

Partnership Opportunity: Surge Fund Therapeutic Provision

Guidance for funding applications

1. Introduction

The Government recently introduced changes to prison release arrangements through the Sentencing Act 2026, referred to as the Progression Model. Eligible offenders will be released from prison early under strict licence conditions and a period of intense supervision.

Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) have been provided with funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to ensure that local victim support provision is equipped to provide cope and recovery support to victims affected by the Progression Model. This funding complements national MoJ-funded initiatives including the [Offender Release Helpline](#) which is delivered by Victim Support, and both the [VAWG Hub and VAWG Fund for local VAWG support services](#) that will be delivered by Women's Aid Federation England.

We have already bolstered our core victims service, Northumbria Victim and Witness Service (NVWS), to create increased capacity for providing support for victims affected by the Progression Model. NVWS will be the coordinating service across Northumbria in relation to support for victims affected by the scheme, including acting as the main point of contact for the national helpline, providing practical and emotional support and referring onto specialist services where needed. NVWS have also been provided with additional funding for practical support and target hardening – local services can access this support for victims through NVWS. Please click [here](#) for more information on how to refer to NVWS.

We are looking to establish dedicated therapeutic provision for victims affected by the Progression Model and are therefore opening for applications from organisations that are interested in delivering this. This is a partnership opportunity to work NVWS to create a direct referral route to therapeutic provision for victims affected by the scheme.

2. What we would like to fund

Delivery

We are looking to fund **one** provider to deliver therapeutic support for victims that have been directly and indirectly affected by the Progression Model. Key aspects of the service we would like to see are:

- One to one sessions will be available for each victim.
- Partnership working with NVWS to create a direct therapeutic support pathway for NVWS referrals.
- Other local victim support services will be able to refer into the service if they are supporting a victim affected by the scheme that requires therapeutic support.

The support needs to be available to:

- Victims of any crime type
- Adults and children
- Victims across the full Northumbria force area

Provider suitability

We encourage applications from organisations that meet the following criteria:

- Already established therapeutic support provider
- Already operating across the full Northumbria force area
- Existing strong links with NVWS and other local victim support services
- Able to mobilise quickly – we would like project to be mobilised as soon as possible
- Able to be flexible to demand

Outcomes

The successful applicant will achieve the following key outcomes:

- A joined-up approach to support provision for victims affected by the Progression Model in Northumbria
- Victim outcomes:
 - Victims feel safer
 - Victims feel more informed
 - Victims are better able to cope and build resilience to move forward with daily life

Funding duration and funding available

We are looking to grant fund the successful applicant to March 2027, with possible extension for a further two years to March 2029.

As do not yet fully understand the extent of the impact the Progression Model will have in Northumbria, we are closely monitoring need and demand and keeping funding allocations under review to ensure funding is being spent in the most effective way. Based on the information currently available, we have allocated **£16,800** for the six months to 31st March 2027. Please ensure your application does not exceed this amount.

3. Eligibility and other information

Eligibility requirements

Services must be delivered in the interests of the victim and be:

- Free of charge;
- Confidential;
- Non-discriminatory (including being available to all regardless of residence status, nationality or citizenship);
- Available whether or not a crime has been reported to the police; and
- Available before, during and for an appropriate time after any investigation or criminal proceedings.

Organisations must have one of the following legal statuses:

- Registered charity
- Charitable incorporated organisations
- Company limited by guarantee/not-for profit organisation
- Social Enterprise/Community Interest Companies (CIC)

We are unable to consider funding the following:

- Any party-political activities
- Commercial ventures (for profit)
- Spending that has already taken place (i.e. retrospective funding)
- Individual sponsorship
- Any organisation that does not meet our due diligence requirements (more information below)

Due Diligence

If your application is successful at the assessment stage, your organisation will be required to complete a due diligence form and submit a copy of the following key documents:

- Governing document (set of rules, memorandum of understanding, or constitution)
- Safeguarding policy/policies
- Equality, diversity and inclusion policy
- Data protection/information security policy
- Most recent signed accounts

A copy of the due diligence form is available on our website – please do not complete this form until requested. Please note that if your organisation does not pass our due diligence checks we will not be able to proceed with the funding award.

Grant administration and monitoring

- Funding will be administered through a grant agreement. The grant agreement duration will be until 31st March 2027 with possible extension for another two years.
- The successful applicant will be required to complete quarterly monitoring submissions. Monitoring will be light-touch and in line with MoJ monitoring requirements.

4. How to apply

Please complete the application form that can be downloaded on the webpage for this funding opportunity and submit your application to commissioningsupport@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk on or before **Monday 26th October 2026**.