

VICTIM SUPPORT (PROMOTING THE GROUP TO THE PUBLIC) – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Executive Summary	
<p>Victim Support is an independent charity formed in 1974 for people affected by crime and traumatic events in England and Wales. The specialist teams provide individual, independent, emotional and practical help to enable people to cope and recover from the effects of crime</p> <p>The application from Victim Support is requesting revenue funding of £10,000 to develop a community programme in Woking. The purpose of the project is to increase awareness of the group and the help which can be offered to people subjected to crime, including Domestic Abuse, Assault/Violence, Burglary, Anti social Behaviour and so on. The programme would involve holding sessions at the Maybury Centre and the Shah Jahan Mosque, with emphasis on making connections with ‘hard to reach’ members of the public.</p> <p>The Council acknowledge the benefits of the direct support services offered by Victim Support to the Victims and their families, with just over 8% of their user group from Woking. However it is not considered that the application has demonstrated sufficient justification for the Council to award funding to establish a new programme in the Borough. Accordingly, bearing in mind the ongoing financial pressure on the Council’s budgets, it is recommended that this application is not supported and that no grant is awarded for the coming financial year.</p>	

Recommendations	
Reasons for Decision	The application has not demonstrated sufficient justification for the Council to award funding to establish a new programme in the Borough.
The Executive is requested to:	RESOLVE That no grant be awarded.

The Executive has authority to determine the above recommendations.

Background Papers:

2018/19 Application Form.

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1.0 Summary of Application	
1.1 Status and Aims	Victim Support is the independent charity formed in 1974 for people affected by crime and traumatic events in England and Wales. Their specialist teams provide individual, independent, emotional and practical help to enable people to cope and recover from the effects of crime
1.2 Employees	10, comprising the Senior Manager (30 hours per week), two Service Delivery Managers (18.5 hours per week each), the Service Delivery Manager (37.5 hours per week), two Admin support (22.5 and 16 hours per week), a CYP caseworker (37.5 hours per week), the Vulnerable caseworker (37.5 hours per week), a Caseworker (18.5 hours per week) and a Volunteer Manager (15 hours per week).
1.3 Volunteers	32 Victim Service volunteers offer support to individuals and their families to enable them to feel stronger, understood and able to move forwards with their lives.
1.4 Clients/Users	1,024, comprising: 246 male 778 female 195 disabled 98 ethnic minority 84 resident in Woking 12 aged 11-18 900 aged 19-65 112 aged 65+
1.5 Members	None.
1.6 Sum Requested	£10,000 (Revenue)
1.7 Project	<p>To initiate and develop a community programme in the Woking Borough that provides awareness for the local public regarding Victim Support and the help that can be offered to them where they have been subjected to crime (which includes Domestic Abuse, Assault/Violence, Burglary and Anti-Social Behaviour).</p> <p>The programme would involve holding sessions at community points within the borough, such as the Maybury Centre and the Shah Jahan Mosque, with emphasis on making connections with 'hard to reach' members of the public.</p>
1.8 Cost breakdown:	£2000 recruitment volunteers £2000 training of recruited volunteers £3000 running costs for volunteers (mileage and mobile phone claims) £2000 staging meetings/presentations £1000 Merchandise (leaflets etc)

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1.9 Community Benefit	Police statistics show that, in the town of Woking alone, more than 100 people per month are victims of crime. Currently only a proportion of those receive victim support, but by introducing a community programme this would greatly enhance the Group's profile and lead to more people obtaining help.
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2.0 Financial Background	
2.1 Budget	<p>At the time of the application, the Group held £1,578,000 in the bank. Certain funding received is for specific types of activity or geographical area, as stipulated by the donors. Note the balance shown is for Victim Support Nationally, since Victim Support Surrey does not have its own individual account.</p> <p>The Group has submitted a budget for 2018/19 which shows an anticipated income of £25,000 (the funding from the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner's Office is yet to be confirmed and so is not included); against an anticipated expenditure of £547,001, resulting in an anticipated deficit of £522,001.</p> <p>Anticipated income includes grants (£20,000) and donations (£5,000). Items of expenditure include salaries (£204,000), staff indirect costs (£24,000), Volunteer costs (£24,000), Office costs (£318,000), central support costs (£36,000) and the victim assessment centre (£241,001).</p>
2.2 Accounts	The Group has submitted accounts for 2016/17 which show an income of £36,409,000 (£41,037,000 in 2015/16) against expenditure of £42,479,000 (£45,203,000 in 2015/16), resulting in a deficit of £6,070,000 (deficit of £4,166,000 in 2015/16). The sum of £11,682,000 was carried forward at the end of the 2016/17 year.
2.3 Support over the past five years	New Application

