

Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Review Action Plan

Item	Recommendation	Action Required	Who by	When by	Progress Update 23/9/2020
1.	Consider the appointment of a dedicated domestic abuse officer and explore opportunities to fund the post to create an effective approach to deal with domestic abuse within the District.	<p>1) Undertake an options appraisal taking into account the existing resources within the County-wide Community Safety and Domestic Abuse Teams including the current procurement of the County-wide Domestic Abuse Service provision.</p> <p>2) Establish the resource and workload within Rykneld Homes Limited to ensure a holistic approach and minimise duplication</p>	Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green	Complete	<p>The Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service which supports high risk victims of domestic abuse, has now been recommissioned with the contract awarded to Glow and is fully live. The service has been expanded under this contract to cover evenings, weekends and bank holidays.</p> <p>Recommissioning of the broader domestic abuse services has taken place with contracts awarded in April 2020 at a cost of just over £1.36 m pa. The Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Helpline was awarded The Elm Foundation. The support services contract for refuge accommodation, community outreach and children's support services was awarded to the Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Support Services partnership of three organisations, with The Elm Foundation delivering services in North East Derbyshire</p> <p>Domestic abuse services have also successfully bid for</p>

					<p>emergency grant funding issued by the Government as a result of the Covid pandemic enabling them all to enhance their services with additional posts for outreach workers, children's workers and extended hours for the helpline. DCC has underwritten these posts until the end of December 2021 to help them cope with the impact of the pandemic.</p>
2.	<p>Increase awareness both for the public, managers and employees of domestic abuse and the services available to address this issue, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective use of the Councils website • Publicity through the Councils newspaper • Use of literature within the Councils establishments 	<p>Develop a communications campaign as follows:</p> <p>1) A page on domestic abuse is already available on the website but will look to develop this further.</p> <p>2) Liaise with the Community Safety department to include regular articles in the NEWS.</p> <p>3) Utilise Extranet to raise staff and members awareness of this.</p> <p>4) Work with department to provide</p>	Karen Hanson and Scott Chambers	Ongoing Communications campaigns	<p>The Communications Team have undertaken the development of the campaign as outlined.</p> <p>There are pages on both the NEDDC website regarding domestic abuse, with helplines and links.</p> <p>The Communications Team take part in the Safeguarding Adults Week highlighting issues of domestic abuse, modern slavery and equalities. Posts are placed on social media and internal communications (The Extranet)</p> <p>Jointly, both Councils have taken part in the White Ribbon campaign, ending male violence against women.</p> <p>Regular updates are provided by the Community Safety Team to the Communications Team</p>

		<p>more literature on this in council buildings</p> <p>5)Use social media to raise awareness and promote services available</p>			<p>where applicable for The NEWS, Council website and the Rykneld Homes website.</p> <p>Posters are also placed on Council toilet doors with information and signposting to appropriate support.</p> <p>Involvement in the County wide virtual promotion of the 16 days of action Nov 25th-Dec10.</p>
3.	Provide an effective and appropriate domestic abuse training programme for North East Derbyshire Officers and Members	Work with Derbyshire County Council to ensure effective roll-out of appropriate training on Domestic Abuse to staff and Members	Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green	Ongoing training and Webinars	<p>The County Council have reviewed all Domestic Abuse awareness training and a paper has been taken to the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Governance Board outlining the options available. These include an E-Learning training course as well as more classroom-based training. A number of training options are currently available free of charge to those working in Derbyshire. The Police have commissioned Safe Lives to deliver Domestic Abuse Matters to all Officers and have extended this offer to partners. The Safer Derbyshire Partnership deliver Domestic Abuse Awareness and MARAC training on a classroom basis and an e-learning package is also available.</p> <p>As a result of the cancellation of classroom training during the</p>

					<p>pandemic DCC have developed Domestic Abuse Awareness and Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment webinars both regularly available through Derbyshire Learning Online as live webinars and the latter as a recorded webinar. These have been passed to the Comms team to promote.</p> <p>At North East Derbyshire, Members and Officers are required to attend safeguarding training which contains information regarding domestic abuse. People Managers are given 'Supporting Employees at Work' training and there is an employee assistance programme available to all employees.</p> <p>In addition, Practice Guidance is available on the Safeguarding Children's Board website and will soon be available on the Safeguarding Adults website.</p>
4.	Consider the results of the Staff Survey on domestic abuse	Analyse the results and agree an action plan with HR	Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green and Sara Gordon	Complete	Unfortunately, only 24 responses were received and have been considered.
5.	Prepare and publish a clear Domestic Abuse Policy	1) Consider the refreshed County-wide Domestic Abuse Policy and consider whether	Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green	Complete with ongoing reviews when required	Derbyshire County Council have developed and published a county-wide Domestic Abuse Policy. This is currently under

