



# OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORFOLK

**Author:** Stephanie Stearman

**DECISION NO.** 2018/ 03

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION:** For Decision

**SUBMITTED TO:** Lorne Green, Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk

**SUBJECT:** Extension of Grant for:  
Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) Service for Norfolk  
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.

The existing service has been in place for three years since 2015. Under Clause 48 of the Grant Agreement and Contract Variation Form No 1, there is option to extend this grant by a further two years. The PCC has decided to exercise this option and extend this Grant for by a further two years covering 2018/19 to 2019/20.

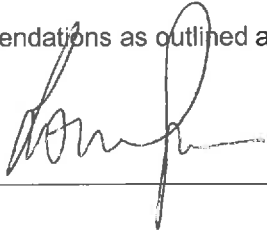
In addition to the above extension and based on evidence of need, the PCC has also agreed to extend the service by a further 2 x IDVA fulltime posts and 1 x Part time Administrative Post as per Contract Variation Form Version 2. These posts will run concurrent in length to the main Grant.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the PCC for Norfolk agrees to the extensions of the Grant Agreements as laid out in Grant Variation No 1 and No 2.

**OUTCOME/APPROVAL BY:** PCC

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

**Signature**

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

**Date** 05/03/18

## **DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION**

### **1. OBJECTIVE:**

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

### **2. BACKGROUND:**

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

In Norfolk the IDVA Service has 10 countywide case workers who support victims of domestic abuse. This has recently been extended by a further 2 IDVA's to cope with the additional demand that has steadily increased over the last three years in response to a variety of Domestic Abuse awareness campaigns, such as the DA Champion scheme.

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

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.

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 victims 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.

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:**

Not applicable.

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

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

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:

### Contract Variation 1

YEAR	AMOUNT
2018/19	£361,822.68
2019/20	£365,026.73
TOTAL	£726,849.41

### Contract Variation 2

YEAR	AMOUNT
2017/18	£12,223.83
2018/19	£75,468.33
2019/20	£76,760.70
TOTAL	£164,452.87

## 7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

Domestic abuse incidents reported by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) for the county of Norfolk during 2014/15 was 12,481.

In 2016/17, a total of 15,793 domestic abuse incidents were reported by the ONS. This equates to an increment of 3312 domestic abuse incidents reported over a three year period and increment of 26.5%.

Support required by the IDVA service has also grown exponentially and therefore the extension in the number of IDVA's through Grant Variation No 2 addresses the risk of the number of cases being managed by the IDVA's in line with Safelives recommendations of safe working practices.

The administrative worker post addresses the risk of increased administrative work through the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) often called 'Clare's Law'.

**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.*

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 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**

27.02.18

**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,  
AND
- c) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

**Signature:**



**Date**

23/2/18





# Contract Variation Form No 1

<b>Provider:</b> Leeway Domestic Violence & Abuse Services	<b>Agreement No:</b> 2014-089
<b>Title:</b> IDVA Service for the County of Norfolk	<b>Agreement Period:</b> 3 years plus 2 year extension

The original term for this grant agreement was advertised as 3 years, with the option to extend for a further 2 years. Clause 48 of the grant agreement refers to this option, although it does not specifically detail it. Therefore this variation notice number 1 is to address this omission as is stated below.

It is hereby agreed, that at the end of the original 3 year term on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, the OPPCN has the option to extend this grant agreement for a further maximum 2 year period, based on annual increments.

This extension is based on the understanding that all current Leeway IDVA staff members who have undertaken Safelives accredited training remain qualified until the end of this extension period. Also, all future Safelives IDVA training delivered to staff from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 will be subject to a revised training agreement including a pro rata requirement to pay back a percentage of overall training cost should staff leave within two years of completing the training.

This extension is at the discretion of the OPPCN providing the user requirements are being met and satisfactory funding is available.

The costs for this are 2018/2019 £361,822.68

2019/2020 £365,026.73

Signed for and on behalf of the Commissioner 

Name JOHN HUMMERSONE

Position CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

Date 23/2/18

Signed for and on behalf of the Provider 

Name MANDY PROCTOR

Position CEO

Date 7/2/2018



## Contract Variation Form No 2


<b>Provider:</b> Leeway Domestic Violence & Abuse Services	<b>Agreement No:</b> 2014-089
<b>Title:</b> IDVA Service for the County of Norfolk	<b>Agreement Period:</b> 3 years plus 2 year extension

This Contract Variation is to increase the number of staff delivering the IDVA service.

This comprises 1 x IDVA, plus 1 duty IDVA both working full time and 1 Admin Worker, working 25 hours per week. This cost is £164,452.86 over a 2 year period from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

The cost for this is as follows:-

2017/18	£12,223.83
2018/19	£75,468.33
2019/20	£76,760.70
Total	£164,452.86

Signed for and on behalf of the Commissioner 

Name JOHN HUMERSTONE

Position CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

Date 23/2/18

Signed for and on behalf of the Provider 

Name MANDY PROCTOR

Position CEO

Date 7/2/2018

