



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SUPPORT SERVICES

2026-2028

Guidance Notes

Local Priorities

The PCC is seeking to improve outcomes for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence across Nottinghamshire. Applications should demonstrate how they will provide support for domestic abuse and sexual violence survivors and contribute to one or both of the following local priorities. Applications that do not align directly with these priorities will still be considered where they can demonstrate a clear need, deliver positive outcomes for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence, and meet the aims of this funding programme.

a) By and For Services

'By and for' services are specialised services that are led, designed and delivered by and for the users and communities they aim to serve. These services are tailored to meet the specific needs of victims and survivors and are often well placed to engage individuals who may not access mainstream services.

b) Hidden Harm

Hidden harm refers to domestic abuse and sexual violence that remains undisclosed or unreported and therefore unknown to statutory or support services. Victims may face barriers to seeking support due to fear, stigma, cultural pressures, coercive control, disability, language barriers, rural isolation, concerns about confidentiality or lack of awareness of services.

The PCC is particularly interested in initiatives that identify, engage and support victims experiencing hidden harm and those least likely to access existing services.

Overview

1. The PCC will use Ministry of Justice (MoJ) funding until 31 March 2028 to fund successful applicants. Subject to future MOJ funding, successful applicants' grants may be extended until March 2029.
2. The Grant Recipient shall provide or commission dedicated emotional, therapeutic, and practical support services for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence, to help them cope with and, as far as possible, recover from the effects of the crime
3. Victim support services can include, but are not limited to:
 - emotional support
 - face-to-face or remote counselling for individuals and/or their families;
 - tailored support for under-represented victims and survivors, and those with protected characteristics, including support for particular groups, such as ethnic minority groups, disabled victims, LGBTQ+ victims, male victims.
4. Funding is for third sector organisation that provides a tailored support service which has the purpose of helping victims and survivors of domestic abuse or sexual violence cope with the impacts of crime, and, as far as possible, recover from the harm they have experienced. Victims and survivors may be adults or children and may have experienced domestic abuse, rape or sexual abuse any point in their life. Funding may be used for existing caseloads as well as new referrals.
5. Organisations should be legally constituted. Where they are not, they must have an accountable body in place to hold the funding on their behalf.
6. Organisations must be based in England and Wales and all survivors supported must live in Nottingham or Nottinghamshire. Organisations do not need to be commissioned by the PCC to receive funding.

7. Funding may not be used for any of the following activities:
 - Support for other people who are not victims or survivors of domestic abuse or sexual violence
 - Accommodation based support
 - Campaigning activities
 - Religious activities outside of projects benefiting the wider community and not containing religious content
 - Political or lobbying activities
 - Loan repayments; or
 - Activities that make profit for private gain.
8. Funding must not be used for capital costs, for example building works, but can be used for other capital costs such as ICT equipment to enhance your communications and help reach local people.
9. Whilst the PCC may, if MOJ funding is confirmed, be able to extend successful grants until March 2029, this is not guaranteed. Therefore successful Grant Recipients must plan for their initiative or service to finish by 31st March 2028 or be confident it can continue to provide the funding itself after 31st March 2028.
10. Although multi-year funding allocations will be made, MoJ does not permit any carry forward of spend from one financial year to the next. All funding allocated for an individual financial year must be spent, and the delivery complete, within that financial year.
11. Funding cannot be used to pay for any outstanding debts prior to 1 October 2026.
12. Further eligibility criteria is below:

Funding	Criteria
Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Funding	This funding is open to all domestic abuse and sexual violence support services in Nottingham/shire whether or not they are currently funded by the PCC. General eligibility criteria are detailed above on pages 2-3. In addition, the following specific criteria apply: • Applicants must demonstrate that they have robust governance and management arrangements in place to support domestic abuse and sexual violence survivors safely; • Funded initiatives must demonstrate that they will work pro-actively and constructively with one of the commissioned support services (see below), in order to ensure no duplication of provision or survivor confusion. This means the applicant actively demonstrating that proven referral pathways are in place with commissioned support services; • Applicants must clearly evidence the need for additional financial support because of an increase in demand or anticipated demand; • Counselling must be delivered by psychotherapists registered with a recognised UK accreditation body such as BACP or UKCP; • Sexual violence counselling must be compliant with the CPS pre-trial therapy guidance https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/therapy-provision-therapy-vulnerable-or-intimidated-adult-witnesses; • Peer support must demonstrate how it is compliant with Nice Guideline 116 https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng116/chapter/recommendations#care-for-people-with-ptsd-and-complex-needs;

13. As detailed above the PCC would expect funded initiatives to work closely with the existing commissioned services, listed below:

Provider	Commissioned Service
Nottinghamshire Sexual Violence Support Services	ISVA Survivor Support Service ASA (Sexual Violence and Abuse hub and therapy)
Imara	Childrens ISVA
Nottinghamshire Women's Aid	Non-Domestic Stalking
Juno (City)	Female Domestic Abuse services
Juno (County south)	County South Domestic Abuse Services
Nottinghamshire Women's Aid (County north)	County North Domestic Abuse services
Equation	Male Domestic Abuse support