

# **Victim Surcharge Fund**

## **Initial Report 2019-2021**

**October 2021**

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## **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 8 of the Victim Surcharge (Scotland) Regulations 2019 (the 2019 Regulations)<sup>1</sup>, Scottish Ministers must prepare and publish a report on the administration of the Fund. This first report covers the period from when the Regulations came into force on 25 November 2019 until 31 March 2021.

1.4 This report provides information on the matters set out in Regulation 7 of the 2019 Regulations:

- 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.

## **2. Payments made into the Fund from 25 November 2019 to 31 March 2021**

2.1 Table(i) shows the schedule of payments made into the Fund by SCTS during the period covered by this report.

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

Table(i)

Date Payment made to the Fund by SCTS	For Period	Total
16/10/2020	November 2019 - August 2020	£48,061.00
28/10/2020	September 2020	£18,955.00
18/11/2020	October 2020	£20,004.00
29/01/2021	November - December 2020	£39,826.00
24/03/2021	February 2021	£21,963.46
		<b>£148,809.46</b>

### 3. Payments made out of the Fund from 25 May 2020 to 31 March 2021

3.1 Regulation 6 of the 2019 Regulations prevented any payments being made from the Fund before 25 May 2020.

3.2 No payments were made from the Fund to organisations within the time period covered by this report (25 November 2019 – 31 March 2021).

3.3 The Fund opened for applications in January 2021. Awards were made to successful applicants in April 2021. Information on the application process and amounts awarded to successful applicants is provided in Annex A.

### 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 2021 was £148,809.46.

## Annex A

### Application Process

The Fund was opened to applications from organisations that provide support to victims of crime in January 2021. The deadline for applications to the Fund was 12 February 2021.

By the closing date, five 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 then held on 25 February 2021 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](#)).

All applications met the criteria, were approved for funding by Scottish Ministers and organisations informed in March 2021.

The organisations that applied to the Fund, and the amount they applied for, were as follows:

Table(ii)

Recipient	Award amount
Families Affected by Murder and Suicide (FAMS)	£10,000
People Experiencing Trauma And Loss (PETAL)	£10,000
The Manda Centre	£5,000
The Moira Fund	£12,000
Victim Support Scotland	£120,000
	<b>£157,000</b>

These payments will be included in the 2021 to 2022 Victim Surcharge Fund Annual Report.



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