

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From Period start date: 31/05/2023
30/01/2024**

Period start date To:

Charity name: JusticelsNow

Charity registration number: 1194627

JusticelsNow Finances: *The financial year is 9 months for this. To align with new project cycle and recruitment/oncosts for 2024-2025.* Next accounts for 2024-2025 will be back to 12-month financial year end : March 2024 to March 2025.

1. Objectives and Activities

Our charity is committed to improving the quality of life for victims of sexual violence.

Our Mission

Our charity is dedicated to addressing the complex challenges faced by complainants of sexual violence, both in the courtroom and beyond. We are committed to equipping future criminal barristers and other legal professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to understand the damaging effects of myths and stereotypes, as well as the profound trauma, PTSD, and harm experienced by complainants.

We adopt a progressive approach to tackling the unique challenges that individuals and communities face as a result of sexual violence—challenges that affect mental and physical health, family dynamics, and intersecting social issues. Our ambitious plans for the future include conducting our own research into the impact of rape myth bias within the courtroom, both in the UK and other international jurisdictions.

We are profoundly grateful to our past, present, and future funders, donors, trustees, and volunteers. Your unwavering commitment to recognising the journeys of sexual violence victims and survivors, and your dedication to amplifying their voices, form the foundation of our mission.

Achieved Outcomes:

- Developed collaborative relationships with judicial institutions to support efforts aimed at reducing the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among complainants. This has involved conducting research, creating educational programmes and resources, and beginning to monitor the prevalence of rape myths and stereotypes within the justice system.
- Strengthened advocacy for victims navigating the justice system by providing both practical and emotional support during the critical three-month period following court proceedings. We have introduced feedback mechanisms that seek to amplify complainants' experiences, ensuring their voices are considered by key stakeholders.
- Educating on Offending Behaviors (part of our Moodle course and Podcast)

A key part of our mission is to educate the public and professionals on understanding offending behaviors. Shifting the focus to perpetrators' tactics rather than victims' actions is essential for reducing misconceptions. As Sherry Hamby, editor of *Psychology of Violence*, aptly stated: "*If you don't really understand perpetrators, you're never going to understand sexual violence.*"

Strategic Goals 2024/2025:

- **Expand Educational Programs:**
 - Develop additional modules and training sessions for legal professionals to enhance understanding of sexual violence cases.
- **Strengthen Advocacy Efforts:**
 - Engage in further policy discussions to address systemic issues within the criminal justice system affecting victims of sexual violence.
- **Enhance Survivor Support from local peer work.**
- **Partnerships:**
 - Establish collaborations with other organizations to amplify impact and reach. Expanding the focus to include sexual violence that occurs in Domestic Abuse.
- **Research and evaluation of all programme themes.** How much our interventions have an impact.

Practical application to achieve strategic goals for 2024-2025:

- Expand the court observation programme across England.
- Enhance post-complainant experience reporting by strengthening relationships with ISVAs and victim support organisations.
- Collect and analyse data to create comprehensive datasets.
- Explore opportunities to engage a potential PhD student for research support.
- Organise dissemination events to share findings and insights.
- Update the Moodle course and publish year-end metrics and findings.
- Build financial reserves and secure additional funding.

The Current Landscape

Complainants often waiting up to two years for trials, the risk of traumatization is substantial.

In the words of a victim/survivor who gave evidence to the [Stern Review](#) concerning rape reporting in England and Wales:

They [juries] ... don't understand how it feels to be raped. They don't understand that the person raping is trying to abuse the person and that they are rage-full and consumed with hate when they are raping. It is not a loving or lustful thing. They don't understand that rape is like being murdered but still being alive.

Our research and that of the Victims' Commissioner and The end to End Rape review, has shown that victims can find courts to be severely retraumatising. This can happen for many reasons: victims feeling bullied by intrusive cross-examination, trials being adjourned several times outside the victim's control, and coming face to face with perpetrators at court. The experience is even more challenging when the right support and facilities are not available in the courtroom.

This makes the criminal justice process particularly stressful for victims of rape and increases disengagement. Post Covid pandemic is still having a significant impact on the speed with which cases are heard in court taking over 2 years. Our work also works on increasing perpetrators believing they are not accountable, which makes them vulnerable to repeat offending. Young males for example have often been acquitted, more than those of an older age. It is cited the jurors don't like putting a younger person in prison and labelling them as a rapist – even though they may believe they have done it. This approach contributes more harm in allowing for acceptance of behaviours.

Most subjects in preparator studies freely acknowledge non-consensual sex — but that does not mean they consider it *real* rape. [Researchers](#) encounter this contradiction again and again. Asked “if they had penetrated against their consent,” the subject will say yes. Asked if he did “something like rape,” the answer is almost always no. Indeed, experts note one last trait shared by men who have raped: they do not believe they are the problem.

Looking Ahead: A Commitment to Change

The forthcoming release of the Law Commission's *Evidence in Sexual Offence Prosecutions* report is anticipated to be pivotal. However, meaningful and sustained implementation of the proposed changes will be essential. Through our work, particularly under Pillar 3, we strive to:

- Empower complainants by amplifying their experiences.
- Share insights gained to drive systemic improvements.
- Advocate for resolutions that prioritise complainants' needs while ensuring justice for all.

2. Achievements and Performance 2023-2024

- **Survivor Engagement:**
 - o Launched successful social media campaigns that increased public awareness and engagement on issues of sexual violence.
 - o Provided platforms for survivors to share their stories, fostering a supportive community and influencing public perception.
 - o One critical area of focus for our charity is providing support to complainants after the conclusion of court proceedings. We identified a significant gap in provision for post-trial support, which often leads to adverse mental health outcomes for complainants and their families. Through our advocacy service pilot to offer immediate support and guidance from trained peer advocates, to address this gap and mitigate the risk of further harm, including revictimization. By offering support at this crucial juncture, we believe we can significantly improve outcomes for survivors and

their families, while also informing future improvements to the justice process. Please see evaluation metrics from the pilot on page 8/9.

Metrics:

- Court Observation pilot model and course learning used for the design of the online Moodle** course. N.B Moodle is the learning platform used by University's.
- Court observation numbers following on from our 2022-2023, 2023 to 2024 allowed a further 300 students to be course observers.
- Number of educational modules developed, and participants engaged includes 1 module "Preparing for a career with Criminal Barristers" with 14 chapters. A lead curriculum at a top institution for Bar Practice course.

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Process improvements post pilots

Invested in Power Direct 365/JotForm/Accountancy software

Forms developed:

- **Referral Form for Post-Court Support / Court Experience Feedback:**
 1. This form allows individuals to self-refer or be referred by someone else (e.g., ISVA, victim support worker).
 2. The purpose is to document their court experience, which can be shared with others for peer support.
- **Court Observation Submission Form:**
 1. University students need to be able to submit their court observations via an online form. They will need to type up their written answers – as in the courts they are only allowed to use a pen! This means manual typing after;
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Moodle Course Sign-Up Form:

- This form allows CPD participants, solicitors, practising barristers, students, those in pupillage, RASSO (Rape and Serious Sexual Offences) specialists, criminologists, criminal psychologists, and police officers to sign up for courses.

University Sign-Up Form:

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Podcast additions:

Our Podcast consisted of episodes which have included:

1. Denial of sexual violence globally particularly after the 11th of September attacks.
2. Responding to popular culture and narratives on sexual violence. **Netflix Baby Reindeer** launched the conversation of male rape survivors and the reactions of how rape affects individuals in future behaviour.
3. Italian legal system and victim blaming
4. Independent Sexual Violence Advisors discussing the changes within the court room. Victim/Survivors experiences and suggestions for change.

3. Financial Review

Income and Expenditure:

Total Income: £75,800

Total Expenditure: £56,582

Staff/Volunteers/Peer support workers. Full costings on accounts.

Fundraising: Fundraising Strategy:

We are actively exploring strategies to develop and implement a sustainable fundraising plan to attract support from a wider audience.

- **In the past 9 month, we have built our reserves.** To increase this we are in the process of applying for a savings account from the Charity Aids

Foundation bank and looking into options from Newton Growth and Income Fund.

- Plans include increase our income by £59, 484. This include securing 5 new locality funders (Court Observers localities) securing at least 2 national multiyear funding grants.

