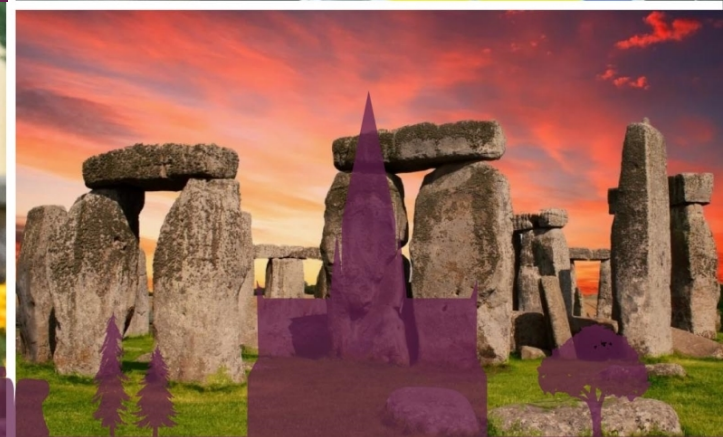


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OPCC Portfolio Update  
Victims and Vulnerability  
**March 2023**



# Victims and Vulnerability – Strategic Drivers

## Victim Voice

### Police and Crime Plan

#### Priority 2: Reduce violence and serious harm

Violence against women and girls and under-represented victims.

#### Priority 3: Tackle the issues that matter to communities

Supporting vulnerability.

#### Priority 4: Improve the experience of victims and deliver justice

Commissioned services

### Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board Strategy

#### Ensuring victims of crime are fully supported through the Criminal Justice System with quality services that effectively meet their needs

1. Collaborative approach to ensuring compliance with Code of Practice for Victims of Crime and effective delivery of quality Victim Services
2. Agencies working together to provide whole-system approach to supporting victims of Domestic Abuse and Serious & Sexual Violence
3. Ensuring a Victim centred approach

Scorecard measures for ensuring victims of crime are fully supported.

### Victims Bill (forthcoming law) / The Victims Funding Strategy

The key areas covered in the consultation were:

- Enshrining the Victims' Code in law and expanding provisions of the code where necessary.
- Improving communication with victims of crime and ensuring their voices are heard in the criminal justice process.
- Improving oversight, performance and quality.
- Delivery of victim support through community-based services.
- Improving advocacy support for victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence and other serious violence, and improving advocacy for children and young people.

### Victims Code of Practice (VCoP)

The **Victims' Code** focuses on victims' rights and sets out the minimum standard that organisations must provide to victims of crime.

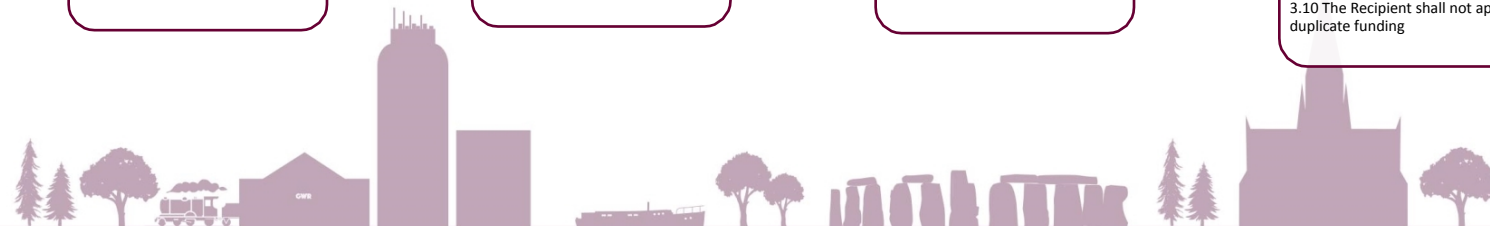
There are 12 rights including those pertaining to communication, accessibility, property, complaints and a victims right to review.

