

#### **iv. DRIVE Case Study**

*Note, the name has been changed in the following to protect the person's identity.*

##### **Summary**

Z had been in a relationship with the alleged perpetrator for several years and had children together. The couple originally met overseas; Z moved to the United Kingdom after they married.

##### **Background**

At the beginning of their relationship things were good, they got on well, but Z noticed her partner becoming very controlling, he was always very angry towards her and on occasions became physically abusive.

Following an incident involving police, Z's case was discussed in MARAC which brought her to Assia's attention and the case was allocated to DRIVE.

##### **Challenges**

All work with Z was carried out via a translator.

Z was living here on a spousal visa, which had a No Recourse to Public Funds condition.

##### **Solution and implementation**

Z has done significant work with the IDVA, via an interpreter. After completing safety planning and initial safety work, Assia helped Z access support from a solicitor.

The IDVA helped Z make an application under the Domestic Violence Concession for an Indefinite Leave to Remain visa as she was living here on a spousal visa, which had been used as a form of control. After this was granted, Z was able to access local authority housing and homelessness assistance.

Whilst looking at suitable accommodation the IDVA was also able to help with budgeting.

##### **Results**

Z felt the need for longer term support. Work was also completed with Z around recognising domestic abuse and the effects it has on children. This was carried out on a one-to-one basis with an interpreter due to the Z that not having English as a first language, which meant she would have struggled to attend the Freedom programme.

This intense work allowed Z to understand what had happened to them and how lives will improve when the abuse is removed.

Z was provided with the IDVA's direct number should she need to make contact. The DV helpline number is also given to service users should they need support and advice during out of hours.