4. Structure, Governance, and Management.

Trustee Board:

The trustee board is responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the procedures set out in the governing document.

Our new Trustee this year is Lily Muiyang- Lily brings experience from Sudan and working with survivors of sexual violence. We have 2 new advisory board members and have been highly appreciate if Barrister who worked on our Moodle course. That includes Gareth Roberts, from Exchange Chambers and Anthony Metzger (QC) from Goldsmith Chambers.

Organisational structure

Your management structure can be explained as follows, detailing the key roles and their responsibilities within the organisation:

We are now a CPD member and courses are to be accredited.

JusticelsNow	Key Responsibilities
Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provides overall strategic leadership and vision.- Responsible for high-level decision-making.- Oversees financial management and governance.- Reports to the Board of Trustees.
Programme Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Leads planning, implementation, and evaluation of programmes.- Aligns programmes with organisational goals.- Manages operations and communication.- Assists the Director with tasks.
Co-Founder (Bid Writer & Volunteer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Writes bids and grant applications to secure funding.- Volunteers across regions, offering hands-on support.- Provides strategic input based on experience.
Local Peer Support Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provide direct support to service users.- Act as a link between the organisation and beneficiaries.- Offer emotional and practical support.
Court Observers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Monitor legal proceedings for transparency.- Collect data to inform advocacy.- Provide evidence-based recommendations.
Trustees/Chair of Trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provide governance, oversight, and strategic

JusticelsNow	Key Responsibilities
	direction. - Ensure legal compliance and best practices. - Chair acts as liaison with the Director.
External Advisory Board	- Offer independent advice and recommendations. - Support long-term strategy and networking. - Enhance credibility and partnerships.

This structure ensures a balance of strategic oversight, operational management, and grassroots engagement, enabling the charity to fulfil its mission effectively.

Safeguarding:

JusticelsNow is committed to safeguarding the well-being of all individuals involved in our activities. We have implemented a comprehensive safeguarding policy, which is regularly reviewed and updated.

Optional support project:

The pilot project supported 24 individuals. Impact was assessed by way of standard mental health measurements and qualitative data. When speaking to victims of sexual violence, we were frequently told the period after the court case is a tough part of the judicial process. They are left feeling abandoned by the system, emotionally vulnerable as they attempt to come to terms with the verdict and left to deal with difficult emotions following a verdict. Victims repeatedly told us that their mental health deteriorated significantly at this time. Many victims told us that upon the conclusion of legal proceedings their mental health deteriorated to such an extent they were unable to function and undertake basic tasks. Many suffered financially as they were unable to work. Even tasks that seemed simple – for example, getting out of bed, taking a shower or leaving the house – felt almost impossible.

Victims told us that they found it incredibly difficult to function during the months after the trial, with suicidal thoughts a common theme. They felt lost, confused and let down by the system. More than one victim told us they were so traumatised by the experience of giving evidence they lost their business due to an inability to work.

This is where the idea for the advocacy model came from; *how could we offer support at this time during the period they have no ISVA and have not yet started counselling?*

Research by the Ministry of Justice states sexual violence has a devastating impact on victims' lives, including long-term physical, psychological, and social effects. These include anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). There are secondary impacts including relationship difficulties and reduction in ability to work. The impact of sexual violence also extends to non-perpetrator partners, children, family and friends. These individuals can experience secondary effects of trauma.

Victims of sexual violence may face barriers in accessing support at individual, cultural and societal levels, and in relation to how a service is designed and delivered. (Hollomotz et al., 2023; Silk, 2023; Silk et al., 2023)

Mind research suggests 54% of people wait over 3 months and 12% wait over a year for counselling.

Beneficiaries of the pilot project:

- 98% female, 2% male,
- 34% from the LGBTQIA+ community
- 26% BME
- 44% were victims of domestic abuse
- 78% had a mental health condition
- 24% had a disability

The advocacy model is designed to encourage independence as the beneficiary's confidence grows. (Loss of confidence was one of the most common experiences that victims reported.) Tasks our volunteer advocates undertook included:

- Scheduling and accompanying their client to appointments
- Assisting with PIP/ESA applications
- Referral to and following up with counselling agencies and other support services for appointments.
- Speaking to GPs, employers, and other relevant parties on behalf of their client
- Offering emotional support through regular check-ins and providing a listening ear
- Signposting to relevant support agencies
- Hosting informal group sessions to facilitate survivors creating their own peer support systems

Qualitative and quantitative analysis showed the pilot scheme made a positive impact on beneficiaries' lives, both in the critical phase post-trial and in the longer term (6m follow up).

