

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to inform you that today we have launched the Supporting Victims Programme 2023-26. This programme has the core purpose of commissioning services that support victims of crime to cope and recover from their experience.

Ensuring there is always support available for victims of crime and making sure victims remain at the heart of the criminal justice system is vital and a key priority of the Police and Crime Plan objective "Improving Lives". We want to ensure that victims of crime feel confident to seek help when they need it, and when they do, the right type of support is available to them. Through our Supporting Victims Programme, we will be able to invest in the fantastic services that we have here in Northumbria that provide this invaluable support to victims.

The Supporting Victims Programme follows the launch of our new core victim referral and assessment service here in Northumbria (Northumbria Victim and Witness Service) and strives to provide seamless end to end support for victims of crime.

We have continued to lobby the government for longer term settlements to help bring greater stability and sustainability to our local organisations. I am delighted that the government has listened and I am now able to provide successful applicants with three-year funding grant settlements.

#### **Key information**

- The funding programme has launched today and will be open for applications for six weeks. The fund will close on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- Organisations can apply by filling out an application form that can be accessed on our website – please click [here](#) to go to the webpage. More information on the Supporting Victims Programme, our funding priorities and eligibility and assessment criteria can also be accessed from this webpage.
- Organisations can apply for funding individually or in partnership with other organisations.
- For queries regarding the funding programme, please contact [holly.thornton@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:holly.thornton@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk) and [dean.taylor@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:dean.taylor@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk).

Thank you for your continued support.

**Kim McGuinness**

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria