

Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP)

Information for sentencers



WEST MERCIA

Introduction

The Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) is a community based programme designed to reduce reoffending by adult male domestic violence offenders.

It promotes and requires co-operation between the agencies concerned with domestic violence and prioritises women's and children's safety.

The Curriculum

The curriculum uses an educational approach and challenges the use of violence by the offender to establish power and control over his partner.

There are 27 group work sessions divided into 9 themes:

Themes of the Curriculum

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

Each theme is covered in a three week process:

Three Week Process

- 1 Defining the theme
- 2 Examining abusive behaviour
- 3 Exploring and practising non-abusive non-controlling behaviour

The offender's progress is also measured by:

- Obtaining the views of his partner in confidence;
- Obtaining information from the Police about any call-outs to incidents of domestic violence during the course of the order.

Suitability for the Programme

Pre-Sentence Reports will have a proposal for a requirement to attend the IDAP and a requirement for two years supervision as part of a community order. 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.

The suggested wording for an additional requirement to attend the programme is:

- a) The offender in accordance with instructions given by the responsible officer is required to participate in one complete sequence of the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme at a place approved by the Probation Board for the West Mercia for that purpose and
- b) while at that place to comply with instructions given by, or under the authority of, the person in charge of the programme.