

Respect have put together a flow chart showing the routes through to becoming a provider of domestic violence perpetrator programmes as a contact activity, with the aim to make the process as clear as possible.

We have had a number of questions related to the Respect approval process and the following are the most frequently asked:

1) Do we have to seek approval or accreditation from Respect before applying?

No, there is a first stage where the application will be assessed by the DCSF, once through this round Respect will be contacting the successful organisations about the approval process.

2) What does the approval process involve?

Respect will visit the organisation and review the service provision, particularly the risk and safeguarding processes. The criteria are taken from the Respect accreditation process but the approval process is not a mini accreditation but designed to ensure that the organisation is robust enough to start taking contact activity referrals. Organisation will need to move onto full accreditation by the end of March 2011.

The attached documents sets out the aspects of service delivery Respect would look at.

3) Would it be easier to go straight to accreditation

If your organisation is already delivering a domestic violence perpetrator programme and you have been looking at accreditation, then this may have some advantages in that it would cut down on the number of assessment visits and time. At this stage please ensure you submit for application to the DCSF on time and talk to Respect about this, so that we can support you towards accreditation.

4) What if we are not a currently delivering a domestic violence perpetrator programme, can we still apply?

There is nothing to stop a new service provider putting themselves forward as contact activity provider. I would suggest that you think about how your organisation would implement a new area of service delivery. Organisations that are currently delivering work that addresses abusive behaviour and who

have staff with a high level of understanding of domestic violence may be able to moving to this area of work within a realistic time frame and should apply.

If you wish to discuss this please contact Neil Blacklock on 0207 022 1805