

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: THURSDAY, 11 JUNE 2015
title: REQUEST TO WAIVE CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES TO
PURCHASE DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT SERVICE
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: RACHAEL STOTT – HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To seek the waiver of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in respect of the purchase of domestic abuse support services to enhance the domestic abuse support service in Ribble Valley.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives – To address the housing support needs of all households in the borough.
- Corporate Priorities – As above.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Lancashire CC in partnership with the 12 Lancashire district housing authorities has been successful in securing £751,580 in revenue funding across the county via a bid to DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) for 'funding to strengthen accommodation based domestic abuse service provision'. This nationwide fund is for local housing authorities to help strengthen support services so there is effective national coverage that keeps victims of domestic abuse safe. The funding is a one off payment for 2015-16.

2.2 Through this bid Ribble Valley has secured an allocation of £28,375 to assist in the enhancement of the domestic abuse safe house and support provision in the borough.

Proposal

2.3 Ribble Valley currently uses one safe house in Hyndburn that can accommodate 2 households in 8 bed spaces. Hyndburn Council leases the safe house to 'Your Housing', which acts as landlord, with HARV (Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Domestic Abuse Service) being engaged to provide support services. The additional funding will enable the provision of further dedicated, specialist staff to raise the standard of support for victims both within the refuge and their own homes (including the provision of support for children and young people), and allow support to be given to victims with more complex needs. It will also be possible to increase capacity by the creation of a further safe house. The new units will also be accessed by Ribble Valley victims.

2.4 HARV already provide support services to women and children in Ribble Valley's and have been the provider of support for over 12 years.

- 2.5 It is proposed that Committee agree to waive the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to award the contract for the provision of the additional services to HARV without first testing the market. HARV already provide the support service in the borough and appointing HARV to take on this additional work would maintain consistency and continuity of service delivery. It would build on existing service provision and should minimise set up costs, as HARV are already in situ. The additional funding is for 12 months only, so the proposed contract would be comparatively short. A procurement exercise does not appear to be sensible in the circumstances as it could add to costs and will cause delay in commencing service provision.
- 2.6 The exemption being sought falls under CPR5 – Exemptions from Contract Procedure Rules namely paragraph 5.2(c) which provides for circumstances where an exemption is made for reasons:
- “that additional goods, works or services are required which, through unforeseen circumstances, were not included in the original contract and which are either strictly necessary for the completion of the contract or, for technical or economic reasons, cannot be carried out separately without great inconvenience/addition costs;”*
- 2.7 The Council will enter into a legal agreement with HARV which will specify the details of the services to be provided.
- 2.8 The alternative option is that the Council could carry out a procurement exercise to choose a support provider in respect of the additional services, but this is not recommended for the reasons stated in paragraph 2.5.
- 2.9 Consultations were undertaken with existing service providers across Lancashire through the Lancashire Domestic abuse Forum.

3 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:
- Resources – No implications identified.
 - Technical, Environmental and Legal – Legal input will be required for clarification in definition.
 - Political – Brownfield sites will deliver a reduced number of affordable units.
 - Reputation – The new guidance will need to be applied across all new sites.
 - Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

4 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 4.1 Agrees to accept grant funding of £28,375.00 from Lancashire County Council to enhance domestic abuse support services in the Borough and delegates authority to the Head of Regeneration and Housing to agree the terms of the relevant grant agreement
- 4.2 Waive the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in respect of the appointment of HARV (Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Domestic Abuse Service) to provide an enhanced level of support to Ribble Valley domestic violence victims for a 12 month period for the reasons set out in paragraph 2 of the report.

- 4.3 Delegates authority to the Head of Regeneration and Housing in consultation with the Strategic Housing Working group to agree the terms of the Council's agreement with HARV.

RACHAEL STOTT
HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Please find attached the Lancashire bid that was submitted to DCLG.

For further information please ask for Rachael Stott, extension 4567.

