

About us

DV-ACT is a UK-wide organisation providing expert assessments, consultancy and training for children's services and the family courts.

Formerly part of the DVIP family courts team, our assessors have many years' experience in the family court arena both as specialist assessors and expert witnesses..

All assessors are educated to post graduate level in relevant disciplines and have at least ten years' experience of specialist direct work with domestic violence perpetrators and victims.

DV-ACT was created with the following aims:

- Safeguarding Children from domestic abuse - the need to safeguard and protect vulnerable children is at the heart of everything we do.
- Supporting Referrers - offering reduced timescales to fit in with the requirements of child protection work.
- Providing an Expert Service - our assessors have many years experience in the field.

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Why not book

Free

bite size training for your team?
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Safeguarding Children from Domestic Abuse with Expert Assessments, Consultancy & Training

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DV-ACT

**Domestic Violence
Assessments
Consultancy &
Training**

**DV-ACT
Assessments**

Our Assessments

DV-ACT - dedicated to keeping children safe from domestic abuse

DV-ACT can provide a number of expert assessments which can be produced at any stage, including cases in proceedings. The following information gives brief details of what each assessment includes; however, our assessors are highly qualified and can answer further questions if required.

Timescales are 4-6 weeks to complete an assessment of one client and 6-8 weeks for a joint assessment of 2 parents.

A preliminary report can be provided at a small additional cost with a timescale of 2 weeks. For specialist sex offender or family assessments please contact us for a tailored estimate of the timescale and costs. Fees are £88/hour for all assessments; please contact us for an estimated number of hours for each assessment.

Preliminary Report

Where there is an urgent need for an overview of risks prior to a full report being completed, this report will provide an outline of static risk/vulnerability factors and an indication of dynamic factors giving an early view on treatment suitability and prognosis for change.



Risk Assessment

Assesses the risks to the victim and children from the perpetrator. The report will include:

- Static risk indicators (such as lethality, use of weapons & history of violence);
- Dynamic risk factors (such as denial, remorse & victim empathy);
- History of domestic violence & impact on the children;
- Likelihood of further exposure of the children to violence;
- Prognosis for treatment;
- Risk management plan.



Vulnerability Assessment of Victim/Survivor

Alongside identifying vulnerability to future abuse, the impact of the abuse on the victim's parenting will also be assessed, including:

- The mother's background including previous exposure to abuse;
- History of abuse in the current relationship and impact on children;
- Ability to assess risk and prioritise safety;
- Recommendations for treatment and risk management options.



Joint Risk & Vulnerability Assessment

An assessment of both parents including all the elements of risk and vulnerability assessments, but also:

- A clear picture of the dynamics of the relationship;
- the likelihood of separation/reconciliation;
- particular safeguarding issues raised by the parental relationship



Other Domestic Abuse Assessments

DV-ACT can also provide the following expert domestic violence reports:

- Third Party Carer Assessment
- Whole Family Assessments
- Interim and final programme reports
- Risk Assessments for clients in private law proceedings



Sex Offender Assessments

Undertaken by our specialists in sexual offending, these assessments will identify risk management plans where offenders have close contact with a family.