



VICTIMS FIRST

Care | Empower | Recover

Modern Slavery National Network Meeting

1st October 2019

The Challenge for PCCs

Around 20% of victims want support (Crime Survey England and Wales, Apr 2019).

Around 60% of those who want support require a short-term, supportive intervention which can be provided by many non-specialists (i.e. someone with basic training).

Around 40% (or 8% of all those needing support) access 'specialist support' (i.e. services involving highly skilled and experienced staff).

Around 60% of those needing 'specialist support' require Domestic and Sexual Violence Services – specialist services which already exist.

However, many victims have crime types or complex/multiple needs which do not fit the present arrangements and are not being well met, including Victims of Exploitation/Modern Slavery.

Timeline

- Following the Bullfinch Enquiry into CSE in Oxford in 2014, Oxford's Community Safety Manager brought to our attention the risk of a large undiscovered problem of adult exploitation in Oxford – no understanding of the problem, no services, no joined up working.
- In November 2014, the first MoJ Victims Grant was received by PCCs – Home Office released figures on suspected Modern Slavery problem.
- In March 2015, two grants seed-funded 2 providers in Oxford and Reading to deliver 'independent trauma advisors' (ITA) services.
- In November 2015, a successful bid to the Police Innovation Fund brought a more structured approach to develop the approach (including operational support) and funded an independent evaluation.

Timeline (cont'd)

- Five reports were produced during the life of the project a) an literature review on Modern Slavery b) Report to develop methodology to estimate the extent of modern slavery c) Cost-benefit analysis of the intervention d) An interim report e) A final report containing key learning and recommendations from across the project.
- On the basis of the findings, the PCC decided to commission a service to support victims of Exploitation (and other Complex Needs) from Nov 2018 which would expand the service across Thames Valley over the next 18 months – The Victims First Willow Project.
- The concept of the Willow Project informed recent round of commissioning and will underpin the new adult specialist service in Thames Valley supporting all victims with complex needs from Apr 2020.

Tangible Benefits

- Cost-benefit analysis found that for every £1 spent on ITA services around £3.35 could be saved from the public purse.
- The rate of referrals to the NRM increased in Thames Valley by 122% compared to national average of 63% increase over the same period (2016-2017).
- Myths Busted e.g. the greatest proportion of referrals involved UK citizens and less than half of clients had experienced any form of trafficking, debunking the myth that modern day slavery and trafficking are one and the same.
- Increase in police intelligence through 3rd party reporting due to local modern slavery campaigns, training and promotion of the services across Thames Valley.
- The learning gained can be transferred to help support other types of victims who have developed complex and traumatic responses to long-term abuse.



Thank you

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Supporting victims across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

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