REF: RS/EL/110615/H&H

Appendix 1: Lancashire's District DCLG Funding Breakdown

	Hyndburn	Ribble Valley	Rossendale	Burnley	Pendle	Lancaster	Fylde	Wyre	Preston	Chorley	South Ribble	West Lancs	Total Bed Space
Area of Support	East Lancashire					North Lancashire			Central Lancashire				Lancashire
Current National Access Refuge Provision & Number of Bed Spaces	Pilot safe house 16 bed spaces (8 about to close)	0	Pilot safe houses 6 bed spaces about to close	35	20	15	9	10	58	9	27	32	237
Creation of New National Access Refuge Bed Spaces	Safe houses 16 bed spaces (8 sustained)	0	Safe houses 28 bed spaces (6 sustained)	New safe houses creating 25 bed spaces	0	New safe houses creating 10 bed spaces	0	0	0	0	0	0	79
Total bed spaces if successful	16	0	28	60	20	25	9	10	58	9	27	32	294
1) Co-ordination Resource	4hrs pw £4,000	3 hrs pw £3,000	3hrs pw £3,000	8hrs pw £8,000	0	5hrs pw £5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£19,000
2) Access to support from Refuge Support and Resettlement	18 hrs pw £15,000	9 hrs pw £7,500	37 hrs pw £35,000	37 hrs pw £30,000	18 hrs pw £15,000	37 hrs pw £30,000	18 hrs pw £15,000	37hrs pw £30,000	£237,500				
3) Access to Support for Children and Young	18 hrs pw £15,000	9 hrs pw £7,500	18 hrs pw £15,000	18 hrs pw £15,000	18 hrs pw £15,000	18 hrs pw £15,000	27 hrs pw £22,500	27 hrs pw £22,500	37 hrs pw £30,000	18 hrs pw £15,000	25 hours £20 000	18 hrs pw £15,000	£187,500

	Hyndburn	Ribble Valley	Rossendale	Burnley	Pendle	Lancaster	Fylde	Wyre	Preston	Chorley	South Ribble	West Lancs	Total Bed Space
Area of Support	East Lancashire					North Lancashire			Central Lancashire				Lancashire
People													
4) Access to support for Complex needs e.g. Alcohol and Substance Misuse/ Metal Health	8hrs pw £16,000	2hrs pw £4,000	12hrs pw £17,000	12hrs pw £17,000	12hrs pw £17,000	12hrs pw £17,000	2hrs pw £4,000	2hrs pw £4,000	18hrs pw £25,000	8hrs pw £16,000	9 hours £12 500	18hrs pw £25,000	£237,000
Delivery Costs Applied For 2015/16:	£50,000	£22,000	£70,000	£70,000	£47,000	£67,000	£41,500	£41,500	£70,000	£46,000	£47,500	£70,000	£642,500
Delivery Costs Applied for March 2014/15	£4,170	£1,830	£5,830	£5,830	£3,950	£5,580	£3,950	£3,950	£5,830	£3,830	£3,960	£5,830	£54,540
Total Delivery Costs:	£54,170	£23,830	£75,830	£75,830	£50,950	£72,580	£45,450	£45,450	£75,830	£49,830	£51,460	£75,830	£697,040

Application Form: Funding to strengthen accommodation based specialist domestic abuse service provision

Name, address & contact details of applicant lead local authority:

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Attached Documents:

- Appendix 1 – 'Lancashire 12 Districts DCLG Funding Breakdown':
- Appendix 2 – 'Lancashire 12 Domestic Abuse Commissioning Strategy':



Names of partners:

Lancashire is a two tier local authority area made up of 1 county council and 12 district councils.

