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REPORT / SUMMARY DECISION SHEET

PURPOSE: COMMISSIONER DECISION

Timing: Urgent / Pressing / Routine

Title: Increase in capacity for the Newid service contract

Category of Decision / Business Area Impact: Commissioning

Executive Summary:

In May 2014 the Police and Crime Commissioner ran an open tender competition for services to support vulnerable, repeat and high risk victims of domestic abuse and subsequently awarded a contract to Hafan Cymru for the period 1st October 2014 to 31st March 2018.

In December 2014, Safe Lives undertook a national survey of IDVAs working with high-risk domestic abuse victims across England and Wales at the request of the Home Secretary. The Home Office requested that this IDVA count be renewed with results received by Dyfed Powys in December 2015. The report presented the recommended number of IDVA posts for Dyfed Powys based on the volumes of medium and high risk victims of domestic abuse. The latest recommendation is for 17 FTE IDVA workers focussing solely on high risk cases, compared to the current numbers within Dyfed Powys of 4 FTE. This highlights a concerning disparity between the level of need and the current service provision commissioned by Responsible Authorities under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

In response to this, and following further discussion, investigation and analysis with Safe Lives, it is recommended that enhanced funding is provided to the current service in order to increase the capacity for dealing with high risk domestic abuse victims.

Welsh Government have also recognised the need for further investment in this high risk area and have increased the Local Authority grants for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017, with indicative grants for the following 2 years to remain at the increased levels. It is further recommended that joint discussions with partner agencies commence early in 2016/17 to explore the feasibility of a jointly commissioned regional service in order to maximise funding availability and provide consistency and efficiency within service provision.

Recommendation:

That the Police and Crime Commissioner approve the proposal to award an additional £75,000 to Hafan Cymru for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 for enhanced capacity and provision within their existing service for victims of domestic abuse.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the NOLAN Principles for Conduct in Public Life. The above has my approval.

Signature:

Date:

11/4/16