

ORIGINATOR: Stephanie Stearman

DECISION NO. 2019/72

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: For Decision

SUBMITTED TO: Lorne Green, Police and Crime Commissioner

SUBJECT: Extension of Grant for:
Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) Service for Norfolk
Delivered by Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Service

SUMMARY: This service specification is for an IDVA service for high risk male and female victims of domestic violence and abuse aged 16 years and over in Norfolk.

The IDVA service forms part of a whole system response to domestic abuse, including identification, referral and triage, support provided to victims and post intervention step down and/or recovery.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) are professional case workers who support 'high risk' victims of domestic abuse and their children. The full definition as published by 'Safelives', states:

The provision of the IDVA Service covers victims and survivors of domestic abuse in Norfolk. The service has been in place for three years and supports victims of high-risk domestic abuse cases referred through the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub.

This Decision Notice covers two elements that are stated within the Grant Variation No 3.

- Due to the increased demand in high risk cases, the Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed to temporarily extend the IDVA service by 2 x IDVA fulltime equivalents for a period no greater than 9 Months between the period of (subject to employment start dates) 1st July up to 31st March 2020 to reduce case numbers being supported by the IDVA's. This element is for the value of no more than £53,165.00
- To ensure that the IDVA service is able to support victims and to enable the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioners Office to align commissioning intentions to 'go to market' for services that support victims/survivors of Domestic Abuse across the county of Norfolk post 31st July 2020, the Police and Crime Commissioner for has agreed to extend the existing Grant Agreement for the period of four months

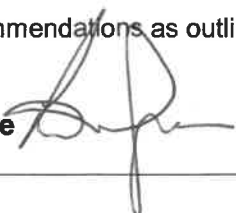
commencing 1st April 2020-31st July 2020. The value of this element is £189,111.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the PCC for Norfolk agrees to the extension of the Grant Agreement as laid out in Grant Variation No 3.

OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY: PCC

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. P. C.', written over a horizontal line.

Date 16.01.2020

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. OBJECTIVE:

To provide the extension of services that supports high risk male and female victims of domestic violence and abuse for those aged 16 years and over in Norfolk.

2. BACKGROUND:

- 2.1 Independent Domestic Abuse Advisers (IDVA's) is the professional name for a case worker who specialises in supporting victims/survivors of domestic abuse victims and whose primary purpose is to address the safety of 'high risk' victims and their children. Serving as a victim's main point of contact, IDVAs normally work with their clients from the point of crisis to assess the level of risk, discuss the range of suitable options and develop coordinated safety plans.
- 2.2 IDVAs are pro-active in implementing safety plans, which include practical steps to protect victims and their children, as well as longer-term solutions. These plans will include actions from the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) as well as sanctions and remedies available through the criminal and civil courts, housing options and services available through other organisations. IDVAs offer independent support and work over the short- to medium-term to put victims on the path to long-term safety.
- 2.3 Safelives (previously known as Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA)) believes that IDVAs are most effective as part of an IDVA service and within a multi-agency framework. The IDVA's role in all multi-agency settings is to keep the client's perspective and safety at the centre of proceedings.
- 2.4 High risk domestic abuse victims identified by frontline agency professionals (such as police, health or refuge workers) are referred to IDVA services in their locality. Victims may also self-refer to the IDVA service. Occasionally MARACs may refer victims to the IDVA service if contact with the victim has not already been established.
- 2.5 Domestic abuse is an under reported crime and it is recognised that the true extent of unmet demand is not fully understood. However, it is recognised, that most people who suffer domestic abuse will have endured many episodes of abuse before they seek help or support. It is therefore, important that agencies and support services do all they can to create an environment that encourages reporting.
- 2.6 In Norfolk the IDVA Service has 12 countywide case workers who support victims of domestic abuse. This has recently been extended by a further 2 IDVA's to cope with the unprecedented demand during 2019/2020 for a short-term period and this ends on 31st March 2020. In addition to this so that there is no gap in provision or current service users are put at risk the core Grant will be extended short term from 1st April 2020-31st July 2020

3. AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 3.1 The service will form part of a whole-system response to domestic abuse, including identification, referral and triage, support provided to victims, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and post-intervention step down and recovery to improve the experience of families impacted by domestic abuse. Although the service will not work directly with children under the age of 16, it will work closely with the relevant safeguarding agencies regarding children at risk of harm.

3.2 The outcomes that we commission against are:

- Victims are safer and better resourced to stay safe
- Victims have increased access to justice
- Victims report improved health and wellbeing
- An increased proportion of victim's access community-based support services
- Victims and their children are identified early by a wide range of partner agencies
- All identified victims are offered an equal and accessible service that best meets their needs
- Children at risk are identified and referred appropriately.

