

APPENDIX B

COMPARISONS of the PARTICIPATING IDVA PROJECTS

The four domestic violence projects participating in the research are described in more detail in this Appendix.

- A brief pen portrait of each site is provided, describing the key characteristics of the domestic violence project and the local community it serves.
- Table B.1 (p.4) presents socio-demographic location characteristics for the areas served by each of the sites (demographics; work, health and deprivation; criminal justice). The sources of metadata used follow the table.
- Table B.2 (p.7) provides an overview of the process in each of the case study sites, using a range of indicators including:
 - the types of services provided in-house
 - types of clients served
 - number and sources of referrals
 - staffing complement
 - features of the IDVA service

Firstly it should be noted that, during the course of the research, there were substantial changes to the caseloads of the IDVAs in all 4 sites: in 3 the overall rates of referrals increased, and in the other site there was a decrease in overall volume but staffing shortages meant the remaining IDVA had a higher caseload than normal. Variations in workload were mainly due to changes in referral routes with the police. It is very difficult to compare the workloads of IDVAs. The 'total number of referrals' does not necessarily reflect the total number of victims contacted (which may be higher) or the varying degrees of engagement amongst victims (and the impact of this on IDVA workloads). Also, annual figures mask cases-to-IDVA ratios which can fluctuate enormously over the course of 12-months (e.g., in Site 2 where an IDVA was on sick leave for several months, or in Site 4 where two IDVA posts were unfilled for several months). Furthermore, each site serves a geographical area with its own particular challenges, with demographic differences as well as variable histories and legacies of multi-agency partnership work. For all of these reasons, such comparisons across sites will not be made. Suffice to say, all sites experienced a higher volume of referrals than was felt could be comfortably managed, and that were higher than the levels recommended by CAADA.¹

¹ Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse, see www.caada.org.uk

PEN PORTRAITS OF THE SITES

Site 1

Located in a densely populated area of a large city, with a relatively high proportion of BME residents (12%), this IDVA service has been providing advocacy since 1998. Site 1 is located in small offices in a residential area near public transport, with a staff compliment of 8 (5 IDVAs with caseloads, 2 management staff and 1 part-time administrator). Two of the IDVAs are co-located in statutory settings (housing and health). Site 1 receives more than 600 referrals per year, a figure that has been fairly stable over recent years although a change in the police referral protocol (Jan 08) has meant a substantial increase. This site has been involved in the local SDVC since it was implemented in 2002 and in MARACs since Jan 2008. Most of their contact with victims takes place over the phone.

Site 2

Located in a small city, this IDVA service has been providing advocacy since 2005. It is located within a large domestic violence project that has provided refuge accommodation since 1973. The city has a relatively high proportion of BME residents (12%), and of the four sites, has the largest amount of income and health deprivation. Site 2 is located in a fairly large 3-storey building about 10 minutes' walk from the main train/bus station. The organization employs a total of 70 staff, 4 of whom are in the advocacy unit (1 manager and 3 IDVAs with caseloads). Two of the IDVA posts are specialist BME positions (for Asian and Afro-Caribbean women). Site 2 received more than 400 referrals in 2007, double the amount received in 2006. This site has been involved in the local SDVC since it was implemented in 2002; however, the IDVA dedicated to the SDVC is employed by a different domestic violence organization within the city. Site 2 has been attending the MARACs since they were implemented in 2006. Contact with victims may be over the phone, face-to-face, or home visits.

Site 3

Located in a rural area, this IDVA service has been providing advocacy since 2006. Similar to Site 2, advocacy provision is affiliated with a refuge provider (operational since 1975). The area is sparsely populated and has almost no BME residents (1%), and the lowest indices of income and health deprivation in the areas studied. Site 3 is located in a discreet side-street in a small city centre; about 10 minutes' walk from the train station. The organization employs 16 staff, 3 in the advocacy unit (2 managers and 1 IDVA with a caseload). The IDVA's remit is defined by the MARACs, operational since 2006, and she is co-located in the police station. The area was recently successful in obtaining a SDVC and in March 2008 Site 3 employed another IDVA to be the dedicated support worker for the court (bringing the total to 4). The average number of referrals per year represents all VHR cases referred to MARAC (approximately 120), although this will change dramatically when the SDVC becomes operational. Contact with victims may be over the phone, face-to-face, or home visits.