Lancashire County Council, the 12 district housing authorities and all current Domestic Abuse (DA) providers are all fully committed to this joint bid for the Lancashire 12 districts. The full list of partners is below:

Lancashire County Council		
District	Local Housing Authority	Current Specialist Domestic Abuse Accommodation Based Provider
Hyndburn	Hyndburn Borough Council	Hyndburn & Ribble Valley DV Service
Rossendale	Rossendale Borough Council	Rossendale DA Partnership
Ribble Valley	Ribble Valley Borough Council	Hyndburn & Ribble Valley DV Service
Burnley	Burnley Borough Council	SafeNet
Pendle	Pendle Borough Council	Pendle Borough Council
Preston	Preston City Council	Preston Domestic Violence Service
Chorley	Chorley Borough Council	Preston Domestic Violence Service
South Ribble	South Ribble Borough Council	Progress Care Housing Association
West Lancs	West Lancs Borough Council	Liberty Centre
Fylde	Fylde Borough Council	Fylde Coast Women's Aid
Wyre	Wyre Borough Council	Fylde Coast Women's Aid
Lancaster	Lancaster City Council	SafeNet

Amount of grant sought:**Profile of bid 2014-15:**

Please see appendix 1 – 'Lancashire 12 Districts Housing Authority Breakdown' for full details of grant funding sought.

	14/15	15/16
Support	n/a	n/a
Staff Costs	£54,540	£697,040
Other	n/a	n/a
Total	£54,540	£697,040

How many bed spaces – adhering to the standard set out at Annex A- will the funding provide?

- 215 bed spaces within refuge provision (current Lancashire refuge provision strives to meet Annex A and do so in most respects. Additional funding will allow the refuges to fully meet the standards set out in Annex A).
- 79 bed spaces within Lancashire safe houses will meet Annex A service standards with this additional funding.

Without any dedicated resource, the Hyndburn and Rossendale pilot safe house work is at risk of closure and will not meet all of the standards in Annex A.

Without any dedicated resource, safe house work in Lancaster and Burnley will not begin and the 35 new bed spaces will not be created.

Please see appendix 1 – 'Lancashire 12 Districts Housing Authority Breakdown' for full details of bed space increase.

Please describe your current domestic abuse service provision.

Lancashire currently has a total of 237 refuge bed spaces in 9 out of 12 districts across Lancashire: Burnley, Pendle, Preston, South Ribble, Chorley, West Lancashire, Lancaster, Wyre, and Fylde (see Appendix 1 – 'Lancashire 12 Districts Housing Authority Breakdown' for full details). This provision operates as a countywide resource for vulnerable victims and accepts referrals as part of the national network.

There are 3 remaining districts (Rossendale, Hyndburn and Burnley) that have safe house pilot projects. These pilots do not receive Supporting People funding for support and are at risk of ending without additional funding

How many refuge bed spaces do you currently provide?

Lancashire currently provides 237 bed spaces.

Of these how many provide the levels of support as outlined in Annex A of the bidding prospectus?

All 237 of Lancashire's refuge bed spaces strive to provide levels of support as outlined in Annex A of the bidding prospectus. However, all 12 local housing authorities report a lack of resources to manage service users with more complex needs. Lancashire is currently able to offer limited bed spaces and is seeking to increase capacity and resources to create therapeutic communities of support for victims of domestic abuse.

How many households will your current provision support during the course of a year (also provide split of adults/children)?

In 2013/14 Lancashire's refuge services supported 347 households: 347 adults and 460 children and young people (CYP).

Additional to Lancashire's refuge provision, Rossendale Safe House Pilot Project has supported 13 individuals and 3 children in a 15 months period from November 2013 - January 15; Hyndburn safe house provision supported 5 women and 6 children in 12 month provision.

How have you assessed the need for refuge in your area?

Tackling DA is a priority for a number of partnership strategic groups in Lancashire, such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, Lancashire Safeguarding Children's and Adults Boards, Children and Young People's Partnership Boards and the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group.

To inform these strategic group plans, Lancashire carried out a holistic DA Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) which can be found [here](#). The Lancashire DA JSNA assessed evidence both nationally and locally to inform decision making around the provision of services by statutory and voluntary, community and faith sector (VCFS) agencies for DA within Lancashire.

What need did you identify (number of households/adults/children/needs levels)?

What is the shortfall against current provision?

