Matthew Barber
Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
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To:
By email:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
for Thames Valley
PCC@thamesvalley.police.uk

Our ref: FOI 1226

23 October 2026

Dear

I write in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted on 25 September 2026.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Thames Valley has now considered this request, which for clarity, has been repeated below:

Request	Response
Dear Freedom of Information Officer, Under section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following recorded information held by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, including information held on its behalf within section 3(2)(b). The period covered is 1 April 2025 to 25 September 2026. Please provide statistics separately for: 2025/26: 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026. 2026/27 to date: 1 April 2026 to 25 September 2026. If current-year figures are only available up to an earlier reporting date, please provide those available and state that date.	

For policies, procedures, guidance, templates and service specifications, please include versions in force at any time during this period, including documents issued earlier that remained operative. Please include recorded approval, effective and withdrawal dates where held. Duplicate copies are unnecessary. Policies and documents	
1. Any policy, procedure, operating guidance, triage script, eligibility or exclusion criteria, or staff instruction used by the Victims First Hub that refers to "victim/offender duality", "duality", counter-allegations, cross-allegations, suspect status, bail or perpetrator status as a reason to decline, limit or redirect support or onward referral. Please include any recorded guidance or agreement defining the respective decision-making roles of Thames Valley Police and Victims First: whether police confirmation, clearance or approval is required; which role can decline support; and any requirement for supervisory approval, review or escalation. If no such information is held, please confirm this.	**A: Some information held.** **Please view VF1 + VF2** The Victims First Hub provides Triage training for Victims First Officers; this does not include a specific script for them to use. Victims First Hub receives automatic referrals from Thames Valley Police. Clients can opt-out of being referred and they are not pre-screened.
2. Any policy, procedure or guidance on how No Further Action, no charge, or the end of bail concerning allegations against a person affects their eligibility for support, reassessment, or review of a "duality", counter-allegation or suspect marker. If no such information is held, please confirm this.	**A: No data held.** Regarding duality – please note, the aim of the triage is to ensure each individual is supported in their own right.
3. A list of training delivered to Hub staff during the requested period concerning counter-allegations or identifying the primary victim; male victims of domestic abuse or sexual violence; LGBT+ victims; and autistic or neurodivergent victims and reasonable adjustments. Please include the title, date, provider and whether attendance	**A: No data held.**

was mandatory, where recorded. I am not requesting individual attendance records or copies of training materials.	
4. Any Equality Impact Assessment or equivalent equality analysis applicable during the requested period to the Victims First Hub operating model or the policies identified in questions 1 and 2.	**A: No data held.**
5. The blank referral form or template used by Thames Valley Police to refer victims to Victims First. If referrals are automated, please provide an existing field list or data specification showing the information transmitted.	**A: No data held**.
6. The sections of service specifications for the Victims First Hub, Thames Valley Adult Victims Service and Thames Valley Sexual Violence Service setting out eligibility, exclusions and handling of counter-allegations. Anonymised statistics Please answer using existing reports or structured database fields. I am not requesting manual review of individual case files. Please state whether figures count unique people, cases, referrals or contacts, and identify potential double counting. Where unique-person counts cannot be obtained within the cost limit, please provide the available measure and explain what it counts. Please use the demographic categories recorded, including unknown or not recorded. Separate breakdowns by sex and sexual orientation are sufficient; I am not	**A: Victims First Hub, no data held.** **A: Thames Valley Adult Victims Service, no data held.** **A: Thames Valley Sexual Violence Service, no data held.**

