

## OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR WEST YORKSHIRE

## Record of Decision made by the Police and Crime Commissioner

Title/Subject: Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline funding

## Serial No: DP 0168

**Summary:** In October 2016, the charity Unseen UK set up the Modern Slavery Helpline with initial seed funding of £750,000 from Google.org. Subsequent funding in excess of £2 million raised through charitable fundraising activities and the use of their own reserves, including support from key corporate partners, has enabled the Helpline to provide an ongoing service throughout this time. It provides an independent and confidential single point of contact to provide support for many people.

Over the course of its operation, the Helpline has answered over 18,370 calls, received 4,880 web forms and App submissions and indicated 18,502 potential victims with cases across all force areas and UK jurisdictions.

In March 2020, Unseen UK wrote to all PCC's by email, to directly request a financial contribution of between £10,000 and £20,000 to meet their immediate shortfall in their funding streams to operate the Modern Slavery Helpline as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak.

Unseen also asked their key corporate partners to increase their contributions, and although they responded positively to this request, this was not sufficient to maintain the Helpline operations fully and they therefore reduced their business to a minimum viable product.

In May, Unseen again wrote to all PCC's by email stating they are now requesting to raise £35,000 from PCC's this year to ensure they can operate their new and revised model effectively in future years.

In **the West Yorkshire police force area** between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019, the Helpline indicated **71** cases of modern slavery with **259** potential victims.

**Requested Decision:** The OPCC Executive agree to provide a financial contribution of £5000 to the Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline, to support their target of £35,000 for this financial year.

Implications	Details / Comments	Officer Sign Off
Financial		Treasurer
		Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
	Reviewed by DMO.	Deputy Monitoring Officer

Police and Crime Commissioner Decision:		
Agreed		
Signature:		
12-3 Willing		
Title: Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire		
Date: 14 Sept 2020		