

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE  
DECISION RECORD**

Decision Record Number: **36/2015**

Title: **VANEL – Funding Application**

**Executive Summary:**

Request for approval of a grant of £7,500 to Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL) submitted.

**Commissioner's Comments:**

The Commissioner confirmed that the objectives of the project fitted in with established victim support services and indicated that, if successful, the project could significantly reduce the number of repeat victims and reduce crime.

**Decision:**

That £7500 be awarded to Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL), the funding to be taken from the Victims Fund, if available, if not then from the Commissioners' Crime Reduction Fund.

**Background Report:** Open

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside**

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.

Any such interests are recorded below.

The above decision has my approval.

**Signature**

*Matthew Grove*

**Date 26.08.15**

# **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

## **FOR HUMBERSIDE**

### **SUBMISSION FOR: DECISION**

**Title:** Victims Fund: Evaluated Application

**Date:** 26 August 2015

---

#### **1. Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to request the Police and Crime Commissioner to approve a grant of £7,500 to the Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL). The funding will be awarded from your Victims Fund 2015/16.

#### **2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the PCC:

- Approves funding to the organisation recommended by the Panel following assessment of the bid against agreed criteria.

#### **3. Background Information**

The Police and Crime Commissioner established a Victims' Fund for 2014/15 to help build capacity and capability within the sector and to provide services to priority victims of crime. The fund was not exhausted so the fund has remained open without overly publicising it.

As such we receive applications from partners looking to develop enhanced services for victims of crime in line with the Commissioner's Victim Care Strategy.

#### **4. Next Steps**

Should the Commissioner approve this recommendation, arrangements will be made to transfer funding to this organisation once they have signed the terms and conditions.

If the Commissioner is minded the Victims' Fund could also be more widely promoted throughout the remainder of 2015/16 in order to generate more applications. The sub group of the Humberside Criminal Justice Board (Supporting Victims and Witnesses) will be approached with respect to innovative ways that the remainder of the Fund can be spent to enhance services to victims of crime.

#### **5. Financial Consideration**

The Deputy Chief Executive and Treasurer will provide advice and guidance with respect to available funding.

**Neil Kingston**  
**Commissioning and Partnerships Manager**



## VICTIMS' SERVICES FUND Application Form

Please indicate the purpose of your application request by ticking the appropriate box:

a) Capacity and Capability Building (Complete sections A & B)

b) Services for Victims of Crime (Complete sections A & C)

### SECTION 'A'

Can you provide the following information?

Name of Organisation/Group	Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL)	
Contact Name	Paula Grant	
Contact Details (address, phone and e-mail)	The Elms 22 Abbey Road Grimsby North East Lincolnshire DN32 0HW paula.@vanel.org.uk 01472 324964/8	
Are you a registered charity?	Y	
Charity Number	1002624	
If you are not a registered charity do you have a constitution (if yes then please provide a copy) Constitution attached.	N/A	
Payment Information/Bank Details		
Bank Name	[REDACTED]	
Account Name		
Bank Branch Address	[REDACTED]	
Bank Sort Code Number		
Bank Account Number	[REDACTED]	
You will need to provide a copy of your most recent accounts with your application or provide an explanation as to why you cannot supply them		
Audited Accounts attached	Y	
<b>Showstopper criteria check</b>	Yes	No

1. Are you able to use the requested funds within the 2015/16 financial year?	Yes	
2. Will the funding be used to support the outcomes contained in the Victim Care Strategy, in particular 'cope' and 'recover'?	Yes	
3. Will the service be easily accessible to victims and free of charge?	Yes	

**SECTION 'B' (please refer to appendix A for the MoJ definition of capacity and capability)**

1. Please describe the services that your organisation provides and to whom?  
(Max. 500 words)

Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL) develops, promotes, informs and supports the local voluntary, not-for-profit and charitable sector. We offer representation of the local voluntary and community sector, promotion of interagency networking and information sharing, provision of resources and support services in developing VCS organisations and projects to address local needs. VANEL helps the local community tackle its big issues, which include those relating to economic development, safer and stronger communities, working with young people and older people plus working together with partners to create healthier communities. VANEL hosts the nationally quality assured North East Lincolnshire Volunteer Service, which delivers a volunteer brokerage. It undertakes a wide range of organisational development work with local strategic partners and voluntary and community groups to improve our local communities. VANEL's client groups are all inclusive and it supports and develops people and groups from all age groups, all gender types, different ethnic backgrounds and cultures, people with disabilities, people with mild mental health issues, ex-offenders and victims. It adopts a positive approach to working with all people in its local communities. VANEL's priority focus in the context of safer communities is on victim support and we host an ASB Victim's Champion to work with local partners including the police, local authority, probation service, social landlords and voluntary groups to offer additional support to ASB victims. VANEL helps to identify and train volunteers to work with victims of crime to add value to the ASB Victim Support service. VANEL's work programme for safer and stronger communities is updated by its group members to reflect the voluntary and community sector's current priorities and progress is reported to the North East Lincolnshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) at its quarterly meetings. The group contributes to the local Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA) and takes part in the annual JSIA consultation process. VANEL developed and implemented the Stronger Communities Action Plan in a voluntary capacity on behalf of the CDRP. One of the key priorities for action agreed by this group was the need to focus on more intensive support for victims of ASB/Hate Crime. This subject was debated at the CDRP at the request of VANEL's working group. When an opportunity was offered by the Home Office to host an ASB Victims' Champion in our area VANEL was commissioned to lead this work in partnership with Victim Support and other voluntary groups specializing in this work. Two other relevant key services for the benefit of victims include: 1) the development and delivery of organised dialogue sessions and visit programmes including prisons, courts

