



To whom it may concern

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Support for Adult Survivors / Victims of Child Sexual Exploitation

Market Questionnaire

Background: For some time now health and social care commissioners for mental health have been working with the Third Sector to develop a model of support for people who have experienced emotional trauma. Since the publication of the Council's Cabinet Paper "Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation" (March 2018) this work has focused specifically on support for adult victims / survivors of CSE.

The model developed so far focuses on therapeutic support to help people to cope with the trauma they have experienced, and practical support to help someone to build a better future. We expect support to be available for family members (18+) as well as the victim / survivor themselves. Practical support will include the range of support services that already exist, but will also need to include:

- 1. Peer Support:** support delivered by people with lived experience of CSA / CSE, offering someone to talk to, offering evidence and motivation that change is possible, having skills in being Trauma Aware.
- 2. Listening Services:** one to one appointments with trained listeners to support people experiencing emotional distress. The listeners will have received training in trauma, and in CSE. This is not a form of therapy.
- 3. Education & Training:** A range of educational and training courses exists already in Telford & Wrekin, and discussions are already underway to expand this to include more on trauma. Specific training is also required to support people who have experienced grief and loss, to train other professionals and volunteers on how best to support individuals who have experienced CSE, and or other trauma. Community wide training on trauma will be a key requirement in order to deliver the model.
- 4. Advocacy to include support with appointments, relating to CSE.** The legal processes for example can trigger a range of emotions, can be confusing at times and can be quite stressful. Support is often needed for individuals who don't have anyone to support them, or anyone they can talk to or who can attend appointments with them for example therapy sessions. This is a key role for peer supporters.

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At present we are intending to invite partners to bid for one or more aspects of the above list. We would seek to encourage smaller bids from a range of individual partners, to ensure we have a wide range of support offers. We recognise that one size won't fit all. We intend to put a financial limit on the size of bids in order for us to achieve the range of options we want to be available for people who have experienced child sexual exploitation.

To aid this process, I would be grateful if you would complete and return the attached questionnaire. The responses will be evaluated and will help us to inform and clarify our next steps.

Many thanks for your support on this matter.

Yours faithfully

Steph Wain

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