

Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review - Domestic Abuse

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision <i>(Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)</i>	Cabinet Response <i>(detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)</i>	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
1. In order to facilitate longer term planning and retain skilled and experienced staff IDVAS funding should be mainstreamed rather than being 12 monthly.	Defer	The council fully endorses the intention of this recommendation, but following discussions between Departments we are unable to accept this at this time. The proposal would require funding up front from mainstream budgets which, due to current budget pressures, it has not been possible to achieve. The responsible officer will have discussions with key partners to look at funding from a multi-agency perspective.	Joyce Thacker	February 2014
2. A full audit of need for domestic abuse support and services is recommended with a view to moving towards joint commissioning of services.	Accept	Domestic Abuse now features in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Although the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment now includes Domestic Abuse and an analysis of Domestic Abuse provision for 16 – 18 years was undertaken by Children's and Young People's Services in 2013/14, a full needs audit is to be undertaken. This will be completed by March 2014 and this will be led by RMBC	Chrissy Wright	March 2014
3. Agencies need to ensure a balance of appropriate workshop based training and e-learning is available for all relevant staff, workers and professionals, considering joint commissioning and joint funding to make the best use of time and resources.	Accept	A proposal to review and refresh the domestic abuse training provision is being prepared for discussion and approval at DAPG	Helen Wood	March 2014

<p>4. Members recommend that the statutory agencies i.e. the Council, Police and Health explore and report back on the feasibility of a pooled budget for domestic abuse services.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>The SRP Executive agreed this recommendation on 08.01.14, but noted this was an extensive piece of work which, if a pooled budget was approved, would transform Domestic Abuse service provision in Rotherham.</p>	<p>Steve Parry/Cherryl Henry-Leach</p>	<p>March 2014</p>
<p>5. Members recommend that agencies explore and report back on the feasibility of an integrated joint working approach across all risk levels, such as a “one stop shop” or a “golden number” for domestic abuse referrals.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>We are currently exploring the co-location of Domestic Abuse service providers in order to improve the multi-agency working in cases of Domestic Abuse. If this is achieved it is anticipated there will be a central number for victims to telephone for support and advice.</p> <p>We are also investigating the feasibility of linking in with help line provision in other areas of South Yorkshire and moving this forward will be subject to available funding.</p>	<p>CI Ian Womersley</p>	<p>September 2014</p>
<p>6. The SRP Board should ensure sufficient resource allocation to enable any domestic homicide reviews to comply with the revised statutory guidance published by the Home Office in June 2013.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>A paper was presented to the Safer Rotherham Partnership Executive on the 29th November 2013. This proposed that the Independent Chairing and report authoring of future DHRs would be jointly financed by the statutory partners of the Safer Rotherham Partnership. This proposal was considered by the Safer Rotherham Partnership and agreed on (insert date).</p> <p>The contributions will be as follows:</p> <p>Health (CCG) – 30% RMBC – 30% SYP – 30% NPS - 10%</p>	<p>Cherryl Henry-Leach</p>	<p>Completed – 19/12/13</p>

