

# Workshops for Voluntary, Community & Faith (VCF) Sector victim services OPCC for Cheshire

*"Michael is easy to work with, well informed and provides useful independent insight to our work".*

Commissioning Officer, Police & Crime Commissioners office for Cheshire



## Overview

Following positive feedback from participants at a workshop held in December 2015, the office for the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Cheshire were keen to host a mid-year follow-up, to build on relationships and joint-working with the local voluntary & community sector (VCS). The July 2016 event was timed to coincide neatly with the consultation timetable on the Police and Crime Plan refresh and service planning for 2017/18.

An [event webpage](#) was created to act as an information repository for the project team and to sign-post attendees to more information and key documents.

## What we did

The event was split into two halves:

- Prior to the break the PCC for Cheshire, David Keane, introduced himself and the consultation programme on the Police and Crime Plan - prior to MLR facilitating an 'ask-the-audience' session on community safety priorities, using interactive handsets.
- After the break there were two more sessions, including presentations that showcased funding experience and support options from three distinct perspectives. The last session of the day was set aside for 'cafe conversation' groupwork, exploring themes that emerged in the previous session's presentations.

## Outcomes & added value

Evaluation forms and feedback indicate that the event was a valued use of people's time, with participants welcoming the opportunity to network and learn from other VCS agencies providing vital support services across Cheshire. The project led to:

- Improvement ideas being used in the Victim Voice Consultation for victim services.
- A consensus that 12 months of funding is often too short a period for embedding sustainable processes – which has been reiterated in OPCC lobbying of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ).

See: [www.researchmlr.co.uk/cheshirepcc-victimservices](http://www.researchmlr.co.uk/cheshirepcc-victimservices)



## More information

**MLR>>**

Michael Lloyd Research  
& Associates

Contact **Michael Lloyd**,  
Principal Researcher / owner.  
[michael@researchMLR.co.uk](mailto:michael@researchMLR.co.uk)  
[www.researchMLR.co.uk](http://www.researchMLR.co.uk)