

## Care Of Police Survivors and Winston's Wish Partnership to Support Survivors



COPS has partnered with Winston's Wish to provide counselling support for families bereaved by the loss of their Police Officer. The partnership means that **all** COPS families with children aged up to 18 will be able to access the full Winston's Wish support programme, irrespective of the manner of the Police Officer's death.

**Winston's Wish**  
the charity for bereaved children

### About Winston's Wish

Winston's Wish was established in 1992 and is the largest provider of childhood bereavement services in the UK. The charity offers a wide range of practical support and guidance to bereaved children and young people aged up to 18, their families, professionals and anyone else concerned about them. The aim of the support is to help children and young people bereaved of a significant relative build confidence and resilience in order to achieve their full potential. Winston's Wish has special experience in providing support for children bereaved in traumatic circumstances. In particular, the charity is a national specialist provider of bereavement support for children bereaved through murder, manslaughter and service deaths.

### About the services available to families

Winston's Wish will deliver a tailored service to families depending on their personal circumstances using a combination of the therapeutic interventions outlined below:

- **Helpline: 08088 020 021** staffed by qualified Winston's Wish practitioners 9am to 5pm on weekdays to provide immediate advice to anyone concerned about a bereaved child.
- **Website:** [www.winstonswish.org.uk](http://www.winstonswish.org.uk) always available online advice and information
- **Publications and resources:** advice and activity booklets and memory boxes available to families
- **Call back service:** a series of planned telephone calls with a Winston's Wish senior practitioner to provide advice and support when face-to-face support is difficult or not appropriate at the time.
- **Face to face support with the family:** the core programme of support delivering a series of in-depth therapeutic sessions with individuals and families.
- **In depth 1:1 work:** with individual children and young people, where helpful, using a variety of activities or traditional counselling methods depending on age and circumstances.
- **Residential and/or non-residential social therapeutic groups,** supporting children and young people, with parallel groups for their parent(s)/carer(s) at a nearby venue.
- **Outward bound experiences** for bereaved teenagers to help build confidence and resilience

Throughout, Winston's Wish practitioners will agree most appropriate next steps with the family.

### How do families access the support?

Families can access the support in one of two ways – by contacting the COPS office, who will make a referral to Winston's Wish, or by getting in touch with Winston's Wish directly **via the helpline 08088 020 021**. Both options are confidential. Winston's Wish will not pass any clinical details of support provided to anyone, including COPS.

There is no cost to families for accessing any of this support. The price paid is already too high.