



## Wokingham Domestic Abuse Action Plan 2021-24

### Domestic Abuse Networking Group

#### Priorities:

- 1) Awareness and early intervention
- 2) Support for victims, survivors and children
- 3) Minimising harm
- 4) Justice, recovery and ongoing protection
- 5) Drive change together
- 6) Deliver domestic abuse Act 2021 duties for local authorities

Priority 1: Awareness and Early Intervention				
Action	Key Agencies/Groups	Output	Outcome/Measure	Progress (RAG)
1a. Deliver awareness raising campaigns	Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) Communication lead Domestic Abuse Networking Group (DA NG) agencies Wokingham Employers	-Annual calendar of campaign dates to be produced -Agencies to advise of upcoming campaigns for cross promotion -Target diverse victim – survivor, perpetrator groups -Messaging to support friends, neighbours, family members and colleagues -Bystander campaigns	-Number of press releases and social media posts -Members of the public understand what domestic abuse is and where to get help -Number of people reporting domestic abuse -Number of agencies supporting campaigns -Number of employers with workplace policies / guidance	Comms plan developed and shared with partner organisations.
				Bystander training session delivered – additional work to be progressed linked to VAWG agenda

		-Employers DA workplace policies / guidance		<p>National campaigns publicised, including <a href="#">Your Best Friend</a> aimed at 13 – 24 year olds.</p> <p>Initial scoping undertaken to ascertain which organisations have policies in place. Ongoing work</p>
<p>1b. Produce information in a range of formats and languages</p> <p>20</p>	<p>WBC Equalities and Diversity Lead</p> <p>WBC Sensory needs team</p> <p>WBC Communications lead</p> <p>WBC Website lead</p> <p>WBC Adult Social Care</p> <p>WBC Domestic Abuse Coordinator</p> <p>DA Networking Group members</p>	<p>-Inventory of information leaflets, posters and resources</p> <p>-Gaps analysis based on area demographics</p> <p>-Resources produced in a range of accessible formats as required, including in different languages</p>	<p>-Increased understanding of communication needs</p> <p>-Number of leaflets and information available in different formats</p>	<p>Independent review undertaken by Oxford Against Cutting to assess for inclusivity and accessibility. Recommendations implemented.</p>
<p>1c. Information to be made available in a range of community settings, including 'hubs' where there is co-location of services</p>	<p>WBC DA Coordinator</p> <p>WBC Library Service</p> <p>WBC Parish Councils</p> <p>Voluntary sector hub</p>	<p>-Identify community settings for posters and information</p> <p>-Information displayed</p>	<p>-Number of settings where DA posters and leaflets displayed</p> <p>-Increase in the number of self-referrals to DA services</p>	<p>Information gathered on suitable locations – ongoing work with library's</p>

	Health Leads (GP surgeries, hospitals, pharmacies, other health settings) Citizens Advice 'Bus' DA Networking Group	-Increase opportunities for co-location and access to services, including in voluntary sector hub	-Public feedback as to if they have seen information about domestic abuse support	National Board of Catholic Women information available in churches
1d. Support educational settings to raise awareness of domestic abuse	Kaleidoscopic Cranstoun DA service Safe! ARC Counselling Service Wokingham School PHSE Leads WBC DA Coordinator	-Consult school PHSE leads on sessions currently being delivered -Develop toolkit of resources to support educational settings -Delivery of Educate2Eradicate sessions	-Number of schools confident to deliver domestic abuse input -Number of settings accessing resources -Number of referrals to children and young people's domestic abuse support	Meetings held with school leads. Resource booklet produced and being consulted on (Oct 22) Working with schools to increase take up of Kaleidoscopic and Cranstoun delivery options
1e. Multi agency training needs to be identified and responded to	WBC DA Coordinator WBC Training Department DA Networking group members	-Training calendar to be produced -Training opportunities promoted -Training topic areas identified	-Number of training sessions delivered -Number of practitioners accessing training sessions -Increased confidence levels of practitioners -Feedback on learning, implementation and any difficulties identified	Training calendar produced. Training delivered