Site 4

Located in a city, this IDVA service has been providing advocacy with volunteers since 1994 and with paid staff since 1999. It serves an area with 8% BME residents and the second highest levels of income and health deprivation in the areas studied.

Site 4 is located in an office building in a central area. Victims cannot be seen on the premises; therefore, contact is primarily via telephone. Site 4 employs 6 staff (2 managers, 1 full-time administrator, 2 IDVAs and 1 ISVA). Two advocate positions were unfilled as of Jan 08; however, by Apr 08 new funding meant capacity to fill these posts and hire one additional IDVA. This site has been involved in the local SDVC since it was implemented in 1999 and in MARACs since 2006. Site 4 receives approximately 1200 referrals per year, but recent changes to the police referral route mean this will be substantially reduced.

Table B.1 – Location Characteristics of the IDVA sites

Indicator	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4
Demographics				
Number of Hectares	1,640	6,944	206,974	55,172
Population per Hectare	105	34	1	14
Total Population	171,400	236,600	155,700	750,200
Male	50%	49%	49%	49%
Female	50%	50%	51%	51%
% Non Whites	12%	12%	1%	8%
% White	78%	78%	99%	92%
% AB Social Grade	33%	15%	16%	21%
% area who travel to work by car	18%	55%	54%	53%
Number of households	75,439	97,127	61,650	301,613
Work, Health and Deprivation				
Working age population	129,100	138,500	86,000	460,000
% Male	51%	52%	52%	52%
% Female	49%	49%	48%	48%
% Worklessness	17%	24%	14%	15%
Overall Deprivation- % area in the 20% most deprived Area	23%	47%	7%	32%
Income Deprivation- % area in the 20% most deprived area	26%	46%	10%	24%
Health Deprivation- % area in the 20% most deprived area	5%	45%	6%	26%
Criminal Justice				
Violence against the person offences per 1,000 population	28	22	15	20
Sexual offences per 1,000 population	1	1	1	1

Sources of Metadata for Indicators (used in Table B.1)

Number of Hectares

Source: ONS (from Population Density UV02)

Population per Hectare

Source: ONS (Mid Year population estimates 2006)
ONS (from Population Density UV02)

This figure is derived by dividing the total population as taken from the mid-year population estimates (see below for more information) by the number of hectares.

Total Population

Source: ONS (Mid Year population estimates 2006)

Mid Year Population Estimates are based upon Census results and take into account factors such as births, deaths, migration and the ageing of the population since the census was carried out.

% whites/ % Non Whites/ % AB Social Grade (higher/intermediate managerial/admin/professional)/% who travel to work by car/ Number of households

Source: Census 2001

A census is a survey of all people and households in the country. It provides essential information from national to neighbourhood level for government, business, and the community.

Working age population

Source: ONS (Annual Population Survey 2006)

Working age population figures are derived from the Annual Population Survey. The total sample size for the APS will be 214,000 households, 500,700 people, 391,800 adults of which 238,400 will be economically active.

Worklessness

Source: DWP May 2007

Worklessness is measured by, the proportion of the working age population who are claiming the following benefits: Job Seekers Allowance, Income Support and Incapacity Benefit (including Severe Disability Allowance).

Overall Deprivation/Income Deprivation/Health Deprivation- Proportion of the area in the 20% most deprived areas in England or Wales.

For areas in England:

Source: DCLG 2004

For Areas in Wales (South Wales area)

Source: Welsh Assembly's Government Statistical Directorate and the Local Government Data Unit.

The Indices for Multiple Deprivation (IMD) are a measure of deprivation for every Local Authority and Super Output Area (SOA). Separate IMD were produced for Wales and England at different times using different methodologies, therefore they are not comparable.

Violence against the person/Sexual offences per 1,000 population

Source: Home Office 2006/7. Figures reflect actual recorded crimes.

