



Victim First

Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland

FUTURES

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ISSUE 11 APRIL - JUNE 2026

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Reflections

As we move into **Year 3 of our contract**, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the progress we have made and thank our partners, colleagues, and communities for their **continued support**.

The start of Year 3 has been an exciting period, with **new partnerships, valuable introductions** being made, and more than **15 meetings** held with professionals across our network.

It has also been a bittersweet time as we said goodbye to our placement students, **Leah and Joy**. They have been a big part of the Victim First team, and it has been a **privilege** to watch them grow during their time with us.

We have also welcomed **Amrita** to the Triage team. Amrita has been a fantastic addition, and we are delighted to have her on board.



Victim First Conference



Community Wellbeing Event

Key Statistics: October–December

We had

1532

positive victim contacts made



We had an **94%** overall satisfaction rate



181 individuals felt better equipped to cope and build resilience after engaging with Victim First



We delivered **35** positive Restorative Justice outcomes

Staff Spotlight

Emily– Specialist Caseworker:

"My name is Emily, and I have been at Victim First for just over a year. I started as a **triage caseworker**, but stepped into the role of **specialist caseworker** in February. The most rewarding part of my role is supporting service users throughout their **journey** and seeing their **confidence** grow as they move **forward**."

Leah– Triage Caseworker (Placement student 2025–2026):

"This opportunity has given me valuable, **hands-on experience** within the criminal justice system and strengthened my **passion** for working in this field. I couldn't have asked for a better experience with such an **amazing organisation** and team. A massive **thank you** to the Victim First team for all their support and guidance throughout my placement. I've been incredibly fortunate to stay on as a Triage Caseworker for the next three months before returning to university for my final year"



"very very happy, the lady who was dealing with me was very good and she did everything she promised that should."

Giving me all the tools I needed to help myself when I was ready to go back into a car park (where the crime happened) but never pressuring me to go into a car park to see if these tools helped.

Victim Voices



Victim First Annual Conference:

In **April**, Victim First held its **Annual Conference**, bringing together professionals, partners, and key stakeholders for a day of networking, collaboration, and strengthening positive working relationships. Attendees heard insightful presentations from organisations including **Freeva, Project 360, Falcon, and the Cyber Crime Unit**, all of whom shared their expertise and commitment to supporting people and creating **positive change**.

The event was a **great success**, running smoothly throughout the day and providing valuable opportunities for **learning** and **partnership building**. It was particularly inspiring to hear from so many **like-minded professionals** who are **passionate** about making a difference in their communities and improving outcomes for those they support.

A huge **thank you** to everyone who attended and contributed to the day. **Special thanks** also go to the Victim First team for their **hard work, dedication, and determination** in making the conference such a **memorable** and **impactful** event.



Case Study

A young person was referred to our service after experiencing ongoing **anti-social behaviour (ASB)** from neighbours, which was having a significant impact on his wellbeing and mental health. As he has **Autism and ADHD**, it was important that support was provided in a way that met his individual needs. Working closely with his **specialist school**, we delivered regular **face-to-face sessions** in a **safe** and **familiar** environment, allowing him to openly discuss the **challenges** he was facing and how they were affecting him.

Through ongoing support, the young person developed **greater confidence, self-esteem, and trust in the people around him**. He began to feel that **his voice was being heard** and that his concerns were being taken seriously. As a result, he felt more **empowered to record and report incidents** of ASB, helping him to better manage the situation at home. The intervention has had a **positive impact** on his wellbeing, leaving him feeling more confident, supported, and able to advocate for himself.

Supported by Emily

Partner Focus – National Women's Rough Sleeping Census



Leicester will take part in the **National Women's Rough Sleeping Census** for the first time from 21–27 September 2026, helping to **build a more accurate picture of women's homelessness across the city**. Led locally by **Action Homeless** on behalf of **Leicester Women's Network**, in partnership with **Leicester City Council**, Changing Futures and a wide range of community organisations, the census recognises that many women experiencing homelessness are often **hidden** from traditional rough sleeping counts because they may stay in **unsafe, insecure or abusive situations** rather than sleep visibly on the streets.

Using a **gender-informed approach**, the census will gather **vital information** on women's experiences of homelessness, housing and support needs, with findings contributing to the **national women's rough sleeping** report and informing **local commissioning, service planning and service development**. The project relies on strong **partnership working** across housing, health, domestic abuse, voluntary and community sectors, and presents an important opportunity to improve understanding, visibility and outcomes for women facing homelessness in Leicester. For **more information**, contact Eilidh Stringer, Funding and Communications Manager at Action Homeless, at: **eilidhstringer@actionhomeless.org.uk**.



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