## Priority 2: Support for Victims, Survivors and Children

Action	Key Agencies /Groups	Output	Outcome/Measure	Progress
2a. Ensure a wide range of holistic support options are available to meet individual	Cranstoun DA service WBC DA Coordinator Kaleidoscopic	-Map service provision, criteria for support and referral process to include diverse demographics	-Clear overview of services produced	Online directory of services created

victim-survivors and children's needs	DA Networking group members	-Identification of gaps in provision -Increase awareness of practical options, eg bank accounts for those with No Fixed Address; Cowshed; etc	-New options introduced to address identified gaps -Use of WBC directory of services and DA web page information	Gap analysis undertaken and responded to
2b. Ensure support is available at the earliest opportunity for victims, survivors and children and for as long as the individual needs this	Cranstoun DA Service Kaleidoscopic SupportU WBC Adult Social Care (ASC) manager WBC Children's Services (CS) manager DA Networking group members	-Domestic abuse support options clearly available to potential referral agencies -Clear pathways to support.	-Victim -survivors feedback -Agency dip sampling of cases to check if potential intervention points have been identified and responded to	Survivor feedback obtained via focus group.
				Met with WBC Youth Panel. Discussions ongoing as to how to canvas more detailed feedback from CYP.
2c. Tailor support to meet the individual's needs, empowering individuals to make safe choices	Cranstoun Kaleidoscopic WBC ASC manager WBC CS manager DA Networking Group members	-In depth analysis of intersectionality options including: mental health, child to parent abuse, Protected characteristics, substance use	-Number of support options available -Number of individuals accessing services - Feedback from individuals	Intersectionality embedded in training. Directory of DA services support identification of support options
2d. Increase the number of people who are currently 'under- represented' in services	Cranstoun Kaleidoscopic SupportU Victims First WBC Housing teams / Adult / Children's Services Health (CCG / BFHT/Hospital) DA Networking group members	-Baseline data collected -Data reviewed against Wokingham population demographics	-Increased representation in services of male, older, LGBTQIA+, people with a disability; minority ethnic victims.	Review of resources and information being undertaken to assess accessibility across protected characteristics. Agency data used to measure impact
2e. Create clear pathways to support	WBC Domestic abuse coordinator	-Create info-grams and pathways to map support options	-Increase in the number of referrals to services	Basic pathways created. Working on

	DA Networking group members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Collate information on services, referral criteria and process in one location</li> <li>-Wider county and national support options publicised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Feedback from agencies and individuals</li> </ul>	creating additional pathways with more complex cases
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Priority 3: Minimising harm				
Action	Key Agencies/Groups	Output	Outcome/Measure	Progress
3a. Encourage those who are causing harm as a result of their abuse to access support to change through providing a range of responses; challenging abusive behaviour; taking positive action; removing barriers to accessing support to change and; education on the impact of abusive behaviours.	Cranstoun Probation Service Thames Valley Police DA Networking group members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Agencies understand perpetrator intervention options and outcomes</li> <li>-Practitioners trained to recognise tactics used by perpetrators</li> <li>-Clear messaging to put the onus for change onto perpetrators and away from victim-survivors</li> <li>-Agencies promote, encourage and support perpetrators to access local commissioned intervention</li> <li>-Mental health, substance misuse and domestic abuse services work together to ensure joined up approach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of perpetrators accessing change programmes</li> <li>-Number of perpetrators completing intervention</li> <li>-Number of victims reporting feeling safer</li> </ul>	Comms messaging being undertaken to increase awareness of interventions. Training delivered to upskill practitioners on working with perpetrators
3b. Hold those who perpetrate domestic abuse to account	Thames Valley Police Crown Prosecution Service Cranstoun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Increase reporting of incidents</li> <li>-Agencies gather evidence through keeping detailed records</li> <li>-Clear messaging on unacceptability of abuse</li> <li>-Support prosecutions and the giving of 'best evidence'</li> <li>-Support new police perpetrator educational intervention CARA (Conditional Cautioning Against Relationship Abuse)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of reported incidents</li> <li>-Number of successful prosecutions</li> <li>-Number of CARA interventions delivered for Wokingham area</li> <li>-Number of DVPOs</li> </ul>	Baseline data collected. Awaiting roll out of CARA in Wokingham area

