

# **Cafcass Contact Activity Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes Frequently Asked Questions**

## **1) Q. When does the grant application have to be returned?**

**A. There are 2 grant rounds.**

### **Grant Round 1:**

For Grant Applicants who wish to apply or to be approved in principle for a grant starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 please make sure your completed grant application reaches me, **Mike Coote, Cafcass Commissioning and Partnership, Marsh Court, Tillington Street, Stafford, ST16 2RE** no later than **5pm on Friday 4th March 2011**. This grant round is intended for existing providers to reapply and aiming to deliver continuous service, or for new applicants who are already Respect accredited/approved/matched.

### **Grant Round 2:**

For Grant Applicants who wish to apply or to be approved in principle for a grant commencing after the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 please make sure your completed grant application reaches me, **Mike Coote, Cafcass Commissioning and Partnership, Marsh Court, Tillington Street, Stafford, ST16 2RE** no later than **5pm on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2011**. This grant round is intended for new applicants who may need additional time to prepare an application and explore the Respect accreditation/approval or matching processes.

## **2) Q. Where does the full application for grant have to be returned to?**

**A. Please make sure your grant application is sent to **Mike Coote, Cafcass Commissioning and Partnership, Marsh Court, Tillington Street, Stafford, ST16 2RE.****

Please note that applications will **not** be accepted by email.

## **3) Q. When will we know whether we have been successful?**

### **A. Grant Round 1:**

Successful applicants for grant will be notified by **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011**.

### **Grant Round 2:**

Successful applicants for grant will be notified by **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011**.

## **4) Q. Who will assess the applications?**

**A. Applications will be assessed by a panel of senior officials from Cafcass and a policy team member from the DfE who have been involved in the work of the implementation of contact activities under the Children and Adoption Act 2006. There will also be a moderator to**

ensure consistency and fairness has been applied.

**5) Q. How will the grant be evaluated?**

- A. Grant applications will be evaluated by a panel using the specification requirement at **ANNEX A** and criteria attached at **ANNEX C**

**7) Q. What are the assessors looking for?**

- A. The application will be assessed against the evaluation criteria set out in annex C of the DV specification and the assessors will be looking in particular at the providers' capacity and capability to deliver and complete the programme including available resources and standards. Particular attention will also be paid to the experience you can demonstrate of working with perpetrators of domestic violence, and your ability to improve outcomes for children and families.

**8) Q. What do you mean by a provider's capacity and capability to deliver?**

- A. A provider would need to demonstrate its readiness to deliver including how it will use its resources in view of the increased workload that DVPP delivery would present. Organisations will also need to demonstrate that the locations in which it will deliver DVPP are appropriate and accessible.

**9) Q. Will there be any additional funding available for administration and overhead costs?**

- A. The cost of delivering DVPP has been priced at a total of £2,500 per participant. This total includes a suitability assessment, interim and final report, VAT, any administration and overhead costs such as trainers preparation time, stationery, venue hire, refreshments, reporting etc.

**10) Q. What verification will you require from Respect before service delivery can commence and how much does accreditation cost?**

- A. The organisation will need to have engaged in an accreditation process. This requires (at least) that a review of risk management and safeguarding procedures has been undertaken by Respect. If your organisation has already achieved Respect accreditation this review will not be required but you do need to have maintained the standard, and your Accreditation, to the timescale indicated by Respect. You will need to provide evidence of this in your application.

If you have achieved the Respect Risk and Safeguarding Approval standard, you can provide the DVPP service, but if you have not progressed to Accreditation you must ensure that your Approval is renewed with Respect every year (from the date of Approval). All actions indicated by Respect to meet the Approval standard must have

been implemented. The cost of the Approval process in subsequent years is £750.

If you are a new provider, you must achieve the Respect Risk and Safeguarding Approval before you can be listed or take any DVPP work as a Contact Activity. The cost of this process is £1,850. We would encourage you to continue with the full Accreditation, and this will be advantageous both in terms of cost, and quality assurance.

If you have service standards that match the Respect Risk and Safeguarding Approval, or full Accreditation, you should submit evidence on paper to Respect for verification. The cost of this is £500. Your submission should cover all the criteria in the Respect Risk and Safeguarding document and the full accreditation criteria if this level of equivalence is sought.

