Job Description

Job Title: Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA)

Service: NLRC

Reporting to: Service Manager

Salary Band: 2.1 and 2.2

Hours: 37.5 hours per week

Location: North London

This job description may change to reflect changing requirements of the role

The Role

The role of an Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) is to work within a multidisciplinary team providing proactive crisis intervention, advocacy and support to women, trans women, and non-binary people (age 11+). We work with any form of sexual violence including child sexual abuse, recent and non-recent rape, sexual assault, people in the sex industry, trafficking, and child sexual exploitation, both within and outside of the Criminal Justice System

Accountabilities

- Conduct holistic needs and risk assessments for all clients
- Consider adult and child safeguarding issues when engaging with clients and follow pan London Safeguarding Procedures and SWA Child and Adult Protection policies
- Make supported referrals to enable access to therapeutic, health, drug, and alcohol, and
- other support services, including locally available and internal body therapy and
- counselling services
- Provide information, advice, and support to clients in relation to the criminal justice
- system, from report to court and post-trial as necessary
- Provide information about the trial including the role of a witness, the outline of a trial at both Crown Court and Magistrates Court, giving evidence, special measures, and
- attending court with clients for pre-court visits and trial
- Keep and maintain accurate and confidential records of all work undertaken
- Support NLRC Helpline when needed
- Contribute to service user feedback and voice in service delivery and service
- development.

Values, Behaviours & Competencies

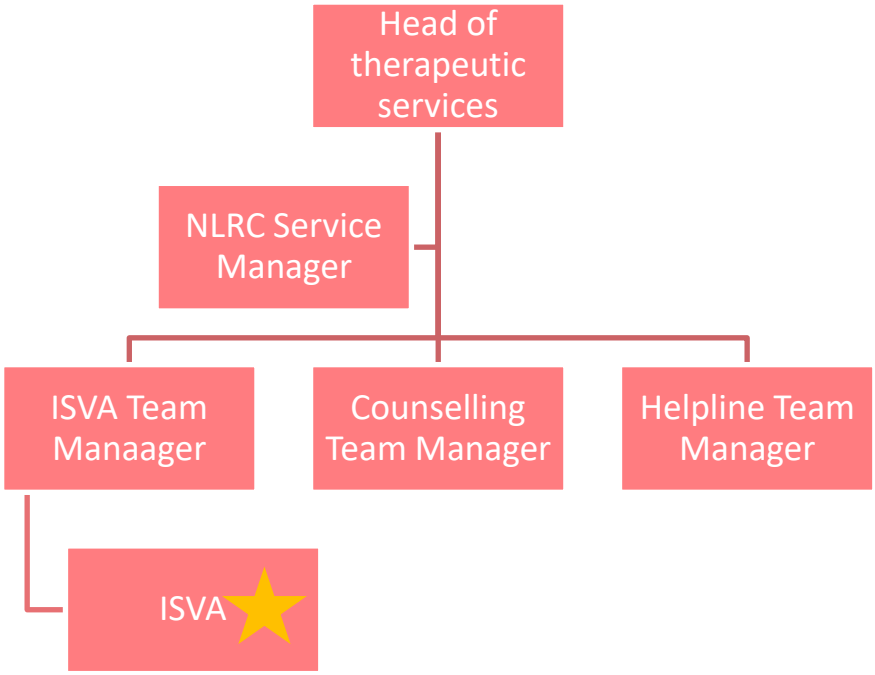
- Committed to the purpose of Solace Women's Aid, ensuring that the service user is at the heart of service delivery and development
- Feminist in understanding 'Violence against Women and Girls'
- Committed to fostering innovation and continuous improvement in working practice
- Flexible and open to new challenges, ideas, and experiences, and able to be self-reflective
- Committed to understanding diversity and ensuring anti-discriminatory practice is applied in all forms of our work
- Non-judgemental with a commitment to self-care within the team
- Collaborative, building relationships with internal and external partners.

Knowledge, Experience and Skills

- Essential experience of working with those who have been affected by sexual violence
- Experience of supporting people to access criminal justice and civil legal systems
- Clear understanding of sexual violence and domestic abuse, trauma and the long-term impact of sexual violence
- Knowledge of the needs of those from diverse communities and the barriers to accessing support, particularly for those from the BAMER communities, mental health issues, young people, drug, and alcohol issues
- Working knowledge of legislation including Criminal and Civil Law, housing law, welfare benefits and how these relate to sexual violence
- Knowledge of the Criminal Justice System, including Court and police procedures relating to sexual violence
- In-depth knowledge of safeguarding for adults and children
- Ability to manage own caseload, working under pressure and prioritising workload
- Ability to form good working relationships with clients, and maintain professional boundaries while offering non-directive and empathic support
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Qualifications

- Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) trained and accredited (desirable)


Head of therapeutic services
NLRC Service Manager
ISVA Team Manaager
Counselling Team Manager
Helpline Team Manager
ISVA