



AVON & SOMERSET

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

PCC DECISION

REF 2026/010

Decision Title:

Young Victims Service (YVS) Capacity and Resilience Funding

Decision summary:

Approval to allocate £53,000 per annum from the Police and Crime Grant top-slice allocation to support the Young Victims Service (YVS). The funding will restore the Service Manager role to 1.0 FTE and increase an advocate post from 0.6 FTE to 1.0 FTE, providing operational resilience and maintaining support for children and young people affected by crime, anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse across Avon and Somerset.

Background or reference to supporting papers:

The Young Victims Service is commissioned by the OPCC to provide support to children and young people who are victims of crime, anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse and exploitation. Since 2019, the service has benefited from additional external funding streams, including Children Affected by Domestic Abuse (CADA) and BNSSG Vanguard funding, which increased staffing capacity and enabled a significant proportion of domestic abuse referrals to be managed outside of the core OPCC-funded contract.

From April 2026, these external funding streams have ended, resulting in a significant reduction in staffing capacity. The service will reduce from 1.0 FTE Senior Practitioner and 9.0 FTE advocates to 0.5 FTE Senior Practitioner and 4.6 FTE advocates. This will require all eligible domestic abuse referrals to be managed within the core contract and increases the risk that demand will exceed available capacity.

Service discussions with Young Victims Service leadership and local authority partners confirmed that restoring the full-time management post and increasing advocate capacity would provide sufficient resilience to manage anticipated demand while local authorities continue to reshape referral pathways and support arrangements. The proposal would also support and enable additional planned investment from Bristol City Council and maintain service stability across the force area.

The recommended funding of £53,000 per annum will be met from the Police and Crime Grant top-slice allocation. This represents an investment in a core victim support service that delivers against the OPCC's commissioning responsibilities and the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan and helps ensure continued

support for children and young people who are eligible for services under the Victims' Code.

Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any declarations of disclosable interest in this matter. Any such interests are disclosed.

The above request has my approval.

Date 17/08/2026



Police & Crime Commissioner for Avon & Somerset

CFO Signatures

Date 21/08/2026

(OCC CFO required if decision requested or presented for approval by Constabulary)



PCC CFO

OCC CFO

Other relevant lead officer as required

Date 21/08/2026

(e.g PCC CEO, COG lead)

OPCC Chief Executive

KD Parfitt TD MBE



Job title

name

signature