

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 656

A response to your request for information is provided below, with answers in blue:

You request asked for:

Information regarding your commissioned services for survivors of domestic violence and abuse.

For each question apart from Question 7, please provide information broken down into the following categories:

- a) Your commissioned services for women experiencing domestic violence and abuse
- b) Your commissioned services for men experiencing domestic violence and abuse
- c) Your commissioned services which are for either women or men experiencing domestic violence and abuse
- d) Your commissioned services for groups with specific needs such as BME women, disabled women, and LGBTQ survivors experiencing domestic violence and abuse

1. What is the value of your commissioned services, and has this amount increased or decreased since it was last commissioned?

2. Which organisation or organisations currently hold the contract for your commissioned services? When are these services due to be recommissioned? Please include dates of when tender documents will be available.

3. When your services were commissioned, was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? Has your procurement team or legal advisors ensured that your decisions were compliant with both the EU Procurement Directive and the EU Directive on Victim's Rights?

4. How many expressions of interest did you receive and how many final bids did you receive?

5. How much did the commissioning process cost you?

6. Was the decision to commission your services made as part of a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy?

7. Mapping of provision:

a. Did you undertake mapping of service provision as part of the commissioning process for domestic violence and abuse?

b. If yes, please list details of the domestic violence service providers in your local authority that are NOT commissioned by the local authority following categories: (i) services for women experiencing domestic violence and abuse (ii) services for men experiencing domestic violence and abuse; (iii) women or men experiencing domestic violence and abuse (iv) BME women, disabled women, and LGBTQ survivors experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

Answer:

The PCC does not commission any specialist domestic violence and abuse services. Therefore, the information requested is not recorded. Please note that the scope of the Freedom of Information Act is limited to recorded information held at the time of the request. There is no requirement on an organisation to create new information in response to a request. Therefore, this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

With the aim of assisting you further than the limits of the Freedom of Information Act, the PCC commissioned *general victim services* in 2014/2015, with new agreements in place for April 2015. The office of the PCC is not a Local Authority and Avon and Somerset Constabulary covers five Local Authority areas. As part of the *general victim services* commissioning, existing services were mapped including local specialist domestic abuse services commissioned by Local Authorities.

The process, documents and services commissioned are published on the PCC's website at: <http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Partnerships/Victim-Services.aspx> By virtue of being services based largely on vulnerability - not crime type - a number of PCC services do support victims of domestic abuse where appropriate.