

DECISION MAKING REPORT

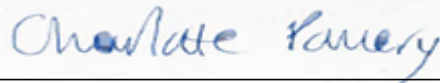
Report for: Cabinet Member Signing – 17th March 2016

Item number: 3

Title: Award of Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) and Identification Referral Increase Safety (IRIS) Service

Report

authorised by :



Charlotte Pomery, Assistant Director for Commissioning

Lead Officer:

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Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. This report details the outcome of an open tender process for the award of a contract for the provision of Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) and Identification Referral Increase Safety (IRIS) Service. The new contract shall commence from 1st May 2016 for a period of two years with an option to extend for a further period or periods of up to two years.
- 1.2. The domestic violence referral and support pathway in Haringey has been redesigned to simplify access to services to ensure victims get help without delay and to improve multi-agency working. The Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (IDVA) will work as a key agency in the coordinated community response to tackling violence against women and girls in Haringey.
- 1.3. The IDVA will operate an assessment and triage function, risk assessing all referrals for domestic violence and providing support to all female high risk victims of domestic violence aged 16 years plus.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1. The redesign of the domestic violence care and referral pathway has been a significant development in improving our response to victims of domestic violence. This complex redesign project, has been supported by the partnership and we have been able to secure agreement to jointly commission the service, incorporating funding commitments from Community Safety, MOPAC, Housing Related Support and Adult Services.

- 2.2. As part of the redesign of the pathway, agreement was secured with Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group to incorporate the commissioning of the Identification Referral Increase Safety (IRIS) GP domestic violence service. This approach has helped to support an integrated approach to service delivery and helped to ensure the best use of the resources available.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. Cabinet approves the award of the contract for the provision of Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) and Identification Referral Increase Safety (IRIS) Service to the successful tenderer in accordance with Contract Standing Order (CSO) 9.06.1(d).

- 3.2. That the contract is awarded for a period of two years for a value of £400,790.38 with an option to extend for a further period or periods of up to two years for an additional value of up to £314,990.67 for the full two further years.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1. The contract for the IDVA service has expired and there was no facility to extend beyond March 2016. Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group (HCCG) agreed to co-commission the IRIS programme to help improve primary care's response to domestic violence.. A Section 75 agreement is in place to cover the IRIS element of the service.

- 4.2. The domestic violence care and referral pathway was redesigned following extensive consultation with partner agencies in 2015, with the agreement to ensure that the IDVA Service was repositioned in the pathway so that high risk victims of domestic violence could be identified and supported by an IDVA at the earliest opportunity.

- 4.3. As a result of the procurement exercise, which has been carried out in accordance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders and the Procurement Code of Practice, it is necessary to award the contract to the successful tenderer as outlined in paragraph 3.1 in accordance with CSO 9.06.1(d).

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1. The option of extending the existing contract was not available as the contract made no provision for an extension.

- 5.2. The service specification had been reviewed in 2015 to incorporate IRIS with the IDVA service as part of the redefined DV referral and care pathway. A joint procurement process with the HCCG was necessary to incorporate the IRIS element of the service to ensure there was no unnecessary duplication in service delivery models.