<p>7. Domestic abuse is an issue that cuts across multiple portfolios therefore Cabinet might wish to consider identifying a Cabinet lead for domestic abuse.</p>	<p>Defer</p>	<p>We wish to defer this recommendation to await the outcome of discussions between the Chair of the Safer Rotherham Partnership Domestic Priority Group, Council Leaders and the elected members for Safeguarding Adults and Children.</p>	<p>Joyce Thacker</p>	<p>May 2014</p>
<p>8. As Domestic Abuse is a priority it should be made more explicit within other key strategies and plans. The JSNA and HWBS are both being refreshed, as is the Council's Corporate Plan, so this provides an opportunity to strengthen the focus on domestic abuse.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>This is completed, as the JSNA has recently been refreshed and now includes Domestic Abuse. The Health and Well Being strategy will incorporate Domestic Abuse when it is next refreshed. In the interim, the JSNA will be the key resource to inform plans and priorities across the council and partners.</p> <p>Members may wish to note that the Safer Rotherham Partnership has identified its priorities for the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA) and Domestic Abuse has been confirmed as one of the Safer Rotherham Partnership's priorities for 2014/15. The review that the SRP will undertake in relation to recommendation 12 will, it is anticipated, strengthen the links between the JSIA and the JSNA</p>	<p>Kate Green/Cherry I Henry-Leach</p>	<p>Completed - 19.12.13</p>
<p>9. Drugs and alcohol play a significant part in domestic abuse cases, especially for standard/medium risk; therefore work-streams should take account of domestic abuse.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>The Drugs and Alcohol Team (DAAT) within Rotherham Public Health are to arrange a workshop and invite all relevant partners to attend. This will enable to build a data profile in relation to Domestic Abuse where substance misuse is a feature. This will inform service responses to victims and perpetrators who may be in need of NHS services to reduce the dependence on drugs and alcohol.</p>	<p>Anne Charlesworth</p>	<p>March 2014</p>

<p>10. Links with schools/colleges and other local organisations who work with 16-17 year old young people need to be strengthened to ensure age appropriate services and support.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>The PHSE Curriculum in schools does not feature Domestic Abuse as routine. However, PHSE leads are, at PHSE Leads meetings, updated as to how sensitive issues such as Domestic Abuse can be addressed with the PHSE curriculum. Discussions are underway to adapt current Domestic Abuse training materials to ensure they are relevant for delivery within schools.</p> <p>Discussion is also underway with local colleges to ensure they are familiar with contemporary Domestic Abuse processes and referral pathways (e.g. referral to MARAC) in addition to their statutory safeguarding obligations.</p>	<p>Kay Denton-Tarn</p>	<p>March 2014</p>
<p>11. Sexual violence should be integral to strategies and plans for work on violence against women and girls, whether it occurs in domestic or non-domestic settings.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>The South Yorkshire Rape Steering Group is looking at developing a South Yorkshire wide strategy. This group will feedback progress from the County level meetings and assist local authority leads to translate the county wide priorities into relevant local strategies. In the New Year, we will identify which Council lead will hold the lead for sexual violence - Public Health or the Community Safety Partnership.</p>	<p>Mel Simmonds</p>	<p>March 2014</p>
<p>12. A full review of domestic abuse structures, communications and governance arrangements within the SRP should be carried out to clarify and reaffirm roles and responsibilities between:</p> <p>a) DAPG and RDAF</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Discussions between the Safer Rotherham Partnership Domestic Abuse Priority Group and Forum are underway. It is anticipated that the outcome of those discussions will be the two</p>	<p>Joyce Thacker</p>	<p>April 2014</p>

b) SRP Executive, JAG and DAPG	Accept	<p>groups will be merged from April 2014.</p> <p>The SRP accept there is a need to ensure other Boards and Partnerships are clear on the reporting structures for Domestic Abuse to the SRP. The Executive agreed, on 08.01.14, to lead this review</p>	Steve Parry	April 2014
13. The ACPO DASH risk assessment form should be used by all agencies, supported by training, to ensure a universal and consistent approach to risk assessment	Accept	SYP advise that they are on target to switch to use of this risk assessment tool in February 2014 and will be training front line Police staff throughout January and February. The MARAC and Risk Assessment Workshop will also continue to be run and, as Multi Agency Training, will be open to all agencies who come into contact with cases where Domestic Abuse is a feature.	Pete Horner/Cherryl Henry-Leach	March 2014
14. A standard multi-agency protocol and process should be developed for standard and medium risk assessment to ensure consistency in approach and common pathways communicated and understood by all partners, to include risk assessment in children's health and social care such as pre-birth assessments	Accept	The RLSCB has a Domestic Abuse protocol (from 2008). This is to be reviewed to ensure consistency and common pathways that are clearly understood by partners in cases non-high risk cases of Domestic Abuse. Pre Birth Assessments where Domestic Abuse has been identified as an issue during pregnancy are now being undertaken.	Phil Morris/Cherryl Henry-Leach	April 2014
15. A standard multi-agency protocol and process should be developed for contacting victims at all risk levels to avoid duplicating referrals or initial contact.	Accept	Much of the duplication in contacting victims of Domestic Abuse links to national protocol between the Police and Victim Support. We are currently exploring how the duplication of contacting victims of Domestic Abuse and sexual violence can be reduced at a local level.	Cherryl Henry-Leach	April 2014

