OPCC Victim Service Provider Workshop: *Provider Presentation*

Presentation by: Cheshire OPCC-funded Hate Crime Victim Service Provider.

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A bit about our Cheshire service (2015/16):

- We work to increase understanding of what hate crime is, how hate crimes can be reported, and why it is so important to report hate crimes.
- We also help LGBT people from Cheshire become aware of how they can access support around hate crime.
- We have done this through distributing resources, and through speaking at schools, colleges and community events in Cheshire.
- We have also been able to increase the level of support we are able to provide to victims of hate crime within Cheshire.

2 recent examples of the impact we've made:

- Claire* is a transwoman in her 40s from Cheshire.
- She suffers from visual impairments, and is a frequent victim of hate crime in her home town.
- Claire's victimisation has made her very socially isolated.
- Claire accesses pop in support, and works as a volunteer at LGBT Foundation.

- December 2015 call to the helpline from Cheshire.
- 'Caller has a young gay son who is suffering homophobic bullying and she would like information about reporting this to the police and how to go about that.'
- Caller was told how she and her son could report the hate crime, and how he could access support around his victimisation.

How we evidence our value to commissioners

- We base our funding reports on outcomes to show the impact of our services on individuals and on communities.
- We also strive to highlight extras that are provided as part of the service – e.g. attending LGBT youth groups in Cheshire to talk about hate crime reporting.
- We have managed to reach organisations across Cheshire who are particularly under-engaged with, and under-informed on, issues to do with LGBT Hate Crime.

Our approach to funding - to date

- Working to maintain existing contracts to similar levels (lobbying to reduce the impact and amount of cuts).
- Working to secure new contracts and service level agreements.
- Focussing on trust and foundation applications.

Our approach to funding in 2016 & beyond

- Continuing to secure new and maintain existing contracts to ensure future delivery.
- Applying to a range of trusts and foundations.
- Working to increase unrestricted income (e.g. through venue hire and donor scheme).
- Continuing to work to build an LGBT evidence base to further support appeals for funding.
- Hope to get more involved with lead applicants for larger scale tenders – lobbying to ensure LGBT inclusion within tender specifications.

Our approach to collaboration & joint working, to help secure further income

- Going forward, we are working more with commissioners to make them aware of the needs of LGBT people so they are better able to include these needs within tender specifications we are working hard to develop relationships with lead applicants of major large scale tenders, working on a sub contracting basis.
- Exploring ways of collaborative partnerships with relevant organisations in order to pool resources and therefore reduce costs.