

Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA)

Job Title: Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA)

Salary: £30,296

Reporting to: ISVA Manager

Hours: 35 hours/week

Location: Hybrid – London Office and Homeworking, as agreed with manager

Contract: Fixed term contract until the end of March 2025 (possible renewal thereafter dependent on funding)

Context

An estimated 12,000 men are raped every year and 76,000 sexually abused or assaulted. Yet just 4% of men will tell someone. Of those who do, it takes on average 26 years to do so.

Survivors UK provides specialist support to (cis and trans) men and boys, and to non-binary people, who have been raped, sexually assaulted or abused. Our aim is to help any man, boy, or non-binary person, to have the confidence to tell someone what's happened to them, and to know that it's OK to seek help. When they do, we want to ensure they have access to the right support so they can deal with the impact of their experiences.

We provide emotional support, information and signposting to survivors and anyone worried about someone they know, through a national website and webchat service (open till 8pm most evenings).

In London, we are the only organisation providing specialist services for men and boys, including individual counselling and therapeutic groupwork. Across London, we provide the capital's only Independent Sexual Advisor (ISVA) Service that helps men, boys and non-binary people exclusively through the criminal justice system.

Purpose

This is an exciting and challenging role at SurvivorsUK. You will provide pro-active emotional, practical and advocacy support for male survivors who have experienced any form of sexual violence at any time in their lives and are engaging (or considering engaging) with the criminal justice system.

This post is subject to a DBS Clearance
Survivors UK is an equal opportunities employer

Responsibilities

Service Delivery – support and advocacy

- Deliver support in a timely manner, via phone, video calling and face-to-face
- Provide empowering and empathetic support, information and advocacy that enables survivors to access their rights and make informed choices
- Support survivors through the criminal justice process, by providing impartial and accurate information on reporting to the police and/or civil remedies i.e. Criminal Injuries Compensation, and acting as the Single Point of Contact when requested
- Inform survivors of their rights and entitlements in relation to the criminal justice system as outlined in the Victims Code and the Witness Charter
- Develop a support plan, together with the survivor, to address their individual needs
- Regularly review risk and needs to ensure a survivor's safety and wellbeing
- Ensure that the survivor understands the limits of the service and support them to access other services by signposting and referring to other services, where required
- Operate within legal and professional boundaries and ensure a thorough understanding of the legal limitations of ISVA support

Case recording, Monitoring, and Feedback

- Collect, record and maintain accurate and timely data and casenotes on our CRM
- Collect and review outcomes and feedback regularly and in accordance with reporting requirements

Working Collaboratively

- Maintain good working relationships with other support services
- Collaborate with colleagues and specialist agencies to share learning & best practices
- Actively contribute towards the development of the service
- Participate in all staff meetings and team meetings

Other

- Adhere to company policies, including safeguarding and confidentiality protocols
- Attend regular general and clinical supervisions
- Attend events to promote the service and organisation as a whole, including participation in fundraising activities

Whilst every endeavour has been made to outline the duties and responsibilities of the post, these duties are not exhaustive. The post-holder will be required to carry out additional duties from time to time, and such duties will be commensurate with the role.

Person specification

Experience and qualifications

1. Experience of working with survivors of sexual violence
2. Accredited ISVA training **or** a relevant degree/professional qualification
3. Experience of working within strict safeguarding and risk assessment processes
4. Experience of multi-agency partnership working
5. Experience of managing a busy caseload, prioritising, and working under pressure

Skills, knowledge, and competences

6. Strong understanding of the impacts of rape, sexual abuse or assault on men, boys, and non-binary people
7. A mature, calm, and empathic manner: able to engage sensitively with clients who have challenging needs and deal with highly emotional and stressful situations
8. Strong communication skills: able to build trusting relationships and rapport with clients and interact and engage effectively with external agencies
9. Ability to write clear and concise case notes in a timely manner, and obtain feedback
10. High degree of flexibility in approach to working with clients and the wider team
11. Demonstrable commitment to equal opportunities, with a non-judgemental approach to helping men, non-binary, and trans people
12. Excellent written and verbal communication skills
13. A commitment to the values, ethos, and mission of SurvivorsUK
14. A flexible approach to work, including limited evening and weekend work as required
15. Ability and willingness to travel within pan-London boroughs, where required
16. A commitment to learning and professional development

For more information or an informal chat about this post please contact the ISVA Manager, Claire on claire.beare@survivorsuk.org