



**Rt Hon Alun Michael JP FRSA**

Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales  
Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu De Cymru



Christine Chapman AM

Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee Chair

National Assembly for Wales

*3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014.*

*Dear Christine,*

I understand that members of your committee, examining the Bill which aims to tackle violence against women and girls, expressed interest in the CAADA Report which I commissioned to assist the thorough mapping of services available to victims.

The report also sought to scope all domestic abuse services being delivered and offered in South Wales within both the statutory and voluntary sectors. The analysis also included the numbers of cases and victims in order to assess demand against provision in each area of the South Wales Police area. (please see page 20 of the Tackling Violence against Women and Girls Plan which was presented to the Committee on Wednesday with our evidence note)

The CAADA report provides invaluable insight into the current picture across South Wales. It shows that a total of 130 different funding streams provide funds used by just 25 service providers to deliver domestic abuse services. Further analysis shows that funding is not distributed in a planned or coordinated way, resulting in inconsistent delivery. The lack of adequate referral pathways to appropriate services makes for a confusing journey for victims who need service provision, protection or support.

The CAADA Report highlighted a number of recurring issues which reflect the themes that are contained in the Welsh Government White Paper "Ending Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence".



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These include a lack of a co-ordinated approach to commissioning of services, disparity in allocations of funding and resources, and a variable range of and difficulties for victims to access services. Of particular concern is the lack of sustainable funding for specialist domestic abuse provision and this creates additional pressures in terms of meeting the needs of victims.

The CAADA Report makes recommendations about how those who commission services can work together. They need to share responsibility and funding in order to intelligently commission services. It identifies ways to secure the sustainability of specialist service providers by funding consortia.

It is important to note that the CAADA review provides more than an evidence base. It recommends changes that would put investment into front-line services that match the identified local demand, options for joint commissioning, and potential models that could transform service delivery. These recommendations have already stimulated positive discussion with funders and specialist local providers.

As requested at the meeting of your Committee on Wednesday, I attach a copy of the report and wish to thank you and the members of your committee for your interest.

*Yours ever*  
*Alun*

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