

# NEWS

## Additional funding secured for vital domestic abuse support

August 2020

Even more staff will soon be on hand to support victims of domestic abuse across the south west thanks to a new funding boost.

A government grant is seeing the creation of an additional three roles at Sanctuary Supported Living's Plymouth Domestic Abuse Services (PDAS) and Torbay Domestic Abuse Service (TDAS).

In Plymouth, an independent domestic violence advisor (IDVA) will provide intensive support for the more complex cases and link with children's social care, while a resettlement project worker will work with residents moving on from refuges and safe



houses to help reintegrate them back into the community.

A children's worker based at TDAS will support children living in the safe houses, and offer help within school settings.

Funding will also be used to purchase laptops and mobile phones to allow these jobs to be carried out remotely, securing longevity through the coronavirus pandemic and beyond. Staff will also take part in specialised training to support their roles and ensure the best service is provided.

Katy Fisher, Local Service Manager at PDAS, said: "We previously secured funding to increase the number of safe houses and this

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additional funding is now vital to provide the extra staff to support victims of domestic abuse, allowing us to expand the fantastic team we already have in place.

“The service is not only about providing accommodation but also advice and support, both practically and emotionally, to help these individuals and families rebuild their lives and move forward.”

Area Service Manager for Sanctuary Supported Living in the south west, Di Pooley, also commented: “At Sanctuary Supported Living, we are committed not only to supporting victims of domestic abuse, but also providing training and development for our staff. I’m pleased these new roles will allow us to continue this essential service to help meet the increased demand that has sadly happened during lockdown.”

The freephone National Domestic Abuse Helpline is available 24-hours a day – 0808 2000 247. In an emergency, call 999.

