

Domestic Violence Action Plan 2007-2008

Lead officer: DCI Dave Cobb, Caitriona Scanlan

Targets

- To increase reporting of domestic violence (to the police)
- **BVPI** target to increase actions against Domestic Violence (attached)
- Sanctioned detection rate 40%
- Achieve 59% of Level 3 CDRP standards of the London Domestic Violence Strategy 2005-8 (meet 10 out of 17 requirements)

Aims

- To increase the reporting of domestic violence incidents
- To ensure support services are meeting the needs of victim's domestic violence
- To engage health services
- To deliver educative and preventative initiatives inc. public awareness programmes, preventative work in schools and perpetrator projects to address behaviour)
- To embed multi-agency work across the services and at all levels

Objectives

- DV1 To provide services holistically to meet existing and emerging needs, in particular the changing needs of our diverse communities
- DV2 To address the safety needs of all our clients through high quality risk assessments and safety planning; identifying those at high risk
- DV3 To develop referral pathways to ensure a co-ordinated and integrated response
- DV4 To provide ongoing publicity and training to raise public awareness of DV
- DV5 To support those victims and witnesses in the civil and criminal justice process
- DV6 To establish a Domestic Violence court
- DV7 To continue to deliver and develop services to ensure positive outcomes for children as part of Safeguarding agenda
- DV8 To work in partnership to meet the needs of 16-21 year olds including their transitional issues
- DV9 To encourage our partners to develop integrated services for parents particularly young parents
- DV10 To provide programmes for perpetrators
- DV11 To develop preventative programme of training and education
- DV12 to increase knowledge of DV activity in Camden
- Dv13 To achieve a sanction detection rate of 40%

Ref	Outcome	Activity / Action	Baseline Data	Performance Measure	Lead Agency and project leader	Outputs	Funding source and cost
DV1	<p>Victims of DV engage with services and are safer.</p> <p>Services have addressed the diverse needs of our communities</p> <p>Provide services through the SafeHomes scheme</p>	<p>Provision of holistic services: Refuge, advice and advocacy and floating support</p> <p>Identify diversity needs within Camden</p>	<p>n/a</p> <p>SafeHomes referral data – 42 cases 2004 to 2005</p>	<p>Number of referrals</p> <p>Percentage of referrals engaging with services</p> <p>Action plan developed to address diversity issues</p> <p>Increase number of referrals to Safehomes</p>	<p>Lead: DVWG and DV agencies</p> <p>Support: Housing Options Camden Safety Net, Homelessness Unit (Housing) Camden's Women's Aid, Police</p>	<p>Meeting standard set in BV225</p> <p>Meeting standards set in London DV Strategy (2)</p> <p>Implementing action plan re diversity</p>	Various
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were a total of 51 referrals to the Safehome scheme from April 2007 to December 2007 of which 43 were accepted as meeting the criteria. • Between April 2007 – December 2007 SWA worked with 45 clients through their floating support (generic) and 22 clients through their Bangladeshi floating Support • SWA received 393 enquiries and gave general advice to 73 							

DV2	To provide intensive support for high and very high risk victims of domestic violence	Hold MARAC meeting monthly Review MARAC performance To provide an IDVA service Risk assessment training	Number of cases Number of trainings provided	Increased number of cases receiving support Decrease in number of highest risk cases	Lead: Police and IDVAs in conjunction with DV agencies	Number of agencies trained in risk assessment Number of referrals to IDVAs Number of cases to MARAC	Local Authority funding LAA: MARAC £30k TVCP: £10K
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 96 cases dealt with by MARAC until December • Legal services of SWA advocated and worked with 111 cases 							
DV3	Referral Pathways in place	Set up referral pathways To engage agencies in particular Health and RSLs in referral pathways through training and outreach	n/a	Referral pathways in place	DVWG	Referral pathways chart and manual Number of agencies signed up to referral pathways	TVCP and LAA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral pathways group meeting. Pilot to be started in June 2008 with a review after 3 months 							
DV4	To raise awareness	Two level	Referrals for	Increased number	DVWG	Two publicity	TVCP

	of support available for victims of DV	publicity campaign: a) community level through multi agency publicity b) wider higher level campaign	2006/7	of referrals to agencies in 2007/8		campaigns in year	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicity campaign outstanding 							
DV5	Support available for victims using civil and criminal justice processes	1. Identify support for victims at high risk 2. Identify support at criminal courts 3. Identify support available for medium and low risk cases 4. Identify solicitors able to offer DV and Family law support in civil process.		Number of victims supported in attending either court	DVWG	Risk assessment process in place Support identified for both criminal and civil	Via Home Office and LSC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Witness Service supported 278 d.v. victims at court to December 2007 							