Lancashire collects access to services data for all its refuges, which includes the total number of women who applied for the service. There were approximately 1,374 applications to refuges in Lancashire in 13/14. Approximately 1,030 clients did not receive a service. This included:

- 390 households who were unable to access the refuge as the provision was full,
- 200 households were unable to access the service due to their complex needs mental health problems, substance misuse problems and dual diagnosis.

- 330 households either found alternative accommodation, didn't want the service, or didn't supply the required information
- 30 households were still being assessed or are on waiting list
- 80 households were unable to access service due to range of reasons (room size, location, no recourse to public funds, not fleeing dv)

Most of the refuge provision in Lancashire provides support to women with low/medium needs and is unable to cater for women with complex needs. However, one refuge was specifically built to provide support for people with more complex needs.

Additional to the Lancashire's refuge provision, the Rossendale safe house pilot identified that 13 individuals from Rossendale have needed to seek refuge provision out of the Borough as the 2 safe houses were full, or the service users support needs were too complex due to mental health and substance misuse needs.

Using this data it is clear that Lancashire requires more service support staff to increase hours spent within refuge provision, increase access to complex needs workers such as substance misuse and mental health workers and increase access to CYP specialist workers.

Lancashire's shortfall in current resources is:

- 1) Lack of bed spaces
- 2) Reduced hours of access to support from refuge support workers and resettlement workers
- 3) Reduced hours of access to support from CYP specialist workers
- 4) Reduced hours of access to support for complex needs specialist workers such as mental health, sexual health, alcohol and substance misuse workers

How have you assessed future need?

Through a robust process of using the Lancashire DA JSNA, working with all 12 district housing authorities, local specialist DA service providers and service user consultations; it was possible to map out current provision and assess future need. This assessment was underpinned by Lancashire's performance and intelligence needs information regarding the population and demographics of Lancashire.

In addition to the JSNA, Lancashire collects access to services data for all its refuges, which includes the total number of women who applied for the service.

What future need have you identified (number of households/adults/children/needs levels)?

In a recent needs assessment carried out by CAADA (Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse), it demonstrated a 27% increase in access to services for high and medium risk victims of domestic abuse across Lancashire (2013/14).

This increase in demand is also replicated in data from our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, police incident records and Early Support provision monitoring.

What plans have you in place to meet this need?

Please see appendix 1 – 'Lancashire 12 Districts Housing Authority Breakdown'.

Due to recent reduction in funding from charitable sources and LCC (Gateway Grant) and the planned reductions from LCC (Supporting People budget), funding is required to sustain and increase provision in the following areas:

- 1) Creation of additional bed spaces
- 2) Support from refuge support workers and resettlement workers
- 3) Support from CYP specialist workers
- 4) Support from complex needs specialist workers such as mental health, sexual health, alcohol and substance misuse workers.

Across Lancashire the additional safe house provision will provide more capacity and will enable a flexible approach in meeting the growing demand for families with complex needs, requiring emergency accommodation.

For example in Burnley 2013 to 2014, 35% of all referrals were assessed as inappropriate for communal refuge accommodation. This was due to their higher level complex need. The safe house provision will enable Burnley Refuge to accommodate those who are unable to access refuge space due to issues around dependency, ability to engage living communally, larger families, families with older male children and for temporary move-on for people with complex housing issues. Each safe house, within Burnley, will have full security; CCTV linked to the larger refuge and is alarmed.

The Complex Needs Support Workers will offer intensive housing management support to families. This will be achieved through planning and implementing a coordinated package of support designed to meet the individual needs of the families they are supporting.

The CYP specialist workers will focus on meeting the needs of CYP who have/are experiencing domestic abuse with a child centred package of therapeutic support, both in refuge and on an outreach basis. For CYP living in our refuges a follow on service will be offered to support the transition period between safe refuge and safe house accommodation; and reintegrating into the community.

Have you closed or stopped funding any refuge provision in the last 2 years? If so how many bed spaces and why?

