

# Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Interventions Project 2020

## Call for Research Partners and an Invitation to Quote

### **Background**

Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland (LLR) is a sub-region in the East Midlands. It covers a broad geographical area and diverse population. The LLR Force area covers over 2,500 square kilometres and a combined population of over a million. The area is highly diverse, and home to a diverse range of faiths and communities. Leicester residents come from over 50 different countries. Around a third of Leicester residents were born outside of the UK<sup>1</sup>.

Leicester city council has commissioned a Respect<sup>2</sup> accredited voluntary domestic abuse perpetrator intervention since 2012. The police and crime commissioner for Leicestershire has invested in the CARA intervention<sup>3</sup>, and in 2019 local partners established a sub-regional, multi-agency, perpetrators working group to intervene with those domestic abuse perpetrators of highest concern through the Integrated Offender Management approach.

Home Office funding has recently enabled us to expand and further develop domestic abuse non court mandated perpetrator interventions work across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. A project board of all interested parties and match funders has been established for the first time, including district, borough and county councils, the clinical commissioning groups and the voluntary sector lead delivery partner Freeva.

This document is an invitation to quote for evaluation of local domestic abuse perpetrator interventions, and further detail follows below.

At the same time, we are keen to establish links with any researchers looking to secure Home Office funding from the Domestic Abuse Perpetrators Research Fund REF: C19917, deadline 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020<sup>4</sup>. As an area, we are particularly interested in the following elements of that specification:

*Research is delivered to support:*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/media/186489/living-in-leicester-adults-jsna-2020.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.respect.uk.net/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://hamptontrust.org.uk/program/cara/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://bidstats.uk/tenders/2020/W46/738853319>

*a) the effective commissioning and delivery of services and interventions related to perpetrators of domestic abuse;*

*b) To strengthen the evidence base for 'what works' in addressing perpetrator behaviours.*

And the following outcomes:

*b) Identifying perpetrators of domestic abuse*

*e) Under-researched groups;*

Please contact [Suki@freeva.org.uk](mailto:Suki@freeva.org.uk) by 17/12/20 if you are interested in working with us as delivery partners in your bid to the Home Office Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Research Fund.

### **Invitation to Quote for evaluation**

deadline 11:00am 4/1/2021

#### Aim & objectives

We seek to add to the local understanding of the benefits of resourcing domestic abuse perpetrator interventions and enhance our learning from having invested in this area, to inform our next steps in delivering the Home Office domestic abuse perpetrator project (see appendix).

We have been collecting output and outcome data and performance narrative reports from the established City provider since 2012. This would be available to the evaluator. It includes aggregated equalities information and needs information.

We will consider outcome, process and economic evaluation proposals.

We are interested in gaining learning on the following (but do not expect an evaluator to cover them all):

- How does the approach, reach and outcomes of the local evaluation compare to what the evidence base suggests 'works'?
- What barriers do service users experience when trying to access the intervention?
- How can the local service and project stakeholders improve equality of access and outcomes, particularly around age, disability and ethnicity?
- What aspects of the intervention are working well?
- What aspects of the intervention could be working better?

- What is the broader community safety impact of the individual and family level interventions?
- What attitudinal and behavioural outcomes are achieved through the intervention?

We would particularly welcome multi-disciplinary approaches and researchers knowledgeable in intersectionality.

Providing services which work with those who abuse in the context of domestic abuse, is about reducing harm in our communities. The evaluation findings will be used to inform future commissioning, and service delivery. We hope to build long term relationships with researchers to secure further funding and continue to build on our understanding of local need.

### Key milestones

The table below is intended as early indications of when key products will be required by the project board, but at this point *these are flexible and are only intended to give a sense of the calendar points where key progress and 'products' will be expected to be ready.* They will be finalised before signature of contract.

To maximise learning it is essential that the researchers mobilise quickly and work proactively and creatively to engage and deliver the requirements. It is expected that they will already have a good level of knowledge of domestic abuse research.

