



Katrina Callcut moving on to pastures new!

Katrina has been a largely invisible but supremely important person in the adva partnership.

She has been responsible for identifying additional funding opportunities within the Local Authority, for converting capital monies into revenue to better suit the needs of the adva services and managing our increasingly complex budget over many years. It is tremendous and just that her skills and talent are being recognised elsewhere within Devon County Council and the Children's and Young People's Service is the fortunate beneficiary.

Thank you for every single bit of your assiduous and dedicated work for adva Katrina. You'll be sorely missed.

The adva team

What is adva?

Adva is Devon's 'against domestic violence and abuse' partnership comprising different agencies across the county: Local Authority, District Councils, Police, Probation, Education, Social Care, Crown Prosecution Service, Courts Service, Health Services, Women's Aid Services, Victim Support etc.

What does adva do?

Adva has increased the amount of money invested in the provision of specialist domestic violence and abuse support services across the county, from £60,000 in 2002 to £1.8m in 2009. Adva commissions services to provide support to: victims (women and men); male perpetrators and children. It manages and delivers a range of multi-agency training programmes within and outside Devon. In addition it campaigns, nationally, regionally and locally, to improve service provision within and between agencies.

Who hosts adva?

Adva is hosted by Devon County Council which permanently funds the adva team. The Local Authority in 2001 recognised the significance of domestic abuse as a crime and demonstrated leadership in the field in its decision to focus on this area of crime reduction. As services have expanded over the years so too has adva's team. See the team on the next page...

Who is in the adva team and what do they do?



Roy Tomlinson

Roy Tomlinson is a Community Strategy Officer who has part of his overall Community Safety lead responsibilities dedicated to domestic abuse work with the adva team. He is responsible for: work with children and sits as domestic violence and abuse lead on the Devon Safeguarding Children Board; chairs the adva/bme task group; is link to the SEEDS group; oversees the management of the various contracts adva has for services and the multi-agency budget that funds the work and for strategic management and development work. He can be contacted on **0797 1677197** or roy.tomlinson@devon.gov.uk



Rachel Martin

Rachel Martin was appointed as adva manager in 2002 and works at a strategic partnership level. She is responsible for Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (Exeter and Barnstaple) Operational Groups; employer policy development; REPAIR; national and regional networking; marketing/PR; contract monitoring; data; health sub-group work for Devon Safeguarding Children's Board; management and supervision of project support team. You can contact Rachel on **01392 382233** or **07815 563318** or rachel.martin@devon.gov.uk



Susannah Hunter

Susannah Hunter was appointed adva Co-ordinator in October 2006. She is responsible for the co-ordination of consistent and best practice across: the 4 MARACs (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) within Devon (Exeter; East & Mid Devon; North Devon and South & West Devon) via the Devon MARAC Steering Group; Devon's IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence and Abuse Advisor) Service with Devon's 7 IDVAs; the 8 Local Authorities within Devon re: domestic violence and abuse and housing; input into the domestic violence and abuse sub-group for Devon's Safeguarding Children's Board and lead on adva's multi-agency training courses (www.devon.gov.uk/index/childrenfamilies/families/domestic-abuse-violence/dv_courses.htm) including partnership agreements, quality assurance and course development. You can contact Susannah on **01392 382233** or **07837 683 758** or susannah.hunter@devon.gov.uk



Janice Healey

Janice Healey has been working on a full time basis for adva since November 2006, although has worked within Devon County Council since 1998. As the full-time Project Support Officer Janice is responsible for the administration of Level 2 Domestic Violence and Abuse – The Impact on Children; Preventing Murder and Serious Harm within Domestic Violence and Abuse; Managers Tackling Domestic Violence and Abuse; Schools training and Buy-in and Ad-Hoc Training. Janice also co-ordinates the adva newsletter, arranges conferences and other adva related meetings. Janice can be contacted on **01392 382233** or janice.healey@devon.gov.uk