requesting a combined sex-by-sexual-orientation table. 7. The number of people referred to or contacting the Hub concerning domestic abuse or sexual offences, by sex and, where recorded, sexual orientation.	**A: Please see the following spreadsheets (FOI - Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation - DA VFH Referrals 01 Apr 2025 - 31 Mar 2026, FOI - Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation - DA VFH Referrals 01 Apr 2026 - 25 Sep 2026, FOI - Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation - Sexual Offences VFH Referrals 01 Apr 2025 - 31 Mar 2026 and FOI - Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation - Sexual Offences VFH Referrals 01 Apr 2026 - 25 Sep 2026) and S16 addendum.**
8. Of those in question 7, the number whose support or onward referral was declined, closed or redirected for a recorded reason concerning "duality", counter-allegations, cross-allegations, suspect status or bail, by sex and, where recorded, sexual orientation. Please provide existing definitions of the relevant outcome codes. Where separately recorded, distinguish a service decision to decline support from the person declining support, unsuccessful contact, or closure following an onward referral. If the relevant reasons are recorded only in free text, please confirm this rather than reviewing individual files. 9. Of those in question 8, the number where allegations against the person had already concluded with No Further Action or no	**A: No data held**

charge at the time of the support decision. Please answer only where this historical status can be established from structured searchable fields or existing reports, without reviewing individual files. Otherwise, please confirm that limitation.	
10. The number of people signposted or referred to each of the following, by sex, where recorded separately: (a) the Men's Advice Line; (b) the Respect Phoneline; (c) any other service or programme for people using or concerned about their own abusive behaviour (including perpetrator or behaviour-change programmes), naming each service where recorded; (d) specialist domestic abuse or sexual violence support services for women. Please also state, where recorded, how many of the people in (b) and (c) had a recorded counter-allegation, "duality" or suspect marker at the time. If these services are not distinguished in the records, or this information is recorded only in free text, please state this rather than reviewing individual files.	**A: No data held** **A: No data held.**
11. The number of complaints received about refusal of support connected to counter-allegations, suspect status or bail, and how many were upheld or partly upheld. Please use existing complaint categories or reports; I am not requesting manual review of complaint files. Where outcomes remain pending, please identify them separately if recorded. I do not seek identifiable personal information. Please use proportionate suppression or aggregation where necessary and explain the method used. Please distinguish zero from information not held,	**A: none**

not separately retrievable, or withheld. Cost limit and response If you consider that this request would exceed the section 12 cost limit, please explain the estimated work involved and provide advice and assistance under section 16 on a narrower request that could be answered within the limit. My priorities are questions 1, 2, 4, 8, 9 and 5, in that order. Please contact me to discuss refinement. Where information is withheld, please identify the relevant exemption and explain its application. Where the exemption requires a public interest test, please explain that balance. Please provide reasonably separable non-exempt information. I would prefer searchable electronic documents and statistics in CSV or Excel format where reasonably practicable. Links to the exact published documents are acceptable. Please respond promptly and normally within 20 working days. If relying on a permitted extension, please explain the basis and provide an expected response date.	**Section 16:- Further advice & assistance** Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 places a duty on public authorities to provide advice and assistance to applicants, so far as it would be reasonable to expect the authority to do so. I have therefore provided further context or information in relation to the following: 1. Victims First policies and procedures are currently under review, as part of the OPCC's continuous improvement. 2. Referral criteria is listed on the Victims First website. Support for Victims of Crime in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes · Victims First – supporting victims across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire 3. Whilst no information is held falling within the specific scope of this request, training on neurodivergent conditions is currently scheduled to be delivered by Thames Valley Police in late October 2026. 4. The OPCC is currently undertaking a review of its EIA processes. 5. The OPCC does not hold any blank templates, however this may be held by Thames Valley Police. You may therefore wish to submit a request to the TVP Joint Information Management Unit, who can be contacted by emailing: publicaccess@thamesvalley.police.uk

	6. The OPCC does not hold information falling within the specific scope of this request. However, for assistance, we have enclosed the service specifications for the Thames Valley Adult Victims Service and Thames Valley Sexual Violence Service. **Please see attachments.** 7. Gender, rather than sex, is routinely recorded by the Victims First Hub and has therefore been provided. The figures supplied represent unique service users, not referrals. Individuals with multiple referrals meeting the relevant criteria are counted once within each dataset. Domestic abuse and sexual offence data are recorded separately and therefore an individual may appear in both datasets where appropriate. 10. The OPCC does not hold information falling within the specific scope of this request. However, for assistance, we have enclosed the total number of referrals made by the Victims First Hub to external organisations within the reporting period. **Please see Number of Onwards Referrals.**