2. How much money are you requesting from the Commissioner's Victims' Fund and is there any 'match-funding' from anyone else in either money or 'in-kind' support?

*(Please provide an analysis of expenditure e.g. staffing, training, marketing, asset and equipment purchases as well as any income/support already contributing towards the cost)*

We are requesting the following funding from the Commissioner's Victims' Fund: **£7,500** comprising 6 months' salary: £12,500; employer's NI: £1,237; pension (2 months) £84; payroll fee: £42; travel costs: £420; telephone: £120; training £197; laptop & printer £400 @ 50%  
We will provide **match-funding of £7,500** comprising 6 months' costs @ 50% of salary, employers' NI, pension, payroll fee; staff travel costs; telephone; volunteer expenses; and training

3. Can you outline what initiative you will use the money for? For example what ability, skills or resources gap are you hoping to fill with this funding?

We will use the money to operate the North East Lincolnshire Victims Care Task Group and help to deliver its work programme which is directly supporting the delivery of the Humberside PCC's victims' care strategy.

This work is currently being supported by a part-time Community Safety Officer in the NEL council's Safer Communities' team but the current post will be terminated when the maternity cover period expires.

VANEL are therefore offering to match fund this post for a trial period of 6 months from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 to enable the work to continue maintaining the skills, knowledge and experience of the current post holder. If this work continues to deliver the excellent results it has already demonstrated and directly supports the PCC's victims' care work over this 6 month period we would be prepared to continue to match fund this work for a further year with the ongoing support from the PCC from April 2016 to March 2017.

The match funding is being invested to support community cohesion and specifically to address hate crime issues therefore will complement this victims' care work as it directly supports hate crime victims and causes behind this crime type. It will also help build capacity and capability in local communities via the delivery of awareness raising, briefing and training sessions including anti-terrorism focus as this work links to the Silver Prevent agenda and provides an additional resource to assist with community resilience work.

4. If approved, how will this funding help to improve service provision to victims of crime in terms of addressing their particular needs? (*Max 500 words*)

The Community Safety Worker's role will help and support the most persistently targeted and most vulnerable repeat victims of crime in our community to cope and recover from their ordeal via ensuring priorities for action agreed in the Victims' Care Task Group work programme are done. In terms of addressing victims' particular needs, the worker will ensure a caring and listening approach is adopted for all victims. Many victims have mental, physical and emotional problems associated with their complaint and referrals to specialists for help will be needed in these cases.

These three case studies illustrate how the task group has addressed victim-specific needs:

Case Study 1: The work interacts with other themed groups for example violent crime, safeguarding young people exploring both reactive and upstream victim care opportunities focussed on delivering the best outcomes for individuals and our community alike. One example of this proactive approach is the ongoing poster frame installation programme which is currently used to highlight Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and domestic abuse campaigns. Non-traditional locations have been included including Grimsby Town Football Club and following further media opportunities.

Case Study 2: The Victims' Care Task Group (VCTG) has developed confidence amongst the partnership especially around data sharing for example – family victim suffering noise/ASB from a neighbour. Traditional response had little impact with lack of confidence resulting. The VCTG considered the issue and specialist mental health input was agreed. This approach would not have happened in the past as a silo mentality existed. By receiving help the neighbour is supported in both the short and longer term the behaviours towards the victim stopped returning normality to family life and improving the neighbour's quality of life using VCTG contacts.

Case Study 3: Another example included that of a burglary/ASB victim who had lost so much confidence that she felt unable to leave her house. Personal home visits were conducted by the Community Safety Worker. This enabled crime prevention opportunities to be explored. Utilising previous experiences and contacts a security light was installed free of charge to the agencies enabling the victim to use her garden after dark. The adjoining property a bank installed security gates preventing alley access the subject of ASB/drug misuse. This mediation method resulted from specialist training in Restorative Justice.