Claire Heaver

Claire Heaver is a part-time Project Support Officer who has been with adva since September 2006. She is responsible for the administration of the Level 1 Tackling Domestic Violence and Abuse and the Tackling Perpetrators of Domestic Violence and Abuse courses, invoice payments and queries, the marketing of adva training and for providing general administrative support. You can contact Claire on **01392 383479** or claire.heaver@devon.gov.uk



Emma White

Emma White joined the adva team in June 2009 as a part-time Project Support Officer. Emma is responsible for the administering of Level 1 training courses, providing general administrative support to the adva team and developing and updating the adva website. Emma can be contacted on **01392 382066** or emma.white@devon.gov.uk

Important notice about adva's 'Preventing murder and serious harm' training course

Please note that during November and December 2009, adva will be piloting a new half day multi-agency course called: 'The MARAC Process in Devon - increasing safety for victims of domestic violence and abuse' in place of our one day 'Preventing Murder and Serious Harm in Domestic Violence and Abuse' course.

There will be no charge to delegates who participate in the pilot courses, however please note that we require at least 3 weeks notice if you wish to cancel your place otherwise a charge of £63 will be incurred (i.e. the full cost of the course).

Please also note that all delegates wishing to participate in these pilot courses must have completed adva's Level 1 Foundation 'Tackling Domestic Violence and Abuse' course as an essential entry requirement.

The course will focus on the following key topics:

- The MARAC process
- Using a Risk Indicator check list
- Information sharing process
- MARAC meeting and action plans

This course is aimed at all front line practitioners working with adults and families.

Dates, times and locations:

16th November in Exeter

9.15am - 12.15pm (no lunch provided) or
1.15pm - 4.15pm (no lunch provided)

8th December in Newton Abbot

9.15am - 12.15pm (no lunch provided) or
1.15pm - 4.15pm (no lunch provided)

16 December in Exeter

9.15am - 12.15pm (no lunch provided) or
1.15pm - 4.15pm (no lunch provided)

We anticipate that this will be a very popular pilot and each course can only accommodate up to 14 delegates, so please complete and return your booking form ASAP. Details of the course and a booking form are available on our website www.adva.org.uk

Budget 2009-2010

Good news on adva budget as we have been granted reward money from the Local Public Service Agreement round two. Adva had a target in the round to: a) increase the level of domestic violence and abuse reports to Police; and b) to improve Brought to Justice outcomes. We achieved both of these over the three year period of the agreement and will now be utilising the reward grant to secure the essential services that we needed to underpin the targets and the wider adva strategy.

DSCB

Devon Safeguarding Children Board has now approved the draft of a safeguarding children affected by dva policy. This is a significant development in work with children as it will start to bring a more coordinated approach across agencies to the impact of dva on children and the service needs arising from this. Central to the policy is a risk assessment that utilises work developed by Barnardos to grade the impact of dva on children. This will enable more targeted and focussed work to be carried out and will take a similar approach to that adopted in the risk assessment of victims and the MARAC process. The policy will have wide ranging affects on the way children and young people are assessed and will now be subject to a pilot implementation process to report back to DSCB in December.

News from the Devon BME

(Black and Minority Ethnic)
/DVA Action Group

Lots of developments to report; now that the summer is over, everything seems to be happening at once...

The Devon NRP (No Recourse to Public Funds) Emergency Fund

Since we established this fund, about nine months ago, it has been used to support 5 victims across Devon who, because of their status, have had no recourse to public funds. The money has been spent on covering refugees' costs, on emergency accommodation, on interpreting and on providing basic essentials such as food, children's clothes and nappies. The growing number of requests for support shows the true scale of this problem. It is terrible to think that this is a national problem and yet most counties across the UK have no access to a fund such as this. To find out more about the problem and to lend your support to campaigns to change the law, visit the Southall Black Sisters website at www.southallblacksisters.org.uk/

We have allocated another £2000 of our current budget to bolster the fund and Devon and Cornwall Constabulary have promised another £500. Also, to make sure that the fund is sustainable in the future, we have decided to hold a yearly fundraising event ...more news on this soon.

