



## Ending domestic abuse

<b>Job title:</b>	Independent domestic violence advisor
<b>Grade:</b>	
<b>Salary:</b>	
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Idva service manager and/or senior Idva
<b>Context of job:</b>	Insert service and partnership context, and in which area the role will be based.
<b>Purpose of job:</b>	<p>To provide a high-quality frontline service to victims of domestic abuse, delivering a service to those at highest risk. To work within a multi-agency framework consisting of the Marac and local partnership responses to domestic abuse.</p> <p>This role is subject to an enhanced criminal bureau check.</p>

### Main duties

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- Identify and assess the risks and needs of domestic abuse victims using an evidence-based risk identification checklist.
- Focus on and prioritise high risk cases and provide a pro-active, short to medium term crisis intervention service through individual safety planning and personal support.
- Work with high risk victims of domestic abuse to help them access services to keep them and their children safe.
- Advocate for high risk victims with agencies who can help to address the domestic abuse by:
  - I. Understanding the role of all relevant statutory and non-statutory services available to domestic abuse victims and how your role fits into them.
  - II. Providing advocacy, emotional and practical support and information to victims including in relation to legal options, housing, health and finance.
  - III. Working directly with all key agency partners to address the safety of high risk victims and ensuring that their safety plans are coordinated particularly through the Marac.
- Manage a case load ensuring each client receives the appropriate service individual to their needs.
- Support the empowerment of the client and assist them in recognising the features and dynamics of domestic abuse present in their situation, and help them regain control of their lives.
- Understand multi-agency partnership structures and work within a multi-agency setting which will include participation at the Marac. You will contribute interventions and help design a plan to protect victims and any children, while maintaining an independent role on behalf of your client, keeping their safety as central to any response.
- *In accordance with your organisation's case management policy:* Be proactive with your *line manager* in carrying out periodic case reviews based on a review of risk and abuse which:
  - I. Feeds back into action planning to further progress, signpost or close cases and;
  - II. Provides feedback to your clients/agencies.
- Help maintain accurate and confidential case management records *and databases* and contribute to monitoring information for the service.
- Comply with data protection legislation, confidentiality and information sharing policy and procedures and all legislation connected to your work.

- Support colleagues and partner agencies, through awareness raising and institutional advocacy, in order to provide the best possible service for victims of domestic abuse. *May wish to define training events/roles.*
- Respect and value the diversity of the community in which the services works in, and recognise the needs and concerns of a diverse range of survivors ensuring the service is accessible to all.
- Remain up-to-date and compliant with all organisational procedures policies and professional codes of conduct and uphold standards of best practice.

## Person specification

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### Knowledge

#### You are required to:

- Have a good understanding of domestic abuse including the impact of domestic abuse on victims and their children.
- Have theoretical, practical and procedural knowledge of civil and criminal justice remedies for victims of domestic abuse and their children.
- Understand child protection issues, and the legal responsibilities surrounding these issues.
- Understand the principles of risk assessment, safety planning and risk management for victims of domestic abuse and their children.
- Understand the remits and resources of relevant statutory bodies and voluntary agencies.
- Understand and be committed to equal opportunities and diversity issues in policy and practice.

### Experience

#### You are required to have experience of:

- Working with vulnerable people.
- Managing a caseload.
- Working within a multi-agency and legislative framework.

### Skills/ Qualifications/ Professional Membership:

#### You are required to:

- Have computer literacy skills *and have some experience of working with databases.*
- Hold a SafeLives Idva training certificate, or a relevant degree, or demonstrable equivalent experience, or a vocational qualification, *or be willing to undertake relevant study?*
- Have excellent communication, negotiation and advisory skills, both written and verbal when interacting with a range of agencies and individuals.
- Have strong crisis management skills and the ability to deal with stressful and difficult situations.

### Personal qualities

#### You will be required to:

- Be compassionate and empathetic with your client's situation.
- Show initiative and be proactive when managing your case load and interacting with your clients and agencies you're working with.
- Act with integrity and respect when working with all clients, agencies and individuals.
- Work flexibly as part of a team.
- Be optimistic about the possibility of personal growth and change.
- Motivate individuals and agencies to move through courses of action and decision making processes.