6. Background information

- 6.1. An Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service is a core component of a coordinated community response to domestic violence, and is necessary to support the function of a Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference. The Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service supports female high risk victims of domestic violence.
- 6.2. IRIS is a general practice-based domestic violence and abuse training support and referral programme that has been evaluated in a randomised controlled trial. Core areas of the programme are training and education, clinical enquiry, care pathways and an enhanced referral pathway to specialist domestic violence services. It is aimed at women who are experiencing DVA from a current partner, ex-partner or adult family member. IRIS also provides information and signposting for male victims and for perpetrators.
- 6.3. IRIS is a collaboration between primary care and third sector organisations specialising in DVA. An advocate educator is linked to general practices and based in a local specialist DVA service. The advocate educator works in partnership with a local clinical lead to co-deliver the training to practices.
- 6.4. **Procurement Process**
 - 6.4.1. A 'Meet the Buyer' event was held on 4th September 2015. This event was intended to communicate and share information with potential providers to help them understand the commissioning intentions and offer opportunities to network and forge partnerships.
 - 6.4.2. The 'Meet the Buyer' event indicated that this is a specialist service and the nature of the market for this type of service is limited. Therefore, the 'Open' tendering process was selected as the most efficient route to market.
 - 6.4.3. The procurement process started with the placing a contract notice in Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and Contract Finder. The tender advert was also published on Haringey's website, CompeteFor and, Delta E-sourcing portals.
 - 6.4.4. The Invitation to Tender (ITT) and supporting documents were uploaded on Delta (e-tendering portal) where following a registration process, the potential tenderers can access the tender documents and submit their tenders electronically.
 - 6.4.5. By the closing date of the tender (11th January 2016), 9 organisations registered their interest on Delta E-sourcing portal. Out of 9, one organisation indicated it was withdrawing from the process and two organisation submitted the tender. Tenderers who submitted tender(s) are listed in Part B (Exempt Information) of this report.
 - 6.4.6. The tenders were evaluated using the Most Economical Advantageous Tender (MEAT) which included a split of 55% Price and 45% Quality as set out in the ITT documentation.

6.4.7. The table below details the outcome of the tender evaluations and respective scores of the tenders.

Tenderers	Quality Scores (out of 450 points)	Price Scores (out of 550 points)	Total scores (out of 1000 points)	Contract price over 2 years	Contract price for 4 years
The Nia Project	342	550	892	£400,790.38	£715,781.05
Company A	327	528	855	£417,799.00	£735,563.00

6.5. Preferred Bidder

6.5.1. In their tender submission, Nia were able to provide strong evidence of how they would deliver on the the key requirements of delivering the IDVA/IRIS Service:

- Accept all referrals for Domestic Violence and Abuse (DV/A hereafter) in Haringey and will through an triage system/function risk assess all referrals using the SafeLives DASH risk identification checklist;
- provide a borough IDAVA Service) to victims/survivors of 16 years plus who fall into the ‘high risk’ category according to the SafeLives dash risk identification checklist and guidance, who live or work in the London Borough of Haringey;
- Provide Project IRIS to up to 25 GP Practices in Haringey;
- provide initial crisis/emergency advice and victims assessed as standard/medium risk to other borough DV/A services as appropriate – male victims will also be supported to access specialist national and pan London services as required;
- work collaboratively and constructively with existing DV/A and violence against women and girls services in Haringey (including IRIS Advocate Educator);
- provide an interim Housing IDVA who will deliver capacity building support for an enhanced housing response to DV/A. The Housing IDVA will develop a project plan with Homes for Haringey (HfH) and with external housing providers, to help support a well managed and resourced housing response to DV/A which will include:
 - Common standards and practices including the following DV/A accreditations: Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance DAHA; Women’s Aid Federation of England National Quality Standards; and Women’s Aid Domestic Abuse Prevention Advocated (DAPA)
 - DV/A pathway protocols, policies, procedures, processes

- Agreeing and delivering a housing pathway training programme for HfH and other Haringey social housing staff, pathway partners and DV/A key stakeholders
- Managing exemplar caseload of high level risk cases within the HfH Hearthstone service that informs a practical development of the pathway
- Establishing inter-borough protocols, and support for joint commissioning with other boroughs.

6.5.2. Nia provided evidence in their tender submission of their national role in the development and implementation of IRIS. They also provided evidence examples of their previous experience of delivering IDVA services with service user input. Their submission demonstrated a flexible collaborative approach to service delivery with a clear understanding of how gender inequality is a cause and consequence of all forms of violence against women and girls.

6.5.3. The Haringey IDVA Service has been previously benchmarked with Pan London service arrangements to establish IDVA capacity to inform commissioning plan and resources required to deliver a service according to SafeLives recommendations. The new proposed service will comprise 3.5 FT IDVAS, 1 FT Housing IDVA (for one year) and a part time IDVA service coordinator. Nia is a specialist women’s violence against women and girls voluntary sector (registered charity) organisation and has a SafeLives Leading Lights accredited service.