Housing related support delivered by refuge providers is primarily funded from the Supporting People Budget. Whilst there have been significant reductions to the Supporting People Budget, the funding available to refuges has been maintained. However, all the refuge provision is due to be retendered in the next few months. The intention is to reduce the funding available by around £130,000 in order to achieve improved value for money and greater consistency in the level of funding available to individual refuges. This will have a particular impact on two providers where the Supporting People budget has historically funded more specialist services.

The Hyndburn and Rossendale Safe house pilots were established due to the recognition of local needs. Partnership funding was secured through the Community Safety Partnership for a trial safe house scheme in 2013/14 to operate at a low level dispersed DA refuge accommodation. As this funding is now running out, the 14 bed spaces in the current safe houses are at risk and these areas will return to the situation where there is no DA refuge accommodation in the borough to meet needs.

(a) Scope of provision of refuge accommodation including support for victims including to those from outside the local authority area.

Do you currently provide refuge support for victims from other areas? If so does this provision meet the current need?

Lancashire is part of the national refuge network and prides itself on delivering refuge support for victims both inside and outside of the Lancashire area. The national network service offer will continue to be extended to victims outside of the Lancashire area should this bid be successful.
Current provision in Lancashire does not meet the demand for services.

Lancashire provided refuge provision to 207 households from outside Lancashire between April 2012 – March 2013 (out of a total of 366 households) and 158 households out of a total of 347 between April 2013 and March 2014.

During 2012/13, 52 households from Lancashire are recorded as having accessed services in other areas; and 40 during 2013/14. However, as only 76 out of 156 upper tier authorities submit data, there is likely to be a significant under representation of the number of people from Lancashire accessing services in other areas.

The current safe house pilots in Rossendale and Hyndburn provides only low level support due to lack of resources. This essential funding to provide dedicated specialised staff would raise standards in the safe houses, increase capacity and allow support to be given to victims with more complex needs from other areas.

Does your funding proposal provide refuge support to victims from other areas?

Lancashire supports victims from other areas and this funding proposal will ensure we are able to continue to deliver this support in the future.

If the safe house pilot provisions were fully resourced they would add to this listed network of provision.

How do you propose to provide that support to victims who come from outside your area?

Lancashire supports victims from other areas and this funding proposal will ensure we are able to continue to deliver this support in the future.

When Lancashire refuges are full, individuals will be referred to the district housing options teams for a homelessness assessment.

3 - Partnership working

Which other organisations do you currently work with locally to tackle domestic support and support survivors?

We have a strong history of partnership working in Lancashire and are committed to continuing to make it a safe place to live, work and visit. Key partners include: Lancashire County Council, district and unitary authorities, Lancashire Constabulary, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Lancashire Fire and Rescue, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company, wider criminal justice partners and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Lancashire Chief Executives (Community Safety Strategy Group) brings together representatives of these organisations to set the strategic direction for coordinating partnership activity under a range of statutory duties, to reduce crime and re-offending, tackle anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.

Reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse is a key priority for community safety partners and is aligned across a range of strategic partnerships including the Lancashire Children and Young People's Trust, Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board. In addition, actions are being taken in response to the findings of the Ofsted inspection in 2012 which recommends that provision is put in place to support CYP living in households with DA present, and that partners explore provision of support for perpetrators not subject to criminal justice sanctions.

Providers of specialist domestic abuse services are key partners to the successful delivery of the pooled budgets approach to 'Lancashire Domestic Abuse Strategy' (see Appendix 2) and more importantly to delivering better outcomes for vulnerable victims, children, young people, families and communities. Statutory services work closely with providers through our partnership structure (Lancashire Domestic Abuse Forum - LDAF) and in co-producing service developments with the needs of service users at the centre of all considerations.

Individual districts have multi agency DA Forum meetings and refuge/safe house provision is an essential element of local delivery across all services.

What are your proposals to improve current partnership arrangements?