There is no Government funding for the Approval, Accreditation or Verification processes. Advice on Accreditation funding is available on the Respect Website.

**11) Q. We are not accredited can we still apply?**

- A.** Yes. To ensure a level of consistency of practice before starting service delivery, providers will have to achieved or be working towards achieving the Respect accreditation standards and have undergone the approval process OR have or be working towards accreditation standards broadly equivalent to the Respect standards and have undergone or be working towards an equivalent quality assurance and approval process.

**12) Q. How will grants be awarded?**

- A.** Organisations that are working towards or intend to work toward the Respect Risk and Safeguarding approval, and anticipate achieving approval by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2011 will be eligible for a grant, in principle. A full grant agreement and associated funding will become available once they have successfully undergone the Respect approval process and this has been confirmed by the Cafcass.
- B.** By issuing this invitation the Department is not bound in any way and does not have to accept the lowest or any grant application, and reserves the right to accept a portion of any grant application, unless the grant application expressly stipulates otherwise in their grant application.

**13) Q. Can my organisation use its own monitoring and evaluation processes?**

- A.** Yes. We do not want to create unnecessary burdens for organisations. We are happy for organisations to use their own monitoring and evaluation processes as long as these will enable you to capture and

report on what is requested from Cafcass and the courts in relation to monitoring the contact activity including suitability assessment, interim and final reports.

**14) Q. Why must we outline our equal opportunities policy when we are clearly a not for profit organisation in the business of helping people?**

- A. All applicant organisations must assure Cafcass that they, or anyone acting for them, complies with the law in the United Kingdom and in particular does not commit any act of discrimination rendered unlawful by the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Race Relations Act 1976 or the Disability Discrimination Act 1996. Applicants by sending their application form will be agreeing with the declaration at Section 6g that there is no discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, ethnic or national origin, disability, age, gender, sexuality, marital status, or any religious affiliation, where any of these cannot be shown to be a requirement of the job, office or service in respect of employment, provision of services and the involvement of volunteers.

**15) Q. The law ensures safeguards for children, why do we have to demonstrate safeguards again in this application?**

- A. Cafcass focus is children and young people who are amongst the most vulnerable groups in society. It is imperative that clear procedures are in place in any organisation receiving government money that ensure and safeguard the protection of such groups. Any potential grant recipient must have signed up to –
- Robust recruitment procedures that check the criminal background, employment history, academic and professional references of staff to prevent unsuitable people from working with children and young people.
  - Procedures that promote safe practice and provide a means for challenging inappropriate, poor and/or unsafe practice including procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse.
  - Clear agreement around responsibilities and advice. Organisations are recommended to designate a senior member of the project team to liaise with other agencies and will have lead responsibility for child protection offering advice and guidance.
  - Processes that allow staff to identify instances where there are concerns about a child or young person's welfare and provide a clear means of initiating or taking appropriate action to keep them safe.
  - The establishment of effective partnership working between all those involved in providing services for children, young people and families.

**16) Q. Can providers submit a partnership bid?**

- A.** Bids from two or more organisations, on a partnership basis, are welcome. We would be looking for exactly the same standard of outcomes, activity, and delivery of services as any other bid. Partnerships will be expected to be clear about who is responsible for delivery, and to what standard. One partner must, with the approval of any other partner(s), take on overall responsibility for the project, including delivery of outcomes, production of management information and satisfactory accounts and any required reports.

**17) Q. Does the partner have to be from the Third Sector?**

- A.** No. The partner(s) can be a third sector organisation or private organisation but there must be a lead partner.

**18) Q. My organisation isn't in a Cafcass area can I still apply?**

- A.** Yes we would encourage you to apply if you think you have the capacity and capability of delivering the programme. We are looking at provision across the whole of England.

**19) Q. I'm interested in applying but haven't got all the information?**

- A.** The information for the full specification for the DV programmes are available on the Cafcass website at [www.cafcass.gov.uk](http://www.cafcass.gov.uk) . More information about the respect accreditation and apporavle standards can be found on [www.respect.net](http://www.respect.net) .