Table B.2 - Process Overview of the IDVA Sites

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Site 1</u>	<u>Site 2</u>	<u>Site 3</u>	<u>Site 4</u>
Number of Hectares	1,640	6,944	206,974	55,172
Population per Hectare	105	34	1	14
Total Population	171,400	236,600	155,700	750,200
Key area characteristics	Urban city	Urban, large	Rural	Urban city
Year agency started	1998	1973	1975	1994
Year agency started providing advocacy	1998	2005	2006	1999
Number of staff - total (agency)	8	70	16 (10 in Outreach)	6
Number of staff - total (advocacy)	8	3	3	6
Number of staff - management (advocacy)	2	1	1	2
Number of staff - administrative (advocacy)	0.5	0	1	1
Number of staff - advocates/IDVAs	5	3	1	3 (2 unfilled)
Number of staff - advocates/IDVAs, with a caseload	5	3	1	1 (2 unfilled)
Number of staff - advocates/IDVAs, CAADA trained	4	3	1	2 (neither in post)
Location of IDVAs	DV project, 2 IDVAs co-located	DV project	DV project, 1 IDVA co-located	DV project
Performance monitoring of advocates/IDVAs	yes, monthly supervision	yes, monthly supervision	yes, every 2 mos.	yes, monthly supervision
Clinical supervision of advocates/IDVAs (individual)	yes, every 2 mos.	no	no	no
Clinical supervision of advocates/IDVAs (group)	yes, every 2 mos.	no	yes, every 2 mos.	no
Social support of advocates/IDVAs - in-house	yes	yes	yes	yes
Social support of advocates/IDVAs - from other agencies	no	yes, CAADA	yes, regional IDVA network	no (one being formed)
Intra-agency service provision - crisis intervention and safety planning	yes	yes	yes	yes
Intra-agency service provision - risk assessment (by IDVA)	yes	no	yes	yes
Intra-agency service provision - CJ info/attend court	yes	yes	yes	yes

Robinson, A. (2009) INDEPENDENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORS: A process evaluation.

Intra-agency service provision - civil info/orders	yes	yes	yes	yes
Intra-agency service provision - refuge	no	yes	yes	no
Intra-agency service provision - children's services	yes	yes	yes	no
Intra-agency service provision - counselling	no	yes	yes	no
Intra-agency service provision - outreach/long-term support	no	yes	yes	no
Intra-agency service provision - 24-hour advice/info/support	yes	yes	no	no
Intra-agency service provision - ISVA	no	no	no	yes (post unfilled)
Inter-agency service provision - SDVC	yes, from 2002	yes, from 2002	yes, from Apr 08	yes, from 1999
Inter-agency service provision - MARAC	yes, from Jan 2008	yes, from 2006	yes, from 2006	yes, from 2006
Inter-agency service provision - specialist DV training	yes	yes	yes	yes
Inter-agency service provision - risk assessment (by police)	yes	yes	yes	yes
Inter-agency service provision - link to SARC/SV org./ISVA	yes	yes	no	yes
Agency has support from strategic unit	yes, outside	yes, in-house	yes, outside	yes
Number of referrals - yearly total	637 in 2006	217 in 2006, 417 in 2007	120 in 2007	1200 in 2007
Number of referrals - yearly total police incidents	2574	4800	no data available	9600
Number of referrals - average per month	no data available	no data available	10	100
Average total caseload per advocate/IDVA	30	no data available	40	40
Composition of advocate/IDVA caseload in terms of risk	all levels (but mainly H/VHR)	all High/VHR	all VHR (Marac referrals)	all levels (but mainly H/VHR)
Referring agency - largest supplier	police - 49%	police	police	police - 90%
Referring agency - 2nd largest supplier	housing - 24%	no data available	no data available	MARAC
Total number of referring agencies	12+	no data available	no data available	10+
Funding - % voluntary/charitable donations	50%	no data available	2006-08, 50%; 2008-09, 0%	25%
Funding - % statutory/government	50%	no data available	2006-08, 50%; 2008-09, 100%	75%