

Subject: Standard Risk Domestic Abuse Service

Originator: Stephanie Stearman

Decision no. 20/2025

Reason for submission: For Decision

Submitted to: Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk – Sarah Taylor

Summary:


1. This Decision Notice seeks approval from the Police and Crime Commissioner of Norfolk (PCC) to award Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services a direct award through a Grant Agreement to deliver a standard risk domestic abuse service.
2. The service will commence on 1st October 2025 to 2nd January 2027, with one month's mobilisation/set up in September 2025.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk approves a direct award by way of a grant to Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services to provide a standard risk domestic abuse service.

Outcome/approval by: PCC

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature: 

Date: 24/06/2025

Detail of the submission

1. Objective:

- 1.1 To introduce a standalone countywide Standard Risk Domestic Abuse Service for Norfolk from 1st October 2025 to 2nd January 2027.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The current service for standard risk domestic abuse sits with the Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service delivered by Victim Support under a contract managed by 7Force Commercial Services. This contract ends on 30th September 2025.
- 2.2 A competitive process to appoint a provider for the Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service from 1st October 2025 for a 3 Year + 2 x 12 Month extensions has been managed by 7Force Commercial Services. This tender, as agreed by both Norfolk and Suffolk did not include standard risk domestic abuse. Both counties had differing arrangements for the delivery of domestic abuse services and wanted to ensure standard risk was integrated into their wider commissioning strategies.
- 2.3 Norfolk's strategy is to streamline and co-ordinate an integrated domestic abuse system for Norfolk when the current NiDAS contract that ends on 2nd January 2027. The removal of standard risk domestic abuse from the new Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service would allow alignment for the next iteration of NiDAS to incorporate all risks of domestic abuse (standard, medium and high-risk) in the future specification.
- 2.4 A short-term intervention to support standard risk victims of domestic abuse between the end of the current Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care Service and the next iteration of NiDAS is required.
- 2.5 This standard risk domestic abuse services is set up to work seamlessly between NiDA and other key stakeholders and will be positioned in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at County Hall to allow for maximum partnership working.
- 2.6 This service will support Norfolk Constabulary by providing a direct referral pathway for victims of standard risk domestic abuse into service from their role under the Victims Code to provide a victim's assessment and referral service commissioned by the Norfolk and Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioners.

3. Areas for consideration:

- 3.1 To not provide a service for standard risk domestic abuse – this was rejected:
 - a. All Victims of Crime under the Victims Code have the right to receive an assessment and referral service. By not having a formal pathway to service

provision for standard risk domestic abuse would place considerable strain on Norfolk Constabulary as there would not be an alternative countywide service.

- b. There would be limited service for victims of standard risk domestic abuse in Norfolk (postcode lottery) and what is available would be overwhelmed with demand. This too would place more strain on existing services and considerable strain on victims.

3.2 This report recommends that a short-term intervention to deliver a standard risk domestic abuse service from 1st October 2025-2nd January 2027, with 1 month mobilisation period in September 2025.

4. Other options considered:

4.1 To integrate standard risk domestic abuse into the existing NiDAS service. This was rejected as it would break Procurement rules.

4.2 To look at several providers across the county – this was also rejected as this would:

- a. cause confusion for victims and professionals referring into various services
- b. not offer economies of scale for back-office functions
- c. make reporting and communication through a multi-agency framework fragmented

4.3 There is minimal financial risk as funding has been allocated from commissioning reserves for the duration of the grant award.

5. Strategic aims/objective supported:

5.1 The PCC has a statutory obligation to set out a Police and Crime Plan. Within the current plan 2025-2029 the PCC has pledged under 'Your Priorities – Reducing Harm'

- a. I WILL - Support All Victims – whether its women, men or children, to continue our vital support for victims and survivors of domestic abuse

5.2 The primary statutory legislation that drives the support of commissioning services that support victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence across the Local Authority and Police Force areas are:

- a. Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- b. Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- c. Health and Social Care Act 2012

- d. Code of Practice for Victims of Crime – Ministry of Justice
- e. Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- f. Domestic Abuse Act 2021

6. Financial and other resource implications:

6.1 The total grant value is up to £119,529.25

6.2 A breakdown of costs and financial years is as follows:

ITEM	25/26	26/27	TOTAL
Core Standard Risk Service	£20,967.64	£83,336.77	£104,304.41
Mobilisation/Set Up Costs	£15,224.84		£15,224.84
TOTAL	£36,192.48	£83,336.77	£119,529.25

7. Carbon Emissions and Other Environmental Implications:

Carbon Emissions

7.1 The estimated impact on our carbon emissions that must be reported under current statute from this proposal is:

Emission Categories:	Increase in tCO2	Saving in tCO2
Scope 1 – Fuel – Building Heating	0	0
Scope 1 – Fuel – Transport	0	0
Scope 2 – Electricity	0	0

Environmental Implications

7.2 No material implications

8. Other implications and risks:

8.1 None identified at this time.

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
Have sustainability and environmental factors been considered? (e.g. biodiversity, employee commuting, business travel, waste and recycling, water, air quality, food and catering and estates construction)	Yes
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	Yes

Is this report a Confidential Decision?

No

If Yes, please state reasons below having referred to the [PCC Decision Making Policy](#)

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: 25/06/2025

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: 26/06/2025

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.