‘The reduction in **domestic and sexual violence and abuse** is also a key priority for all partners due to the extreme damage it can do to individuals and families, including both female and male victims. The effects and consequences of domestic violence are so broad ranging that effective approaches can only be developed in partnership.’


**Purpose**

Ynys Saff, Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), is asking Cardiff Partnership Board for formal support through commissioning and funding with existing partners. Cardiff Community Safety Partnership previously provided funding.

**Background**

Research shows that domestic and sexual abuse has devastating consequences for the victim, their family and wider society. Victims of sexual abuse are more likely to experience homelessness, alcohol misuse, social exclusion, low educational attainment, crime and ill-health (both mental and physical).

Prior to Ynys Saff, the route to and beyond disclosure was daunting and the process fragmented in Cardiff and the Vale. Victims were interviewed and examined in Police stations, their follow up care was disjointed and often in multiple locations. This led, inevitably, to errors and regrettable attrition from engagement with the criminal justice process, healthcare and social support.

Ynys Saff, delivers a comprehensive and quality service for all victims of sexual assault in the Cardiff and Vale area. It is hosted and managed by Cardiff and Vale UHB. The service is modelled on standards defined by the All Wales Service Specifications for adults and children, and has developed robust corporate and clinical governance mechanisms to ensure that standards are met. Care is delivered by a multiagency partnership involving the statutory agencies and third sector. Provision of police interview facilities, examination (adult and paediatric), healthcare (acute and community) and post disclosure support/care are all available on one site. This is unique in South Wales. Ynys Saff serves a significant role therefore limiting the impact of crime on victims, optimising the criminal justice process and working
with other agencies to improve safety. It represents a significant step forward for the safety and wellbeing of the community it serves.

The service has received 1,874 referrals over 4 years, 74% from Cardiff and 21% from Vale of Glamorgan (Table 1). 40% of referrals are children under 18 years.

The Duchess of Cornwall on her visit to Ynys Saff on June 28th 2011 said: “I have seen a lot of these centres around the country but I have never seen anything as impressive as this.”

**Rationale for request**

For the financial year 2012/13 there is a shortfall of £117,000 needed to maintain the current service. Since inception, funding was shared between the following stakeholders:

- Police in South Wales and Gwent
- Aneurin Bevan Health Board
- Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Welsh Government
- Home Office
- Cardiff and Vale Community Safety Partnerships (CSP).

Cardiff Community Safety Partnership has provided between £65,000-£109,000 per annum. However as Cardiff CSP no longer exists, funding streams need to be reestablished.

**Conclusion**

The immediate challenge for Ynys Saff is two fold: to maintain service for existing and new clients, and to increase level of service to accommodate year on year increase in referral rates. Ynys Saff will be unable to remain fully operative for the next financial year unless the short fall is met and there is a risk of closure without support from all relevant stakeholders.

Further, to be an effective and sustainable service in the long term, establishment with core funding is required. The service, in turn is committed to delivering high standards of care, being accountable to stakeholders and developing in a direction defined by the partnership.
Table 1: Referrals since opening in October 2008 by area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Young people (13-17 years)</th>
<th>Children (&lt;13 years)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiff</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>1393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>74% referrals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vale of Glamorgan</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21% referrals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(5% from elsewhere)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References
Service specification for services providing care to adults in Wales who have been sexually assaulted. National Public health service for Wales. 2009
Service Specification for the Medical Assessment of children in Wales who may have been sexually abused. National Public health service for Wales. 2008

Roxanne Hammonds, SARC Manager
Dr Alison Mott, Lead Paediatrician for Safeguarding
Dr Julia Shefras, Clinical Director SARC