



OPCC Record of Decision

Disruptive Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) programme:

For the period 2026/27, £300,000 funding was agreed to implement a programme of disruptive activity which challenges entrenched norms, systems, and power structures that perpetuate gender-based violence. Co-ordinating new and innovative projects, events and approaches designed to disrupt and reduce violence against women and girls.

Decision Record prepared by

Name:	Amanda Wells
Role:	Commissioning and Partnerships officer
Date of Decision:	30 January 2026

1. Background:

- 1.1 Violence against women and girls (VAWG) remains a significant societal issue, with rising reports of domestic abuse, sexual violence, harassment and online harms. Existing services face increasing demand and complexity, requiring a more proactive, disruptive approach.

This work began in July 2025, the Police and Crime Commissioner hosted a Disruptive VAWG event for representatives of more than 50 organisations across Devon and Cornwall, with the aim of seeking a wide variety of disruptive ideas to combat violence against women and girls. Over the months that followed these were distilled into a range of interventions to benefit the communities of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Throughout the rest of her term of office, the Commissioner is strongly committed to tackling Violence Against Women and Girls with Serious Violence highlighted as a key priority within the Police and Crime Plan 2025-29.

- 1.2 The Disruptive VAWG programme challenges entrenched norms, systems and power structures that perpetuate gender-based violence, questioning traditional models of intervention and service delivery by:
- Shifting focus from response (crisis services) to prevention, (education, cultural change)
 - Testing out new methods, approaches and tools to provoke change
 - Leading on digital campaigns that shift public narratives about consent and accountability



2. Aims and objectives:

2.1 The aim of the programme is;

- To reduce the prevalence, severity and normalization of violence against women and girls working collaboratively with local organisations, providers and agencies through radical thinking and testing new ideas and approaches.

2.2 The objectives of this programme are:

- To improve early identification and intervention
- To reduce instances of VAWG by addressing root causes, harmful attitudes and risk factors.
- To strengthen multi-agency coordination, data sharing and operational capability within each of the projects and approaches
- To increase community confidence and reduce tolerance of harmful behaviours
- To lead disruptive approaches to challenge harmful norms
- To identify and detail opportunities for systemic change to prevent VAWG

3. Key deliverables:

3.1 The programme will deliver a range of projects:

- To develop a **Male Ally Network** (commencing with pilot in Cornwall) – an alliance between male and female champions, standing as equals to form a partnership in combatting VAWG.
- To deliver and evaluate nine **Hollie Gazzard training sessions - Stalking Awareness**, offered to local councils, providers and agencies.
- To deliver the **Let'sTalk programme** - empowering parents and carers by raising awareness of community safety risks and challenges faced by young people.
- To publish a **research paper**, authored in partnership with GWR and Plymouth University to better understand **women's perception of safety on trains and other public transport**.
- To deliver a **Teenager Coercive Control pilot** across a number of North Devon secondary schools. For young people to recognize coercive control, understand unhealthy relationship behaviours and break cycles of abuse at an early stage.
- To deliver **Stamp out Spiking training** running a six-month programme in Plymouth, Exeter and Newquay, delivering two live two-hour sessions per location for frontline staff.
- To support **International Women's Day in March 2026** – this year's theme is Justice, showcasing local victim services and focus on Criminal Justice and You resource.
- To develop a **Disruptive VAWG microsite** – hosting all the projects, events and approaches



4. Decision Record

- 4.1 For the period 2026/27, £300,000 funding was agreed to implement a programme of disruptive activity which challenges entrenched norms, systems, and power structures that perpetuate gender-based violence.

5. Consultation, Engagement and Communication

- 5.1 This work began in July 2025, the Police and Crime Commissioner hosted a Disruptive VAWG event for representatives of more than 50 organisations across Devon and Cornwall, with the aim of seeking a wide variety of disruptive ideas to combat violence against women and girls. Over the months that followed these were distilled into a range of interventions to benefit the communities of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

6. OPCC Monitoring Officer advice

6.1 Legal, Management, Equality and GDPR Implications – Current and Future

- The PCC's Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer have advised that the arrangements set out in the proposal meet the requirements of the relevant legislation and the needs of the organisation.
- The PCC's CEO and Monitoring Officer have advised that this decision is within the powers of those making it and that, from the information provided, there would not appear to be any adverse legal, managerial, equality or GDPR implications arising from the proposal.
- EDHR obligations have been considered when taking this decision and, on this occasion, it is necessary to complete an Equality Impact Assessment. The decision will not impact on human resources, equality or diversity obligations.

6.2 Financial and Commercial – Current and Future

The PCC's Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer have advised that the arrangements are consistent with good governance and ensuring value for money.

7. Supporting documents:

- 7.1 None

8. Official approval

- 8.1 Following the appropriate approval, this decision sheet will be published, subject to FOIA classification, on the OPCC website.



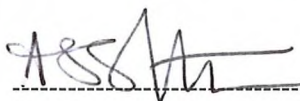
For OPCC office use:

If FOI Closed at the current date under Section 22, please provide details of the future date by which this decision can be reconsidered for publication:	[DD/MM/YY] [insert date]
Is there a publication schedule that lists the documents relating to this decision that will also be published at a later date in the future? If yes, please attach a copy with this decision.	no

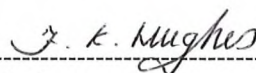
The Recommendation for Decision as outlined in this report is formally approved and subject to Freedom of Information Classification will be published on the OPCC website:

Police and Crime Commissioner

**Governance Signature by
Monitoring Officer**



Signed
Print:
Date: 14/07/26



Signed
Print:
Date: 14/07/26

Equality Impact Assessment attached	✓
Data Protection Impact Assessment attached [Tick if completed]	
Decision logged in register? [Tick if completed]	
Decision published on OPCC website? [Tick if completed]	