6.5.4. The funding package for the IDVA and IRIS contract shows a string partnership commitment in responding to DV. The funding profile for IDVA service is as follows:

Funding Stream	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Comments
Community Safety Team	£49,000	£49,000	£49,000	£49,000	Will be funded through Core budget and is secured for next 4 years
Adults Service	£49,000	£49,000	£49,000	£49,000	Will be funded through Core budget and is secured for next 4 years
MOPAC	£49,000	£49,000	£49,000	£49,000	MOPAC funding is secured until 2017. Work is in progress now by community safety to look at the funding

					position post 2017 and the new MOPAC bid
Housing Related Support	£49,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	Funding for Housing IDVA is only available for year 1 (2016/17). This is information was incorporated in service delivery requirement and has been communicated to bidders during the tender process.
HCCG	£50,084	£37,760	£37,760	N/A	The total costs of £175,688 for IRIS Programme for period of 3 years will be funded by HCCG. Section 75 Agreement is in place.
Total	£246,084	£184,760	£184,760	£147,000	

6.6. Transition and Contract Management

- 6.6.1. The preferred bidder is the current service provider so an expedited process of service mobilisation can be achieved in implementing the new DV referral and care pathway.
- 6.6.2. Contract management will be incorporated into the Contract. Key Performance Indicators and methods of measurement are integrated within the service specification and will be monitored through contract monitoring meetings and reports.
- 6.6.3. Monitoring meetings will be held monthly for the first three months and quarterly thereafter. The purpose of monthly monitoring meetings will be to examine the implementation of the service, monitor delivery of the service at

an operational level and to foster partnership working to facilitate early resolution.

6.7. Reason for awarding a single contract

6.7.1. The IDVA and IRIS elements of the service were combined as one single contract to strengthen the service arrangements and also to avoid further duplication in service delivery, which has been addressed in the work to redesign the DV care and referral pathway. By combining the IRIS element with the IDVA arrangement, the Advocate Educator would be better supported within the borough's IDVA service to cover leave and also ensure a clear and simple referral pathway is in place.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

7.1. The IDVA and IRIS service contributes to priority 3: Preventing and reducing violence against women and girls.

8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

8.1. Chief Finance Officer's Comments

8.2. The cost of the initial 2 year contract can be contained within the funding package outlined in Paragraph 6.5. Before any extension beyond this period can be agreed, the funding package will need to be reassessed as not all the relevant funding is base budget in nature and the relevant departments will need to reconfirm their commitment to the project.

8.3. Procurement Comments:

8.3.1. This report relates to services which are subject to the new Light Touch Regime under the Public Contract Regulations 2015. As such they are required to be advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) although there is greater flexibility in the tender procedure followed than under the standard EU tender regime.

8.3.2. The Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) also apply to the procurement and the services have been tendered in accordance with CSO requirements. The open procedure provided under CSO 9.01(a) was followed.

8.3.3. Contract management will be put in place to ensure contract compliance and ensure quality outcomes.

8.3.4. The total costs of the service for initial contract period of 2 years is higher than availability of funding, however mitigation plan is in place to secure the funding.

8.3.5. The option to extend the contract for further period of 2 years can only be implemented if the funding has been secured at least 4 months prior to expiry of the contract.

8.4. Comments of the Assistant Director of Corporate Governance

8.4.1. The total cumulative value of the contract requires Cabinet approval. Cabinet by virtue of the Contract Procedure Rules has the responsibility to approve award of contracts valued at £500,000 (Five hundred thousand pounds) or more.

8.4.2. The Lead member having the portfolio responsibility for the IDVA and IRIS service can exercise delegated Cabinet authority conferred by the Leader. There must however be no conflict of interest on the part of the Lead member with portfolio responsibility in the exercise of this delegated authority.

