

DOMESTIC ABUSE ACTION PLAN

Key (Action Ref)	
Recommendation included in the Scrutiny Review	S
Recommendation included in the Essex HMIC Review	H
Recommendation included in the Adult Z DHR	Z
Recommendation included in the NDHR	N

ACTION REF	HOW WE WILL DO IT (THE PLAN)	LEAD AGENCY	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATE	MILESTONES	PROGRESS MADE	RAG	DATE OF UPDATE
1. PREVENT - We will make it more difficult for domestic abuse to happen								
1.1 (S,H&N)	We will ensure that the SRP has an effective strategy in relation to Violence Against Women and Girls, governance arrangements, protocols, policies and procedures in place to ensure a coordinated multi agency response to domestic abuse and other VAWG issues and that communications are reviewed to ensure that all forms of domestic violence and abuse are covered.	SRP / DAPG	C.Henry-Leach / Joyce Thacker / Steve Parry	Apr-14	1. Develop a response to the national call to end violence against women and girls. 2. Launch the strategy on behalf of SRP. 3. Ensure the strategy is embedded into every day use. 4. Reaffirming the roles and responsibilities between: DAPG, RDAF & SRP Executive, JAG and DAPG.	SRP requested the March Executive Board meeting focused on performance and so this has been deferred to the June SRP Executive.	A	May-14
1.2 (S & H)	We will work with partners and communities including local businesses to ensure that they have an increased awareness of Domestic Abuse and healthy relationships so that they can respond appropriately regardless of the level of risk, domestic or non domestic setting and any form of abuse e.g. "honour" based abuse, forced marriage, harassment, stalking, sexual violence etc.	SRP / DAPG	C.Henry-Leach / Mel Simmonds	Mar-14	1. Ensure VCS DA Service raise awareness of all forms of DA within the Community. 2. Undertake awareness raising campaigns on behalf of the SRP at key periods throughout the year. 3. Ensure awareness raising campaigns covers diversity themes. 4. South Yorkshire Rape Steering Group are to look at developing a South Yorkshire wide strategy. 5. Identify which Council lead will hold the lead for sexual violence - Public Health or the Community Safety Partnership.	1. All DA services have advised they are now working to the new definition and all their awareness literature references the changed definition 2. This is to be requested of the SRP when it meets in June 3. All awareness and training materials include the diversity themes	G	May-14
1.3 (S & H)	We will build victim and perpetrator profiles throughout the partnership to ensure that we can develop innovative and timely responses to support child and adult victims of domestic abuse and proactively manage offenders. 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.	VCS, SYP, CYPS, health, RMBC, Probation, IDVA	CI Womersley	TBA	1. Identifying standard risk but persistent offenders and in conjunction with the partners consider serving ABC's on these individuals. 2. Providing domestic abuse safety information at source to all victims 3. Identifying Top Ten medium risk offenders creating a role profile for each based against offender, victim, location and with partners agreeing an offender management action plan for each. 4. Exploring opportunities for diversionary work for siblings.	Complete Pathways now in place through Troubled Families and Health and working effectively. Including support on alcohol, drugs, mental health, housing, diversionary work plus use of Orders		Completed
1.4	We will monitor the number of repeat cases reviewed by MARAC so that we can improve intelligence and develop a partnership briefing on key offenders	SYP	DI Monteiro	TBA		Further discussion taken place between PS Wheatcroft and Cheryl henry leach. As above all are reviewed by staff within the DV team and appropriate action is taken both within MARAC and locally in the DV team. Work ongoing.	G	May-14
1.5	We will review and develop our approach to predictive analysis based on an individuals behaviour and crime calendar	SYP	CI Womersley / DI Monteiro	TBA	Develop a predictive analysis approach to identifying when offenders likely to occur to assault partner and put interventions in place.	Completed Crime calendar now developed for DV incidents and crime.		Completed
1.6	We will review and develop our prevention approach in order to work proactively to reduced incidents of domestic abuse taking account the crime calendar	SRP, SYP	CI Womersley / DI Monteiro	TBA		Completed Crime calendar now developed for DV incidents and crime.		Completed
1.7 (S&N)	We will work with young people through Early Intervention opportunities to raise awareness of how to recognise coercive relationships and to recognise and report domestic abuse as well as support the national 'This is Abuse', campaign, aimed at tackling domestic and sexual abuse in teenage relationships in your local area. We will consider using survivors' experiences to support our training and communications.	LSCB, RMBC, Schools, VCS	K White / Helen Wood / Kay Denton-Tarn / Sherran Finney		Review the training strategy, including who is best placed to deliver the training, in order to ensure the best use of staff resources. Email VAWGCampaign@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk for further information on the 'This is Abuse' campaign and how to access support materials. (This recommendation will be achieved through completion of 1.10 and 4.1.)	See 1.10 and 4.1.	A	May-14
1.8 (S)	A full audit of need for domestic abuse support and services is recommended with a view to moving towards joint commissioning of services.	RMBC	Chrissy Wright	Mar-14	A full needs audit is to be undertaken.	Domestic Abuse now features in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.		