Domestic abuse partnership arrangements in Lancashire have recently been reviewed and restructured. A number of thematic groups addressing the various strands of DA (under the Home Office definition) have been brought together under a single Strategic Domestic Abuse Board with the aim of ensuring a cohesive approach to addressing DA and improving the partnership response. Meeting for a full day on a regular basis, this enables a clearly structured agenda to drive improvement activity. The Strategic DA Board will report to Lancashire Chief Executives.

In order to improve partnership arrangements, there is local activity across the county to improve the health service response to domestic abuse by ensuring that the NICE Domestic Abuse Guidance is used to improve delivery, joint working and

pathways to support.

Partners in Lancashire work closely with national advisory groups such as CAADA and Respect to ensure that services meet recognised quality levels. In addition, partners are working towards accreditation by the White Ribbon Campaign to become a White Ribbon County and embed a partnership and community approach towards challenging violence towards women and girls.

What effect do you think this will have?

Joint working in Lancashire is strong as demonstrated by this unified application for funding support.

If successful, this funding will enable closer working with providers of health services and the building of stronger pathways to support, in particular for service users requiring multiple interventions or with complex needs, and will improve the capacity of refuge provision to support vulnerable families through to recovery and independence in the community.

4 - Deliverability and capacity, including staff and other key resources, to deliver the proposals

With the full support and expertise of the 12 local housing authorities, Lancashire is the lead commissioning authority for the purpose of this bid. The Housing and Support Partnership Group (previously called the Supporting People Commissioning Board) will coordinate the delivery of the proposals set out in the bid ensuring full deliverability of each district level proposal.

Fundamental to our plan is our strong partnership commitment to ensuring integrated service delivery, shared partnership capacity and allocation of key resources to meet identified needs. Lancashire's core aim is to enhance the refuge service offer whilst building sustainable solutions within specialist refuge provision.

Using existing multi-agency delivery partner forum called the 'Lancashire DA Forum' (LDAF) Lancashire will establish four task groups:

1. Safe Houses development
2. Refuge Support and Resettlement
3. CYP Support
4. Complex Needs

These groups will be multi-agency delivery partners committed to ensuring services are integrated and working towards shared outcomes. Each group will be responsible for:

- Service design
- Service standards
- Recruitment
- Performance monitoring
- Capacity building
- Training

Each of the 4 task groups will be required to report to the Housing and Support Partnership Group which will fulfil the role of project board and will be responsible for governance.

What assessment have you made of the level of resource required to deliver the commitments set out in your bid?

Lancashire's Housing and Support Partnership Group will steer the implementation of the delivery plan. Where there is existing refuge provision the resource will be channelled through the refuge tender to add additional capacity.

Where there are new positions to be established the existing providers will work together to recruit staff and deliver across districts to meet the needs.

Where there is new provision of safe houses Lancashire has factored in equivalent resource for co-ordination of this delivery. The Local Housing Authority provider will be responsible for overseeing this delivery.

The purpose of the proposals are to work together to ensure efficient application of shared resources and services.

How have you ensured these resources will be in place?

The Lancashire Housing and Support Partnership Group is made up of LCC commissioning leads for housing and domestic abuse services, and housing leads from each of the borough councils. This Lancashire Housing and Support Partnership will steer the 4 task groups. As all partners are committed to delivering this bid, appropriate resources will be allocated to deliver the proposals outlined above within the required timescales.

5 - Standards

How do the refuge bed spaces meet the support service standards as set out at annex A of the bidding prospectus?

DCLG Annex A Service Standard	How Lancashire meets the service support standard through this proposal:
1) Safety, Security and Dignity	<p>Lancashire proposes to increase the national network of refuge provision by drawing on match funding from Lancashire's housing authorities to establish new 71 bed spaces. Victims will therefore be able to access crisis support at any time, receive a timely response and have the option to move geographical location if necessary for their safety.</p> <p>Lancashire does not currently provide refuge provision for male victims but should the bid be successful, Lancashire safe houses would be able meet this standard.</p>