<b>By when</b>	<b>What</b> (for example)
January 8 <sup>th</sup>	sign contracts/commence evaluation
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	have spoken to key stakeholders, including interviews/workshop with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Project board</li> <li>○ Behaviour Change Communication Company</li> </ul>
	have reviewed and analysed performance data from the Leicester City Contract 2012-2020
	have reviewed and offered improvements to the data template for new Home Office provision with rationale
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	have completed a literature review and desk top analysis of what works and is emerging in domestic abuse perpetrator work, in comparison to what is available locally.
March 5 <sup>th</sup>	have completed service user (perpetrator and partner/ex-partner) engagement to understand behaviour change drivers and route to service. Those in service and those who did not

	get through initial referral or subsequently paused or disengaged.
	have completed public and practitioner engagement to ascertain awareness of the local service/ impact of domestic abuse in the community/ on community safety.
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	produce a draft report on findings for the project board
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	produce final draft report on findings and presentation for the project board and an infographic to illustrate positives of the local approach and how the impact can be enhanced going forward into 2021-2022.
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	complete review and analysis of performance data from the Home Office funded project up to end of June 2020.
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	have produced an updated report for the project board to include risk and development opportunities.
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	have produced an accessible summary of the interventions, including outcomes up to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2020

## Payment

We have £5,000 currently set aside for this work, which would be available in instalments, at points to be agreed before project commencement. Roughly 75% of spend would need to be made before 31/3/2021.

## Deadline

Please respond to [SLPOffice@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:SLPOffice@leicester.gov.uk) with:

- a detailed quote,
- overview of your research proposal,
- project timeline,
- two references or examples of relevant published work and
- a short summary of your experience and ability to fulfil these requirements,

by **11am January 4<sup>th</sup> 2021.**

For any queries please contact: Suki Kaur on 0116 255 0003/ 07715 994 959  
[suki@freeva.org.uk](mailto:suki@freeva.org.uk)

## Appendix 1

### Overview of intended service from Freeva

The aims of the service are to identify, engage and motivate change amongst men and women using abusive behaviour in intimate partner relationships in order to reduce that behaviour and improve the safety, health and wellbeing of partners, ex-partners, children and themselves.

The programme was developed in partnership with the national umbrella organisation Respect and Freeva and has been delivered since 2012.

The key elements of this service include:

- A 24 week group programme for men only, to change their violent and abusive behaviour.
- A 12 week Individual Interventions Programme for female perpetrators, Non-English speakers, perpetrators in same-sex relationships and for perpetrators unsuitable for the group programme.
- A 10 week Dads Parenting Programme focusing on restorative parenting (post-abuse) and accountability to children.
- Monthly maintenance group
- A parallel Partner Support Service, offering emotional, practical and safety planning support for partners/ex-partners of perpetrators engaged in interventions.
- Training and service briefings delivery to multiple agency professionals.

In addition to the above, we will expand the provision to include:

- Early engagement with perpetrators providing awareness raising and motivational sessions to increase understanding and impact of their behaviour
- Specialist support for those that have mental health and/or substance misuse issues that includes 1-2-1 support alongside the group-work programme
- Culturally sensitive interventions/materials, including a BME post to engage those who's first language is not English
- Community Awareness programme to raise awareness of services provided and to encourage perpetrators to seek support to change their behaviour.
- Provision for offenders where their index offence is not domestic violence.

As we already have an established service and the infrastructure in place for this type of service we are in a position to expand this provision as soon as contracts have been signed. Freeva has recently received re-accreditation in the Respect Accreditation standards demonstrating a service that is of a high-quality standard, regularly monitored and supported to frequently reflect and improve on best working practices.

An outline implementation/activity plan is as below on the key activities for the roll out of the service:

Activity/Task	By when
HO funding confirmed	October 2020
Agreements/contracts finalised/signed off/partnership briefings	End of October 2020

Recruitment of new posts	October 2020
Staff commenced/inductions/training	December 2020
Develop protocols/service pathways with key agencies	November 2020
Training/Briefings to professionals	December 2020
Review of programme manual/materials	December 2020
Design Evaluation scope	December 2020
Appoint Evaluators	January 2021
Service open for referrals	December 2020
Awareness raising campaign	January 2021
Undertake assessments for suitability of programmes	January 2021
Commence Group Programme – intake every 6 weeks	February 2021
Commence Individual work/awareness sessions	April 2021
Commence Dads programme	June 2021
Training to professionals	July 2020
Case management meetings	Monthly
Quarterly monitoring reports	Quarterly
Annual report	March 2022
Stakeholders Event on key findings from the project	January 2020
Re-commissioning/Exit planning	