

**AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE (ADVA)  
DEVON PARTNERSHIP**

**STATEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP AND WORKING PROTOCOLS**

**JULY 2009.**

**1. The Partnership**

The Devon Against Domestic Violence and Abuse Partnership (adva) is an association of like minded bodies intent on addressing the issues raised for the victims, children/young people and perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse within Devon.

It has set itself the following terms of reference:

- To co-ordinate, oversee and monitor the implementation of the adva Strategy.
- To act as the reference group for Domestic Abuse issues for the Devon Strategic Partnership, to report to it regularly and to produce an annual report of progress towards dealing with the issues of domestic violence in Devon.
- To identify and agree the joint funding to be provided by all partner agencies needed to implement the adva Strategy and to act on behalf of all the Partners in securing and utilising the joint funding of the strategy.
- To provide a countrywide support network for statutory, voluntary and community sectors working with Domestic Abuse.
- To provide a county forum for the sharing of good practice and exchange of information on domestic abuse issues.
- To identify what policy, training and service issues are most appropriately dealt with at a local and county level.
- To seek to identify how policy and the level of services can be improved so that the level of domestic abuse, especially repeat victimisation, is reduced and those affected by it receive adequate services and their safety is secured.
- To promote a definition of domestic abuse which facilitates a wider understanding, acknowledgement and reduction of the issue.
- To promote equality of access to services across Devon for those affected by domestic abuse.

**2. Purpose and Scope**

adva will address all areas of Domestic Abuse, which is seen as a crime, the impact of which cuts across all social, economic and cultural groups, manifesting itself in a variety of ways including physical, emotional, psychological, sexual and financial abuse.

adva will work within its terms of reference to inform, develop and implement strategies for Devon which challenge and prevent incidents of domestic violence. In particular, but not exclusively, the members of adva will:

- Work together and collaborate towards the achievement of the adva Strategy and

Business Plan objectives.

- Co-operate to raise funds for delivery of the Strategy and Business Plan objectives.
- Where appropriate, harmonise administrative and other relevant policies.
- Develop and share resources and facilities to achieve the Strategy and Business Plan objectives.
- Co-operate insofar as the law allows, in the sharing of information which is relevant to, or will assist in the achievement of the Strategy and Business Plan.

### **3. Membership**

Membership of adva will be open to any person or agency within Devon who are willing to sign up to the principles of co-operation, collaboration and joint working towards the objectives and purposes of this Statement and Working Protocols.

The founding members of the Partnership are those organisations listed in Schedule 1.

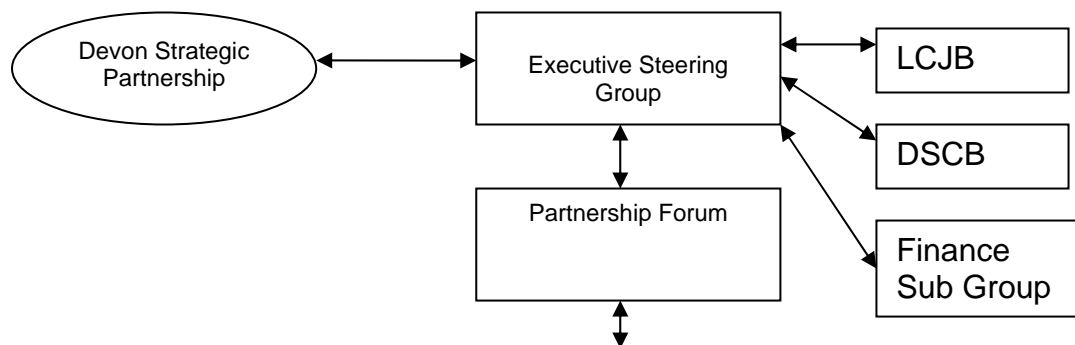
### **4. Strategy and Business Plan**

advA will periodically prepare a Strategy (the Strategy) and a Business Plan which will set out the programme for advA and the methods and means of implementation to be used for achieving the objectives for advA over the relevant period.

The current Strategy is the advA Vision and Strategy 2009-2011.

### **5. The Structure of the Partnership**

advA has developed the following structure to implement the Strategy:



The Executive Steering Group shall have the following terms of reference.

- To co-ordinate, oversee and monitor the implementation of the advA Strategy.
- To identify the funding needed to implement the advA Strategy and to act on behalf of all the partner agencies in securing and appropriately utilising the joint funding of the strategy.
- To identify what policy, training and service delivery issues are most appropriately dealt with at a local and a county level.
- To seek to identify how policy and the level of services can be improved so that the level of domestic abuse, especially repeat victimisation, is reduced and those

- To guide the work of the adva Partnership.
- To prioritise the work to be undertaken in any given financial year.
- To identify funding sources and support agencies beyond the constituted partners who can add, either funding, other resources or support to the objectives of the partnership.
- To establish links to mainstream planning activity and oversee partner agencies contribution to delivering responses to domestic abuse within their mainstream employer and service commissioning plans, strategies and service provision.
- To oversee development of agency and cross-agency policy.
- To ensure the main agencies are taking on board the implementation of the strategy and that all are working to the principle of sharing activity to maximise services in line with the adva strategy and the Peninsula Plan for Domestic Violence and Abuse.
- To oversee and monitor the use of pooled adva budget.
- To set at least a three-year budget against the delivery needs of the strategy and business plan a Finance Sub-Group will be established working to the terms of reference as in Appendix 1