<p>2) Rights and Access</p>	<p>All Lancashire refuges are required to demonstrate under the SP contract "a commitment to fair access, fair exit, diversity and inclusion. The service acts within the law and ensures clients are well-informed about their rights and responsibilities"</p> <p>Through service mapping, Lancashire has identified a gap in provision in some refuges to meet the needs of service users with particular needs such as physical disability and language barriers. Lancashire's proposals will increase capacity to ensure that service users with particular needs will be able to access services addressing barriers to access.</p> <p>There is also an identified gap for male victims and those with complex needs who are not able to access current refuge provision.</p>
<p>3) Health and Wellbeing</p>	<p>Refuges are required under the SP contract to identify any support needs and to signpost people to the relevant services. However, funding is not currently provided to address complex health needs.</p> <p>This sometimes results in applicants with complex needs not being able to access provision and some residents being evicted to safeguard other service users. As outlined above, data shows that 200 households cannot access services owing to complex needs. In addition, contracts require refuges to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff team.</p> <p>Absolutely fundamental to this proposal is the additional resource needed to support service users with physical, mental and sexual health complex needs. Lancashire's proposals will enhance the capacity of support offered to service users and ensure access to essential specialist therapeutic support is deliverable.</p>
<p>4) Stability, Resilience and Autonomy</p>	<p>As a result of the personalised needs assessment requirements and outcome framework, within the SP contract, refuges are expected to promote stability, resilience and autonomy through support planning.</p> <p>From April 2015 the funding for resettlement and floating support, providing follow-up services, is to be reduced by around 50%. This will have a significant impact on people at risk of domestic violence as they receive a high proportion of the support available.</p>

5) Children and Young People	Lancashire recognises that the safety and wellbeing of CYP accessing refuge provision is paramount to building their confidence and resilience. Through service mapping, it is clear this is a large area where we need to focus on service resource enhancement. Lancashire proposes to enhance CYP refuge services that listen to the needs of CYP and are responsive in their support and delivery. Services will also support parents to develop their parenting resources to maintain and build their relationships with their CYP.
6) Prevention	Lancashire's refuge providers will deliver training and awareness raising activities with other professionals and within their communities. Provision will be enhanced to support the education of CYP regarding issues of consent, healthy relationships, gender inequality and violence against women and girls.

Are there elements of this support that are additional to those you were providing previously?

If successful, this funding will provide the following additional services:

1. Increased refuge bed spaces in Lancashire from 237 to 294 (These figures include safe house provision).
2. Access to refuge support and resettlement workers (resettlement services were previously available through floating support services; however funding is due to be reduced by in the region of 50%).
3. Access to refuge CYP workers
4. Access to refuge complex needs workers for physical, mental and/or sexual health
5. Access to refuge complex needs workers for alcohol and substance use
6. Access to match funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner for enhancing existing provisions equipment, fixtures and fittings.

6 - Value for money

How many additional spaces against current provision – meeting the standards at Annex A - will this funding provide?

This funding will increase refuge bed spaces in Lancashire from 237 to 294 (these figures include safe house provision).

As a result of the partnership working to develop a consistent and collaborative approach, Lancashire is seeking to achieve economies of scale by working together to deliver an integrated service response, sharing resources and building sustainable service.

7 - Sustainability

What will you do to maintain the levels of refuge provision this funding will secure in future years?

The model proposed is an Invest to Save programme. The focus will be to make the best use of resources, improve the service user journey and achieve better outcomes. This will be achieved by developing county wide collaborative approaches creating efficiencies. Lancashire proposes to develop a tailored approach that enables the realisation of genuine savings, removal of barriers to change, and transformation of frontline services so they can work more effectively, directly with service users and their CYP on interventions to improve outcomes.

By providing more specialist service within existing provision, Lancashire will seek to enhance the capacity of the core staff teams within refuges and safe houses and enable staff to meet the needs of service users with more complex needs after the funding ceases. Refuges will be able to provide more intensive therapeutic support and so encourage service users towards recovery, resilience and independence within community services. As part of the Lancashire DA commissioning strategy partners have commissioned specialist DA community based services to work with services users at medium and high level needs. These services seek to prevent the need for refuge and safe house provision.