### Ministry of Justice Grant Agreement

The Grant is made in exercise of the power conferred on the Authority by **section 56(1) of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004.**

3.7 The Activities must satisfy the requirements of the Victims' Code and domestic Law and must:

- 3.7.1 meet the support needs of Victims of Crime;
- 3.7.2 act in the interests of the Victims of Crime supported;
- 3.7.3 be free of charge;
- 3.7.4 be confidential;
- 3.7.5 be non-discriminatory (including being available to all regardless of residence status, nationality or citizenship);
- 3.7.6 be available whether or not a crime has been reported to the police;
- 3.7.7 be available before, during and for an appropriate time after any investigation or criminal proceedings; and
- 3.9 Whilst ensuring effective delivery of the Activities the Recipient must seek efficiency and best value for money when spending the Grant. This includes consideration of co-commissioning of services and integration of services.
- 3.10 The Recipient shall not apply for duplicate funding



# Victims and Vulnerability – Strategic Drivers

## Questionnaire responses:

### Feedback

- Just over 40% of respondents said that they were not given details of support services that help victims of crime when they reported the incident.
- Over a third of respondents who said they had not reported the crime to the Police were not aware that they could still access support services.
- Victims said that early access to support services was, or would have been, important to them in terms of recovering from the immediate impact of the crime.

### Action

- New literature, additional resources
- Partnership strengthening, new networks



## Victim Voice:

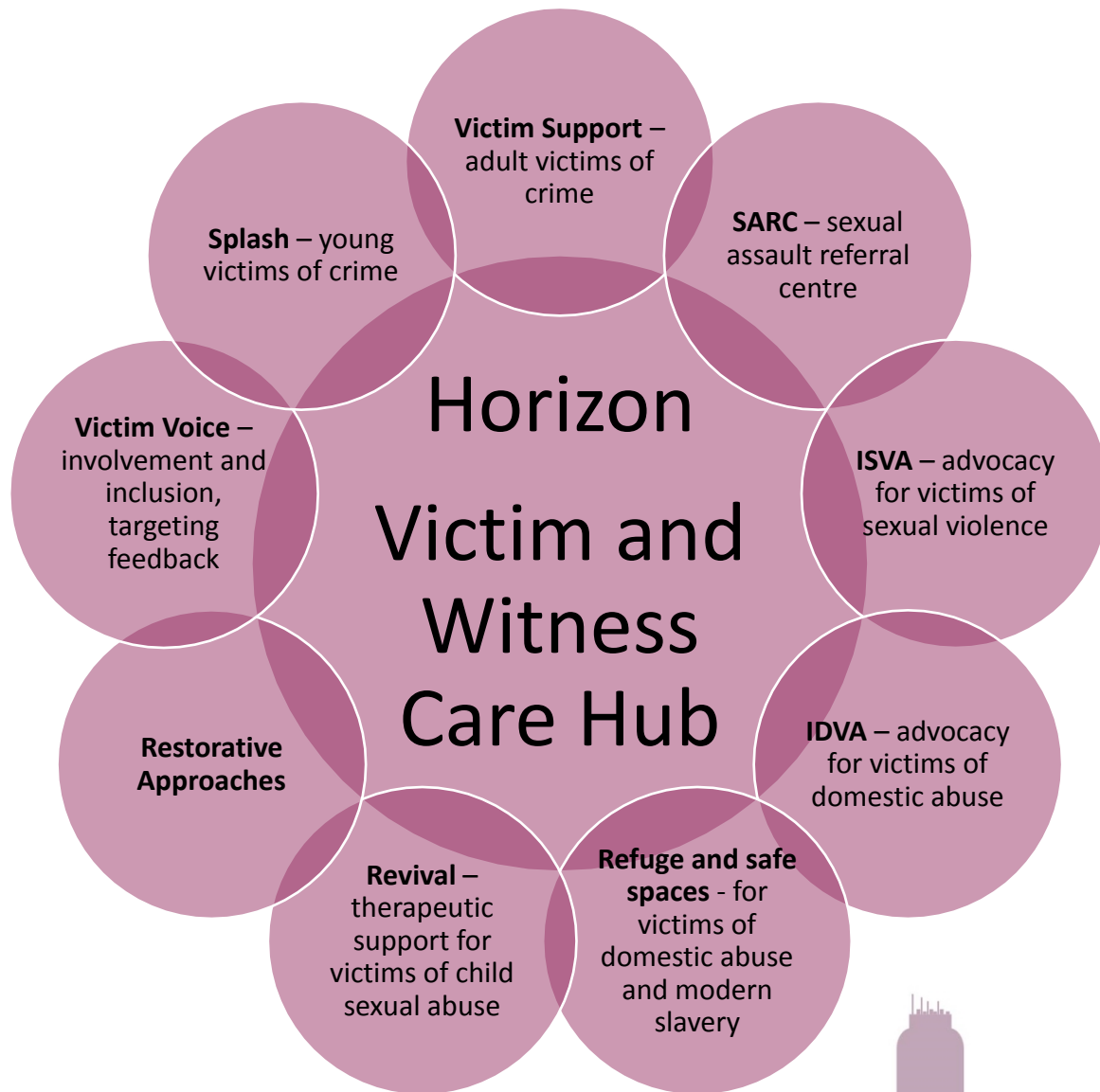
Direct Feedback, questionnaires, complaints, via Support Service Providers, national/regional/local reports and reviews, commissioning processes and engagement.