Average scores can be seen in the table below:

	On Referral	On Discharge	6m Follow Up	Improvement
GAD	16	8	7	43.75%
PHQ	15	10	8	53.33%

Qualitative data took the form of questionnaires, with some of the comments shown below:

	On Referral	On Discharge
Client A (female, 27)	I still can't believe he was found not guilty. It feels like my life is over. All that for nothing, what was the point? I've literally cried every day since the verdict.	I can't believe what a difference it has made, just knowing someone is there to support me, to listen. Our calls meant so much to me and I can't thank [advocate] enough.
Client B (female, 40)	My emotions have been all over the place, I am struggling to do the most basic things. I feel terrified all the time.	I feel so much more positive about my future. I feel more able to look after myself and my confidence is growing every day.
Client C (female, 19)	I feel so sad and alone.	I never thought I would

	People don't understand. I can't talk to my mum as she gets upset and I feel like no one is there for me now I don't have [ISVA] to talk to.	be able to carry on at uni. My advocate was so helpful, talking to my personal tutor and helping get things set up for me to come back.
Client D (male, 37)	I have noticed the decline [in mental health] since it happened but it has been much worse since I gave evidence. The fact he got off means it was all for nothing, and now what? He goes back to his normal life and I'm left to pick up the pieces.	It has been so helpful having [advocate] to talk to. I felt like she understood how difficult it was, and she was so supportive and encouraging. It [the advocacy scheme] has really made a difference to how I feel and how hopeful I am about my future.

- 100% of beneficiaries agreed that the advocacy scheme had been helpful
- 89% agreed that their advocate helped them practically as well as emotionally
- 100% agreed that the advocacy scheme played an important part in their recovery
- 72% agreed that the amount of contact they had with their advocate was just right

By rolling out the pilot project we aim to support over 100 beneficiaries in the first 12 months.

SIGNED (CHAIR OF TRUSTEES) D. Willmot	NAME: DOMINIC WILLMOT	DATE: 29 TH January 2025
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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Justice Is Now

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 31/05/2023	To
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts			
Sebba Foundation	17 000	-	-
Essex Community Foundation		4000	-
Private Trusts non disclosure total:	26000	-	-
Local councilor pots total:		5000	-
Individual donor private legacy		12000	-
Course donation		2500	-
Community chest, 4 localities		9000	-
	300		
Sub total (Gross income)	75 800	32 500	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total			
Total receipts		-	-

A3 Payments

App Development IT component	1 260	-	-
Barrister lecture to student	500	-	-
Health insurance	15	-	-
HRMC Paye Tax payment	1 599	-	-
Salaries	22 590	-	-
Travel student court observers	4 721	-	-
Pension auto enrolment employee cost	1 227	-	-
Podcast editor	810	-	-
CAF Bank fee	120		
Project workers only - locality support work	9000		
Podcast Editor	160		
JotForm Subscription	120		
Volunteer expenses total	4000		
Insurance legality/Trustee/employers	1200		
Hotdesking	1400		
Volunteer recruitment costs (including social media camp)	600		
DBS Checks enhanced 24 - DBS	£1 000		
Development and delivery of training material for volunteer	£220		
Marketing materials for potential clients	£750		
Volunteer insurance	£750		
Volunteer expenses - travel and parking	£500		
Monthly supervision for peer support volunteers	£1 250		
Room hire	£2 400		

Moodle Subscription	£390		
		-	-
Sub total	56 582	-	

Total payments	56 582	-	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	£19 218	-	-
A5 Transfers between funds	0	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	£6 200	-	-
Cash funds this year end		-	-
	£25 418		

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		
		-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	£25 418

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
	Fund to which asset belongs	

B3 Investment assets

Fund to which asset belongs

Details

[illegible]