Resources will be shared across Lancashire to enhance the service offer and ensure that good practice is shared and embedded. Where appropriate, therapeutic interventions will be sourced from an external partner and DA providers will be encouraged to use funding from core contracts to draw in match funding.

Rossendale BC intends to link the future provision of safe houses to the HCA Empty Property Programme as funding has already been secured for Rossendale for 2015. The plans is to source and renovate properties using this funding stream, and build in an element of support services funding into the tender, which together with this bid funding for the necessary support services, would provide a sustainable project. It would have the added benefit that the properties could become permanent Sanctuary accommodation for the individuals if appropriate, whilst the safe house be provided in an alternative property which would allow for the element of security.

We will ensure that the activity and outcomes of additional service provision are collected in order to support requests for mainstream funding and inform an independent cost benefit analysis of the core DA services.

What other things are you doing to place domestic abuse services on a sustainable footing?

Current funding arrangements for specialist DA community services come to an end in March 2016. In order to ensure that services are sustained, a business case is being developed for consideration by Lancashire Chief Executives with the aim of securing mainstream and recurrent funding contributions from each partner. This is in line with the DA Commissioning Strategy.

8 - Match funding

**What financial contribution to refuge services do your partners make?
What financial contribution do your other partners make to other services to tackle and prevent domestic abuse?**

Organisation	Match Funding Resource	District	Current Match Funding Amount
Lancashire County Council Supporting People		All Lancashire	£1M per annum
Lancashire County Council on behalf of all DA commissioning partnership in the DA Commissioning Strategy (including all districts, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, Health).	Community based IDVA and Outreach services, DA perpetrator prevention services, workforce DA e-learning resource, workforce development DA awareness raising sessions and DA training.	All Lancashire	£1.2M per annum (pooled budget from strategic partners)
Pendle BC	Refuge underwritten by Pendle BC	Pendle	
Preston City Council	Management of sanctuary scheme.	Preston	£10000
LCC	Central gateway grant for CYP Worker	South Ribble	£15000
Rossendale BC	2 x 2 bed houses for renovation Funding from CSP		£5,700 from HCA Empty Property Programme Funding £22,422 £16,500 from S106 funding £2k
Hyndburn BC funding available to renovate new property for safe house provision	Sanctuary Scheme 1 x 4 bed house for safe house provision		£2500 pa

South Ribble Borough Council	Delivery of Sanctuary Scheme	of	South Ribble	£12000pa
Chorley Council	Delivery of Sanctuary Scheme	of	Chorley	£12000pa

What match funding do you or your partners propose to make as a result of this bid?

Organisation	Match Funding Offer	District	Offer of Match Funding Amount
Calico Housing Association	3 x 5 bed new houses for refuge provision	Burnley	
Calico Housing Association	2 x 5 bed new houses for refuge provision	Lancaster	
Hyndburn BC	2 x 4 beds houses	Hyndburn	
Hyndburn BC	Allocate funding to renovate new property for refuge provision	Hyndburn	£30K
Ribble Valley	1 x 4 bed house	Ribble Valley	
Rossendale BC	2 x 4 bed houses	Rossendale	
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	Open up a small grants process to enhance setting to support the delivery of DA services e.g. refuge furniture, fixtures, fittings, equipment, programme resources.	All Lancashire	£200K

9 - Other relevant information

We are required to tender the support provision within refuges as contracts can only be extended until July 2015. In the event that the bid is successful, we are planning to vary the refuge contracts to include the additional DCLG funding. The Invitation to Tender for the support will make clear that if the DCLG bid is successful, this approach will be adopted.

Where the refuge provision is not being tendered, then a waiver to standing orders will be sought with a view to increasing the current Supporting People contract value. In relation to safe houses, support provision will either be tendered, or will be awarded directly to the district where this is appropriate.

Completed forms to be submitted by 5pm 16th January 2015 to: refugefunding@communities.gsi.gov.uk