My daughter was terrified after the incident occurred. Working with the Splash team has enabled her to process the situation and gradually build up her confidence again. This is wonderful to see.

Very valuable service given the chance to talk, support, provided with options to make feel safe in own home. Brilliant service, was given plenty of time to talk and discuss emotions.

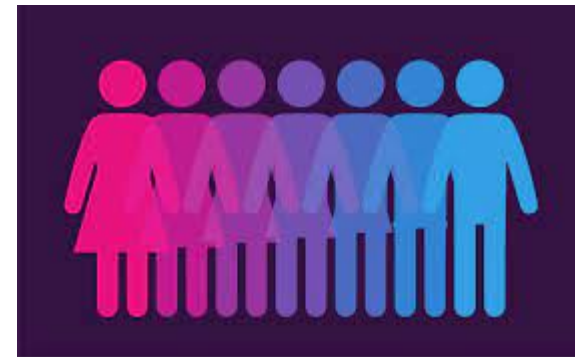
[Worker] was incredible I came as a completely broken person wondering if I was going mad. The support and education I received was invaluable. It saved mine and my children's lives. We were able to leave as safely as possible and with the help of [Worker] we were incredibly supported throughout. I can't thank her enough for the support she gave us through the most difficult time in my life. So the service isn't good, it's amazing.





**8,492**   
Local victims of crime **23%**

**32%**  
Of all victims were male



**64%**  
Of all victims were female

**22%**  
**1,903**  
Under 18's

**8%**  
**652**  
Under 12's



# Services delivered April to September :

**2,130**  
↑  
victims of  
domestic  
abuse  
28%

**303** victims were male  
**1,800** victims were female

**8,492**  
↑  
Local  
victims of  
crime  
23%



**446**  
victims of  
stalking and  
harassment

**156** under the  
age of 18



**1,088**  
↑  
victims of  
sexual  
harm  
325%

**128**  
victims  
were  
male

**940**  
victims  
were  
female

About **1 in 3** and **1 in 4** women and men report having experienced severe physical violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime.