<p>16. Subject to agreement with CAADA Members recommend that NHS South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw be approached with a view to rolling out the GP flowchart setting out how to respond to domestic abuse to dentists and pharmacists.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Whilst we welcome this recommendation, CAADA informed us in November 2013 that their GP Flowchart cannot be rolled out to other services, but that they have no objection to our developing a similar flow chart for use by dentists, pharmacists, solicitors and other disparate service providers. This is now under development and launch is anticipated by 31st March 2014. It will need to be agreed by the CCG and NHS England prior to launch, which may delay the date.</p>	<p>Ruth Fletcher-Brown/Cherry I Henry-Leach</p>	<p>March 2014</p>
<p>17. A perpetrator programme should be established in Rotherham as part of the work on prevention and early intervention and to ensure compliance with the SDVC components.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>A bid was submitted to the EEC Daphne funding stream to finance the development and roll out of a perpetrator programme. We were informed on 27th November 2013 that this bid was unsuccessful and we are now scoping for other funding opportunities to support this area of work. This includes approaching the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding of a non- criminal justice community based perpetrator programme.</p>	<p>CI Ian Womersley</p>	
<p>18. A review should be carried out on resource allocation in order to focus more on standard/medium risk cases as part of the early intervention and prevention agenda and to prevent escalation to high risk and MARAC which is very resource intensive.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>We are currently undertaking a review that covers this area of work and have established the need to train our Early Help workforce in the use of a Domestic Abuse Matrix that will ensure appropriate alignment of support of a child living with Domestic Abuse and the management of the risk posed to the abused adult parent or carer. This training will be completed by June 2014. In addition, we have also established the Early Help Panel which ensures, where Domestic Abuse is a feature in cases referred to this Panel, that Domestic Abuse is responded to appropriately where the risk is assessed as standard and medium to ensure risk escalation is prevented.</p>	<p>Clair Pyper/Warren Carratt</p>	<p>June 2014</p>

<p>Funding allocation for low cost but effective target hardening measures should be considered in the review.</p>	<p>Agree (subject to available funding)</p>	<p>This is available for victims of Domestic Abuse who reside in Local Authority Housing. Victim Support Rotherham has received temporary funding from the Ministry of Justice for this and this is reviewed annually at a national level. Funding opportunities at a local level are being sourced to ensure that increased security measures can be offered to victims of Domestic Abuse living in private tenure properties where the risk posed to the victims are standard or medium.</p>	<p>Cherryl Henry-Leach</p>	
<p>19. Members emphasised the importance of raising awareness with children and young people of how to recognise coercive relationships and to recognise and report domestic abuse, but recommend a review of the training strategy, including who is best placed to deliver the training, in order to ensure the best use of staff resources.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>This recommendation will be achieved through completion of the actions on recommendations 3 and 10.</p>	<p>Helen Wood and Kay Denton-Tarn</p>	
<p>20. Members recommend that Forced Marriage and so called "Honour" based violence be the subject of a separate review by Improving Lives Select Commission in 2014.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>The JSIA has identified Forced Marriage and "Honour" based violence as an area of work to be developed by the Safer Rotherham Partnership. We will be undertaking a review of Forced Marriage and "Honour" based violence during February to April 2014 which will enable us to map the prevalence of this form abuse and identify gaps in local service provision. Findings will be presented to the Safer Rotherham Partnership Domestic Abuse Priority group in May/June 2014.</p> <p>Members may wish to undertake their review once the findings from the above planned review are available.</p>	<p>Cherryl Henry-Leach</p>	<p>June 2014</p>