



VALUING VICTIMS – A REVIEW OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS’ FUNDING OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE 2013-2016 – Update June 2016

In April 2016 Why me? published the above report ahead of the PCC election on 5th May 2016. At the time of drafting the report Why me? were waiting for details of PCC funding information from the Ministry of Justice for the 3 year period from 2013/4. This information, which was dealt with as a freedom of information request by the MOJ, was provided to Why me? on 10th May 2016.

Why me? have now revisited the initial research and have requested all PCC’s to further comment upon their expenditure on RJ during this period. Where provided the information has been used to update individual PCC area profiles which are available via the Why me? web site.

<http://www.why-me.org/valuing-victims/>

Research results and context

The research now provides currently the most publically available national picture on how PCC’s used the funding made available to them to develop restorative justice delivery models together with brief descriptions of the service model and, importantly, access information for victims. The initial report findings and recommendations remain valid.

In the final session of the Justice Select Committee – Restorative Justice, held on 24th May the Rt. Hon Mike Penning MP, Minister for Policing, Fire and Criminal Justice and Victims was questioned regarding the expenditure by PCC’s of the indicative MoJ funding to develop restorative approaches. A commitment was made by the Minister to provide this information to the committee.

On 6th June 2016 the Restorative Justice Council released results of their Ipsos MORI poll that indicated that 80% of the public believe that victims of crime should have the right to meet their offender. Among people who had been a victim of crime, this figure rose to 85%.

<https://www.rjc.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/files/2016%20Ipsos%20MORI%20poll%20summary.pdf>

Why me? welcomes the questioning by the committee and the Ipsos research and consider that transparency and accountability remain key issues to support the ongoing development of restorative justice for victims. Our report recommendations have been sent to the Justice Select Committee for consideration.