



Ministry  
of Justice

# Ministry of Justice Funding for Male Rape Support Services

## Guidance and Eligibility Criteria

June 2021

## Background

1. This Fund is open to MoJ directly commissioned services (those in receipt of grants from the Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund - RSF) and PCC commissioned and non-commissioned specialist services (i.e. those not currently receiving grant funding from either MoJ or a PCC, but who can evidence they meet the criteria of the Fund).
2. Proposals must be focused on the delivery of high-quality specialist sexual violence services to meet the specific needs of men and boys, and aim to respond to demand arising as a result of the pandemic.
3. As well as considering bids from individual providers, we will also consider partnership/collaborative bids, including those that seek to cover more than one geographical area.
4. £1.4m is available for **this financial year only**, until 31 March 2022. While there is no formal cap on the amount a single organisation can bid for, we require all bids to demonstrate they are scalable.

## Application

5. Bids should be submitted by RSF grant recipients on the attached proforma to [victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk](mailto:victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk) by **12pm on Friday 25 June**.
6. Organisations not currently in receipt of a grant from the MoJ Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund will need to submit applications via their local Police and Crime Commissioner.

## Eligibility

7. To be eligible for this funding, the organisation must currently provide support specifically tailored to meet the needs of male victims of rape and sexual abuse, including recent and non-recent child sexual abuse. Organisations must have a proven track record of effectively supporting male survivors, ideally over several years, and be able to evidence how funding will enable more male survivors to be supported.
8. Priority will be to allocate funding to trauma-informed sexual violence support services, rather than to generic mental health services.
9. Bids must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:
  - a) The service must be able to provide specialist support to **male victims** who have experienced rape or sexual abuse at any point in their life. This includes specialist male-only organisations, as well as organisations that support all genders and whose offer includes tailored support for men and boys.

- b) The organisation must be a registered, independent charity and/or a service that operates in the public interest.
- c) The organisation must be not for profit.
- d) Services must be free at the point of delivery.
- e) Services must be independent of the Police and the Criminal Justice System.
- f) The organisation must ensure it meets and maintains current national standards<sup>1</sup> for quality and best practice throughout the Funding Period.

### **Ineligible expenditure**

10. In line with Cabinet Office guidelines, none of this funding can support:

- Campaigning activities (this Fund is to support the delivery of direct services for victims)
- Religious activities outside of projects benefiting the wider community and not containing religious content
- Political or lobbying activities
- Loan repayments or outstanding debts
- Activities that make profit for private gain.

11. Funding must also not be used for capital works e.g. building repairs but can be used for other capital costs such as ICT equipment to enhance communication and extend service reach.

### **Evaluation criteria**

12. Bids will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

- **Need** – the proposal must address unmet need for men and boys as a result of the pandemic; bids should indicate how many victims will benefit from the support offered.
- **Specialism** – understanding of the gender-specific needs of male victims and survivors of sexual violence and abuse; experience of providing tailored sexual violence support to men and boys.

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<sup>1</sup> At the time of competition, national standards include those established by the Male Survivors Partnership, The Survivors Trust and Rape Crisis England and Wales.

- **Delivery of a high-quality service** – service providers must evidence the skills and capacity to deliver effective support programmes and interventions to enable men and boys to cope and recover from their experiences.
- **Ability to deliver** the proposed support as soon as possible and demonstrate the ability to spend the grant monies in the period for which they are allocated (i.e. by 31 March 2022).
- **Value for money.**

## Outcomes

13. This Fund seeks to deliver the following outcomes:

- Male survivors have access to high quality services that are sensitive and responsive to the gender specific needs of men and boys.
- Service providers are better equipped to provide a high quality and bespoke support offer for men and boys.
- Male survivors are empowered to identify and report what a positive outcome of the support would be for them and this is captured by the service.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. Why are you focusing on expanding the availability of male support?**

Year on year, more male survivors have the confidence to come forward and report to the police, and men are increasingly seeking support from voluntary sector services. Through this bidding process we want to ensure specialist sexual violence services are equipped to deliver quality services that meet the specific needs of men and boys, and to respond to demand arising as a result of the pandemic. This bidding process forms part of a holistic funding package for sexual violence services, including additional investment in community-based sexual violence services (including ISVAs) and national remote services.

### **2. Can I bid for funding if working in partnership to offer support across PCC boundaries or on a regional basis?**

Yes. Though significant increased funding has already been provided to community-based sexual violence support services, we recognise that some organisations providing services over a wide geographical area cannot easily apply to a single local commissioner for funding.

This fund is therefore open to collaborative bids either within or across PCC boundaries.

There are no restrictions on the type of partnership, so we welcome partnership proposals that aim to improve collaboration and joined up working between commissioners, service providers and community organisations to provide better support male victims of sexual abuse.

### **3. As part of this bid, can services request funding to progress accreditation for male services?**

No. The funding is specifically intended for the delivery of support services for male victims of sexual violence and sexual abuse. It cannot be used toward the costs of accreditation for quality standards.

### **4. What reporting requirements will be required?**

Grant recipients will be asked to report as set out in the grant agreement for mid-year, a checkpoint review in January 2022, and end of year returns.

## **5. How do I submit a bid?**

Bids must be submitted to [victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk](mailto:victimservicescommissioning@justice.gov.uk) using the attached proforma for the Male Rape Support Service Fund **by 12pm on Friday 25 June**. Please ensure the name of your PCC area is included on the bid.

## **6. How will the male funding be confirmed and distributed?**

As soon as the funding outcome is confirmed, grant funding offer letters will be issued to confirm the level of funding. Subject to acceptance of the offer letter, the Ministry of Justice will issue grants in the following way:

- If the organisation is a rape support service and already in receipt of a MoJ Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Fund grant from the MoJ, then we will issue a grant addendum notice to their existing grant.
- If the organisation is a provider in one of the five devolved sexual violence commissioning test areas (Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hampshire, MOPAC/London and Nottinghamshire) or a new provider that does not have an existing rape support service grant awarded by the MoJ, funding will be delivered through the PCC via an addendum to the existing Local Commissioning of Victims' Support Services Grant between the MoJ and PCC.

Once all of the above documentation has been signed and returned payment will be made in accordance with the payment schedule (to be agreed at a later date).

## **7. When will I know if my bid has been successful?**

We will aim to confirm the outcome of applications in w/c 19 July 2021.