

Grant funded projects:

Victims’ Commissioning Fund – Grant funded projects 2016/17

From October 2014, Police and Crime Commissioners became responsible for locally commissioning most of the emotional and practical support services for victims of crime. In its Grant Agreement with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire, the Ministry of Justice gave clear instructions on how the Victims Commissioning Fund should be spent, namely on:

- (i) emotional and practical support services for victims of crime (as defined by Article 2(1)(a)(i) of the Victims Directive) including restorative justice services and practical support measures and particularly for victims in the priority categories outlined in the Victims’ Code: victims of the most serious crime, persistently targeted victims, and vulnerable or intimidated victims, to help them cope with the immediate impacts of crime and, as far as possible, recover from the harm they have experiences;
- (ii) emotional and practical support services for family members (as defined in Article 2 (b) of the Victims’ Directive);
- (iii) emotional and practical support services for victims of sexual violence and domestic violence;
- (iv) building the capacity and capability of providers of services for victims of crime (including providers of restorative justice services) from the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector; and
- (v) covering any associated costs that arise in the process of commissioning / provision of victims’ services.

A list of the projects and organisations funded by the Commissioner can be found below:

Organisation	Project synopsis	Grant awarded (£)	Where you can find more information?
FACES Bedford	FACES will provide both practical and emotional support to disadvantaged and deprived families who have been victims of crime and who may need help to cope and recover from traumatic symptoms. Support will be tailored to their needs and locally delivered in the family’s own home through an outreach service. We will offer advice within our expertise and will refer victims to more specialist community services if needed. Our approach will be a holistic one, taking into account the impact of crime on the whole family and giving victims of crime a voice.	17,094	www.facesbedford.org



Home-Start	<p>Pattern Changing is a facilitated ten week programme (nine weeks with a one week follow up after two months) for women who have been victims of domestic abuse. The course which runs for two hours each week is designed to help victims end the cycle of abuse, to regain confidence and self-esteem, to explore personal experiences and learn practical strategies to gain empowerment and to change negative patterns into positive ones.</p>	17,283.75	www.home-startcentralbeds.org.uk
Link to Change	<p>The Hub & Spoke Project beneficiaries are young people (male & female) aged 12 to 26 years who are at risk of, or involved in child sexual exploitation (CSE), sexual violence (SV) and trafficking. We are also open to taking referrals for victims of FGM. The Project is available to any young person regardless of disability, culture, belief or sexual orientation.</p>	21,121	www.linktochange.org.uk
Road Victims Trust	<p>Seeking funding to run a volunteer training course for Counselling Volunteers in Bedfordshire. This will enable recruitment and training of a further 10 Counselling Volunteers in Bedfordshire.</p> <p>RVT recognise that their volunteers undertake an emotionally demanding role in supporting people who are distressed by traumatic bereavement and life changing injuries and volunteers undergo an intensive two month training course, with 40 hours of training. The training is designed to help them find out if they will be able to undertake the role, and to equip them with the skills and information to do the work.</p>	10,000	www.rvtrust.org.uk
Victim Support	<p>This project aims to continue to provide a high level of specialist support to the most vulnerable victims of Anti-Social Behaviour [ASB] in the Bedford Borough Council area working alongside the Community Safety Team to ensure a holistic, victim centred approach to supporting Anti-social behaviour victims within the Borough.</p>	9,214.66	www.victimsupport.org.uk