



Job Description

Survivors' Network Vision

Uniting to confront sexual violence, abuse and harassment so that no one has to face the impacts alone

Survivors' Network Mission

- Delivering accessible, survivor-centred services across Sussex
- Empowering our communities to stand up against sexual violence, abuse and harassment through education, training and campaigning
- Demonstrating and advocating for intersectional feminist leadership

Job Title	Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) working with clients who have experienced sexual violence and abuse within the church
Reports to	ISVA Coordinator
Location	A combination of home-based working and working from our offices in Brighton and/or Eastbourne, the Diocese of Chichester office in Hove, and other locations across Sussex.
Hours	Part-time post –22.5 hours (open to flexible working)
Contract term	Post funded until end of March 2023 (to be continued subject to funding)
Pay Scale	£27,741 – £29,577 (pro-rata)
Date issued	20/12/21

Job Purpose

The ISVA's role is to provide emotional support, information and practical advocacy support to adult survivors of sexual violence (of any gender) who have experienced abuse within the church. They will provide a safe and trauma informed response to their clients, ensuring that they understand their rights and the options open to them.



Survivors'
Network

Support may be focused on the criminal justice system, in providing information around the civil claims process, around any Church-based mechanisms of redress, safeguarding as appropriate, and ISVAs will link clients in with additional support from other agencies to ensure that all their identified support needs are met.

This role will also support the Diocese of Chichester, and Church of England more broadly, in improving their responses to sexual violence and abuse.

Duties and Responsibilities

Operational Delivery

- Manage a caseload of clients who have experienced sexual violence and/or abuse within the church, and maintain case files and records using an online case management system
- Help clients understand and access support and recovery options available to them both within the police process and the church structures, and advocate for them within these institutions and ensure their welfare and needs are central to the process
- Assess risk and support needs of clients and make appropriate referrals to health, welfare, benefits, housing, legal and other services as required
- Provide support and facilitate access for clients who want to report to the SARC or police services
- Work within a multi-agency setting to provide institutional advocacy for the rights of the client within the church and any other institutions
- Facilitate appropriate safeguarding referrals and keep other agencies informed about important changes in a client's situation within agreed protocols and policies
- Help clients to develop their own support network and access appropriate therapeutic interventions
- Provide consultancy and training to clergy within the Diocese of Chichester who are supporting vulnerable clients within a safeguarding context

Strategic Development

- Work with the ISVA team to promote and develop the service in accordance with Survivors' Network policies and ethos and liaise with other agencies as appropriate

- Work with the ISVA team to promote and develop the service in accordance with both Survivors' Network policies and ethos of the Diocese of Chichester.
- Maintain up to date knowledge on issues relevant to clients who have been abused within the church
- Represent Survivors' Network and the Diocese of Chichester at relevant multi-agency meetings and forums as necessary and in discussion with the ISVA Team and other Survivors' Network services
- Support with institutional advocacy to relevant agencies
- Maintain the profile of Survivors' Network and contribute to the organisation's marketing and profile

General Duties

- Act in accordance with Survivors' Network's and local relevant safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Ensure the Survivors' Network commitment to working within an Empowerment Model is central to the development and delivery of all services.
- Attend and participate in regular training, staff meetings, supervision and other meetings as necessary within the Survivors' Network team
- Carry out occasional evening and/or weekend work as required.
- Be committed to personal and professional development and undertake relevant training and CPD opportunities.
- Carry out your own administrative duties
- Undertake any duties consistent with the post as may be reasonably requested by your line manager, the CEO or the Board of Trustees.

Person Specification

Assessment Area	Criteria	Desirable (D) / Essential (E)	Method of Assessment (*A,I,T)
Qualifications	ISVA or relevant professional qualification	D	A
Role Specific Skills & Experience	Experience of working with a caseload of vulnerable or traumatised individuals	E	A, I
	Knowledge of the issues relating to sexual violence including the barriers survivors face in accessing services and how to address these	E	A, I
	Experience of working with safeguarding issues	E	A, I
	Experience of carrying out risk assessments, safety and support planning	E	A, I
	Knowledge of the criminal justice system (particularly police and court procedures) and other options available to survivors of sexual violence	E	A, I
	Experience of working in multi-agency settings including statutory and voluntary services, with an ongoing commitment to partnership working	E	A, I
	Experience of maintaining confidential case files, founded in a working understanding of data protection and confidential working practices	E	A, I
	Considerable experience in software packages e.g., Office	E	A, I
	Awareness of the impact of trauma and a commitment to providing a trauma-informed service	E	A, I



	Knowledge and understanding of the barriers faced by survivors who have experienced institutional abuse and ways of overcoming these	D	A, I
General Skills and Professional Behaviours	Committed to personal development and having the ability to critically assess own performance and engage in reflective practice	E	A, I
	Excellent written and oral communication skills	E	A, I
	Self-motivated and focused on delivering high quality services with an ability to function effectively in high-pressure situations	E	A, I
	Commitment to self-care and maintaining appropriate professional boundaries	E	A, I
	Ability to think creatively and show initiative	E	A, I
	Commitment to the vision, mission and values of Survivors' Network	E	A, I
	Commitment to anti-discriminatory practice, equal opportunities and an intersectional understanding of feminism	E	A, I
	Special Requirements	Full clean driving licence and access to a vehicle	D

*A Application; I Interview; T Test