

Victim Surcharge Fund Annual Report 2023-24

July 2024

1. Introduction

1.1 The victim surcharge came into force in Scotland on 25 November 2019 and applies to all persons who commit an offence on or after that date who are subsequently convicted and receive a court fine.

1.2 The surcharge is collected from offenders by the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS) in the same way it collects fines and compensation orders. The surcharge is then transferred to the Victim Surcharge Fund (“the Fund”) which is administered by the Scottish Government.

1.3 Under Regulation 7 of the Victim Surcharge (Scotland) Regulations 2019¹, (the 2019 Regulations), the Scottish Ministers must keep records of:

- every payment made into the Fund;
- every payment made out of the Fund;
- the recipients of payments made out of the Fund;
- the outlays incurred in administering the Fund which have been paid to the Scottish Ministers under section 253G(4)(d) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 (the 1995 Act); and
- the balance of the Fund.

1.4 Under Regulation 8 of the 2019 Regulations², the Scottish Ministers must prepare and publish a report on the administration of the Fund. This is the third annual report and covers the period between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

“Thank you, I was able to buy decent clothes to attend the trial. I felt respectable and important being there for my ma’s memory. The vouchers helped me more than you will ever know. Thanks again.”

(The Manda Centre)

2. Payments made into the Fund between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

2.1 Table(i) shows the schedule of payments receipted into the Fund during the period covered by this report³.

¹ [The Victim Surcharge \(Scotland\) Regulations 2019 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

² [The Victim Surcharge \(Scotland\) Regulations 2019 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

³ Information on collection of the victim surcharge is published in [SCTS Quarterly Fines Reports](#)

Table (i)

Receipts to the Fund	Total
April 2023	£47,253.12
May 2023	£97,478.36
June 2023	£42,510.96
July 2023	£103,764.73
August 2023	£38,397.63
September 2023	£54,833.65
October 2023	£82,794.40
November 2023	£38,514.76
December 2023	£546,428.07
January 2024	£34,230.40
February 2024	£40,795.59
March 2024	£39,667.79
Total	£1,166,669.46

"The sessions helped me at a pinnacle time in the criminal process between having reported the crime and awaiting a day in court which was adjourned twice and had further impacts on my mental wellbeing..."

(Action Against Stalking)

3. Awards and Payments made from the Fund between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024

3.1 Table (ii) shows every payment and the recipients of payments made from the Fund, between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

Table (ii)

Recipient	Date of payment	Amount awarded	Amount Paid
Victim Support Scotland	Sep 2023	£72,000.00	£72,000.00
Victim Support Scotland	Jan 2024	£300,000.00	£300,000.00
Dumbarton District Women's Aid	Jan 2024	£11,750	£11,750
Migrant Help	Jan 2024	£28,540	£28,540
The Moira Fund	Jan 2024	£14,500	£14,500
The Manda Centre	Jan 2024	£10,000	£10,000

Survivors of Human Trafficking in Scotland (SOHTIS)	Jan 2024	£20,661	£20,661
Action Against Stalking	Jan 2024	£15,000	£15,000
Dundee Women's Aid	Jan 2024	£5,000	£5,000
Total		£477,451.00	£477,451.00

3.2 Victim Support Scotland received two payments from the Fund in 2023-24. £72,000 was paid in September 2024 as the second instalment from their award given in March 2023. They were then awarded £300,000 in January 2024, after successfully applying when the Fund reopened for applications in September 2023.

“My new fridge freezer has changed everything for me and my son. I canny believe you helped me so quickly. I can buy and store fresh food for the first in over a year. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.”

(The Manda Centre)

4. Outlays incurred in administering the Fund

4.1 There have been no outlays incurred in administering the Fund which have been paid to Scottish Ministers under section 253G(4)(d) of the 1995 Act.

5. The balance of the Fund

5.1 The balance remaining in the Fund at 31 March 2024 was £776,236.40.

‘I want to express my gratitude to yourself and the Victim Support Scotland team for your help at this extremely difficult time, without this, I would be unable to provide a safe home for myself and my child and start my life fresh.’

(Victim Support Scotland)

Annex A

Application Process

The Fund was opened for the fourth time to applications from organisations that provide support to victims of crime on 27 September 2023. The deadline for applications to the Fund was 27 October 2023.

By the closing date, thirteen applications to the Fund had been received.

The applications were independently assessed by a panel of three Scottish Government officials against a pre-agreed matrix. A panel meeting was held on 17 November 2023 where individual findings were discussed, and a consensus reached on which of the applications met the criteria required (as set out in the [Victim Surcharge Fund Guidance](#)).

Eight applications met the criteria, were approved for funding by Scottish Ministers and organisations informed in January 2024.



© Crown copyright 2024



This publication is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0 except where otherwise stated. To view this licence, visit nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3 or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This publication is available at www.gov.scot

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at

The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

ISBN: 978-1-83601-605-2 (web only)

Published by The Scottish Government, July 2024

Produced for The Scottish Government by APS Group Scotland, 21 Tennant Street, Edinburgh EH6 5NA
PPDAS1463398 (07/24)

W W W . g o v . s c o t