

## Due Regard Statement

Person(s) responsible for completing this statement	<b>Date statement started: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013</b>
Bilkis Bhula/Kath Rees	<b>Date statement completed: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2013</b>

**Name of the policy, service, strategy, procedure or function: (indicate whether new or revised)**

Tendering of Specialist Domestic Abuse Services

**Briefly describe its aims and expected outcomes**

The purpose of this report is to approve the conduct of a county wide retendering process for specialist domestic abuse service across Gloucestershire. That this exercise will meet the principles previously agreed through the DASV task and Finish Group and Supporting People Partnership, previously approved by Cabinet in November 2011.

That a permanent contract arrangement will be in place in time for the expiration of current temporary contact arrangements agreed in November 2012 following the Lead Provider entering administration.

The objectives of the tender process is to secure domestic abuse services that will continue to:

- Intervene at the earliest possible opportunity to prevent escalation;
- Support access to and provide places of safety in crisis where necessary;
- Support families back into communities following crisis and link them into other local services;

- Contribute to safeguarding children by supporting stability in families and offering specialist advice to other professionals.

This tendering of these services will ensure that victims of domestic abuse will continue to be supported appropriately with a model of services which :

- Provide early intervention and prevention to victims and to assist in keeping them in their own homes where it is safe to do so;
- Offer places of safety to those who are unable to stay in their home - keeping families together;
- Provide support to male and female victims;
- Provide crisis intervention for those victims at high risk of further abuse;
- Provide a streamlined, joined up approach to services;
- Have a whole family approach to victims of abuse;
- Have a single telephone number for advice and information;
- Provide short term targeted intervention.

## Gathering the evidence base

List the main sources of data, research and other sources of evidence, including full references, used to determine the impact of your work on each of the protected groups. If there are gaps in evidence, state what you will do to close them in the Action plan at the end of this document.

	<p align="center"><b>Service user data</b> (if applicable) If service user data is not available, use the action plan below to identify how service user data will be collated in the future.</p>	<p align="center"><b>Other</b> (for example, local demographic data, research , ONS, partner data, officer knowledge)</p>
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<b>All</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Age</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Disability</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Sex</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Race (including Gypsy &amp; Traveller)</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Marriage &amp; civil partnership</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Pregnancy &amp; maternity</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data	

	on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	The current provider of the support service holds data on service user profiles and needs.	

	<b>Workforce data</b> <b>If employees are affected by your 'project' please outline the profile of the workforce affected below.</b>
<b>All</b>	The service is a commissioned service, managed by independent provider/s. Therefore data relating to the workforce is not applicable.
<b>Age</b>	N/A
<b>Disability</b>	N/A

<b>Sex</b>	N/A
<b>Race (including Gypsy &amp; Traveller)</b>	N/A
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	N/A
<b>Marriage &amp; civil partnership</b>	N/A
<b>Pregnancy &amp; maternity</b>	N/A
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	N/A
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	N/A

## Consultation and engagement

List all types of consultation that has taken place during the development of this activity. Include on-line consultations, events, meetings with stakeholders, community events, employee consultation exercises etc

Extensive consultation was undertaken as part of developing the Supporting People Strategy. In addition, a partner questionnaire exercise was undertaken and a stakeholder conference held in May 2011. The common view was that there is a need to increase the focus on prevention through early intervention with families experiencing domestic abuse, and achieve more joined up support for the whole family. The conference also highlighted the lack of support for perpetrators in the current model of services. There was support for re-shaping existing services.

A programme of survivor consultation events was undertaken during the summer 2011. Messages from survivors included the

desire for a variety of services throughout the county which victims could access; more support for perpetrators earlier on in order to prevent families leaving their homes and being separated; and a request for services to be advertised more clearly and be better co-ordinated, with face to face support being the preferred method of delivery.

Main consultees included:

- Gloucestershire Safer, Stronger Justice Commission
- Supporting People Partnership Board
- Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Board
- Police
- Probation
- PCT
- District councils
- CYP service manager localities
- VCS Provider representatives
- Survivors and service users

## Equality analysis: What the evidence shows

Considering the evidence and engagement activity you listed above, please summarise the impact of your work. Consider whether the evidence shows potential for differential impact, if so state whether adverse or positive and for which groups. In the next section you will be required to document how you will mitigate any negative impacts.

