

Decision No 2016/02



**REPORT TO:** POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE

**REPORT BY:** Liz Canavan  
Victims and Partnerships Officer

**DATE:** May 24, 2016

**TITLE:** Blackpool Victoria Hospital IDVA – Pilot Scheme

Appendix A refers

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Fylde Coast Women's Aid funded a six-month one-day-a-week pilot in Blackpool Victoria Hospital, which saw an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor placed within the hospital's A&E unit. The IDVA also deals with cases within the maternity unit and among hospital staff – an area of particular concern following the murder of nurse Jane Clough.
2. The IDVA pilot is due to finish on June 1, 2016, and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals is seeking funding to extend this pilot until March 31, 2017, to allow provision of a hospital IDVA to be considered alongside domestic abuse re-commissioning in the area.

### RECOMMENDATION

The Commissioner agrees to fund option 2, as detailed in appendix A. The pilot cost of £36,031.67 to be funded using savings on the Lancashire County Council domestic abuse contract for 2016/17.

### Decision taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire:

Original decision, as set out in the attached report, approved without amendment (please delete as appropriate)	YES	NO
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### Original decision required to be amended and decision as detailed below:

Option 1 to be funded from June 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017 at a cost of £24,021.25

### The reasons for the amended decision are as detailed below:

Option 1 will provide a full-time member of staff, which will significantly enhance the service currently provided by the pilot and provide enough data to establish whether this provision should be permanently commissioned in the future.


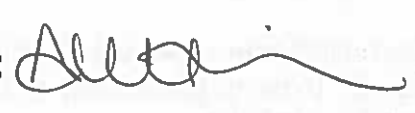
**Police and Crime Commissioner: Comments**


**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

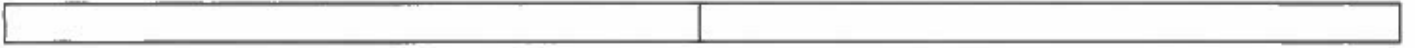
The PCC is asked to consider any personal / prejudicial interests he may have to disclose in relation to the matter under consideration in accordance with the law, the Nolan Principles and the Code of Conduct.

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation.

<b>Signed:</b>  <b>Police and Crime Commissioner</b> <b>Date:</b> 24.5.16	<b>Signed:</b>  <b>Chief Officer:</b> <b>Date:</b> 24-5-2016
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<b>Signed:</b> <b>Chief Constable</b> <b>Date:</b>	<b>Signed:</b>  <b>Chief Finance Officer:</b> <b>Date:</b> 24/5/16
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## APPENDIX A – 2016/02

### IDVA Pilot project proposal

#### 1. Background

Fylde Coast Women's Aid (FCWA) approached Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (BTH) around the possibility of piloting an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) within the hospital's A&E department.

The pilot was funded by FCWA and saw IDVA presence established in the hospital's A&E department each Thursday for six months. During this time, the IDVA also dealt with staff who were victims of domestic abuse (DA), women accessing maternity services and patients in the wider hospital.

In the final quarter, BTH contributed to the project to enable the IDVA to work four shifts per week, as oppose to one. This allowed the project to cover evenings and a Saturday for a period of eight weeks.

The project is due to finish on June 1<sup>st</sup>, and both FCWA and BTH have made contact with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to make enquiries about continuing the funding.

#### 2. Evidence of need

Currently, BTH employs four "complex midwives", one of whom looks after patients suffering with mental health issues, one dedicated to severe substance and alcohol misuse, and two who pick up patients who are non-English speaking, teenage or victims of DA.

Each complex midwife can carry a maximum caseload of 30, and any MARAC referrals which are made from the hospital's maternity unit are currently made by the two complex DA midwives from their caseloads.

Given the number of unborn child protection plans being managed by Blackpool Council, the fact that DA will be a theme in the majority of these, and the fact BTH receives patients from across Fylde and Wyre, BTH would expect the no. of referrals to be higher if routine domestic abuse enquiries were being made.

Nine Serious Case Reviews over the past two years also highlighted the failure of BTH staff to make routine domestic abuse inquiries, and listed this as a recommendation for the Trust to improve practice.