3.3 The key values underpinning the provision of the IDVA service are:

- Inclusive service
- Understand that all victims are unique and have different needs
- Fair access and equal treatment for all
- Commitment to quality
- Commitment to continuous improvement and evidence-based practice, including gathering, listening and responding to, user feedback
- Commitment to make the best possible use of resources and achieving value for money for victims and the wider public

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

4.1 Not applicable.

5. STRATEGIC AIMS/OBJECTIVE SUPPORTED:

5.1 The primary statutory legislation that drives the commissioning of domestic abuse service across the Local Authority and Police force areas are:

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- Health and Social Care Act 2012
- Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012
- Equality Act 2010
- Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime
- Any future amendments or additions to existing legislation during the life of the contract

5.2 In addition to the above primary statutory legislation the following strategic aims/objectives are supported:

- Police and Crime Commissioners responsibility under the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime – responsible for the commissioning of practical and emotion support services for victims of crime in Norfolk through the Victims Fund devolved by the Ministry of Justice to PCC's
- Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020
Strategic Aim -Support victims and reduce vulnerability
- Home Office strategy to end violence against women and girls (VAWG) 2016-2020

- Norfolk's County Community Safety Partnership - Priority- tackles domestic abuse and sexual violence

6. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

ITEM	AMOUNT
Additional 2 x IDVA's for a period of up to 9 Months	£53,165
Extension of Service Provision from 1 st April - 31 st July 2020	£189,111

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

- 7.1 There are no risks flowing from the consideration of this report
- 7.2 An assessment of risk of delivery of services by Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services has been undertaken. This assessment has considered the value of the grant sought, the grant recipient's history of delivery and their ability to deliver as well as impact on clients supported by the Charity.
- 7.3 The monitoring arrangements of this grant offer are highlighted within the Grant Variation 3 attached to this Decision Notice. The monitoring arrangements outlined in the conditions of the variation of this award reflect the fact that Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services have proven service delivery over a period of years and have previously delivered satisfactory monitoring reports to the PCC. Should there be any risk to the service being delivered then the grant recipient is required to notify the PCC immediately.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	NO
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	YES
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	YES
Have human resource implications been considered?	YES
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	YES
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	YES
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	YES
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	YES

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER (this approval is required only for submissions to the PCC).

Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been considered in the preparation of the report, that the recommendations have been reviewed and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.

Signature:



Date 27.12.2019

Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

I certify that:

- a) ~~there are no financial consequences as a result of this decision,~~
OR
- b) the costs identified in this report can be met from existing revenue or capital budgets,
OR
- c) ~~the costs identified in this report can be financed from reserves~~
AND
- d) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

Signature:



Date: 23.12.2019

PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION: Information contained within this submission is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and wherever possible will be made available on the OPCC website. Submissions should be labelled as 'Not Protectively Marked' unless any of the material is 'restricted' or 'confidential'. Where information contained within the submission is 'restricted' or 'confidential' it should be highlighted, along with the reason why.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Contract Variation Form No 3

Provider: Leeway Domestic Violence & Abuse Services	Agreement No: 2014-089
Title: IDVA Service for the County of Norfolk	Original Agreement Period: 3 years plus 2 year extension Contract Variations 1 and 2 as published.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk, currently funds Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services to provide the counties High Risk Independent Domestic Violence Adviser Service (IDVA's).

The main purpose of independent domestic violence advisors is to address the safety of victims at high risk of harm from intimate partners, ex-partners, or family members to secure their safety and the safety of their children. Serving as the victim's primary point of contact, IDVA's normally work with their clients from the point of crisis to assess the level of risk, discuss the range of suitable options and develop safety plans.

IDVA's are pro-active in implementing the plans, which address immediate safety, including practical steps to protect themselves and their children as well as longer-term solutions. These plans will include actions from the MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) as well as sanctions and remedies available through the criminal and civil courts, housing options, and services available through other organisations. IDVA's support and work over the short to medium term to support survivors and put them on the path to longer-term safety. IDVA's receive specialist accredited training and either hold or are working towards a nationally recognised qualification.

The IDVA's work within a multi-agency framework. Their role within this setting is to keep the client's perspective and safety at the center of proceedings. Within Norfolk there are three dedicated IDVA's that support victims through the courts, these are 1 x IDVA Specialist Domestic Abuse Court in Norwich, 1 x IDVA Cluster Court, Kings Lynn and 1 x IDVA Cluster Court, Great Yarmouth.

Within this Grant Variation are two elements:

- Due to the increased demand in high risk cases, the Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed to temporarily extend the IDVA service by 2 x IDVA fulltime equivalents for a period no greater than 9 Months between the period of (subject to employment start dates) 1st July up to 31st March 2020 to reduce case numbers being supported by the IDVA's. This element is for the value of no more than £53,165.00
- To ensure that the IDVA service is able to support victims and to enable the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioners Office to align commissioning intentions to 'go to market' for services that support victims/survivors of Domestic Abuse across the county of Norfolk post 31st July 2020, the Police and Crime Commissioner for has agreed to extend the existing Grant Agreement for the period of four months commencing 1st April 2020-31st July 2020. The value of this element is £189,111.


NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED


The following revised costings will now apply and incorporate the above two elements:

ITEM	AMOUNT
Additional 2 x IDVA's for a period of up to 9 Months	£53,165
Extension of Service Provision from 1 st April -31 st July 2020* please see above Grant Variation Elements Section.	£189,111

Payments will be made quarterly in advance and subject to Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services delivering service as outlined within the Contract Numbered: 2014-089.

Terms and conditions are as per main grant agreement with the additional caveat that Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services will work with the Norwich Connect service provider whereby clients are able to be further supported and 'step down' from high to medium or standard risk or where client's children are being supported by the Connect service. A Visio FlowChart is attached to this Grant Variation which explains in detail how OPCCN Commissioned Service Providers who support victims of Domestic Abuse will work together to ensure seamless support for Domestic Abuse clients across Norfolk.

Signed for and on behalf of the Commissioner: 
Name: MARK STOKES
Position: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Date: 24-12-2019

Signed for and on behalf of the Provider: 
Name: MANDY PROCTER
Position: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Date: 21/01/2020