



RECOMMENDATION REPORT

DECISION: 63/2025	DATE: 10/12/2025
TITLE: Award of grant to Preston Domestic Violence Service and Preston Muslim Forum for the Umeed Project	
AUTHOR: Rebecca Keech – Senior Policy and Partnerships Manager – Commissioning and Procurement	
SPONSOR: Steve Freeman – Chief Finance Officer	
Executive Summary This report supersedes previous recommendation for the Umeed Project. It details the joint project between the specialist Domestic Abuse service provider PDVS and BAME support service Preston Muslim Forum.	
Recommendation The Police and Crime Commissioner is recommended to issue grants of £21,524.02 to Preston Domestic Violence Service and £7,800 to Preston Muslim Forum for delivery of the joint project 'Umeed'.	

PART I

1. Background and Advice

1.1 The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2024 introduced the requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to conduct a review following an incident of fatal domestic abuse. The purpose of these reviews is to understand the circumstances leading to a domestic violence-related death, identify lessons learned, and improve responses to domestic violence.

1.2 The Umeed Project brings together a specialist domestic abuse service Preston Domestic Violence Service and a specialist South Asian women's organisation Sahara to co-develop a culturally responsive, trauma-informed support model for women at the intersection of marginalisation and domestic abuse. The project recognises the unique barriers faced by women from minoritised communities—including language, immigration status, cultural stigma, and systemic discrimination—and aims to improve access to safeguarding, support, and justice.

1.3 Key Activities:

- Collaborative Development: Joint sessions to share expertise, and co-design improved referral pathways.
- Mentoring Programme: Between staff across both services to build capacity, share best practices, and foster sustainable partnerships.
- Safeguarding Pathway Enhancement: Development of integrated safeguarding protocols that reflect the lived experiences of South Asian women and other marginalised groups.
- Data Collection and Evaluation: Implementation of shared data tools to monitor outcomes, identify trends, and inform future service improvements. This includes anonymised case tracking and feedback mechanisms.
- Community Engagement: Outreach activities to raise awareness and build trust within South Asian communities, ensuring the voices of survivors shape service delivery.

1.4 Funding to Preston Muslim Forum

Project costs	Cost (£)
Part-time project worker 18 hours pw @£15 ph x 20 wks	£5,400
Management Costs	£1,202
Activities (workshops, facilitators, promotion, venue etc)	£600
Overheads (office costs, utilities, telephone etc.)	£600
Total	£7,800

4.5 Funding to PDVS

PDVS Project Costs	Costs (£)
0.5 FTE IDVA	£9,151.33
Management costs (15% of post value)	£1,372.69
Mentoring	£5,000
Immigration L1 Business Training Costs/Registration (OISC specific)	£3,500
Multilingual Resource Development by Kind Communities	£2,500
Total	£21,524.02

4.6 Total Project costs: £29,324.02.

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls

3. Consultations

4. Implications:

a. Legal

The Chief Finance Officer can authorise for contract standing orders to be waived in this instance.

Grant Agreement can be found at Appendix B.

b. Financial

The cost is £29,324.02 for 1 financial year, this funding has been allocated utilising the Proceeds of Crime Act.

c. Equality Impact Assessment

Equality Impact considerations included in the overarching EIA for Grants.

d. Data Protection Impact Assessment

Not Applicable – Grant funded no personal data held by the OPCC.

5 Risk Management

6. Background Papers

Appendix A – Initial Proposal Paper – previously shared with PCC.

Appendix B – Draft Grant Agreement

7. Public access to information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PCC website within 3 working days of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form.

Officer declaration	Date
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS – As above	
CONSULTATION – As above	
Author <div>Signature: Rebecca Keech</div> <div>Date: 10.12.25</div>	
Sponsor I have read the above report and confirm this is factually correct. <div>Signature: Steve Freeman</div> <div>Date: 10.12.25</div>	
Section 151 Officer for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner I have read the above report and have considered the financial implications. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate (financial) request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire. <div>Signature: Steve Freeman</div> <div>Date: 16.12.25</div>	
Chief Executive (Monitoring Officer) for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire I have been informed about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire. <div>Signature: Anna Hopkins</div> <div>Date: 16.12.25</div>	