Details


Fund to which
liability relates

B5 Liabilities

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the
trustees

Signature

Print


<i>Dr. Willmott</i>

JOHN I
Dr Dominic Wil

1194627	CC16a
Period end date 30/03/2024	

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Total funds	Last year
to the nearest £	to the nearest £

17 000	17 000
4 000	4 000
26000	9 600
5000	5 670
12000	10 000
2500	3 380
9000	11 500
300	600
	400
	850
75 800	63 000

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-	
-	-
-	-

	-
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1 260	1 200
500	1 360
15	900
1 599	26 000
22 590	840
4 721	350
1 227	7 820
810	1 000
120	530
9000	600
160	400
120	-
4000	
1200	
1400	
600	
£1 000	
£220	
£750	
£750	
£500	
£1 250	
£2 400	

£390	
	-
56582	41000

56582	41000
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	-
-	-
	£6 200

Restricted funds

to nearest £

TO NEAREST 1/2	TO NEAREST 1/2
-	-
	-
-	-
-	-

OK

Restricted funds

to nearest £

Endowment funds

to nearest £

	-
	-
	-
	-

OK

Endowment funds

to nearest £

[illegible]

Cost (optional)

**Current value
(optional)**

-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Cost (optional)

**Current value
(optional)**

[illegible]

-	-
-	-
Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)

-	
-	
-	
-	
-	

Name	Date of approval
JENNON	28/01/2025
Imott	29.01.2025

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- **In the past 9 month, we have built our reserves.** To increase this we are in the process of applying for a savings account from the Charity Aids

Foundation bank and looking into options from Newton Growth and Income Fund.

- Plans include increase our income by £59, 484. This include securing 5 new locality funders (Court Observers localities) securing at least 2 national multiyear funding grants.

4. Structure, Governance, and Management.

Trustee Board:

The trustee board is responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the procedures set out in the governing document.

Our new Trustee this year is Lily Muyang- Lily brings experience from Sudan and working with survivors of sexual violence. We have 2 new advisory board members and have been highly appreciate if Barrister who worked on our Moodle course. That includes Gareth Roberts, from Exchange Chambers and Anthony Metzger (QC) from Goldsmith Chambers.

Organisational structure

Your management structure can be explained as follows, detailing the key roles and their responsibilities within the organisation:

We are now a CPD member and courses are to be accredited.

JusticelsNow	Key Responsibilities
Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provides overall strategic leadership and vision.- Responsible for high-level decision-making.- Oversees financial management and governance.- Reports to the Board of Trustees.
Programme Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Leads planning, implementation, and evaluation of programmes.- Aligns programmes with organisational goals.- Manages operations and communication.- Assists the Director with tasks.
Co-Founder (Bid Writer & Volunteer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Writes bids and grant applications to secure funding.- Volunteers across regions, offering hands-on support.- Provides strategic input based on experience.
Local Peer Support Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provide direct support to service users.- Act as a link between the organisation and beneficiaries.- Offer emotional and practical support.
Court Observers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Monitor legal proceedings for transparency.- Collect data to inform advocacy.- Provide evidence-based recommendations.
Trustees/Chair of Trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provide governance, oversight, and strategic

JusticelsNow	Key Responsibilities
	direction. - Ensure legal compliance and best practices. - Chair acts as liaison with the Director.
External Advisory Board	- Offer independent advice and recommendations. - Support long-term strategy and networking. - Enhance credibility and partnerships.

This structure ensures a balance of strategic oversight, operational management, and grassroots engagement, enabling the charity to fulfil its mission effectively.

Safeguarding:

JusticelsNow is committed to safeguarding the well-being of all individuals involved in our activities. We have implemented a comprehensive safeguarding policy, which is regularly reviewed and updated.

Optional support project:

The pilot project supported 24 individuals. Impact was assessed by way of standard mental health measurements and qualitative data. When speaking to victims of sexual violence, we were frequently told the period after the court case is a tough part of the judicial process. They are left feeling abandoned by the system, emotionally vulnerable as they attempt to come to terms with the verdict and left to deal with difficult emotions following a verdict. Victims repeatedly told us that their mental health deteriorated significantly at this time. Many victims told us that upon the conclusion of legal proceedings their mental health deteriorated to such an extent they were unable to function and undertake basic tasks. Many suffered financially as they were unable to work. Even tasks that seemed simple – for example, getting out of bed, taking a shower or leaving the house – felt almost impossible.