The membership of the Executive Steering Group shall be made up of senior representatives delegated to act on behalf of their organisation in relation to funding and policy matters:

Devon County Council

Devon and Cornwall Police

Devon Primary Health Care Trust – Commissioning Body and Provider Services

Safer Devon Partnership

Community Safety Partnerships

District Councils

Devon Childrens' Trust

Devon and Cornwall Probation Area

Crown Prosecution Service

Devon Magistrates Court Service

CAFCAS

In addition the following organisations will hold observer status in their capacity as providers of dva services within Devon.

Exeter Women's Aid

North Devon Women's Aid

Domestic Violence Services South Devon.

Local DVA Forum Chairs

The wider adva Partnership shall have the following terms of reference:

- To act as the reference group on domestic abuse issues for the adva Partnership.
- To provide a countywide support network for statutory, voluntary and community sectors working with domestic abuse.
- To provide a county forum for the sharing of good practice and exchange of information on domestic abuse issues.
- To provide a Devon definition of 'domestic abuse' which facilitates a wider understanding, acknowledgement and reduction of the issue.
- To promote equality of access to services across Devon for those affected by domestic abuse.

Membership and attendance at adva Partnership meetings is open to any statutory, voluntary, community or business organisations who share adva' philosophy and objectives and can contribute positively to the achievement of adva objectives.

Task Groups may be set up from time to time as the implementation of the Strategy may require, and shall have the following terms of reference:

- To co-ordinate and monitor aspects of the Action Plan as shall be set out in the Business Plan.
- To identify issues in the implementation of the work outlined in the Action Plan.
- To report quarterly to the Partnership on progress against milestones in the Action Plan.
- To recommend reversions to the Action Plan to the Partnership.

Membership of any task groups will be drawn from within the adva partner agencies or by co-option from other bodies

## **6. Administration**

Devon County Council will provide administrative services to the adva Partnership.

## **7. Funding of the Strategy and Business Plan**

The Strategy and Business Plan will set out budgets for the implementation of services to be undertaken by the Partnership. The funds to meet those budgets will be primarily provided and agreed via the Finance Sub Group, by the three core statutory agencies forming the partnership (DCC/Local District Authorities; PCT/Health and Police). In addition funding will be sought from various other sources including: central government funds; European Union Funding; other national, regional and local funding sources that from time to time may become available; contributions from the other members of the partnership.

Funds received shall be administered by Devon County Council. Insofar as the funds are available, and to such extent as the funds are available Devon County Council will be responsible to the Partnership for the procurement of services proposed by the Partnership.

In carrying out this obligation to the Partnership Devon County Council will apply their own procurement and standing order processes and the Partnership recognises that if Devon deem it appropriate not to accept a risk on behalf of the Partnership it shall not be required to commit itself or the Partnership until after further discussion.

### **Schedule 1**

**Signed:**

#### **FUNDERS**

**Devon County Council: Chief Executive's Directorate**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Devon Children's Trust**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Devon & Cornwall Constabulary**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Devon Primary Care Trust**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Devon and Cornwall Probation Area**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Safer Devon Partnership:**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**East Devon/Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Exeter Community Safety Partnership**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Safer North Devon**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**District Councils**

East Devon – name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Exeter– name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mid Devon – name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

North Devon – name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Torridge – name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

South Hams – name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Teignbridge – name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

West Devon – name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**OBSERVERS**

**Women’s Aid/Providers of dva services withing Devon**

**Exeter Women’s Aid**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**North Devon & Torridge Women’s Aid**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Domestic Violence Services South Devon**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX 1**

**FINANCE SUB GROUP**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP**

The Strategy and Business Plan will set out budgets for the implementation of services to be undertaken by the Partnership. The funds to meet those budgets will be agreed by the adva Finance Sub-group. The terms of reference of the Finance group shall be:

- To set an agreed budget for adva to meet the requirements of the vision and business plan
- To agree the methodology or process for sharing contributions from partner agencies – eg either by a formula arrangement or by shared commitment
- To set a budget that covers the period of each adva business plan. The current vision and business plan being for 2009-2011.

### **Membership**

To be Chief Officers, or their nominated deputy/senior representatives who are empowered to make budgetary commitments to the achievement of the agreed adva strategy, from the following agencies:

- Devon County Council – to include Children and Families Directorate, and Adult and Community Services Directorate
- Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
- Devon PCT – Commissioning Body and Devon Provider Services
- Devon and Cornwall Probation Area
- District/City Council – one representative
- Chairperson of adva partnership

### **Meetings**

The sub group will meet twice a year;

- December to agree the outline budget for the following financial year
- June to monitor utilisation of the budget and agree any amendments or changes.