

## **Privacy Notice – Inner Strength**

### **About Inner Strength**

Inner Strength is a voluntary Domestic Abuse Programme provided in partnership between Greater Manchester Police, Wigan Council and Forensic Psychological Solutions. Inner Strength is a promise by Greater Manchester Police and Wigan Council that they will work to support individuals who may be struggling to manage actions that lead to domestic abuse.

Inner Strength and has been designed to support individuals. Inner Strength provides unique strengths based approach for domestic abuse. With a purpose is to prevent domestic violence and develop a safe family environment. This therapeutic support helps individuals develop life changing and extremely beneficial skills. Inner Strength works to prepare individuals to better cope with situations and experiences that may previously have led to domestic abuse.

Wigan Council has contracted Forensic Psychological Solutions to provide this support locally. This will be provided to individuals on either a one to one basis and/or as part of group. Using techniques to help emotional management, problem solving and conflict resolution.

For the purposes of the Data Protection Act Greater Manchester Police, Wigan Council and Forensic Psychological Solutions are Joint Data Controllers in relation to personal information collected and used for the purpose of providing the Inner Strength Programme.

The information individuals provide will be used to support participation in the Inner Strength Programme and would only be shared on a “need to know” basis. This also means that only the minimum amount necessary, will be shared to support your access to the service.

This allows Greater Manchester Police, Wigan Council and Forensic Psychological Solutions to work closely together to ensure that individuals who want to take advantage of this support and would benefit from it have access.

To do this volunteers for Inner Strength will be asked for their consent to share their personal information between the partners involved.

### **How will the information be used?**

Following an individual volunteering for the programme the information held about them by Greater Manchester Police will be reviewed. This is to confirm they meet requirements of being able to take part in the programme.



The individual will then be asked for consent to share their information with the Partners involved in delivering the Programme.

The information will be shared with Wigan Council as the organisation commissioning the Inner Strength programme. The information will be provided to Forensic Psychological Solutions so they can arrange an appointment with the individual to attend an appropriate support programme as the commissioned therapeutic provider.

Details of the individual and their involvement in Inner Strength may also be shared internally with Wigan Council on a “need to know” basis. Only the minimum information necessary will be used in this way. This will make sure that any other service the individual is accessing will not conflict with attendance on Inner Strength.

Forensic Psychological Solutions will also be required to confirm with Wigan Council your attendance on the programme. They will also need to confirm when their support has come to an end. They will also ask a number of questions about the individual volunteer. This is necessary to gather information to support the research and evaluation of the Inner Strength programme support.

## **Research and Evaluation**

Being able to measure services that are provided is central to improving service quality and accountability. To do this the individual will also be asked to consent for their information to be used for this purpose.

In addition to the sharing between Council departments and partner organisations described above. Personal information provided by the individual will be used to evaluate how successful and effective the programme has been. It will also be used to identify how programmes like Inner Strength can be better directed, to improve effective outcomes for the individuals involved.



Personal information will be provided to the Programme Evaluation Partner, New Economy to gauge the effectiveness of the different types of support provided to the various participants.

None of these evaluation processes will use the information to make any decisions about individuals. It will only be used for improving service quality, effectiveness and delivery. It will also be used to identify areas of focus for services in Wigan and potentially across Greater Manchester.

The outcome of the evaluations will be included in internal reports for Wigan Council, Greater Manchester Police and the STRIVE Programme Board. The STRIVE Programme Board have the responsibility to ensure that the Inner Strength is providing appropriate support to those involved in Domestic Violence/Abuse. It may also be included in publicly accessible reports. This information is de-identified and numerical. Individuals will therefore not be able to be identified from any of the information used or published in this way.

If an individual does not want their information to be used in this way, they are able to object to this and their information will be excluded from the research process.

## **General information**

The Wigan Council and the Greater Manchester Police will share the “Inner Strength” personal information only for the reasons set out above. Unless the law requires or permits us to share it for another reason, or for example, this is necessary to protect individuals or others from harm.

The “Inner Strength” personal information will be handled securely. Strictly on a need to know basis only by those specifically authorised to do so and will not be kept longer than is necessary.

## **Your rights**

The Data Protection Act 1998 ensures that individuals have rights to know about how their information is used and what is held about them. For more details about the full extent of your rights, please visit the [Information Commissioner’s Office website](#).

Any individual has the right to ask Wigan Council for personal information held about them. Visit [applying for your data](#) for more information.

For the details of the information Greater Manchester Police hold on you please see their [subject access request process](#).



Individuals may also ask the Council to consider any objections you may have to the processing of your personal information, including processing for research purposes.

## **Changes to this Privacy Notice**

Wigan Council may amend this Privacy Notice from time to time. If we make any substantial changes in the way we use your personal information we will make that information available by amending this notice.

**Date published: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

**Version number: 1.0**