Training

We were delighted to secure a grant of £4600 from the Home Office to develop a training workshop that will help domestic violence and abuse practitioners in Devon to support victims from BME backgrounds. The first stage, which has already started, involves four women from local BME communities working together with an educational consultant to put together two half-day workshops. The workshops will include information on: local BME populations and community groups; cultural awareness; language and communication; forced marriage, genital mutilation, human trafficking; NRP – how to support victims without recourse to public funds.

The workshops will be ready for delivery by January 2010 and, nearer the time, we will be sending out invitations to book places on one of the workshops.

Guidance notes on supporting BME victims

It's one of those things that we could keep adding more and more information to but, with the 7th draft, we have decided it's time to stop for the time being. If you haven't already got an electronic version of these guidance notes, please contact the adva office and they will send one out. We are currently in the process of getting the notes translated into 5 languages - Bengali, Arabic, Chinese, Turkish and Polish - and distributing hard copies more widely across the county.

If anyone wants to contact the Devon BME/DVA Action Group please email **Mel Stiles** at melanie.stiles@nhs.net

Adva Partnership Meetings in 2009 and 2010

There is no Partnership Meeting on 3rd November 2009 but there will be an Executive Meeting on that day (1pm-5pm) at Wonford Community Hall, Exeter.

The next Partnership Meeting will take place on **23 March 2010** (9am-1pm), followed by an Executive Meeting at 1.30pm. The venue is Wonford Community Hall, Exeter.

There will also be a Partnership Meeting on **6 July 2010** (9am-1pm), followed by an Executive Meeting at 1.30pm. The venue is Wonford Community Hall, Exeter.

LINX

The programme manager for the LINX project has now been appointed and will be starting in early October.

The primary aim of the project will be to provide group work intervention with young people who are convicted of or displaying violence that is linked to their own experience of living with domestic violence and abuse.

It is hoped that now the programme manager has been appointed that the project will start to be deployed within Devon. It is likely that the programme will:

- Begin to raise awareness of its aims and availability
- Develop a network of trained facilitators who are available to co-lead the groups. Some people have already been trained in North Devon so that is likely to be the initial area for roll out of the programme
- Development of the referral and identification process for the programme

More details will be in the next newsletter but in the meantime please contact **Roy Tomlinson** for more details: **0797 1677197** or roy.tomlinson@devon.gov.uk

'Devon Voice' on Domestic Violence and Abuse

In August 2009 Devon County Council surveyed a selected sample of Devon's residents through it's 'Devon Voice panel' for their views on a number of public issues, including domestic violence and abuse. The results make interesting reading:

Just under a quarter (21%) of respondents (110 of 536) said that they knew someone who had been a victim of domestic violence and abuse whilst living in Devon during the last five years. This figure mirrors that of national/international research which identifies 1:4 people experiencing domestic violence and abuse within their lifetime.

Of these 110 respondents who knew someone who had been a victim, 45% stated that the victim had made use of support services in Devon, whilst 24 (22%) did not, and 36 (33%) did not know if use of services had been made. This suggests there is room for improvement in informing people about Devon's specialist services and how to access them.

Awareness of the existence of Devon's domestic violence and abuse services is good but could be improved: 259 people (49%) were aware of these services, 273 (51%) were not aware. Only 92 of the 532 respondents (less than a fifth), wanted to know more about what services exist to support families experiencing domestic violence and abuse in Devon and the majority, 440 did not want to know more. This awareness suggests that a targeted provision of information is appropriate.

The preferred ways of receiving information about Devon's domestic violence and abuse services are: local newspaper (50%); online (47%); leaflets at local library or council offices (37%); local television (33%) and local radio (25%) (respondents able to select more than one category).

You may find these consultation findings helpful if you are publicising your services within Devon.

Domestic violence and abuse service

(South and West Devon) formerly
South Devon Women's Aid (SDWA)

From the General Manager, Christine Mckenna:

South Devon Women's Aid was started in the 1980s by a group of women who all attended the local reading group. They were very interested in women's issues and, because they wanted to support women who needed to escape domestic violence and abuse, they decided to set up a charity.