Useful questions to consider:

Briefly outline your main findings that relate to the Council's commitment to: **Eliminate discrimination (consider potential for indirect discrimination) Advance equality of opportunity Promote good relations. This can include challenges and opportunities.**

**Note: If you are assessing a number of options, you should consider the opportunities and challenges of EACH option.**

Protected group	Challenge or opportunity
All	The new model is extending further opportunities to support victims in response to their individual need as opposed to household profile, by enabling support to be provided to victims in their own homes where safe to do so. Or in cases where a move is necessary, support can be provided to a broader range of places of safety and housing options.
Age(A)	The model will provide an increased focus on improving outcomes for children by providing support for families at the earliest possible intervention as well as in crisis in their own home (where it is safe to do so). By reducing disruption and disconnection from school, family and friends, and any escalation of harm can where ever possible be prevented or be reduced in terms of length of time and impact.
Disability (D)	The new service will enable access to appropriate accommodation options with a 'wrap around' support service to meet specific needs of the victim. The service will continue to link with other relevant support services required to meet specific needs of victims and their families.  All potential bidders will need to demonstrate how access and inclusion issues will be addressed

	through the tender process.
<b>Sex (S)</b>	<p>The specification of the service will include the need to increase male victims with accessing services.</p> <p>Reshaped service to continue to link with other relevant support services required to meet specific needs of all victims and their families.</p> <p>Publicising of telephone number to access information and advice.</p> <p>The service will be required to work with and inform development of other programmes, including specifically addressing issues related to perpetrators in an effort to reduce the patterns of abuse.</p>
<b>Race (including Gypsy &amp; Traveller)(R)</b>	Increased flexibility of services will enable a focussed response to specific needs. Reshaped service will continue to be required to be culturally sensitive and link to other services to meet the specific needs of the victim in a holistic manner. Access and inclusion issues via development of flexible and appropriate provision to be tested via tendering process.
<b>Gender reassignment(GR)</b>	All potential bidders will need to demonstrate how they will ensure access and inclusion issues will be addressed through the tender process.
<b>Marriage &amp; civil partnership (MCP)</b>	All potential bidders will need to demonstrate how they will ensure access and inclusion issues will be addressed through the tender process.
<b>Pregnancy &amp; maternity (PM)</b>	<p>Being linked into locality teams more focussed early intervention and prevention will support reduced escalation to crisis.</p> <p>All potential bidders will need to demonstrate how they will inform operational and strategic</p>



	practices of other organisations.
<b>Religion and/or Belief (RAOB)</b>	<p>Increased flexibility of services will enable a focussed response to specific needs. Service will continue to be required to be culturally sensitive and link to other services to meet the specific needs of the victim in a holistic manner.</p> <p>Access and inclusion issues via development of flexible and appropriate provision to be tested via tendering process.</p>
<b>Sexual Orientation(SO)</b>	All potential bidders will need to demonstrate how they will ensure access and inclusion issues will be addressed through the tender process.
<b>Carers</b>	The service will continue to link with other relevant support services required to meet specific needs of victims and their families.

**Strengthening actions: Outline what actions have been identified to mitigate the key findings identified above by protected group.**

<b>Potential/ actual impact</b>	<b>Protected group (s) affected</b>	<b>Proposed mitigating action(s)</b>	<b>Accountability</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Improved access to services	All groups	Partnership performance monitoring.	Supporting People Partnership	February 2013 through to the lifetime of the contract



		Working collaboratively operationally with partner agencies in Gloucestershire to reduce harm from domestic abuse.	DARP Group	

**Monitoring and Review**

Please indicate what processes/actions will be put in place to keep this 'activity' under review.

Action	Accountability	Timeframe
Performance Returns	Supporting People DARP	Continuous monitoring and review of contract as part of contract arrangements

## Sign off and Scrutiny

<p>Signed off as complete by</p> <p>Kath Rees, Lead Commissioner : </p>	<p>Date: 8.3.2013</p>
<p>Senior level sign off:</p> <p> .....</p> <p>Director/Head of Service</p>	<p>Date: 12/3/13</p>
<p>Name of relevant Portfolio Holder/Cabinet Member: Cllr Paul McLain</p> <p>I confirm that I have examined sufficient information and understood the potential impact of the proposal. I am in agreement with the proposed mitigating actions and confirm that I have had due regard to the needs set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.</p>	
<p>Signed by Portfolio Holder/Cabinet Member</p>	<p>Date: 12.3.2013</p>

<p><i>Paul McGarr</i></p> <p>.....</p>	<p>12.3.13</p>
<p><b>Assessment published alongside cabinet report</b></p>	<p>Date:</p>