8.4.3. In awarding the contract, the Council should consider any applicable statutory duty as provided by the Equalities Act 2010, and the Human Rights Act 1998. In our view, the recommendations of this report can be approved by Cabinet as provided by CSO 9.06.1(d).

8.5. Equality

8.5.1. The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

8.5.2. Equalities analysis has been carried out for this proposal - see EQIA attached. The results of the EQIA are summarised below:

8.5.3. Violence against women and girls is a form of gender inequality. Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by domestic violence. MOPAC figures show that between January 2015 – December 2015 76% of domestic violence victims in Haringey were female.

8.5.4. In addition Haringey police recorded 1,668 victims of domestic abuse between October – September 2013/14 – approx 7% of overall pop

- Females 4 out of 5 victims
- Peak age for victims was 25 – 34 years (18 - 44 yrs represent approx 80% of victims)

- Black victims 31% (over represented in police victim cohort), UK nationals, Polish, Turkish highly represented

8.5.5. Improving the Council's response to violence against women and girls demonstrates a commitment to address inequality issues for that group. The new IDVA/IRIS service is central to the new domestic violence care and referral pathway and will have a positive impact on equalities.

8.5.6. There is a lack of data about certain protected characteristics. In mitigation, the monitoring framework for the IDVA/IRIS service will include information on all the protected characteristics for referrals received and service users who engage with the services.

9. Use of Appendices

9.1. Appendix 1 – Equality Impact Assessment

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1. This report contains exempt and non exempt information. Exempt information is contained in the exempt report and is not for publication. The exempt information is under the following category: (identified in the amended schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 (3)) information in relation to financial or the business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Appendix 1

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of Project	IDVA/IRIS Service	Cabinet meeting date If applicable	
Service area responsible	Community Safety		
Name of completing officer	Victoria Hill	Date EqIA created	15/02/2016
Approved by Director / Assistant Director	Charlotte Pomery	Date of approval	17/02/2016

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'due regard' to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advancing equality of opportunity between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them
- Fostering good relations between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them.

In addition the Council complies with the Marriage (same sex couples) Act 2013.

Haringey Council also has a 'Specific Duty' to publish information about people affected by our policies and practices.

All assessments must be published on the Haringey equalities web pages. All Cabinet papers MUST include a link to the web page where this assessment will be published.

This Equality Impact Assessment provides evidence for meeting the Council's commitment to equality and the responsibilities outlined above, for more information about the Council's commitment to equality; please visit the Council's website.

Stage 1 – Names of those involved in preparing the EqIA	
1. Victoria Hill	5.
2. William Shanks	6.
3. Legal Advisor (where necessary)	7.
4. Trade union	8.

Stage 2 - Description of proposal including the relevance of the proposal to the general equality duties and protected groups. Also carry out your preliminary screening (Use the questions in the Step by Step Guide (The screening process) and document your reasoning for deciding whether or not a full EqIA is required. If a full EqIA is required move on to Stage 3.

The proposal:

An open tender process for the award of a contract for the provision of Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) and Identification Referral Increase Safety (IRIS) Service. The new contract shall commence from 1st May 2016 for a period of two years with an option to extend for a further period or periods of up to two years.

The domestic violence referral and support pathway in Haringey has been redesigned to simplify access to services to ensure victims get help without delay and to improve multi-agency working. The Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (IDVA) will work as a key agency in the coordinated community response to tackling violence against women and girls in Haringey.

The IDVA will operate an assessment and triage function, risk assessing all referrals for domestic violence and providing support to all female high risk victims of domestic violence aged 16 years plus.

Relevance to the general equality duties:

Violence against women and girls is a form of gender inequality. Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by domestic violence. MOPAC figures show that between January 2015 – December 2015 76% of domestic violence victims in Haringey were female.

Stage 3 – Scoping Exercise - Employee data used in this Equality Impact Assessment

Identify the main sources of the evidence, both quantitative and qualitative, that supports your analysis. This could include for example, data on the Council’s workforce, equalities profile of service users, recent surveys, research, results of recent relevant consultations, Haringey Borough Profile, Haringey Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and any other sources of relevant information, local, regional or national.