Over the next ten years or so, it came to the attention of those running the charity that not all women experiencing domestic violence and abuse wanted to leave. Sometimes they simply needed support whilst still living in their own homes. In response to this feedback from women, SDWA set

up an outreach project to support them with more than just their housing issues.

The Outreach project started in 1993 and has gone from strength to strength. One thing has always remained the same and that is the promise to listen to, and respond to, the feedback received from the people using the service, and those potentially wanting to use the service.

This year, feedback from service users included: 'South Devon Women's Aid – the name doesn't explain what you do.' 'When it is shortened to SDWA it means nothing.' 'I found it really hard to find support, as I was looking for an organisation with domestic violence in the title.'

We therefore decided the time had come to change our name, and we chose **Domestic violence and abuse service**

Again, feedback from our service users stated that our name should say what we do, and what we are able to provide. We are hoping with this new name achieves this, and so far the feedback from service users has been very positive. We are keen for people not shorten the name as, again, feedback suggests that this makes it difficult for people when they are trying to find out what we are able to provide.

Our new name also has another advantage – it has enabled us to work with all victims of domestic violence and abuse, not just women, and we now have workers who are able to support men, women and children.

More than twenty years since our first beginnings at the book club, we now have a name which truly reflects the diversity and the enormity of the work we undertake.

We also have a new logo which for us represents the work we do:



We are currently in the process of writing to all organisations that work with victims of domestic violence and abuse to inform them of what we are able to provide including:

- Helpline: Open for new contacts from 9am – 4pm Monday to Friday and on a Wednesday evening 7pm – 9pm
- Counselling
- Pattern changing
- Support Work on a one to one basis (for women, children and men)
- Support groups
- Support for family and friends worried about victims
- Support with the court process

If you would like to find out more about what we are able to offer you can visit our web site: www.domesticviolenceandabuseservice.org.uk

If you would like leaflets and referral forms sent to your organisations please contact us: admin@domesticviolenceandabuseservice.org.uk or telephone: **01364 643866**

North Devon and Torridge Domestic Violence & Abuse Forum

This is an important Multi-Agency group that shares good practice about domestic abuse issues and information, encourages networking and identifies groups in service.

The Forum feeds into the adva (Against Domestic Violence and Abuse) partnership which aims to tackle the problem of domestic abuse and reduce the impact of domestic abuse within Devon. Domestic abuse is high on the Government's agenda and Devon is seen as a beacon of good practice in this field. The Forum meets bi-monthly on the first Wednesday of the month and has had a membership from a wide range of agencies.

However, over the last year attendance has dropped and some agencies are no longer represented. To continue innovative and recognised work in domestic abuse it is essential that all agencies are represented.

I would be grateful if you could identify a representative for your agency and ensure their attendance at further meetings. The date for the next meeting is: **Wednesday 4th November 2009, 13:00 hrs, Burton Art Gallery, Bideford**. Please contact richard.slaney@northdevon.gov.uk with the name of your agency representative.

Men Safe – Domestic Violence and Abuse Service for men - Update:

Men Safe has now been taking referrals since 1st April. The latest statistics show that Devon-wide 28 men have been referred to Men Safe. 12 men have been risk assessed as 'very high risk'. Only 19 men decided to take up the offer of support. The referral rate is still quite low and talks have been held with Devon and Cornwall Constabulary to establish how to increase the number of referrals from Police.

Men Safe held a launch in North Devon, which was very successful and well attended by many agencies. There will be a similar awareness raising event in Exeter and South Devon during Domestic Abuse Awareness Week in November. Jade Freeman, the male victim IDVA in South Devon has moved on and we are happy to introduce Dave McKeown as the new male victim IDVA.

For more information on how to make a referral or for advice please contact:

Christine Fritsch (Exeter, East and Mid Devon, North Devon and Torridge) on 07966 967526, email: midva@exeterwomensaid.org.uk

Dave McKeown (South and West Devon) on 07917 106884, email: dave@sdwa.org.uk

Specialist Domestic Violence Court Event

From April 2010, the LCJB will be responsible for the governance and performance management of the six Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVCs) across Devon and Cornwall.

