

Ref: 2024.04

Request Date: 29.01.2024

Response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act

Two duties are placed on public authorities under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). Notwithstanding applicable exemptions, the first duty at, Section 1(1) (a), is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at, Section 1 (1) (b), is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.

I can confirm that we hold some information you have requested.

1. Please can you provide details of any victims services commissioned by the OPCC exclusively for victims under the age of 18, including:

- Details of the service(s)
- The funding allocated to each service
- How many victims under the age of 18 were supported by these services.

Please can these details be provided for the year 2022/23 and 2021/22

The OPCC did not fund any services exclusively for victims under the age of 18 during 2022/23 and 2021/22.

2. Please can you provide details of any victims services commissioned by the OPCC that provide support for victims under the age of 18 (even if the service is not exclusively for victims under the age of 18), including:

- Details of the service(s)
- The funding allocated to each service
- How many victims under the age of 18 were supported by these services.

Please can these details be provided for the year 2022/23 and 2021/22

Victim Help Centre

The Victim Help Centre is a one-stop-shop for victims across the whole of North Wales and is based at divisional police HQ in St Asaph. It brings together the support services of North Wales Police, the Witness Care Unit of the Crown

Prosecution Service (CPS). Each victim receives a response specifically tailored to their situation and the centre employs specialists in mental health, hate crime, fraud, serious and organised crime and modern day slavery. In addition to specialised caseworkers the Victim Help Centre employs Victim Help Officers who make initial contact with the victim along with a number of volunteers to support victims across north Wales. During this period Children and Young People were offered support by the Victim Help Centre via their parent/guardian. However, the PCC awarded funded to Victim Support in 23/24 for a dedicated Children and Young People worker to ensure children and young people receive support by the centre.

Total Service Funding Allocation

21/22 - £451,787.00

22/23 - £459,324.00

Total number Children and Young People under age of 18 supported;

21-22 – 1,573

22-23 – 2,574

DASU

The Domestic Abuse Safety Unit provides a range of confidential quality services that value and respect survivors of Domestic Abuse. The VAWDASV Board and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner jointly commission a Regional Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA's) service for all victims of Domestic Abuse. IDVAs work to address the safety of all people at high risk of domestic violence and abuse from intimate partners, ex-partners and family members to secure their safety and the safety of their children. The service works with men and women. Operating as the primary point of contact, IDVAs typically work with their clients from the point of crisis to assess the risk, review options, and develop and implement plans to address their immediate safety, as well as longer-term solutions. DASU North Wales work across 4 local authority areas including Wrexham Flintshire, Denbighshire and Conwy. DASU employee dedicated Children and Young People Independent Domestic Violence Advisors to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse. DASU also manage several refuges for families fleeing domestic abuse. DASU also receive funding for dedicated children workers who are based within their refuges.

Total Service Funding Allocation

21/22 - £908,062.97

22/23 - £910,809.71

Total number Children and Young People under age of 18 supported;

21-22 - 47

22-23 - 25

Gorwel

Gorwel is a business unit within Grŵp Cynefin. Gorwel's main focus is to provide support services in the field of domestic violence and homeless prevention. The VAWDASV Board and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner jointly commission a Regional Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA's) service for all victims of Domestic Abuse. IDVAs work to address the safety of all people at high risk of domestic violence and abuse from intimate partners, ex-partners and family members to secure their safety and the safety of their children. The service works with men and women. Operating as the primary point of contact, IDVAs typically work with their clients from the point of crisis to assess the risk, review options, and develop and implement plans to address their immediate safety, as well as longer-term solutions. Gorwel work across 2 local authority areas covering Anglesey and Gwynedd. Gorwel employee dedicated Children and Young People Independent Domestic Violence Advisors to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

Total Service Funding Allocation

21-22 - £344,983.53

22-23 - £332,152.13

Total number Children and Young People under age of 18 supported;

21-22 - 5

22-23 - 57

RASASC

The Rape and Sexual Support Centre (RASASC), provides information, specialist support and therapy to anyone aged 3 and over who has experienced any kind of sexual abuse or violence. RASASC will support individuals whether it has been in recently or in the past and also provide support and therapy to partners or family members of those who have been affected by sexual abuse and violence. RASASC are a non-judgemental, confidential and free of charge and are based across 6 counties of North Wales.

Total Service Funding Allocation

21-22 - £159,600.00

22-23 - £229,600.00

Total number Children and Young People under age of 18 supported;

21-22 - 243

22-23 - 485

SARC

Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) /Children & Young People Sexual Violence Advocate (CYPSVA) service provides support to adult and child victims of sexual violence, and their families and significant others. The service has established pathways for inter-referral with many agencies and works consistently to provide effective services to individuals and their families, ensuring to avoid duplication with other agencies such as Mental Health, CAMHS, School Nurses, Safeguarding, POVA, Paediatricians and Domestic Abuse services. The ISVA/CYPSVA Service works collaboratively with Third Sector Agencies, Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (North Wales), Stepping Stones and other agencies.

Total Service Funding Allocation

21-22 - £381,712.00

22-23 - £482,077.00

Total number Children and Young People under age of 18 supported;

21-22 – 224

22-23 - 179

Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones is a registered charity providing therapeutic services across north Wales to adults who have been sexually abused as children. They have registered British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) counsellors working across the six counties of north Wales providing support at a preferred location together with choice of language and gender of counsellor. During the below years Stepping Stones received further funding to support an additional Children and Young People Independent Sexual Violence Advocate.

Total Service Funding Allocation

21-22 - £115,002.00

22-23 - £97,359.50

Total number Children and Young People under age of 18 supported;

21-22 – 10

22-23 – 16

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OFFICE OF THE **POLICE & CRIME**
COMMISSIONER NORTH WALES

This information has been provided in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is correct as at 19 February 2024

