|  |
| --- |
| **Soft Market Test for** **Provision of Community Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Services** |
|  |
| Version: v1.0 |
| Date of publication: 03/04/2024 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Contract Title** | Provision of Community Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence services  |
| **Directorate** | Neighbourhoods |
| **Service Area** | Communities and Public Protection |

|  |
| --- |
| **Introduction** |
| Cornwall Council is conducting a soft market assessment to gain feedback about the proposed changes to commissioned community domestic abuse and sexual violence (DASV) services.It is intended that the survey responses supplied will enable the Council to decide its service model for the future procurement of community DASV services. This exercise implies no commercial commitment and is not a formal tender document.Please complete the “Information Required” section at the end of this notice and return the form via **supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk procurement portal (Proactis.com) by no later than** **11pm on Wednesday 24th April 2024**. |
| **Background** |
| The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence team is responsible for directly commissioning specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence services for Cornwall on behalf of the Safer Cornwall Partnership, to respond to the strategic priorities identified within the partnership Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategies. We use the Public Health Commissioning process to provide a shared understanding of local need, to develop our commissioning intentions, to inform procurement and to evaluate and review whether we are enabling victims, their families and children and those who engage in abusive behaviours to have their needs met effectively.To inform our decisions we have developed a thorough DASV Needs Assessment which brings together the latest data and information from a broad range of local partners – including police, commissioned domestic abuse and sexual violence service providers and housing – alongside national data and research. Qualitative insights have been gathered through multi-agency workshops and Lived Experience focus groups and case studies.In order to simplify access to domestic abuse and sexual violence support, commissioners across multiple organisations came together in 2018 to produce a pooled budget and to jointly commission services, including a community integrated DASV service. This approach in Cornwall has been recognised as best practise in the National Violence Against Women and Girls Commissioning Toolkit 2022. Our co-commissioning partners include:* Cornwall Council (Neighbourhoods and Together for Families)
* Public Health
* Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
* Victim Support
* Cornwall Integrated Care Board
* NHS England

Using the pooled budget, the following community DASV services are currently commissioned across Cornwall:* **Community DASV integrated service – Safer Futures**. This service provides a helpline, 1-1 advocacy, recovery support (both 1-1 and groups) including the family domestic abuse programme, behaviour change (abusive person) programme, therapy, professionals training and primary and secondary healthy relationships programme to priority schools.
* **Primary Care DASV service**. This service provides a single point of contact for domestic abuse for GP surgeries, training for surgery staff in recognising and responding to domestic abuse/sexual violence and a direct referral pathway into DASV specialist services.
* **DASV Outreach service.** To support those with multiple vulnerabilities who are unable to access safe accommodation for any reason.

The current contracts are expected to end on 30/06/2025 and the purpose of this soft market test is for Cornwall Council to gain feedback on the proposed services to be commissioned from July 2025-June 2035.Cornwall Council will be commissioner for these services on behalf of the Safer Cornwall Partnership. The contract will run for an initial period of four years, 2025-2029, with the option to extend by two further three-year periods thereafter.Requirement and volume of services are dependent on the funding envelope. The contract management process will approve the level of service based on available funds as required.**Insights from consultation and lived experience work**There is a consensus among partners that the system is too complex, fragmented and hard to navigate, particularly for those who have experienced sexual abuse. Separate funding streams, timescales that don’t align, along with increases in both demand and complexity mean the current system is not meeting the needs of victims, providers or commissioners. The criminal justice system is facing its own challenges which further exacerbate these issues. There is not enough resource (via national funding or partners) to fully address the growing demand for sexual violence (SV) and Domestic Abuse (DA) support, particularly longer-term therapeutic support; by reconfiguring funding and commissioning as a system, services will be better equipped to meet the needs of more victims, and to manage the increasing complexity reported by police, SARC and support providers. Insights from the consultation for the community DASV service in Cornwall suggested:1. SV emotional and therapeutic support should be separated from the practical and advocacy support.
2. Longer term emotional and therapeutic support for domestic abuse should also be separated from the practical and advocacy support.
3. There were mixed views as to whether outreach should be included within the wider community DASV service.

Commissioners of sexual violence services across Devon, Cornwall, Torbay and Plymouth have come together to consider how best to meet the growing demand for support for those affected by sexual violence trauma and simplify the system for those who use it. A soft market test to gauge the interest and feedback for a peninsula trauma service for those impacted by sexual violence has been completed through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. **Proposed Model for services:**1. **Community domestic abuse service** This service would provide a helpline, 1-1 advocacy (IDVA) on a need led basis, recovery support (both 1-1 and groups) including the family domestic abuse programme (adults and children), behaviour change (abusive person) programme, outreach support, professionals training and healthy relationships education.
2. **Trauma service** This service would provideemotional and therapeutic support including trauma stabilisation and trauma processing for those impacted by domestic abuse, sexual violence and other emotional trauma, including trauma experienced by the migrant population. This could be an enhanced model of the possible peninsula trauma service for those impacted by sexual violence.

For the avoidance of doubt, this Soft Market Test and any subsequent Invitation to Tender implies no commercial commitment on behalf of the council, nor do any appended documents represent formal tender documents.In addition, it can be confirmed that participation in this soft market assessment will not prejudice suppliers participating in any future procurement. |
| **Information Required** |
| ***General Information***1. **Organisation Name:**
2. **Your Name and position in organisation:**
3. **Background information of your organisation:**
4. **Organisation e-mail contact address:**
5. **Your telephone number:**
6. **Which areas of Cornwall and / or the Isles of Scilly does your service cover?**
7. **Does your service cover Devon, Plymouth and/or Torbay?**

***Contract Specific Questions***1. What do you think about the proposed model for 2 services?
2. What do you think about the overall aim to bring funding together for trauma interventions for DASV and wider trauma across Cornwall?
3. What do you think to having this as an enhanced model, joined up with the possible peninsula trauma service for sexual violence?
4. Any additional feedback?
 |

Further information

Please return this completed form, likewise any questions via **supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk procurement portal (Proactis.com) by no later than 11pm on Wednesday 24th April 2024.**