The LCJB has also undertaken to manage the criminal justice element of the recently launched 'Peninsula Approach to domestic abuse'. Please contact the LCJB team at LCJB2@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk or Hannah Hart.

Hannah Hart – Area Business & Performance Manager on 01392 452642 / 07736 083601 or at hannah.hart@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Respect research into outcomes of domestic violence perpetrator programmes

This research is being led by Professor Liz Kelly of the Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit, London Metropolitan University, Dr Nicole Westmarland and Dr Simon Hackett, University of Durham, Professor Charlotte Watts and Dr Cathy Zimmerman, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, joined by research assistants.

You can follow the project on the Respect website on the research pages.

At this stage they will be conducting interviews with staff, clients and others about "what is success?" for perpetrator programmes, identifying a range of possible outcomes and ways that they could be demonstrated.

The researchers will be presenting and discussing initial findings at the October 'National Practitioners Network' (in Bristol) and will be joined by Professor Ed Gondolf, author of the only multi site evaluation of perpetrator programmes.

For more information contact **Thangam Debbonaire**, Respect Research Manager, thangam.debbonaire@respect.uk.net

Care Matters Partnership Event

"National Domestic Violence Conference- safeguarding partners and children" is a one day intensive conference, being held in central London on the 26th of November 2009, that will be exploring current best practice in how to address domestic violence and safeguard those that are affected by this abhorrent crime. This conference has been organised in partnership with the Local Government Association, Refuge and the YWCA. In addition to being informed about what has been done so far and still needs to be done to address domestic violence, delegates will be provided with the opportunity to hear cutting edge presentations including "Domestic violence and male victims", "Financial domestic abuse" and "domestic violence and its impact on the mother-child relationship". We have a number of excellent speakers including: Jane Keeper, Director of Operations, and Ruth Aitken, Chartered Psychologist, Domestic Violence Consultant, Refuge; Ippo Panteloudakis, Manager of the Men's Advice Line at Respect; Sarah Payne, Chief Executive of the YWCA. For further information, including the conference brochure or to book, please use the following link:

www.carematterspartnership.co.uk/index.php/solutions/conferences-training/event/national-domestic-violence-conference

Domestic Violence Awareness Week

'WATCH OUT and PARTICIPATE' in domestic violence and abuse awareness week which starts Monday 23rd November 2009 - adva will be keeping you informed of what's going on. Date fixtures already: March in North Devon and Exeter Women's Aid AGM on 23rd ; 'You be the Judge' events in South Devon on 24th and Exeter on 26th; Exeter March and LGBT event on 27th. See www.adva.org.uk for more details nearer the time.



National Conference about Domestic Abuse and Managing Risk. This is an exciting event culminating with a performance by Geese Theatre in the afternoon.

Juggling the Balls: Managing the Risks

Wednesday, 11th November 2009
Holiday Inn Bloomsbury,
Coram Street, London WC1N 1HT

DELEGATE BOOKING FORM

Name: _____ Title: _____

Position: _____

Organisation: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel No: _____

Fax No: _____

Signature: _____

Delegate fees

(please tick as appropriate):

- £195** (statutory bodies, including local authorities)
- £145** (non-statutory bodies, including charitable organisations)

Fees include all day access to the event, available conference papers, all day refreshments (including teas/coffees and a 3-course lunch) for registered delegates only. Fees do not include travel or accommodation costs.

To register:

Please send completed form, together with your cheque (made payable to **Sutton Women's Aid Limited**) to:

**Conference Administrator, SWA,
PO Box 351, Wallington, Surrey SM6 8UX**

Telephone enquiries: **07904 952887**

Email enquiries: snls19543@blueyonder.co.uk

Additional Requirements: If you have any additional requirements, please describe them here:

Your Contribution...

If you'd like to contribute articles or news to this bulletin, please don't hesitate to get in contact. Your contributions are more than welcome! info@devon.gov.uk

adva
against domestic violence and abuse
in Devon

www.adva.org.uk

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