cash): £8,750****Requested from PCC: £5,000**

Priority Supported:

**Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls
Get Tough on Serious Violent Crime****Partner Consultation**

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire	The Green Dot initiative is a well-established success in Blackpool, particularly in terms of raising awareness and engagement. The co-production elements involving young people are a real strength and add meaningful value to the proposal.
ASB, Prevention and Problem-Solving Command	This initiative presents a creative and well-structured response to violence against women and girls, particularly targeting young people in educational settings across Lancashire. With strong partnerships—especially with Blackpool and The Fylde College and the Public Health Team—the project builds on proven work like the “Green Dot” bystander intervention. The use of Forum Theatre and immersive media to engage over 2,500 students is innovative and impactful. The application is clear,

with defined objectives, measurable outcomes, and efficient use of the requested £5,000, supported by match funding. However, the short 7-month duration and focus within educational institutions may limit wider community impact, particularly in high-risk areas like Blackpool town centre. The project's success also depends on student engagement and complex coordination. Overall, this is a strong application aligned with strategic priorities. Funding is recommended, with encouragement to explore future expansion into broader community settings and long-term sustainability.