

Subject: Award of contract extension for the provision of the Norfolk Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (NIDAS): Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services

Originator: Head of Commissioning

Decision no. 15/2026

Reason for submission: For Decision

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

Summary:

1. The current contract for the Norfolk Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (NIDAS) ends in January 2027.
2. To provide for continuity of service until abolition of the role of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in April 2028, the core contract is being extended for a period of fifteen months, from 3 January 2027 to the 31 March 2028.

Recommendation:

That the Police and Crime Commissioner approve the award a contract extension to Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Services to provide the NIDAS service.

Outcome/approval by: Sarah Taylor – Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature:



Date: 13/03/2026

Detail of the submission

1. Objective:

1.1 To award a contract extension for NIDAS to Leeway Domestic Abuse and Violence Service to provide for continuity of support until April 2028.

2. Background:

2.1 Since January 2022, Leeway Domestic Abuse has been contracted to be the Tier 1 Provider of the NIDAS, and the current contract ends in January 2027.

2.2 NIDAS is a county wide service for victims of domestic abuse assessed as being at medium or high risk of harm, and their children. It provides support in court, recovery programmes, specialist support for groups with protected characteristics and manages the Domestic Abuse Champion Network, which is currently 1,000 strong.

2.3 To fulfil the responsibility to provide an IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocate) service under the requirements of the Ministry of Justice Commissioning Framework and comply with procurement guidance, the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk (OPCCN) begun preparing to retender the NIDAS service from January 2027.

2.4 However, due to the decision to abolish the role of Police and Crime Commissioners from April 2028 and uncertainty over the future of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) victims commissioning framework (through which NIDAS is primarily funded), it is more prudent and regulatory permissible to extend the current contract for the service.

2.5 To provide for continuity of service and support for victims and survivors of domestic abuse in the county, the contract is being extended to align with financial years, therefore until 31 March 2027, and for another year until the 31 March 2028.

2.6 During this period, future policing governance arrangements will be set and the future of MOJ victims commissioning determined.

3. Areas for consideration:

3.1 This contract variation will allow for a 15-month extension of the core service from 3 January 2027 to the 31 March 2028.

3.2 This process also extends an existing contract variation covering additional specialists, children and young people and community IDVAs, from 1 April 2026 to the 31 March 2028.

4. Other options considered:

4.1 None considered.

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 cost for the extension of the contract is £2,613,072, comprising of £2,331,033 from the OPCC, £208,750 from funding partners and £73,289 from existing NIDAS budgets.

6.2 The OPCCs costs for the funding period will be met by an MOJ grant and the OPCCN Commissioning budget.

6.3 All contract procurement and contract management is undertaken by 7Force Procurement.

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 have been 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).

Authorisation on behalf of the 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: 13/03/2026

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: 16/03/2026

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.