Data Source (include link where published)	What does this data include?
Police data on Domestic Violence referrals October 2013 – September 2014	Protected characteristics of DV victims in Haringey covering 1,668 people
MOPAC data on Domestic Violence victims between January 2015 and December 2015	% of victims who were female

Stage 4 – Scoping Exercise - Service data used in this Equality Impact Assessment

This section to be completed where there is a change to the service provided

Data Source (include link where published)	What does this data include?
There is no impact on staff - commissioning of an external service	

**Stage 5a – Considering the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups in terms of impact on residents and service delivery:
Positive and negative impacts identified will need to form part of your action plan.**

	Positive	Negative	Details	None – why?
Sex	<p>80% of victims were female according to local Police DV referral data Sept 2013- Oct 2014</p> <p>MOPAC figures show that between January 2015 and December 2015, 76% of domestic violence victims in Haringey were female.</p>			
Gender Reassignment				Police data does not cover this protected characteristic. The monitoring framework for the IDVA/IRIS service will include information on all the protected characteristics for referrals received and service users who engage with the services.
Age	Peak age for victims was 25 – 34 years (18 - 44 yrs represent approx 80% of victims)			
Disability				Police data does not cover this protected characteristic. The monitoring framework for the IDVA/IRIS service will include

				information on all the protected characteristics for referrals received and service users who engage with the services.
Race & Ethnicity	Black victims 31% (over represented in police victim cohort), UK nationals, Polish, Turkish also highly represented			
Sexual Orientation				Police data does not cover this protected characteristic. The monitoring framework for the IDVA/IRIS service will include information on all the protected characteristics for referrals received and service users who engage with the services.
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)				
Pregnancy & Maternity				
Marriage and Civil Partnership (note this only applies in relation to eliminating unlawful discrimination (limb 1))				

Stage 5b – For your employees and considering the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups: Positive and negative impacts identified will need to form part of your action plan.

	Positive	Negative	Details	None – why?
Sex	No impact on staff - commissioning of an external service			
Gender Reassignment				
Age				
Disability				
Race & Ethnicity				
Sexual Orientation				
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)				
Pregnancy & Maternity				
Marriage and Civil Partnership (note this only applies in relation to eliminating unlawful discrimination (limb 1))				

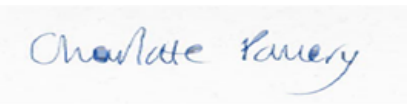
Stage 6 - Initial Impact analysis	Actions to mitigate, advance equality or fill gaps in information
<p>Evidence shows that domestic violence disproportionately affects women, younger age groups, black people and people from other minority ethnic groups (Polish, Turkish). Improving the Council's response to violence against women and girls demonstrates a commitment to address inequality issues for that group. The new IDVA/IRIS service is central to the new domestic violence care and referral pathway.</p>	<p>There is currently a lack of data around some of the protected characteristics. The monitoring framework for the IDVA/IRIS service will include information on all the protected characteristics for referrals received and service users who engage with the services.</p>

Stage 7 - Consultation and follow up data from actions set above	
Data Source (include link where published)	What does this data include?
<p>The pathway and service arrangements were designed following extensive consultation with stakeholders and partner agencies including specialist violence against women and girls voluntary sector services representing the views of service users and victims.</p>	

Stage 8 - Final impact analysis
<p>Improving the Council's response to violence against women and girls demonstrates a commitment to address inequality issues for that group, including younger women, black women and women from other minority ethnic groups. The new IDVA/IRIS service is central to the new domestic violence care and referral pathway and will have a positive impact on equalities.</p>

Stage 9 - Equality Impact Assessment Review Log

Review approved by
Director / Assistant
Director



Date of
review

17/02/2016

Review approved by
Director / Assistant
Director



Date of
review



Stage 10 – Publication

Ensure the completed EqIA is published in accordance with the Council's policy.

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