The Worker's role is currently funded by the NEL Community Safety Partnership to cover maternity leave/long-term sickness. This PCC funding would enable the current post-holder to continue and improve the overall service being offered by to both existing and new victims. By effectively managing and coordinating the victims' care task group activities to focus on victims' needs and with more volunteer support we will be able to ensure that the best possible services are targeted specifically to address both victims' immediate and follow-up needs. By working together as one team we will ensure new practices are developed and shared for victims' benefit

5. What outcome(s) from the Commissioner's Victim Care Strategy (*see appendix C*) will you effectively impact and in what way will you specifically do this? (*Max.500 words*)

This work will effectively impact upon all the outcomes in the Commissioner's Victims' Care Strategy as we were proactively involved in its drafting and subsequent implementation. The focus of the NEL Victims' Task Group's work programme is on the delivery of the PCC Victims' Care strategy in NEL. We will specifically continue to do this as the proposed role will help consolidate local joined up partnership working with respect to the provision of victims' services across the Humber area by sharing practice for the benefit of all victims, as per the specific outcomes listed in the strategy:

We will enable victims to cope with the immediate post victimisation experience by using the skills, knowledge and experience of all partner organisations and their representatives to assist victims with coping with and recovering from their specific ordeal. For example, the ASB/Hate Crime Champion would assist and support ASB/Hate Crime victims.

We will ensure the longer term recovery of the victim is managed through a range of support services provided by all the partners who are represented on the task group. This will be coordinated as part of the work programme to ensure it is joined up locally. For example, restorative support would be provided by the Restorative Practice Champion.

We will contribute to empowering the victim in order that they might 'get their life back' to how it was prior to the victimisation by using a range of different techniques and practices provided by the partner organisations represented on the task group. For example, Victim Support could provide bespoke tailor-made advice to meet individual victim's needs.

We will leave the victim satisfied with the efficient, effective and seamless provision of support services from the statutory and voluntary sector by following up on feedback received from victims shared at the time care is being given to assist with cope and recovery and also by reviewing their feedback provided 6 months after support ends. For example, feedback provided by individual partners will be reviewed by the task group. This will serve to ensure best practice is shared and issues are addressed for victims' benefit.

We will strive to ensure the victim feels as safe as those who have never been a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour by ensuring the victim is offered / referred to support promptly after requesting it from one of the task group members or their representatives. The follow-up cope and recovery work will also focus on making victims and their families feel safer and for example via neighbourhood watch making local residents feel safer.

Furthermore, a pro-active victim care ethos will be further explored rather than a reliance on traditional reactive processes. This will be achieved by positive promotion of service providers and seeking out new sources of provision. An example of this approach is the Victim Care networking event planned for October 2015 to be attended by the victim commissioner Baroness Newlove. The outcome will be a more bespoke service matched to victim needs enabling long term empowerment.

6. How will you demonstrate/evaluate the impact of this funding (and the service you provide more generally) with respect to the outcome(s) identified at 5 above? (*Max 500 words*)

Understanding and helping to address victims' needs is an essential part of the work of the Victims' Task Group therefore progress reports, outcomes and case studies will be reviewed quarterly as part of the groups members' critical friend role and monitoring and evaluation process.

Our partners build a close working relationship with victims to gain their trust and clarity about how the community safety partnership works in order to resolve local problems. This approach helps to empower victims and reassure them of interest in every stage of the recovery process. We will undertake an annual survey of all victims assisted. The results will identify how service users felt about the service they received, whether they felt listened to and taken seriously and if satisfied with the information and feedback given to them.

When working in partnership with task group members we will monitor performance in order to feedback to victims, this will be achieved by using Police and community safety partners' databases for up-to-date information as this impacts on our victim support strategy. For example, if there was a problem identified in an area of North East Lincolnshire and police data revealed that the issue had moved to another area partner resources could be moved to that location to respond appropriately. The monthly task group meetings, which the Community Safety Worker organises, assess Police, Community Pride and Humberside Fire and Rescue Service analytical data. This data highlights hot-spot areas for potential repeat victims via police and partner calls for service. This data will be used to help address victims' issues using a multi-agency targeted approach. The Community Safety Worker will attend and/or receives referrals from other task groups, Community Groups and Neighbourhood Watch groups where appropriate.

The Victims' Task Group work is very important to our victims, so they are empowered to influence the services provided to help them cope and recover and also ensure partners are accountable for their actions. Partner agencies on the task group can invite victims to attend where appropriate to influence service providers when needed. The Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner could also be invited to attend so he can see first-hand how victims' specific problems are being addressed. As a result, victims will receive further reassurance that they are being listened to and helped. Members of the task groups will also encouraged volunteers to participate when required.

Restorative practices are used where appropriate. Our victims will be offered this option and the outcome of the referrals will be monitored. Hopefully, more victims will choose this method of resolution. Task group meetings will also discuss problem areas the Community Safety Worker will lead this. Partner agencies attending will be allocated actions in order to resolving problems raised by victims. Therefore, we anticipate victim satisfaction in the problem areas will improve. Victims' feedback is always listened to and acted upon, often resulting in extra Police patrols in problem areas at specified times/specific places, reduced calls for service, parenting orders being issued and training courses being delivered.

7. What geographical area(s) will be covered by the services that you provide?

North East Lincolnshire