DV6	To establish a Domestic Violence court	Play active part in working group for DV court at Highbury Mags		DV court set up	Working group		Home Office Local Authority
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross borough steering group continues to meet; optimistic that court will get go ahead in 2008-2009 • Funding received from LCJB towards ½ post of Court IDVA in Camden. L.A. to provide other part of post 							
DV7	To continue to develop service provision to children experiencing DV using good practise models	To continue support group for Mothers & ~children To identify funding streams to improve capacity / delivery of front-line agencies	N/a	Number of agencies contacted Number of referrals to group Number engaging in groups across age-range Increase in number of services	Solace Women's Aid DVWG	Number of families feeling safer and stronger	LAA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44 referrals received to Therapeutic Services for children exposed to Domestic Violence • Group has exceeded target 							
DV8	To work in multi agency partnership to address the needs of 16-21 yr olds	To research provision of services for this group and identify gaps	N/a	Production of service plan	DVWG	The issue of domestic violence is addressed in this group	various

		Together with focus groups to produce service plan					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSN delivering a package of therapeutic work to young people in supported housing through the Hostel Pathways • CSnN delivering training to staff in supported housing on working with young people and d.v. issues 							
DV9	To work with partners to further develop services for parents particularly young parents	To work with Parenting steering group To run Parenting courses		No. of parenting services directly addressing domestic violence	DV agencies	Increased awareness of the impact of domestic violence on parenting and children	
80 Parents attended workshops of SWA CSN delivers parenting programmes as part of holistic service							
DV 10	Engage perpetrators in programmes to address behaviour	To refer offenders to a perpetrators programmes (probation) Use MAPPA meetings to monitor persistent DV perpetrators (police lead) To Identify perpetrators through MARACS	Number of perpetrators referred	Number of offenders referred to the Perpetrator Programme and support worker	Leads: Probation, CSN, Police	Number of perpetrators referred Number who re-offend when attended the training No. of DV related offenders dealt with through MAPPA. Drop out rate Safety of the victim (<i>post</i>	Probation

						<i>referral assessment)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSN continue to deliver perpetrators programme- 26 referrals to December 2007; 15 have attend programme 							
DV11	To develop a preventative programme of training and education	To work with schools and colleges ensuring education re DV is delivered To provide training across multi agency partnership with a particular focus in the voluntary sector for BME communities		Number of schools and colleges engaging in project Number of training programmes delivered	DVWG	Project plan developed and agreed Training plan developed and agreed	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solace Womens Aid to work with Education Welfare to deliver preventative work in schools. This work has been funded from under spend of LAA 							
DV12	Increased knowledge of dv through the collection and analysis of partnership data	To identify data sources	Data sets used: (Housing, Social Services, Police, CJS (criminal and civil injunctions))	Qtr. reports produced for the DV Working Group	Lead: Anthony Lewis Support: All partners		Core
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partership reports provided fro DVWG meetings 							

DV13	To achieve a SD rate of 40%	Positive action on arrest	Met Police data	Number of sanction detections	police		Police
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % Achieved % Nat'l Target 06/07 							
Arrests Rate		61.0%	61.0%				
Detection Rate		51.2%	40.0%	35.6%			
Race Crime Rate		42.1%	35.0%	31.8%			
Homophobic Crime Rate		34.5%	33.0%	22.7%			
Domestic Offence Rate		62.7%	60.0%	53.8%			

Actions Against Domestic Violence

Purpose/aim	The purpose of this BVPI is to assess the overall provision and effectiveness of local authority services designed to help victims of domestic violence and prevent further domestic violence.
Description	<p>The percentage of the following questions to which a local authority can answer 'yes'. <i>[To answer 'yes' the local authority must have fully achieved the goal described; it is not enough that the authority is working towards the goal.]</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the local authority produced a directory of local services that can help victims of domestic violence? 2. Is there within the local authority area a minimum of 1 refuge place per ten thousand population? 3. Does the local authority employ directly or fund a voluntary sector-based domestic violence co-ordinator? <i>(For District Councils of fewer than 35,000 households, the responsibility for co-ordinating domestic violence can be designated within the job description of an existing senior officer. For District Councils that contribute to a county-wide co-ordinator, see definition).</i> 4. Has the local authority produced and adopted a multi-agency strategy to tackle domestic violence developed in partnership with other agencies? 5. Does the local authority support and facilitate a local multi-agency domestic violence forum that meets at least 4 times a year? 6. Has the local authority developed an information-sharing protocol and had it agreed between key statutory partners? 7. Has the local authority developed, launched and promoted a 'sanctuary' type scheme to enable victims and their children to remain in their own home, where they choose to do so and where safety can be guaranteed? <i>(For smaller district authorities, of fewer than 35,000 households this can be arranged in partnership with neighbouring authorities).</i> 8. Has there been a reduction in the percentage of cases accepted as homeless due to domestic violence that had previously been re-housed in the last two years by that local authority as a result of domestic violence? 9. Does the council's tenancy agreement have a speci. c clause stating that perpetration of domestic violence by a tenant can be considered grounds for eviction? <i>(For local authorities that have transferred their housing stock, the clause should be contained in the LSVT organisations' tenancy agreement.)</i> 10. Has the local authority funded and developed a domestic violence education pack in consultation with the wider domestic violence forum? 11. Has the authority carried out a programme of multi-agency training in the last twelve months covering front line and managerial staff in at least two of the following groups: housing staff, social services staff providing services in the local authority area; education staff; health staff; and front line police officers?