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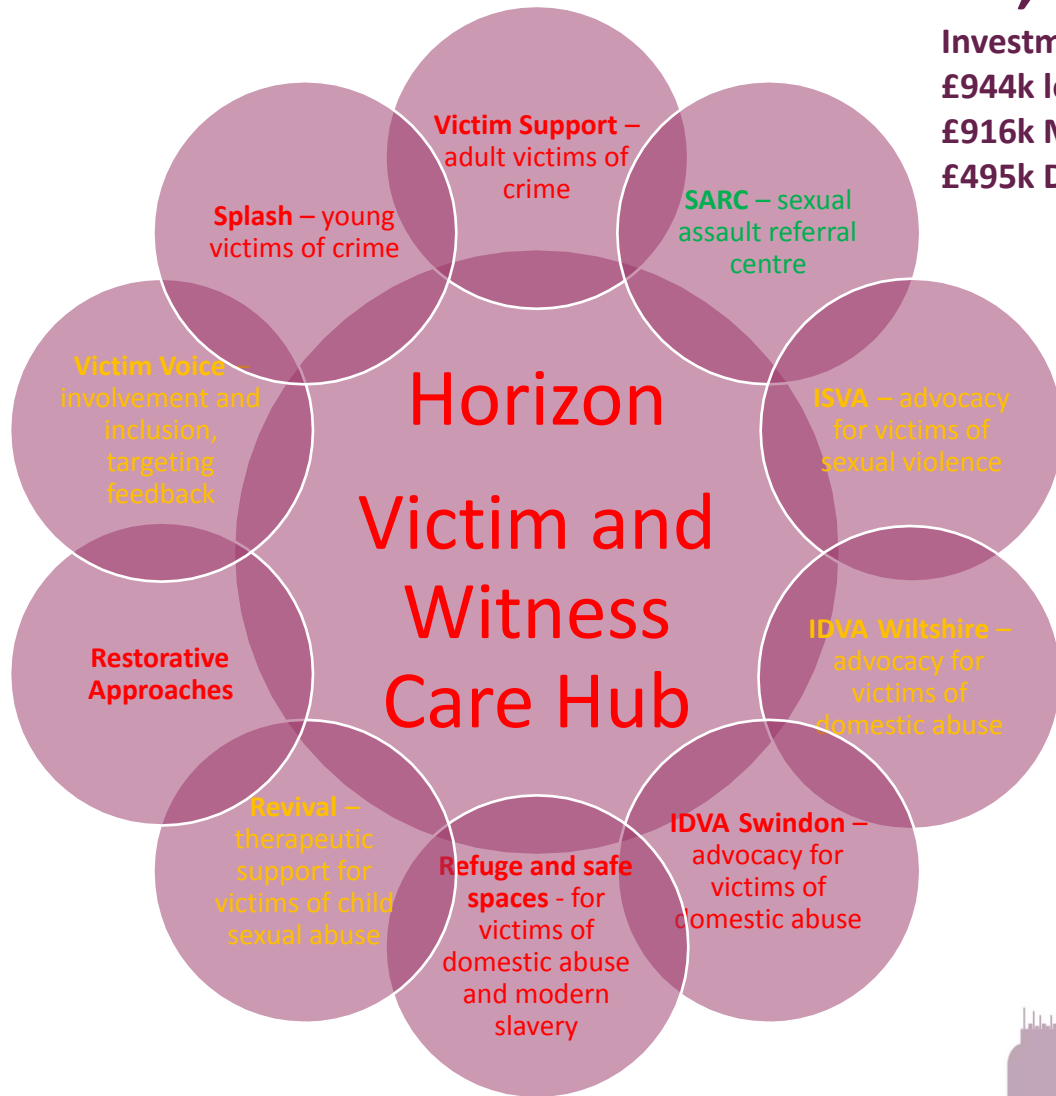
**£2,355,000**

Investment

£944k local funding

£916k Ministry of Justice Victims Grant

£495k DA/SV Grants



Service Area	Process	New Contract begins
Victim Hub and Restorative Services c£500k	March – May 2023	June 2023
Enhanced offer adults c£220k	July – November 2023	April 2024
Enhanced offer children c£120k	April – August 2023	April 2024
Domestic abuse advocacy Swindon and refuge/safe spaces c£90k of c£270k	April to December	April 2024



# Opportunities, Challenges, Principles:

Opportunities	Challenges
Children and Young People	Resources
Vulnerability and repeat victims	Cliff edge funding
Regional e.g. Restorative Practice	Trust and Confidence
Extend reach	Victims Law
Partnerships – NHS/ICB's	Parole Hearings
Sexual Harm – centre of excellence	Policy Landscape
Demand management	
Communication	
Victims Code of Practice	
Principles	
Victim led	Evidence based
Collaboration	Co-ordination



# Questions?



Making Wiltshire Safer



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