

## Reducing and Preventing Domestic Abuse in Southampton - Update on progress against the Scrutiny Inquiry recommendations

Recommendations	Key actions	Progress against target date	Update on progress against the Scrutiny Inquiry recommendations March 2020
<p><b>1. Communications Campaign</b> – There is still a social acceptance of ‘low level’ abusive or oppressive behaviour in society which, therefore, needs a change in culture and community response to perpetrator behaviour. Learning from the findings of the developing Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment, it is recommended that, in line with the commitment in the draft Domestic Abuse Bill to promote public awareness of domestic abuse, the Council undertakes a communication campaign that, alongside the messages promoted through White Ribbon Day challenging attitudes to gender inequality, seeks to stigmatise abusive behaviours and to signpost members of the public to the Hampton Trust and Respect Phone Line.</p>	<p>Funding to be secured</p> <p>Focus to be agreed</p> <p>Communications plan required</p> <p>Implement agreed communication plan</p>	<p>As available</p> <p>Nov 2019</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> Representative from SCC Communications Team, Integrated Commissioning unit (ICU) and Public Health are meeting to agree the focus, develop a communications plan and move forward with implementing the plan, once agreed at DSA (Domestic &amp; Sexual Abuse) strategy meeting and funding secured.</p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> Funding will need to be found to support the communications campaign. There have been no external funding opportunities and no request made through the SCC budget process</p> <p>Implementation is taking longer than originally planned while possible sources of necessary finance are being sought</p>
<p><b>2. Reporting Domestic Abuse</b> – Engage with local media outlets and encourage them to follow the new reporting guidelines developed by Level Up, and adopted by press regulators, on the way that domestic abuse is reported (<a href="https://act.welevelup.org/campaigns/54">https://act.welevelup.org/campaigns/54</a>)</p>	<p>Communications Team to lead the dialogue with media outlets /press, supported by SCC leads for DSA</p>	<p>Annual updates from Nov 19</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> This area of work will be covered in the communications plan (see above)</p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> Implementation is taking longer than originally planned while possible sources of necessary finance are being sought</p>

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<p><b>3. Relationship Education</b> - Support schools, as required, to deliver the requirements on relationship education, relationships and sex education, and health education in primary and secondary schools outlined within the draft Domestic Abuse Bill and associated statutory guidance for schools:</p>	<p>Responsibility for delivery of the statutory guidance <a href="#">Draft guidance Relationships Education Relationships and Sex Education pdf</a> relating to the Domestic Abuse Bill, and in the context of healthy relationships sits with Head teachers and Governing Bodies in schools and academies (or their equivalent).</p>	<p>Good progress aligned to timescales</p>	<p><b>Progress</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All schools have been invited to contribute to the advice document Southampton SACRE is in the process of developing for all schools regarding relationships education from a faith perspective. This is on track to be ready to be published for the start of Spring term.</li> <li>• All schools are aware of the new duty coming in, some have become an early adopter and using it to help them prepare for next September eg Bitterne Park Secondary</li> <li>• SACRE have included its head teacher and teacher reps in the working group for the advice document and communication is ongoing with faith groups</li> <li>• A group of teachers have been working with staff from PACT (Protection and Court teas) to develop resources for pupils with SEND (Special Educational Needs) and Disability</li> <li>• A group of teachers have been working within a pan-Hampshire group funded by the 4 now safeguarding partnerships to produce a resource specifically for primary children regarding safety online which also incorporate aspects of relationships education – on track for launch in April 2020.</li> <li>• A pan-Hampshire toolkit for addressing prejudicial language and behaviours has been launched (October 2019) this is freely available to Southampton Schools and initial feedback is that the questionnaire and parent leaflet have been helpful in a recent incident</li> <li>• SCC Governor Forum had a presentation and discussion (Nov 2019) to raise awareness of governors’ roles and the timeline for policy review, ensuring there is clarity of statutory and non-statutory content, opportunities for parents to discuss policies and plans, give clarity around the right to withdraw, and advice following questions raised.</li> </ul> <p>Schools who signed up will continue to have access to the Sex and relationships forum and PSHE association resources nationally as commissioned through health for this financial year.</p>