1.9 (S)	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.		Anne Charlesworth	Mar-14	The Drugs and Alcohol Team (DAAT) within Rotherham Public Health are to arrange a workshop and invite all relevant partners to attend.	Changes to the lifeline contract regarding reporting of incidents, as learning from a recent case review are currently underway.	A	May-14

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1.10 (S)	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.		Kay Denton-Tarn / Sherran Finney	Mar-14	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. 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. PSHE Leads are updated on current developments, and 'consent' will be looked at in the May 2014 PSHE Leads meeting.	A	May-14
1.11 (Z&N)	The public awareness programme should be delivered regularly throughout the year and be accessible to all. It should be examined to ensure it identifies all aspects of abuse and that it can deliver appropriate outcomes.	SRP/JAG	Cl Ian Wormesley / Steve Parry	Jun-14	Awareness raising activity regarding all forms of DA to be rolled out throughout the year Publicise that help and support is available even if the abuse has not been physical.	Cl Womersley & J Thacker will be meeting College Heads during June 14 to launch.	A	May-14
1.12 (Z)	DAPG should continue to pursue the development of a performance management framework	SRP DAPG	Joyce Thacker/Sue Wilson/Cherryl Henry-Leach	Mar-14	Key Performance measures and targets to be set and actions to be identified in overarching monitoring plan	This is to be presented to the May DAPG	A	May-14
1.13 (Z)	The Improving Lives Select Commission will undertake a scrutiny review of domestic abuse support provision and identify an elected member to champion Domestic Abuse and other Violence Against Women and Girls issues	RMBC	Caroline Webb	Mar-14	1. Undertake a Scrutiny Review of Domestic Abuse 2. Identify a DA champion	The Scrutiny Review has been undertaken and DAPG have responded to the findings via Cabiner on 5th February 2014. Cabinet have announced the Domestic Abuse will now sit with the portfolio for the elected member of Safeguarding Adults, Clr John Doyle.	G	May-14
1.14 (Z)	South Yorkshire Police should review their assessment process and provide further training and/or awareness for staff.	SYP	Pete Horner	Mar-14	1. Review DA risk assessment process 2. Provide training to SYP staff	DASH risk assessment model now in use, all front-line staff have received the appropriate training. In addition central DA Risk assessment unit commenced April 2014 to standardise all DA risk assessments.	A	May-14
2. PROTECT - We will identify and safeguard those at risk								
2.1 (S&N)	We will ensure that domestic abuse risk assessments are aligned with the partnerships core business and that victims of abuse are identified early and supported accordingly. Midwives to undertake routine enquiry by asking all pregnant women whether they are at risk of, or are suffering/suffered from domestic violence.	VCS, SYP, CYPS, health, RMBC, Probation IDVA, RFT	Pete Horner / Cherryl Henry-Leach	Mar-14	1. Provide 10 Multi-agency DA training sessions throughout the year. 2. Ensure all agencies use ACPO DASH tool. 3. Ensure all new MARAC representatives have attended DASH Risk Assessment training as part of their induction. 4. Contact your local MARAC Development Officer and discuss how they can help you improve your assessment of risk of domestic violence in your work.	1. 11 DA training sessions were delivered during 2013/14 2. SYP have now adopted the ACPO DASH tool and Victim Support advise they have now adopted this tool - all Rotherham agencies are now using ACPO DASH tool to risk assess and refer to MARAC 3. MARAC Induction packs have now been developed and once DAPG have agreed the content (in May) the current representatives will be asked to complete Module 3 and be provided dates, this will be fed back to DAPG during 2014/15. The Multi Agency DA training dates have been set for 2014/15. The YPVA roll out has now been agreed and 10 training sessions throughout 2014 - 2016 and service/team managers are aware of the need to ensure that participants attend the MARAC and RA workshop in addition to this days training. Dates for this training are to be set by the end of May and training for the YPVA programme will commence in July 2014 DASH tool to be adopted by SYP in March 2014, training dates for q4 have now been set up to q4 end.	A	May-14

