

Information for Sentencers

Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme [IDAP]



SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Introduction

The Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme is a nationally accredited groupwork programme designed to reduce re-offending by adult male domestic abuse offenders against female partners

The Programme

The Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme is the whole order and comprises three strands:

The group element; Multi-agency management of the case and the involvement of Womens Safety Workers who work with the victims and subsequent partners of a perpetrator.

The group element uses an educational approach and challenges abusive behaviours used by the perpetrator to establish power and control over his partner.

Themes of the group

1. Non Violence
2. Non-Threatening Behaviour
3. Respect
4. Support and Trust
5. Accountability and Honesty
6. Sexual Respect
7. Partnership (1)
8. Partnership (2)
9. Negotiation and Fairness

Three Week Process

1. Defining the theme
2. Examining Abusive Behaviour
3. Exploring & Practising non-abusive & non-controlling behaviour

Length of group element

The core groupwork consists of 27 weekly sessions of 2 ½ hours. In addition there are ongoing evaluation measures and one to one work with Case Managers before, during and after the programme.

When is IDAP Appropriate?

IDAP is not suitable for those female perpetrators, same sex relationships or abuse of other family members than the partner. Where the index offence is sexual, IDAP is not appropriate.

It is suitable for any man convicted of an offence of Domestic **Abuse** against his partner. Abuse covers a range of behaviours, not just physical violence.

It is essential that the offender indicates a willingness to co-operate with the aims of the programme, which prioritises victim safety at all times.

Pre-Sentence Reports will have a proposal for a requirement as part of a Community Order. A **2 year order** is strongly recommended to ensure completion of the groupwork element and follow up work.

The Legal Framework

Attendance on the programme is a requirement of a community Order or Suspended Sentence as set out in Section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

The following wording should be used:

“For the duration of the requirement, participate in the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme, in premises approved by the South Yorkshire Probation Board, in accordance with the instructions of the responsible officer, for not more than 60 days and whilst participating, comply with the instructions given by, or under the authority of, the person in charge of the programme” (Section 202 Criminal Justice Act 2003).

This requirement will be enforced and the Order returned to court if the programme is not completed.