<p>Definition</p>	<p>1. The directory must list both statutory and voluntary agencies that can provide emergency housing, advice (welfare, housing and legal), counselling and support, and include any local women's aid contact details and the National Domestic Violence Helpline. It must be widely distributed and updated at least every 2 years. A directory should be available for each district and not just at a county level, as a minimum it should be available on the local authority's web-site. A directory for services that work with victims of domestic violence can be provided separately from the Directory for Victims of Domestic Violence.</p> <p>2. 'Places' means the number of rooms providing bed spaces for a woman and her children. Rooms not normally designated as bedrooms should not be counted towards the total. 'Refuge' means emergency accommodation for women and children who have been referred for help having experienced threats to their physical safety. It must provide help, advice and advocacy support as well as being part of an integrated local approach involving partnership with other local and statutory bodies.</p> <p>3. Calculate 'Local Authority population' using the latest ONS mid-year estimates.</p> <p>4. The co-ordinator should be employed at a local authority level (see exemption below) and have responsibility for strategically co-ordinating domestic violence issues throughout the local authority area. Where funding has been provided to the voluntary sector or local partnership to employ a co-ordinator this will meet the definition as long as their role remains to co-ordinate work in both the statutory and voluntary sectors across the area covered by the local authority. <i>Exemption</i> <i>– In cases where District Councils fund a county-wide co-ordinator the District Council will meet the requirements of this BVPI if the responsibility for ensuring that any county-wide work is implemented at a district level is included in the job description of an existing senior officer for that district.</i></p> <p>5. The strategy should have been developed in partnership with all relevant statutory and voluntary partners. It should be supportive of, and aligned with, the authority's Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (CDRP). The strategy should cover a 3-year period with an action plan reviewed annually. The action plan should contain at least 50% outcomes that are SMART and include a section on how the needs of BME communities will be addressed. A Chief Officer and an Executive member in the authority should have been allocated responsibility for its implementation.</p> <p>6. The forum should have a mix of statutory and voluntary sector representatives at a senior enough level to aid the implementation of decisions and the strategy action plan. The forum should be formalized as part of the Crime and Disorder Partnership.</p> <p>7. The information-sharing protocol must facilitate the exchange of information to enable domestic violence to be effectively tackled across all statutory agencies. Key statutory agencies are defined as the Police, Health, Housing, Social Services and Education. The protocol will also provide an opportunity to implement Homicide Reviews where appropriate. It must ensure that confidentiality and victims safety is protected.</p>

	<p>8. A sanctuary type scheme must provide security measures to allow the woman to remain in her home where she chooses to do so, where safety can be guaranteed and the violent partner no longer lives within the home. It must be available across tenures where the landlord of a property has given permission for the work to be carried out. It must consist of additional security to any main entrance doors to the accommodation and locks to any vulnerable windows. Wherever possible it must provide a safe room in the home secured with a solid core door and additional locks. It is essential that this service is only provided where it is the clear choice of the victim. The scheme should be implemented through partnership with the police and/or the voluntary sector that could provide supplementary support. It may be provided directly by the local authority or through a third party funded as part of the local authority's homelessness prevention work through grants that may be available for crime reduction initiatives.</p> <p>9. The indicator is met if there is a percentage reduction in homelessness acceptances due to domestic violence. Acceptances who were previously homeless in another local authority area should not be included. Reductions achieved in preventing repeat homelessness should be clearly linked to positive measures adopted to provide genuine alternatives for women to either remain in their own home or be placed in alternative accommodation, removing the need to become homeless. Alternative accommodation may be secured by arranging a reciprocal property with another social landlord, or a safe management transfer. Any options or measures to prevent repeat homelessness must only be taken with the full consent of the victim of domestic violence.</p> <p>10. Any clause should make clear that evidence of domestic violence for eviction purposes does not need to rely on a criminal charge. Evidence may be based on a possession action using civil evidence.</p> <p>11. The domestic violence education pack must have been specifically designed for use in schools and with youth groups. It must aim to challenge attitudes of tolerance to violence and help young people to achieve positive relationships based on mutuality and respect. Schools and youth groups cannot be forced to run a programme on domestic violence but the pack must be easily available and actively promoted. Schools should be encouraged to use the material as part of their PSHE or Citizenship curriculum.</p> <p>12. The training programme must cover domestic violence awareness training, the legal framework, information sharing, and who provides what services to victims of domestic violence with referral and contact points. The programme should be developed in consultation with the Domestic Violence Forum and reviewed by the forum annually.</p>
Formula/ Worked E.g.	$N = (a / 11) \times 100$ <p>Where: a = number of the questions to which an authority can answer 'yes'</p>
Measurement Period	<p>Current Financial Year</p>

Data Source (if external)	N/A
Return Format	Number per 1,000
Decimal Places	1
Further Guidance	For more information on sanctuary schemes see the Homelessness and Housing Support pages on the ODPM website at http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_homelessness/documents/sectionhomepage/odpm_homelessness_page.hcsp
Target Setting	Local
Scope	Metropolitan Authorities, London Boroughs, Unitary Authorities, County Councils, District Councils, Council of the Isles of Scilly, Common Council of the City of London.