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2.2 (S)	We will ensure that children are supported appropriately and consistently where domestic abuse is a feature in their lives either as part of safeguarding procedures or early help	VCS, SYP, LSCB, CYPS, health, RMBC, Probation, IDVA	P.Morris / A.Barr / Clair Pypcr / Warren Carratt / Michelle Hill	Jun-14	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.	- DA has been built into the remit for Early Help Support Panel, to ensure that multi-agency support is coordinated and tracked pre-MARAC. - The Early Help Assessment Team now respond to all standard level CSM11's, and coordinate responses where needed. - There is a link team manager in CART / Borough wide duty to attend MARAC - Education Welfare now attend MARAC - Provide the DA Module 2 in the RLSCB Safeguarding training programme – This is a 2 day workshop which runs 3 to 4 times a year. It covers numerous issues inc. stalking, harassment, assessing risk, referral to MARAC, MARAC process, legal processes, forced marriage and honour based violence. We offer this workshop on a multi-agency basis From an LSCB perspective: - DA is on the LSCB audit plan for 2013-14. - There was a recent audit on cases that went to MARAC – this is to be finalised and written up. A review that covers this area of work, has established the need to train our Early Help workforce in the use of a Domestic Abuse Matrix. This training will be completed by June 2014. In addition, we have also established the Early Help Panel.	A	May-14
2.3 (N)	We will have a robust MARAC process which helps reduce the risk to the victims and to ensure they are supported appropriately. Aswell as promote the CAADA guidance on attendance of mental health and substance use services at MARAC and ensure where relevant that bail conditions are shared with agencies at your MARAC meeting.	SRP	T. Stanniforth	TBA	1. Ensure the MARAC runs consistently with the rest of South Yorkshire. 2. Ensure referrals to MARAC and IDVA are made simultaneously. 3. Support the funding of the IDVA service. 4. Ensure the findings of the CAADA self assessment review and annual MARAC review are adopted 5. Ensure that the appropriate agencies are attending MARAC.	The future funding of the IDVA service has now been resolved and Public Health will now provide funding for this service on an annual basis. 4. Agreed by DAPG in March and will be moved forward by SYP MARAC and SRP DA Coordinators during 2014/15.	A	May-14
2.4	We will develop non-criminal justice based perpetrator programme to reduce repeat victimisation	SRP/DAPG	Cheryl Henry-Leach	TBA	1. Apply for funding for the programme. 2. Ensure the programme includes robust monitoring of victim safety. 3. Evaluate outcomes of the programme and disseminate to DAPG/SRP.	We are awaiting the outcome of the Daphne funding bid	A	May-14
2.5	We will increase the number of perpetrators taking part in the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) and Community Domestic Abuse Programme (CDAP)	Probation and HMCTS (SDVC)	Sue Ludlam	TBA	We have ceased to run the IDAP Programme. This has been replaced with building better relationships. Referrals are increasing			
2.6	We will increase the number of restraining orders where criminal processes are taking place	SYP, CPS, HMCTS	S.Dorran / DI Monteiro	TBA		As part of MARAC process DVO check and apply for restraining order upon conviction in all relevant cases.	A	May-14
2.7	We will increase the numbers of victims of honour based violence and forced marriage who are appropriately supported including those who have no recourse to public funding)	VCS, SYP, IDVA, RMBC	Z.Ahmed	TBA	1. Raise awareness of HBV/FM within BMER sector. 2. Ensure awareness raising campaigns include these forms of abuse.	VCS agencies have undertaken awareness raising within BMER sectors, including historically hard to reach communities. Apna haq have now made inroads into the Thai and Chinese community, and have also appointed a Polish speaking worker to engage with DA victims in our Eastern European/Roma community.	A	Sep-13
2.8	We will work with partners to ensure that there is a sufficiency of high quality services in operation to be able to support victims	SRP/PCC	Cheryl Henry-Leach	TBA	1. Work with Supporting People to ensure that contracted services are providing tendered services. 2. Ensure any concerns are raised and addressed appropriately.	DA contracts have been reviewed and areas for development communicated to service provider, and processes are now in place to ensure concerns can be raised with Supporting People reponsively	A	May-14
2.9	We will work with partners to ensure that victims of all sexual violence are able to access support when they need it	SARC	Melanie Simmonds		1. Partners/Services to increase their knowledge of sexual abuse services, the effects of sexual abuse (domestic and non-domestic related), how to deal with disclosures and the criminal justice system 2. Increase timely access to specialist therapeutic care for victims of sexual abuse, particularly children and young people. (need more specialist sexual violence counselling, child therapies such as play, creative etc. – there are none for children in Rotherham- we could source if funding was allocated) 3. Multi agency meetings are convened when required to develop joint care/action plans for victims with multiple vulnerabilities which do not meet Safeguarding thresholds and are non – domestic sexual abuse (non MARAC). Maybe not worth including as this happens anyway. 4. Deliver a partnership awareness campaign/strategy	1. SARC Communications and Awareness strategy in development with targeted media campaigns each quarter. Also inclusive of targeted awareness raising sessions with professionals and public. 2. Issue of gap in specialist therapeutic services raised with Strategic Rape Group and local commissioners. 3. Awaiting evaluation of Sexual Violence MARAC pilot from another area. 4. Seek support from DAPG to develop awareness campaign	A	May-14