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<p><b>4. Adverse Childhood Experiences</b> - This is recognised as a city and nationwide issue and this view is further supported through the findings of the inquiry. It is recommended that the impact of adverse childhood experiences on domestic abuse is considered in the work the Council, as a whole takes forward to address adverse childhood experiences.</p>	<p>Operational and professional work around ACE incorporates reducing DSA</p> <p>Funding</p> <p>Agencies to educate and raise awareness around ACE</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> Lead recently identified in Children Services and looking at areas to progress.</p> <p>Tackling Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs) is recognised as an important component of a number of City strategies and Council plans that address community safety, youth offending, violence reduction, substance misuse, homelessness and others.</p> <p><b>Challenges:</b> Capacity across DSA partners is very limited to drive this forward above and beyond day to day representation on the issue of DSA within ACE.</p>
<p><b>5. Raise awareness of, and increase referrals to, perpetrator services</b> - There is a need to increase the identification of, and from this the number of referrals to perpetrator services, and at an earlier stage, from agencies dealing with abuse. It is recommended that a perpetrator services awareness raising campaign is undertaken targeted at potential referral partners, and that specific training is provided to agencies that deal with abuse, including substance misuse services, mental health services and relevant NHS services to ensure that they know the referral pathways. The draft Domestic Abuse Bill identifies specific funding for training to promote greater joining-up between substance misuse and domestic abuse services.</p>	<p>Develop a multi-agency plan outlining all agency approaches to raising awareness/ increasing referrals</p> <p>Secure funding</p> <p>Hampton Trust to deliver ongoing awareness training as part of contractual requirements</p> <p>Hampshire Constabulary to share information on 'High Harm'</p>	<p>June 2020</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Complete</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> Hampton Trust has agreed to set up meetings with all partners to discuss and agree how partners will take this forward.</p> <p><i>The Hampton Trust (HT) have agreed to set up meetings and take this forward with support from partners. Meetings are scheduled with localised services including substance misuse, Children's Services, and housing to discuss a joined-up approach to training staff to becoming domestic abuse champions to support and communicate confidently with perpetrators identified within services, responding to need, and onward referrals. Champions will learn strategies to engage perpetrators and tools to enable self-help/emotional management. HT are meeting with High Harm Capabilities police staff to discuss joint work and referral pathways - this will include a co-located practitioner to be implemented within the teams to visit priority serial perpetrators with officers to offer support.</i></p> <p>Hampshire Constabulary has shared information setting out definition in use for High Harm individuals and how this differs from other terminology (Repeat, serial).</p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> Additional funding will need to be found to purchase training</p>

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<p><b>6. Introduce routine enquiry for perpetrators</b> – Routine enquiry currently involves asking all women at assessments about abuse regardless of whether there are any indications or suspicions of abuse. No equivalent approach exists to ask if individuals are perpetrating abuse at assessments in key services. This should be introduced across an appropriate range of services, including primary care, mental health, substance misuse and other services, to improve identification and provides opportunities for early intervention.</p>	<p>Use existing co-location practice within Hampton Trust to provide a basis for research and evaluation of routine inquiry approaches</p> <p>Secure funding</p> <p>Research to inform future practice</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Await findings</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> <i>Part of the co-location model (9) includes training delivered via The Hampton Trust to include routine enquiry information and pathways to enable front line workers to recognise and respond to disclosures of abuse. HT will work in collaboration with the newly appointed 'Male Engagement Worker' based in the Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) team to ensure individuals disclosing perpetrating behaviours will receive a timely hand over to the service.</i></p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> Further work is needed to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand how this can be taken forward, ensuring the safety of the victim.</li> <li>• Identify potential sources of and secure funding for more colocation work</li> <li>• Identify potential sources of and secure funding to carry out research and evaluation work</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Seek additional resources to support perpetrator services in Southampton</b> – An estimated 11% of local domestic abuse funding is targeted at supporting perpetrators to recognise their behaviour and change. Additional resources are needed to enable services to meet need and the expected rise in demand to ensure that a backlog does not form. The work may include education, identification and a range of interventions, for example the LINX service.</p>	<p><b>Prioritise</b> requests for funding from all available sources to address unmet need</p> <p>Services commissioned when funding secured</p>		<p><b>Challenge:</b> There are limited/no funding sources.</p>
<p><b>8. MATAC (Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordination)</b> – This is a strategic and integrated partnership approach that identifies and intervenes with high-risk and serial perpetrators of domestic abuse. MATAC has been piloted in Southampton by</p>	<p>Await the outcome of the evaluation.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> Evaluation completed and reflects positively on the MATAC approach.</p> <p><i>Police have considered the MATAC approach and findings but also exploring other routes where there is a stronger family focus.</i></p>

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Hampton Trust and Hampshire Constabulary. The current evaluation is expected to show positive results. If this transpires it is recommended that the approach is rolled out in Southampton to improve the tracking and disruption of high risk and serial perpetrators in Southampton.	Secure funding		<b>Challenges:</b> Funding will need to be secured to support new ways of working.
<p><b>9. Co-location of Hampton Trust staff within the key service areas</b> - To support long term institutional change in engaging perpetrators and to promote identification for early intervention it is recommended that Hampton Trust staff are co-located within key service areas for specified periods of time (e.g. 6 months at each location). This would include the High Risk Domestic Abuse Service, Substance Misuse and Mental health services, among others. Outcomes of this initiative should be evaluated.</p>	<p>Secure funding</p> <p>Use co-location to review the links between mental health and substance misuse services with perpetrator services.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> Funding for a small increase in colocation work by Hampton Trust has been secured in 2019/20. Colocation is taking place in Children Services with approaches to Mental health and Substance Misuse also sought.</p> <p><i>There has been much interest in co-location from multi-agencies in Southampton; Hampton Trust is in the process of meeting service managers to discuss needs within teams, and logistics of co-locating. (See section 5/6)</i></p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> Implementation is slower than originally planned while additional resources are sought to assist with co-location of key services</p>
<b>Evidence Based Decision Making</b>			
<p><b>10. Update the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy (DSA)</b> – The existing Southampton DSA Strategy runs from 2017-2020. The strategy needs to be updated to reflect the Domestic Abuse Strategic Needs Assessment and the findings from this inquiry.</p>	Strategy unit to lead on a city wide coordinated DSA strategy for 2021 onward,	Dec 2020	<b>Progress:</b> Work to commence later in 2020

