

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of People and Places	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	16 April 2012

## INDEPENDENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE SERVICE (IDVA) FUNDING

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To update Members of the funding arrangements being sought for the Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) service in 2012/13 and beyond

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

- Members are requested to note the report

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- Members will recall undertaking a review of the IDVA service and its funding arrangements as part of the overview and scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership of which the Council is a Responsible Authority Group member.
- The Councils Executive Cabinet accepted the recommendations of a report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24 November 2011.
- The main recommendations focussed on the provision of budgetary support for IDVA and seeking to ensure partners made appropriate contributions in order for the service to continue.
- In the intervening period the Council has been seeking support of partners through the Community Safety Partnership and Lancashire County Council have undertaken a piece of work which seeks to identify the level of benefit received by partners and agencies through the work of the IDVA service.
- This has culminated in the proposed funding arrangements for 2012/12 and beyond that are outlined in this report.
- Members should note that these arrangements are subject to final agreement by all agencies and partners by June 2012.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No

### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Strong Family Support	X	Education and Jobs	
Being Healthy		Pride in Quality Homes and Clean Neighbourhoods	
Safe Respectful Communities	X	Quality Community Services and Spaces	
Vibrant Local Economy		Thriving Town Centre, Local Attractions and Villages	

A Council that is a consistently Top Performing Organisation and Delivers Excellent Value for Money	X
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## **BACKGROUND**

10. The following funding arrangements have been proposed for the IDVA service in 2012/13 and beyond

## **SERVICE LEVEL IN CHORLEY AND SOUTH RIBBLE**

11. A recent study commissioned by Lancashire County Council has identified that, based on the number of domestic violence referrals into the multi agency risk assessment conference (MARAC), the level of IDVA service necessary to meet demand across the Chorley and South Ribble footprint in 2012/13 would cost in the region of £89,000. This is twice the current level of funding provided by partners.

## **PROPOSED FUNDING MODEL 2012/13**

12. It is proposed that for 2012/13 the level of IDVA service be increased to meet the demand identified above and that 50% of the funding will come from the Safer Lancashire Board, with the remaining funding being provided by partner agencies on a scale that identifies the percentile benefit they receive through the operation of the service.
13. Partner agencies are now being consulted on the level of funding apportioned to them on this basis and it is anticipated that budgetary provision amongst partner agencies will be made for 2012/13.
14. Chorley Councils contribution for 2012/13 amounts to about £1700.

## **PROPOSED FUNDING MODEL BEYOND 2012/13**

15. In 2013/14 and beyond the funding provision from the Safer Lancashire Board will no longer be available and the Chorley and South Ribble IDVA service will have to source the £89,000 from its constituent partner agencies.
16. However as a number of these agencies cover the wider Lancashire footprint, consultation and discussion at a county level is underway to ensure those agencies make budgetary provision on a countywide scale to include the portion necessary for the local Chorley and South Ribble service to continue.
17. In the event that partner agencies commit to the proposed apportionment then Chorley's contribution for 2013/14 and beyond will be in the region of £3400 pa (subject to cost increases in line with inflation and any service level increases required based on service demand).

## **FURTHER ACTION**

18. The chair or the Chorley and South Ribble Community Safety Partnership has written to all Responsible Authority Group agencies outlining these funding models and seeking their support in making the appropriate budgetary provision as apportioned to them.
19. It is anticipated that the final funding arrangements will be agreed by June 2012 and Members will be updated accordingly.
20. Members will be aware that the IDVA service is only part of the numerous activities, services and initiatives undertaken by agencies to tackle domestic violence. Additional work is underway to identify how agencies might better target resources at an early stage to prevent domestic violence situations escalating to a point where the IDVA service is triggered.

## IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

21. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area	X	Policy and Communications	

## COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

22. A budget of £14,000 (recurrent) for IDVA funding was included as part of the 2012/13 budget growth package that was agreed at Full Council on 28th February 2012.

## COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

23. None

JAMIE CARSON  
DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Simon Clark	5732	27 March 2012	IDVAfundupdate