

**ORIGINATOR: Stephanie Stearman**

**DECISION NO. 55 /2022**

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION: For Decision**

**SUBMITTED TO: Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) – Giles Orpen-Smellie**

**SUBJECT: Five Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA's)  
Norfolk's Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (NiDAS)**

**SUMMARY:**

This decision paper seeks approval by the PCC to award Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services the contract holder for the NiDAS service, additional funding to extend provision of five IDVAs.

The NiDAS service is a system change to the current models running independently in Norfolk for the commissioning and delivery of community-based services for victims of domestic abuse. The NiDAS service will deliver a consistent countywide service with common delivery standards and support to victims assessed as high or medium risk and their children whilst in service.

NiDAS is led and commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner of Norfolk with funding partners as laid out within this paper.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The PCC is in support of extending provision of the NiDAS service by five IDVAs as laid out within this Decision Notice.

**OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY: PCC**

*The recommendations as outlined above are approved.*

**Signature**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Am-...". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

**Date: 02/11/2022**

## DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

### 1. OBJECTIVE:

- 1.1 To enhance service capacity within the NiDAS Service by employing five IDVAs to core service delivery. The NiDAS Service award and system change for the provision of a county Domestic Abuse Service is laid out within Decision Notice No. 2021/43.

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### 2. BACKGROUND:

- 2.1 The NiDAS Service contract was awarded to Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services as lead agency after a competitive tender process took place in June 2021 which was managed by the 7force Procurement Dept.
- 2.2 Mobilisation took place during October -December 2021 and the service went live 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022.
- 2.3 Funding for five IDVAs was originally awarded through a competitive funding round across England and Wales. Police and Crime Commissioners were able to bid for a two-year fund through expressions of interest and had to carry out a local needs assessment.
- 2.4 The MoJ required to see EOI for services that:
- offered tailored support for under-represented survivors and those with protected characteristics
  - propose innovative advocacy models as well as for established roles such as IDVAs and ISVAs, for both adults and children
  - adopt hybrid models supporting both DA and SV victims, as well as violence against women and girls (VAWG) advocates and advisers, provided they will be supporting victims of SV and/or DA
- 2.5 Specific roles eligible for this fund could include:
- ISVAs And ISVA Managers (provided these managers have an active caseload of victims)
  - IDVAs And IDVA Managers (provided these managers have an active caseload of victims)
  - Child specialist ISVAs and IDVAs
- 2.6 The PCC for Norfolk awarded funding based on a needs assessment to the following organisations for 2021/22 and 2022/23:

FUND	2021/22	2022/23	TOTAL
National ISVA and IDVA EOI	£173,258	£172,114	£345,371

ORGANISATION	SERVICE PROVISION	AMOUNT
Daisy Programme – Breckland	1 x CYP IDVA	£75,515

Daisy Programme - Breckland	1 x Adult IDVA with specialisms for supporting the elderly and those with mental/physical disabilities	£77,180
Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services	1 x Adult IDVA with specialisms for supporting the elderly and those with mental/physical disabilities/Complex Needs	£86,500
Pandora Project	2 x CYP IDVA's – (1 North Norfolk + 1 West Norfolk)	£106,176
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£345,371</b>

2.7 The above awards were Grant funded to organisations who accepted and agreed to provide services to support victims of domestic abuse within a fixed period of time. The agreed timeframe was from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 -31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

2.8 Since the award of the NiDAS Contract in October 2021 to Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Service, Government funding has been awarded through the Ministry of Justice Core Victims' Grant to all PCCs to commence 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

2.9 The MoJ award to the Norfolk PCC (as in 2.7) for Ringfenced Domestic Abuse Funding is as follows:

<b>FUND</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
MoJ General Grant – Victims Fund	£172,114	£172,114	£344,228

2.10 The Norfolk Integrated Domestic Abuse Service, was developed to ensure that all districts would be provided with a standardised, robust and joined up service for victims of domestic abuse (high and medium risk) across the county of Norfolk. Therefore the PCC supports that this funding will be awarded to the NiDAS service to increase capacity and build resilience.

### **3 AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

3.1 The two county services for Domestic Abuse are commissioned by the OPCCN. For the county Standard Risk service this is through the Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service (NSVCS) delivered by Victim Support and commissioned by the PCC of Norfolk and PCC of Suffolk by way of a contract that was awarded through a competitive procurement process.

3.2 The county NiDAS Service delivers Medium and High-risk support to victims of domestic abuse. It is a condition that both services work together to support victims should risk either accelerate or reduce.

3.3 It is important that the county has a service that supports witnesses of crime. The NSVCS provides this service. If a friend/family member etc has witnessed

domestic abuse, this service will provide low level practical and emotional support to the witness.

#### **4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

4.1 To award funding to a variety of providers offering domestic abuse services.

4.2 This option was rejected as it would:

- Fragment the existing county services,
- high-risk clients may be put at risk as no other organisation in Norfolk offers support for high-risk clients
- Cause confusion for those referring clients for service as to where a client would need to be referred to
- Not be able to offer a standardised service should the client move within districts of Norfolk – NiDAS/NSVCS both offer a cross county service
- Duplicate existing provision

#### **5 STRATEGIC AIMS/OBJECTIVE SUPPORTED:**

5.1 The PCC has a statutory obligation to set Police and Crime objectives through the Police, Crime and Community Safety Plan 2022-24. The PCC's six priorities fall into the following categories each with detailed objectives in the plan:

- Sustain Norfolk Constabulary
- Visible and Trusted Policing
- Tackling Crime
- Prevent Offending
- Support Victims
- Safer and Stronger Communities

5.2 The NiDAS Service support the Supporting Victims and Safe and Stronger Communities objectives.

5.3 The NiDAS service also supports and works within:

- Norfolk's Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy 22-25
- Norfolk's Domestic Abuse Strategy 22-25
- Joint work with Norfolk's Community Safety Partnership (sits within the OPCCN)
- Objectives through the Norfolk Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Group (DASVG)

5.4 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 Directive 2012/29/EU
- Code of Practice for Victims of Crime –MoJ Victims Code 2020
- Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls – July 2021
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021

**6 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1 The total award is £344,228
- 6.2 The funding period will run in conjunction with the core NiDAS Contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 and coincide with the NiDAS three-year contractual review.

Post	Organisation	2023/24	2024/25
5 x IDVA Posts	Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Service – through the NiDAS Contract	£172,114	£172,114
	Contract Variation by 7force Procurement		

**7 OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:**

- 7.1 There are no foreseen major implications or risks associated with this decision paper.
- 7.2 All current Grant holders listed in 2.6 have been formally written to in June 2021 and advised their grants will continue until the agreed end date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

<b>ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)</b>	<b>PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'</b>
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	<b>NO</b>
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	<b>YES</b>
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	<b>YES</b>
Have human resource implications been considered?	<b>YES</b>
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	<b>YES</b>
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	<b>YES</b>
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	<b>YES</b>
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	<b>YES</b>
<p data-bbox="199 1422 785 1458"><b>Is this report a Confidential Decision?</b></p> <div data-bbox="1062 1440 1185 1512" style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; width: 77px; height: 32px; vertical-align: middle;"></div> <div data-bbox="1257 1440 1380 1512" style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; width: 77px; height: 32px; vertical-align: middle; text-align: center; margin-left: 15px;"><b>NO</b></div> <p data-bbox="199 1534 1428 1570">If Yes, please state reasons below having referred to the <a href="#">PCC Decision Making Policy</a></p>	

**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 taken into account 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: 02/11/2022**

**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: 02/11/2022**

**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.*