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<p><b>11. Evaluation of perpetrator services –</b> Evidence that supports the effectiveness of perpetrator services is limited but growing. To develop the evidence base it is recommended that the DSA strategic group receives and considers appropriate research and evaluations from across the UK and combines this with regular analysis of perpetrator services in Southampton to develop understanding about what services and initiatives are most effective and to inform future commissioning intentions.</p>	<p>Public Health to review literature and evidence base for perpetrator services (2020 – 2022 inclusive).</p> <p>Public Health to share examples of ‘what works’ and provide evidence of what works.</p> <p>Services to evaluate their work</p>	<p>Jan 2021</p> <p>March 2021</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p><b>Progress:</b> Meetings are set up to discuss the elements of evaluation relating to the perpetrator contract.</p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> Additional resources need to be identified and secured in order to undertake high quality research and evaluation</p>
<p><b>12. Return on Investment for Perpetrator Services –</b> Public Health to work with others to develop a return on investment for perpetrator services to help support future funding decisions made by the Council and partners.</p>	<p>Return on Investment work to be developed for perpetrator services.</p> <p>Secure funding</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><b>Challenge:</b> The City Council will explore with the Local Government Association, Association of Directors of Public Health and APSE to develop an appropriate tool for measuring the return on investment in perpetrator services</p>
<p><b>13. Alcohol and Substance Misuse –</b> The Draft Domestic Abuse Bill commits the Government to consider the impact of alcohol on domestic abuse and to identify gaps in the evidence base on the relationship between substance misuse and domestic abuse. It is recommended that the Integrated Commissioning Unit and Public Health keep abreast of the developments in this area and reflect on the outcomes when considering future</p>	<p>Public Health and ICU monitor developments and provide timely updates to SCP and reviews of both Alcohol Strategy and DSA strategy</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Citywide multiagency plans addressing alcohol and drug misuse are being updated in line with the refresh of the City Safety Strategy and implementation of the Health &amp; Wellbeing Strategy</p>

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decisions and strategies relating to domestic abuse and substance and alcohol misuse.			
<b>14.The role of Public Health</b> – The Director of Public Health considers domestic abuse when the new funding arrangement and mandate for Public Health is announced nationally, timescale unknown.	Public Health to provide report to SCP reflecting consideration and outcome for DSA when new funding arrangement is announced.	Announcement dependent	Public Health funding still to be announced
<b>15.Consideration of the impact on victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse when making Council decisions</b> – To ensure that consideration is given to the impact of Council proposals on the victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse it is recommended that they are included within Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (EISA) as if they were a protected characteristic.	To include a more robust outline about the range of vulnerable adults (DV, homeless etc.) noted in the ESIA process.	Complete	<p><b>Progress:</b> The inclusion of Domestic Violence within the ESIA has been explored. This has included a review of the Domestic Abuse Bill and whilst it will provide a statutory definition it will not make it a protected characteristic. Therefore it is felt that to add a subsection for Domestic Violence will detract from the purpose of the ESIA and the Public Sector Equality Duty. Looking at other councils has also shown they do not single out Domestic Violence.</p> <p>The issue of Domestic Violence should be captured under current headings like Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing or Other Significant Impacts. However, during the next revamp of the ESIA consideration will be given to putting an example under each heading. If approved, domestic violence could be included as an example, in order to prompt people to consider this as a specific vulnerability when they are looking at impacts</p>
<b>16.Working with Government</b> – Southampton has good survivor services and is recognised as a vanguard area for perpetrator services. However, the number of reported incidents of domestic abuse continues to rise. The draft Domestic Abuse Bill provides an opportunity for	Proactive engagement with DA commissioner and wider government officials to secure		<p><b>Progress:</b> Correspondence from Cllr Shields to Government. Domestic Abuse commissioner has been appointed.</p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> Domestic Violence Bill has been delayed. Communication will be picked up at appropriate time</p>

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<p>Southampton to, through the development of the next iteration of the DSA Strategy and improved resourcing towards perpetrators, develop a narrative on domestic abuse in Southampton and engage with the Government with the ambition of using the city as model for investing in innovative, citywide practice to reduce levels of domestic abuse. It should also form early and positive links with the proposed Domestic Abuse Commissioner if and when they are appointed.</p>	<p>further investment in innovation.</p>		