

**By:** Chris Turner, Project Manager, Kent Criminal Justice Board.  
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**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership

**17<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

**Subject:** Update on New Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service Provision  
for Kent & Medway.

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### **Service Implementation**

- The tender was won by the Kent Domestic Abuse Consortium (KDAC). The consortium is made up of 5 of the county's largest Domestic Violence (DV) service providers; Oasis, Kent Domestic Abuse Support and Help, North Kent Women's Aid, Rising Sun Domestic Violence Service, Swale Action to End Domestic Abuse. Of the 6 tenders received, there were 2 excellent submissions with KDAC winning through as they were able to clearly articulate the additional services and resources they can bring and how these would be implemented across Kent and Medway along with being able to hit the ground running from day one due to the number of CAADA (co-ordinated action against domestic abuse) qualified IDVAs already in their employment (many of whom were saved by the pooled funding).
- Deborah Cartwright from Oasis is the KDAC lead and we have invited Deborah to the Community Safety Partnership meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July to introduce herself and answer any questions on the service that members may have.
- The service commenced on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013.
- Ashford Borough Council have confirmed they are looking to secure funds to support the service. This leaves Sevenoaks and Dover as the only Councils who made internal decisions not to contribute to the countywide IDVA service at this present time.
- The pooled funds (excluding Ashford's contribution) have saved 12 full time CAADA trained posts and created another 5 new ones.
- A new Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC) IDVA has been recruited and is ready to start supporting DV victims through the court process from the Ashford, Dover and Folkestone area from 2<sup>nd</sup> July. This plugs a previous gap in provision.
- KDAC have begun discussions with other domestic abuse providers to understand how they can best work together to utilise all available resources.
- Kent Probation have issued the contract and will hold this for year one of the service. Should the current Probation restructure mean they cannot continue to do this beyond year one, Kent police have reviewed the contract and will take over its management for years two and three.

- Alison Gilmour from Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group (KMDASG) will work with KDAC to manage the service on a day to day operational basis. Chris Turner from the Kent Criminal Justice Board (KCJB) Programme Team will take responsibility for performance data.

#### **Performance Framework**

- A Draft Quarterly Performance Report has been sent out to all funding partners asking for comments by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June. The first quarterly report will be ready for the 17<sup>th</sup> July meeting. We feel the report is very comprehensive and feedback so far has been excellent. We are confident it contains the information required for funders to assess the success of the service and to assist with any future funding decisions
- A lot of information on the Performance Report is based on information recorded at case closure. This will mean there is little to report on in quarter 1 but we should have sufficient numbers to review performance by the end of quarter 2.

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