

# Lincolnshire Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service- Fact Sheet for Professionals



1. The IDVAs provide a specialist service for males and females aged 16 and over, who are assessed as high risk of homicide or serious injury due to domestic abuse using the ACPO/CAADA/DASH (2017) Risk Assessment Toolkit and/or professional judgement and referred to MARAC.
2. The IDVA Service is independent of any agency: the primary role of the IDVA is to ensure the safety of the victim. They work from the point of crisis for the victim, usually just after a police call out, or for example, an attendance at Accident and Emergency. The service provided by the IDVA's assist victims to get all the necessary support from partner agencies to reduce the risks they face, enhance their safety, and rebuild positive lives. They provide advice, support and information about the range, effectiveness and suitability of options to reduce their risk and ensure their safety and that of their children and vulnerable associates.

For the majority time the IDVAs will be working in Partnership with the County Council, District and City Councils, Police, Health Service, Probation Service, Assault Referral Centre and local third sector support services.

## 3. The Key aims of the IDVA Service are:

- To increase the safety of identified high risk victims and their child(ren) and other vulnerable associates
- To work from a point of crisis to address and reduce risk offering short to medium term support
- To ensure the increased health and wellbeing of identified high risk victims and their child(ren) and other vulnerable associates
- To ensure that the views of identified high risk victims and victims of serious sexual abuse are represented at the MARAC
- To provide appropriate information, advice and support to identify high risk victims in relation to civil and criminal justice system, contributing to successful court outcomes
- To provide appropriate information, advice and support in relation to civil and criminal justice system, contributing to successful court outcomes and improving the victim's journey through the courts.
- To work with identified high risk victims of domestic abuse to enable them to access the services they need (e.g. health, housing, legal etc.)
- Offer children and young people support that have experienced or witnessed DA.
- To reduce repeat victimisation.
- To reduce violent crime and reduce risk of harm to victims and children.
- Offer a recovery programme to increase victim's sense of wellbeing and increase resilience.

4. The Court IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) provides crucial support to victims of domestic abuse navigating the court process. They offer emotional and practical assistance, ensuring victims feel safe and informed throughout the proceedings. Court IDVAs help with navigating the legal system, communicating with lawyers, and managing the risks associated with court attendance.
5. IDVAs attend all scheduled and emergency Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) to represent the victim and co-ordinate the actions of Partnership Agencies. Where appropriate the IDVA will also attend the Multi Agency Public Protection Arena (MAPPA).
6. **How to make referrals into the Service:**

All referrals of High-Risk Cases to the IDVAs are allocated via the MODUS case recording system. On assessing a victim as being at high risk of homicide or serious injury due to domestic abuse and/or violence, using the ACPO/CAADA/DASH (2017) Risk Assessment toolkit, the referring agency should send a completed MARAC referral form and the completed Risk Assessment to the County Domestic Abuse Administrators.

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On receipt of the referral and risk assessment, the County Domestic Abuse Administrators will enter the case onto MODUS. MARAC referrals are assessed by the IDVA within 48 hours. It is essential that all mandatory fields on the referral form are completed, as those without clear consent will not be referred to the IDVA.

Referral paperwork must demonstrate that the referral is based on the use of the current DASH Risk Assessment and practitioners must ensure that cases meet the referral criteria and that the agency's MARAC representative approves all referrals prior to sending.

7. The IDVA Service operates 5 days a week, Monday to Friday with the core hours of 9am to 5 pm.
8. The IDVA team consists of trained independent stalking advocates (ISACs). The team complete professional training in DA work to enhance best practice and deliver safe and effective intervention to both victims and children.

## The IDVA team consists of:

### **Sharon Walker** – IDVA Manager

Trained ISAC

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### **Sarah Allatt** – Senior IDVA

Trained ISAC and ISVA

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### **Jo Phillips** – Covers West Lindsey & Sleaford

Based at South Park police station

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### **Becca McCulloch** - IDVA covers Lincoln

Based at South Park police station

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### **Katie Annabel** – IDVA Covers parts of

East Lindsey incl. coastal, Skegness, Wainfleet, Mablethorpe, Louth, Spilsby, Stickney.

Based at South Park police station

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### **Kate Wooley** IDVA covers SK and NK areas

Based at Grantham Police station

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### **Bethany Clough**

IDVA for Lincoln

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# Lincolnshire Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service- Fact Sheet for Professionals

**Karen Burgess**- Elder adults IDVA for East covers parts of East Lindsey area Horncastle, Woodhall Spa, Coningsby and parts of Boston

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IDVA covering Boston

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**Kirsty Rennie**

Refuge IDVA and covers Lincoln

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**Sally P**

Child & Young Person Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

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**Lincolnshire Specialist domestic abuse service: Court IDVAs:** [courtidvas@edanlincs.cjsm.net](mailto:courtidvas@edanlincs.cjsm.net) (For all enquiries)

**Tina Malanga** – IOM, Court IDVA & Senior IDVA

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For information on ALL services provided by LDASS <https://ldass.org.uk>

Complaints regarding the **Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service** should be made in writing and addressed to the **EDAN Lincs CEO at:** Edan Lincs PO Box 125, Lincoln, LN1 1HA