		<p>a local NEDDC Policy is required</p> <p>2) Develop a local NEDDC policy if required</p>			<p>review and will be republished imminently</p> <p>In addition, there is a Derby and Derbyshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2018-2021.</p> <p>A local policy and toolkit has also been developed and will be provided to the meeting with the papers.</p>
6.	Identify how the portfolio holder can be supported in championing the issue of domestic abuse	Discuss the aspirations of the Portfolio Holder and develop a plan including communications and awareness campaigns	Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green	Complete	<p>Following the Local Elections in May 2019, Cllr Barry Lewis was nominated as the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety. This has very recently changed to Cllr Alan Powell.</p> <p>Cllr Powell is the Council's representative at the Safer Communities Board and the NEDDC Community Safety Partnership.</p>
7.	Review and strengthen the North Derbyshire Homelessness Forum	Meet with Karl Apps to consider the impact of the Homelessness Reduction Act and agree the role of the Forum	Karen Hanson Karl Apps, supported by Faye Green	Complete	<p>The DCC Domestic Abuse Manager and the Elm Foundation both now attend the Derbyshire Homeless Forum to discuss domestic abuse issues.</p> <p>Glow and Probation also attend the Homeless Forum.</p>
8.	Consider how the Revenues Team can be supported to spot flags of financial	Continue to ensure all staff have appropriate safeguarding training	Jayne Dethick	Complete and ongoing review	All Revs and Bens staff have attended safeguarding training which includes spotting the signs

	abuse	and are aware of the referral pathways for safeguarding and domestic abuse services			<p>of financial abuse. Referrals regarding potential financial abuse have been made in the past and staff remain vigilant. Training will continue to be an ongoing requirement.</p> <p>The Revenues Team are very conscious of the need to safeguard against financial abuse when processing housing benefit and council tax support claims and whenever there is cause for concern the team will refer this to DCC and then work with their Adult Social Care team to provide support as appropriate. It is however becoming increasingly difficult to identify such cases with the national move to risk based verification of claims as this limits the amount of checks we have to do such as scrutinising bank statements which would traditionally have highlighted reason for concern.</p>
9.	Ensure that the target hardening and sanctuary scheme is adequately funded	<p>1) Review the existing Handyman Scheme to ensure that it is fit for purpose</p> <p>2) Derbyshire County Council to look at current issues in relation to service</p>	<p>1) Karen Hanson</p> <p>2) Christine Flinton (DCC)</p>	Complete	<p>The Community Safety Partnership offer all victims of domestic abuse target hardening which is provided free of charge and fitted by operatives. There are no issues with the continued funding of this scheme.</p> <p>In addition, DCC provide self-fit equipment for use when</p>

		provision			appropriate.
10.	Review the provision of housing, homelessness units and refuges in its area to help support people experiencing domestic abuse	Review the current provision of refuge space for NEDDC residents to ensure it is adequate, appropriate and flexible to meet needs.	Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green	Complete	<p>Derbyshire County Council currently have a designated number of refuge spaces available including a male refuge. This resource is fit for purpose and considered adequate by County.</p> <p>In addition, the MHCLG grant for domestic abuse support including accommodation of just under £525k has been awarded. The Elm Foundation has a proportion to enhance their support of complex needs in accommodation and community including move on. (In total, just over 700k was awarded for 18 months delivery.</p>
11.	Consider the requests from The Elm Foundation to reappoint a trustee to their board and write to Parish Councils regarding availability of rooms the organisation could use	<p>1)Consider the request to appoint a trustee to the Board of the Elm Foundation</p> <p>2)Request that the Partnerships Manager review the list of safe and appropriate meeting spaces with Parish Councils</p>	1)Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green	31/3/2021	Check again with the Elm Foundation regarding the impact of Covid 19 and future Board Meetings
12.	Explore ways to work collaboratively with other agencies and share best practice	1)Ongoing through the Community Safety Partnerships	Karen Hanson supported by Faye Green	Ongoing	The Community Safety Team work with the Police, PCSO's and Housing providers to work with those who may not fall

		<p>2)Ensure the DCC Domestic and Sexual Abuse Governance Board report back at a local level</p> <p>3)Consider requesting a place on the DCC Domestic and Sexual Abuse Governance Board</p>	<p>Christine Flinton – DCC Community Safety Lead</p>		<p>within the MARAC process but are suffering from domestic abuse. These cases are considered and discussed at weekly TASKING and any support (physical or emotional) is discussed and appropriate referrals are made or applications are made for enforcements such as injunctions/restraining orders/non-molestation orders are sought.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	---