

2018/19 CSE funding

The West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner contributes **over £1million** each year to projects related to CSE in West Mercia.

Specifically for Telford and Wrekin, the grants **total over half a million** (£516,717):

£334,144 to AXIS Counselling and Psychotherapy to work with victims of sexual violence aged 11 and over in assisting them to access the services they need in the aftermath of the abuse they have experienced. This includes counselling, housing, sexual health services. A Parenting ISVA (Independent sexual violence advisor) supports the parents and carers of victims aged 10 and under.

£42,320 to Young Solutions to coordinate and implement CSE awareness raising in West Mercia for taxi drivers, hoteliers and the night time economy food establishments.

£33,421 for a CSE awareness raising and education project to develop and coordinate a prevention package around Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), missing children and online safety. This initiative will enable a suitably qualified practitioner to develop and deliver a consistent message to a variety of audiences in Telford and Wrekin.

£69,340 to the paediatric SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) service (Other regional PCC's and NHS England also contribute to this)

This is a co-commissioning approach to sexual assault referral centres and covers the communities of Telford and Wrekin. The centres provide a 24/7 'one stop' open service to anyone up to the age of 17 who has been a victim of rape, sexual violence and/or sexual abuse

£7,867 to Mentor Link to run a series of 5 week Protective Behaviours training programmes offered for free to young people in schools and community venues across West Mercia. This aims to teach children to feel safe at all times and how to recognise, understand and inform others about possible unsafe situations. This grant ceased at the end of the academic year (July 2018) due to the introduction of the statutory 'healthy relationships' curriculum.

£28,875 for a CSE Awareness Raising and Education project to develop and coordinate a prevention package around Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), missing children and online safety. This initiative will enable a suitably qualified practitioner to develop and deliver a consistent message to a variety of audiences.

£750 on a multi-agency CSE awareness raising event to coincide with National Stop CSE Awareness Day in March 2019.

Uniquely to Telford and Wrekin, the Local Authority have a Family Connect model where all referrals/concerns are made to Children's Services. Within the Family Connect model, Telford have the CATE team (Children Abused Through Exploitation) who are made up of the following;

- 1 x Senior Social Worker
- 5 x CATE workers

All of the above staff are funded by Telford & Wrekin Council.

The CATE workers act as a “critical friend” to any young person connected to CSE regardless of the level of risk.

The CATE workers get a caseload allocated to them (similar to the social worker model). The age range that they work with are 13-18, but they will keep cases where the young person is over 18 if they have been involved – this is up to a maximum age of 21.

The workers deliver direct intervention work around CSE on topics such as education and relationships, and use of the internet.

They have 5 packages of educational activity which they deliver. The team also support young people in areas such as mental health, sexual health, housing and general life issues, and can support victims through the Criminal Justice System.

The CATE team work with the CHISVA (Childrens Independent Sexual Violence Advisor- A role within the Axis service funded by the PCC) to provide this support

Elsewhere across West Mercia, the PCC provides funding which includes:

£21,523 to the Barnardo’s CSE team working in Herefordshire and Worcestershire alongside the statutory services to provide vulnerable children with 1-1 support at risk of CSE or are being exploited. (Whilst there have been discussions to extend the Barnardo’s service into Shropshire and Telford, this was seen as duplication of the work covered by the CATE team). This grant is due to cease in June 2018 as a result of the CSE tender

£444,000 to WMRSASC to fund the Independent sexual Violence Advisor Service in Worcestershire and Herefordshire (A similar service to what Axis provide in Telford and Shropshire). This includes a children’s independent sexual violence advisor and funding for prevention work via the SELFIE programme in schools and with children at risk.

£97,132 on CSE specialist support to provide education and interventions to children and young people (CYP) who are at risk of or have been a victim of CSE (as per the CATE team above)