Victims told us that they found it incredibly difficult to function during the months after the trial, with suicidal thoughts a common theme. They felt lost, confused and let down by the system. More than one victim told us they were so traumatised by the experience of giving evidence they lost their business due to an inability to work.

This is where the idea for the advocacy model came from; *how could we offer support at this time during the period they have no ISVA and have not yet started counselling?*

Research by the Ministry of Justice states sexual violence has a devastating impact on victims' lives, including long-term physical, psychological, and social effects. These include anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). There are secondary impacts including relationship difficulties and reduction in ability to work. The impact of sexual violence also extends to non-perpetrator partners, children, family and friends. These individuals can experience secondary effects of trauma.

Victims of sexual violence may face barriers in accessing support at individual, cultural and societal levels, and in relation to how a service is designed and delivered. (Hollomotz et al., 2023; Silk, 2023; Silk et al., 2023)

Mind research suggests 54% of people wait over 3 months and 12% wait over a year for counselling.

Beneficiaries of the pilot project:

- 98% female, 2% male,
- 34% from the LGBTQIA+ community
- 26% BME
- 44% were victims of domestic abuse
- 78% had a mental health condition
- 24% had a disability

The advocacy model is designed to encourage independence as the beneficiary's confidence grows. (Loss of confidence was one of the most common experiences that victims reported.) Tasks our volunteer advocates undertook included:

- Scheduling and accompanying their client to appointments
- Assisting with PIP/ESA applications
- Referral to and following up with counselling agencies and other support services for appointments.
- Speaking to GPs, employers, and other relevant parties on behalf of their client
- Offering emotional support through regular check-ins and providing a listening ear
- Signposting to relevant support agencies
- Hosting informal group sessions to facilitate survivors creating their own peer support systems

Qualitative and quantitative analysis showed the pilot scheme made a positive impact on beneficiaries' lives, both in the critical phase post-trial and in the longer term (6m follow up).

Average scores can be seen in the table below:

	On Referral	On Discharge	6m Follow Up	Improvement
GAD	16	8	7	43.75%
PHQ	15	10	8	53.33%

Qualitative data took the form of questionnaires, with some of the comments shown below:

	On Referral	On Discharge
Client A (female, 27)	I still can't believe he was found not guilty. It feels like my life is over. All that for nothing, what was the point? I've literally cried every day since the verdict.	I can't believe what a difference it has made, just knowing someone is there to support me, to listen. Our calls meant so much to me and I can't thank [advocate] enough.
Client B (female, 40)	My emotions have been all over the place, I am struggling to do the most basic things. I feel terrified all the time.	I feel so much more positive about my future. I feel more able to look after myself and my confidence is growing every day.
Client C (female, 19)	I feel so sad and alone.	I never thought I would

	People don't understand. I can't talk to my mum as she gets upset and I feel like no one is there for me now I don't have [ISVA] to talk to.	be able to carry on at uni. My advocate was so helpful, talking to my personal tutor and helping get things set up for me to come back.
Client D (male, 37)	I have noticed the decline [in mental health] since it happened but it has been much worse since I gave evidence. The fact he got off means it was all for nothing, and now what? He goes back to his normal life and I'm left to pick up the pieces.	It has been so helpful having [advocate] to talk to. I felt like she understood how difficult it was, and she was so supportive and encouraging. It [the advocacy scheme] has really made a difference to how I feel and how hopeful I am about my future.

- 100% of beneficiaries agreed that the advocacy scheme had been helpful
- 89% agreed that their advocate helped them practically as well as emotionally
- 100% agreed that the advocacy scheme played an important part in their recovery
- 72% agreed that the amount of contact they had with their advocate was just right

By rolling out the pilot project we aim to support over 100 beneficiaries in the first 12 months.

SIGNED (CHAIR OF TRUSTEES) D. Willmot	NAME: DOMINIC WILLMOT	DATE: 29 TH January 2025
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