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2.10	Gain a greater understanding of the under reporting of DA by the multi-cultural communities across the Borough'	SYP	CI Womersley / DI Monteiro / Cherryl Henry-Leach	TBA		Event delivered on 27th March and 'learning' is to be collated into an action plan.	A	May-14
2.11 (S)	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		Phil Morris / Cherryl Henry-Leach / Michelle Hill	Apr-14	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.	G	May-14
2.12 (S &H)	A standard multi-agency protocol and process should be developed for contacting victims at all risk levels to avoid duplicating referrals or initial contact.		Cherryl Henry-Leach	Apr-14	Explore how the duplication of contacting victims of Domestic Abuse can be reduced.	Sheffield Hallam University are researching this and will present their research proposal to DAPG in May for agreement that Rotherham will contribute to this research	A	May-14
2.13 (S&N)	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.		Ruth Fletcher-Brown / Cherryl Henry-Leach	Mar-14	Look at rolling out the GP flowchart setting out how to respond to domestic abuse to dentists and pharmacists. Make sure GPs are aware of the guidance published by the RCPG, IRIS and CAADA on responding to domestic violence.	CAADA have now clarified what amendments they require to ensure we do not infringe their copy right and it is anticipated that the amended flowchart will be disseminated in September 2014	A	May-14
2.14 (S)	Funding allocation for low cost but effective target hardening measures should be considered in the review.		Cherryl Henry-Leach			This is available for victims of Domestic Abuse who reside in Local Authority Housing. Victim Support Rotherham has received temporary funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner for this and funding opportunities 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.	G	May-14
2.15 (Z&N)	There should be a standardisation within the Safer Rotherham Partnership of risk assessment processes including risk assessment tools. The Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) project should be considered as an approach. Service providers to consider reviewing their risk assessment and management approach to ensure it is robust – consider using dip-sampling of forms to test effectiveness. Drug and alcohol services should review, amend and make robust use of their risk assessment frameworks, which involve assessment of risk in relation to violence and abuse.	SYP	Pete Horner	Mar-14	1. Adopt ACPO DASH risk assessment tool 2. Use the materials available on the CAADA website regarding risk assessment which are tailored for a wide range of agencies and available in many languages. 3. Ensure that staff in your agency or service have the appropriate training in risk assessment and management.	DASH model taken into force-wide use April 2014.	A	May-14
2.16 (N)	Section 1(8)(h) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) must, in particular, hold the chief constable to account for the exercise of duties in relation to the safeguarding of children and the promotion of child welfare.	SYP	CI Womersley					New
3. PURSUE - We will identify perpetrators, disrupt and prosecute where possible								
3.1 (H)	We will ensure that rigorous processes are in place to prosecute offenders whilst working with the Crown Prosecution Service to ensure that domestic abuse cases are prosecuted appropriately	SYP and CPS	L. Mayhew / CI Womersley		Engage at a strategic level with the CPS and Courts and Tribunals Service to develop and implement a clearer, stronger and more victim-focused policy on how and when to progress cases where the victim is unwilling to support the proceedings. Ensure that cases where perpetrators are taken directly from police custody to court are properly monitored.	Completed		Completed
3.2	We will increase the percentage of reported domestic abuse incidents "crimes"	SYP	CI Womersley / DI Monteiro	TBA		The Sgt in the DV unit reviews and dip samples all records to ensure these are recorded properly. Regular activity is undertaken with police departments to ensure appropriate crime records are created. Part of daily business suggest discharge the action as Sgt reviews each day whether a crime is committed. this role will move to the newly created central referral unit. The new CRU now in place.	G	May-14