		-DA Services provide intense support for victim-survivors when perpetrators subject to DVPO (Domestic Violence Protection Order)		
24 3c. Tackle the root cause of domestic abuse and break the cycle of abuse.	Kaleidoscopic Prevention & Youth Justice Service Cranstoun DA Service SAFE Schools DA Networking group members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Deliver interventions in educational settings around healthy / unhealthy relationships</li> <li>-Ensure schools feel equipped to deliver their statutory duty linked to PHSE / relationship education</li> <li>-Support children and young people who are, or have lived with domestic abuse</li> <li>-Training for practitioners on child to parent abuse</li> <li>-Promote use of Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS / also known as 'Clare's Law')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of education sessions delivered</li> <li>-Number of children and young people accessing help and support</li> <li>-Number of DVDS Right to Know and Right to Ask applications</li> </ul>	<div>Meetings held with schools as well as WBC education teams to discuss how to embed DA information and support schools with delivery of statutory duties</div> <div>DVDS baseline data 2020/2021 Regular updated data to be provided by TVP</div>
3d. Monitor the effectiveness of interventions	Cranstoun Thames Valley Police Prevention & Youth Justice Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Agree outcome measures with DA commissioned service</li> <li>-Promote positive outcomes to encourage others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Number of people completing interventions</li> <li>-Re-offending data</li> <li>-Feedback from (ex) partners on programmes</li> </ul>	<div>Data received from Cranstoun perpetrator programmes</div> <div>Police data re CARA to be collected once rolled out</div> <div>Probation BBR information being sought</div>
<b>Priority 4: Justice, Recovery and Ongoing Protection</b>				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Key Agencies/Groups</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome/Measure</b>	<b>Progress</b>

4a. Work with the criminal justice services to support victims and survivors give their best evidence in court	WBC DA coordinator through Thames Valley Victim and Witnesses Delivery Group Witness Care Unit CPS Witness Service Cranstoun	-Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) / outreach support for victims before and during court hearings -Increased confidence in supporting prosecution, including pre-court visits, provision of special measures -Reduction in the number of 'cracked' and ineffective trials	-Number of cases where special measures have been provided -Number of cases where IDVA support is in place -Percentage of successful prosecutions achieved -Number of 'cracked' cases due to lack of support from complainants	Special measures now embedded in criminal courts – working to ensure embedded in civil court hearings
4b. Improve the experiences of those going through the Civil and Family Court systems	WBC DA coordinator through TV V&W Delivery Group Court staff Judges Domestic Abuse Services Relevant DA Networking Group members	-Increase in information about support available upon making a court application -Closer integration between court and domestic abuse services -Increased awareness of Flag DV, Citizens Advice, Solicitors who support those making court applications -Increase in outreach / IDVA support through process	-Number of cases where special measures provided -Number of referrals received by solicitors, Flag DV, CA -Focus group members feedback	Meetings held to progress. New national report due Autumn 2022 which will guide this work.
4c. Support individuals in achieving long term wellbeing, both physically and emotionally so they can feel safe and move forward with their lives	Cranstoun Kaleidoscopic SupportU WBC Adult Education Service Wokingham Recovery College WBC Adult Social Care, Children's Services DA Networking Group members	-Mapping of long-term support options available -Identification of gaps in long term support -Increased awareness of support options -Increase in civil court protection orders -Adult education service and Recovery College course development	-Number and range of support options available -Number of people accessing longer term support -Courses available to address gaps identified in DA Needs Assessment, April 2021	Mapping undertaken and directory compiled  Baseline data established
<b>Priority 5: Drive Change Together</b>				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Key Agencies / Groups</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome/Measure</b>	<b>Progress</b>



