

Role Addendum – Specialist DAW - IDVA

The purpose of independent domestic violence advisors (IDVA) is to address the safety of victims at the highest risk of harm/domestic homicide from intimate partners, ex-partners or family members and to secure the victim’s safety and the safety of their children. Serving as a victim’s primary 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 safety plans. IDVA’s are pro-active in implementing the plans, which address immediate safety, including practical steps to protect, as well as longer-term solutions. Safety plans will include actions from the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) as well as civil and criminal remedies, housing options and services available through other organisations. IDVAs support and work over the short- to medium-term to reduce risk and increase safety of victims and their children. The IDVA’s role is to keep the client’s perspective and safety at the centre of proceedings.

This will include:

- completing initial assessments of risk and need, devising safety and support plans and liaising with all other appropriate agencies, ensuring a holistic and trauma-informed approach to support for service users;
- Regular review of all plans to include recording of all contacts or attempted contact with or on behalf of service users
- provide support to all internal and external stakeholders;
- attending and contributing to MARAC and other multi-agency meetings to ensure best outcomes for service users;
- provision of service user support to adhere to all national legislation as well as organisational policy and procedure;
- proactively developing knowledge and skills relevant to the IDVA role, sharing learning and supporting volunteers, staff, students, current and prospective partners in the PTMWA portfolio

QUALIFICATIONS		
A formal qualification in gender-based violence eg SafeLives IDVA or ISAC or willing to complete in post	E	Application Form / Interview
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING - Competencies		
A working knowledge of the civil and criminal justice system, welfare benefits and immigration in relation to high risk of high harm service users	E	Application Form/ Interview
An excellent working knowledge of risk assessments, risk management and safety and support planning in relation to IDVA service users	E	Application Form/ Interview
A thorough and demonstrable knowledge of case management systems.	E	Application Form/ Interview

A sound working knowledge of the practical, emotional, social and economic barriers to establishing and maintaining engagement with IDVA service users	E	Application Form/ Interview
Detailed knowledge of typologies of DVA and high risk of high harm victim/survivor responses	D	Application Form Interview
Experience of group work delivery, service user collaboration or co-production	D	Application form Interview
Experience of volunteer/staff support, training and development	D	Application Form Interview
Experience of delivering model-specific training to professionals	D	Application Form Interview