Following the murder of nurse Jane Clough on hospital premises by her ex-partner, BTH is also keen to ensure staff can access domestic abuse services in a timely and convenient way.

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### 3. Success of the pilot project

Quantitative and qualitative data obtained from BTH and FCWA indicates the success of the pilot project.

Data has been obtained from 40 shifts carried out by the IDVA within the hospital between December 1, 2015 and May 17, 2016.

The total number of referrals is 71 – 54% from A&E, 10% from hospital staff and 8% from the maternity unit/midwifery/special care baby unit.

Of those referrals, 14 were identified as high risk, 28 as medium and 11 as standard, while 17 failed to complete the Safer Lives RIC questions. 10 cases have been referred to MARAC by the hospital-based ISVA.

Blackpool residents accounted for 65% of referrals, with Fylde and Wyre (Lancashire County Council area) accounting for 14%. A further 4% were from outside the area and the addresses of the final 17% are unknown.

It should be noticed the statistics do not represent the caseload of one IDVA, as different IDVAs attended the hospital on different weeks.

Qualitative evidence has also been obtained and demonstrates:

The presence of an IDVA in the hospital **empowers** staff to make the routine enquiry and prevents delay between victim making a disclosure and accessing support, and prevents victims from having to disclose more than once.

FCWA also received a letter of thanks from Lancashire Constabulary Domestic Violence Protection officer Sian Street for their work with a high-risk female they came into contact with at the hospital, with the support given described as "invaluable".

### 4. Working with commissioned services

The IDVA working within the hospital is employed by Fylde Coast Women's Aid (FCWA), who do not currently receive funding as the commissioned service in Blackpool.

However, FCWA do work – sustained by grant funding - to support standard and medium risk DA victims in the area, as council funding does not commission a service for victims falling under this remit.

During the pilot phase, if a high-risk DA victim is identified through the hospital IDVA, FCWA agreed to keep them on their case-load to prevent duplicate disclosures having to be made.

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## 5. Costings and proposal

The Police and Crime Commissioner has previously contributed over £400K to domestic abuses services across the pan-Lancashire area. Due to a combination of an underspend in previous years plus funding from the CCGs the Commissioner has not needed to contribute funding to the provision of services in the Lancashire 12 area for 2016/17, resulting in a saving of £312K when compared to previous years. .

It is proposed a portion of this saving is used to extend and expand the IDVA hospital pilot in Blackpool, to allow it to run from June 1, 2016 until March 31, 2017 (10 months). This would allow further evidence to be gathered around the project's benefit, and would bring any commissioning arrangements in line with those for both DA and victim services in the area.

### **Option 1:**

Expand A&E based IDVA provision to full-time for a pilot period lasting until March 31, 2017. IDVA to work five shifts per week – to be flexible based on evidence of hospital demand – and to include evenings and weekends.

IDVA to be based in A&E but to continue to provide support to staff, maternity unit, and patients in the wider hospital (emphasis on those who have been admitted following a visit to A&E).

Pilot cost: 1.0fte IDVA (incl. on-costs) - £24,021.25 for the period 01/06/16 – 31/03/17.

### **Option 2:**

Expand A&E based IDVA provision to full-time for a pilot period lasting until March 31, 2017. IDVA to work five shifts per week – to be flexible based on evidence of hospital demand – and to include evenings and weekends.

IDVA to be based in A&E but to provide support to staff and patients in the wider hospital (emphasis on those who have been admitted following a visit to A&E).

0.5FTE IDVA to be based solely in hospital's maternity unit, dealing only with maternity cases.

Pilot cost: 1.0fte IDVA (incl. on-costs) - £24,021.25 for the period 01/06/16 – 31/03/17

0.5fte IDVA (incl on-costs) - £12,010.42 for the period 01/06/16 – 31/03/17

Total 10-month costs: - £36,031.67

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## Recommendation

The PCC considers funding Option 2 above for a period until March 31, 2017.

This would allow more data to be gathered around the pilot's effectiveness, particularly within the safeguarding children arena within the maternity/midwifery/SCBU units. It would also allow the support offered to staff – currently at 10% of all referrals – to be extended.

Subject to information gathered, the hospital IDVA project is subsequently included as part of re-commissioned DA services.

**ENDS**