5a. Support partner organisations to work together and provide holistic and coordinated support	WBC DA Coordinator DA Networking group members DA Partnership Board members Thames Valley domestic abuse groups	-Effective and dynamic DA Networking Group and DA Partnership Board -Staff training -Central point of contact for agencies via WBC DA Coordinator -Support of Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC); Multi-agency Task and Coordination group (MATAC) and Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) meetings -Explore options for one referral form which can be used by agencies to refer to specialist domestic abuse services in Wokingham as well as larger geographical area	-Number of organisations accessing domestic abuse meetings and training -Number of organisations actively engaging with risk management meetings -Agency feedback	Networking group well attended and active engagement from partner organisations
				MARAC and MATAC data on partnership organisation attendance
				One referral form option available through Joy App. Shared referral form created for health where working in multiple geographical areas.
5b. Reduce the number of times that someone has to 'tell their story'	WBC Adult Social Care manager WBC Children's Services manager Cranstoun DA Networking Group members	-Exploration of pathways through services to identify potential opportunities to reduce the need to repeat 'stories' -Explore how 'stories' can be captured and shared with consent of the individual	-Reduction in the number of times an individual needs to repeat their 'story' when dealing with an organisation	Deep dive's required by partner organisations to identify issues and overlaps
5c. Promote 'whole family' and 'whole system' approaches	WBC DA Coordinator DA Networking group members	-Increase awareness of the 'whole' system approach -Explore options for further joined up working and areas for collaboration	-Uptake of 'whole' approach by themes or organisations	Review being undertaken (Oct 2022)
5d. Ensure the 'voices' of victims, survivors, children and perpetrators are 'heard'	Cranstoun Kaleidoscopic SupportU	-Agencies share feedback from clients to improve responses and identify gaps in services -Establish mechanism for consulting with 'experts by experience'	-Feedback from clients -Expert by Experience groups established	Feedback obtained
				Scoping potential for establishing focus groups



	Relevant DA Networking Group members			
5e. Provide and coordinate multi-agency training events, workshops and conferences	WBC DA Coordinator WBC Learning and Development Manager DA Networking Group members	-Training events organised based on agency and client feedback on need -Agencies share information on events -Promotion of event opportunities	-Number of events organised -Number of people attending events	G: Data being collected. Looking to increase health professionals take up of training offer.

### Priority 6: Deliver the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 Duties for Local Authorities

Action	Key Agencies / Groups	Output	Outcome/Measure	Progress
6a. Understand the needs of those who need to access safe accommodation as a result of domestic abuse	WBC Homelessness Manager DA Partnership Board Paws Protect Freedom Dogs Project	-Networking Group members feed in feedback from clients to identify good practice and gaps in services -Increased awareness and understanding of safe accommodation needs and barriers to access	-Agency feedback on client's journeys to safe accommodation	G: Baseline data collected – need to monitor annually
6b. Ensure a wide range of safe accommodation options is available	WBC Homelessness Team Manager WBC DA Coordinator – links to Thames Valley and wider area options and reciprocal agreements	-Agencies feedback on options available -Agencies address gaps in suitable and safe options	-Number of clients accessing safe accommodation	A: Options being explored and where possible increased Research and bespoke projects being undertaken to increase options
6c. Provide support for domestic abuse victims, survivors and their children in safe accommodation	Cranstoun Relevant DA Networking Group members	-Holistic range of support available to address practical and emotional support needs -Development of new support options to address gaps in support	-Number of people accessing support -Range of support options	A: Additional options being explored Baseline data collated

## **Domestic Abuse Partnership Board: Support for victims of domestic abuse and their children in safe accommodation**

### **Priorities:**

- 1) Increase awareness of safe accommodation choices for all
- 2) Provide an inclusive range of safe accommodation options
- 3) Provide support for victim-survivors in safe accommodation
- 4) Strengthen partnership work to drive and improve outcomes
- 5) Support individuals to begin rebuilding their lives

### **Relevant related plans, strategies and upcoming bills:**

Berkshire Suicide Prevention Strategy

Wokingham Housing policies

National plans:

Domestic Abuse strategy documents

Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Strategy

Violence Against Women and Girls (includes male victims of domestic and sexual abuse) strategy

Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

Victims Bill