3.0 Assessment of Application																									
3.1 Key Information	<table border="0"> <tr><td>○ Constitution</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Registered Charity</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ VAT Registered</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Equal Opportunities Policy</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Safeguarding Policy</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Reserves Policy</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Quality Mark</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Other funding sources pursued</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Other support by the Council</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Fundraising</td><td>Yes</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Two quotes</td><td>N/A</td></tr> <tr><td>○ Regular monitoring provided previously</td><td>N/A</td></tr> </table>	○ Constitution	Yes	○ Registered Charity	Yes	○ VAT Registered	Yes	○ Equal Opportunities Policy	Yes	○ Safeguarding Policy	Yes	○ Reserves Policy	Yes	○ Quality Mark	No	○ Other funding sources pursued	Yes	○ Other support by the Council	No	○ Fundraising	Yes	○ Two quotes	N/A	○ Regular monitoring provided previously	N/A
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<p>3.2 Consultee Comments</p>	<p><u>Officer Comment</u></p> <p>Although it is fortunate that Woking and Surrey are low crime areas, some people do become victims of crime and may need the support and services offered by Victim Support. The application is not for funding their core work, as this is currently funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, but in developing a new community programme to raise awareness of the service available. It is not clear if they are applying for this scheme to be funded and run across every district and borough in Surrey.</p> <p>Officers were not aware of the concerns raised by their research about certain people being not fully aware or open to the offer of help and their conclusion that it is necessary to find other ways for them to be made aware.</p> <p>The application is for a significant amount of money and, given the constraints on the current grant budget, it might be useful for Victim Support to work with officers on exploring the local need and seeing if there are alternative ways to achieve better awareness through existing networks or developing new ones with our support.</p>
<p>3.3 Assessment</p>	<p>Victim Support supports people affected by crime and traumatic events in England and Wales, providing individual, independent, emotional and practical help to enable people to cope and recover from the effects of crime.</p> <p>Victim Service offers support to individuals and their families to enable them to feel stronger, understood and able to move forward with their lives. This includes the core services the organisation offers plus enhanced services including Homicide, domestic abuse, sexual violence, antisocial behaviour, hate crime, helping children and young people and delivering restorative justice.</p> <p>The volunteer makes contact with the victim and arranges to meet with the victim either at the victim's home, an office or other appropriate location depending on the nature of the crime and the outcome of risk assessment. The volunteer will provide emotional support, practical help, advocacy and information as required. The volunteer will liaise with their manager after each contact so as to work together to identify and action the best interventions for the victim. Problem solving in the victim service is very much team work between the victim, the volunteer and the manager. A colleague from Victim Support will call victims after the case is closed to monitor the quality of the service and obtain feedback.</p> <p>The benefits of the direct support services offered by Victim Support to the Victims and their families are clear, with just over 8% of their user group resident in Woking.</p> <p>The application from Victim Support is seeking revenue funding of £10,000 to develop a community programme in the Woking Borough. The programme would provide awareness for the local public regarding Victim Support and the help that can be offered to them where they have been subjected to crime which includes Domestic Abuse, Assault/Violence, Burglary and Anti social Behaviour. The programme would involve holding sessions at the Maybury Centre and the Shah Jahan Mosque, with emphasis on making connections with 'hard to reach' members of the public.</p>

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