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3.3	We will work with partners to ensure that victims of domestic and sexual violence are confident and encouraged to access the criminal and civil justice system	VCS, SYP, CYPS, Health, RMBC, Probation, IDVA, VCS	Melanie Simmonds		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver a partnership awareness campaign/strategy. 2. Provide effective support for victims to help them remain engaged with the Criminal Justice system through the continuation of funding for ISVAs and IDVAs 3. Partners/Services to increase their knowledge of sexual abuse services, the effects of sexual abuse (domestic and non-domestic related), how to deal with disclosures and how the criminal justice system works regarding sexual violence/domestic cases. 	SYP campaign went out Autumn/Winter 2013. SARC staff continue to deliver awareness sessions to both professionals and key vulnerable groups throughout South Yorkshire. A new SARC Communications and Awareness Strategy is in development with a basic media awareness campaign planned for Q1 2014/15 alongside targeted awareness work. This will be flagged with the Strategic South Yorkshire Rape Group to see if they would like to have a wider involvement. The new Rotherham ISVA came into post December 2013. It is envisaged that ISVAs will be an integral role within the SARC commissioning process that is due to take place over the next year. Feedback data capture mechanisms in place for ISVA services. Access to Health group will be reviewing its priorities for 2014 in the February meeting.	A	May-14
3.4	Increase the numbers of victims subjected to honour based violence and forced marriage who are supported by the VCS, and ensure they are supported to pursue prosecution where this is appropriate	SRP, VCS, IDVA	Cherryl Henry-Leach	TBA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise awareness of HBV/FM within BMER sector. 2. Ensure awareness raising campaigns include these forms of abuse. 3. Support and encourage victims of these forms of abuse to report the abuse and throughout any prosecution or civil justice processes 	VCS agencies continue awareness raising within BMER sectors, including historically hard to reach communities. DAPG have undertaken a DA scoping exercise within the Roma community and are moving forward the findings of this. The mapping of the prevalence of HBV within Rotherham has been undertaken by a student and the findings will be presented to DAPG in June for agreement on the recommendations to be reached.	A	May-14
3.5	We will work with partners to explore opportunities to link offenders in to alcohol and drug services to ensure that those that cause harm face the consequences including – Drink banning Orders, Attendance Centre, Breach of Peace legislation, etc.	SYP, RDASH, Public Health, ASB Officers	Cherryl Henry-Leach	TBA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure alcohol service providers and substance misuse services are represented at MARAC. 2. Support the representation of these service providers in work to address standard medium risk cases of DA 	DA Forum has requested that RDaSH set up networking event with DA sector. RDaSH DA policy under review.	A	May-14
3.6 (H)	Manage serial domestic abuse perpetrators using the principals of the IOM framework'	SYP	CI Womersley / DI Monteiro		Serial Domestic Abuse perpetrators managed by partners	Completed		Complete
3.7 (N)	Ensure police and prison staff are aware of the marker on OFFLOC to identify prisoners who are assessed as presenting a risk of domestic violence and abuse.	SYP	CI Womersley					New
4. PREVENT, PROTECT & PURSUE - We will make it more difficult for domestic abuse to happen, identify and safeguard those at risk & identify perpetrators, disrupt and prosecute where possible								
4.1 (S&N)	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. Also review training needs to ensure that key messages are highlighted.	RMBC	Helen Wood	Mar-14	Prepare a proposal to review and refresh the domestic abuse training provision	A proposal to review and refresh the domestic abuse training provision is being prepared for discussion and approval at DAPG.	A	May-14
4.2 (S)	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.	RMBC	Steve Parry / Cherryl Henry-Leach	Mar-14	Report on the feasibility of a pooled budget for domestic abuse services.	The transformation of Domestic Abuse service provision in Rotherham has been commenced, with the DA hub expected to be operational in August 2015. Once this is functioning, the feasibility study of a pooled budget will be moved forward in line with emerging ebst practice at that time.	A	May-14
4.3 (S&N)	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. We will review information sharing protocols locally and consider options for multi-agency information sharing aswell as contacting our local MARAC Development Officer to discuss how they can help with advice and best practice on information sharing, referral criteria, transferring MARAC cases between areas and risk assessment.	SYP, RMBC	CI Ian Womersley / Michelle Hill	Sep-14	Explore the co-location of Domestic Abuse service providers. Investigate the feasibility of linking in with help line provision in other areas of South Yorkshire and move this forward subject to available funding.	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.	A	May-14
4.4 (N)	Promote the AVA Complicated Matters toolkit and training with local practitioners							New