



Safer Hull

Safer, Stronger, Resilient Communities

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL

Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021-2024



The Domestic Abuse Act 2021
statutory definition of domestic abuse is:

**‘Any single incident or a course of conduct
of physical or sexual abuse, violence or
threatening behaviour, controlling or coercive
behaviour, economic abuse, psychological,
emotional or other abuse between those aged
16 or over who are or have been personally
connected to each other’**

The full definition can be found in Appendix 1.

CONTENTS

The impact of domestic abuse on Children and Young People	4
Recognising domestic abuse	4
Forms of domestic abuse	5
The Introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021	6
What we know about domestic abuse in Hull	8
What the Equality Impact Analysis tells us about need in Hull	9
Vision, Mission and Values	10
Strategic Priorities	11
Priority 1: Preventing domestic abuse through early identification and intervention	12
Priority 2: Provision of high quality service	13
Priority 3: Pursuing perpetrators and seeking justice	14
Priority 4: Partnership working, workforce development and co-production	15
Governance and Performance	16
Domestic Abuse Delivery Plan 2021 - 2024	16
What success will look like	17
Appendix 1	18

FOREWORD

The last 18 months have seen some of the most difficult times we have all been faced with. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed so many aspects of our daily lives but for some the reality of getting through that time was even more challenging and still is.

Nationally there was recognition that victims of domestic abuse living at home, with their families or wherever they were would struggle even more. Locally the Community Safety Partnership worked quickly to make sure that victims could still reach out for help, using highly creative channels to contact victims, but we saw a reduction in cases initially and knew that as we came out of lockdown the number of victims coming forward would rise quickly, which they did. Imagine having to survive through that time with your abuser, maybe your children with you and not able to leave the house. It's unthinkable, but a reality for so many victims. Which is why our new strategy is more important and relevant than ever, reflecting what we have learned from the last few years, what victims, survivors and children and young people have told us and we now need to turn that into truly positive action.

This new strategy is so important at setting out how we are all going to play our part in making our city a place where domestic abuse is not tolerated and one where the impact of domestic abuse across all generations but particularly the children and young people living with domestic abuse is fully recognised and responded to. How you support us in the delivery of the strategy is critical to making long term and positive impact, because it is only as a collective that we can truly improve the lives of people living with domestic abuse.

Tracy Harsley

Assistant Director

Chair Strategic Domestic Abuse Board

The impact of domestic abuse on Children and Young People

44%

of children in families where domestic abuse is happening were directly abused

91%

of these children were also exposed to domestic abuse (Safelives)



41%

or two in five children and young people in families where there is domestic abuse have been living with that abuse since they were born (Safelives)

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 recognises children and young people as victims of domestic abuse if they see, hear, or experience the effects of the abuse, and are related to either the victim or perpetrator.

Domestic abuse has a significant impact on children and young people aged 0-18 years. They can experience loss of key relationships, experience multiple home moves, changes of school, can have poor school attendance/attainment and can suffer physical and emotional harm. They can feel a misplaced sense of responsibility, distress and anger which may not be understood by others.

The Act does not create a new offence of domestic abuse and refers to the existing legislation and safeguards to protect children. Legislation to be considered could include common assault, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, causing or allowing death or serious harm, or child cruelty, neglect and violence.



Recognising domestic abuse

Each person's experience of domestic abuse is unique to them

Not all victims want or are able to leave their abuser at a particular time, and abuse can begin, continue or escalate post-separation.

Many victims may not seek to pursue a criminal justice outcome, and so appropriate support must always be offered.

The experiences of children and

young people who are living with domestic abuse must always be considered and their needs taken into account in any decisions made about the adult victim.

Domestic abuse can encompass a wide range of behaviours and does not always include physical violence and can include emotional,

psychological, controlling, or coercive, sexual and/or economic abuse.

Many victims will experience these abusive behaviours simultaneously. At the centre of all these abusive behaviours is the perpetrator's desire to exercise power and control over the victim.

Forms of domestic abuse

Organisations need to be aware that the types of abuse can differ in nature, dynamics, and impact, therefore to ensure they can deliver an effective response, there must be an understanding of the following types of abuse.

INTIMATE PARTNER ABUSE:

- Domestic abuse most commonly takes place in intimate partner relationships, including same sex relationships
- Abuse in intimate relationships can vary in severity and frequency, ranging from a one off occurrence to a continued pattern of behaviour
- Abuse often continues or escalates when a relationship has ended, which can be a very dangerous time for a victim.
- Post separation abuse, including stalking, harassment and forms of physical, emotional, sexual and economic abuse and controlling and coercive behaviour often continues and causes ongoing harm.

TEENAGE RELATIONSHIP ABUSE:

- Young people may not identify themselves as victims of domestic abuse – or with the term ‘domestic abuse’. Teenage relationship abuse often occurs outside of a domestic setting, and victims may feel that domestic abuse occurs only between adults who are cohabiting or married.
- Young people in particular may be at an increased risk of abuse by family members and this may especially be the case if they belong to a marginalised group. For example, LGBT young people (aged 13-24 years) disclose disproportionately higher levels of abuse from immediate family members compared to other age groups.⁵

ABUSE BY FAMILY MEMBERS:

- Familial abuse may be perpetrated by children, grandchildren, parents, those with parental responsibility, siblings, or extended families or multiple members. There is no requirement for the victim and the perpetrator to live together.
- Abuse within a family set up can encompass a number of different behaviours, including but not limited to violence, coercive or controlling behaviours, and economic abuse.
- Abuse by family members also encompasses forced marriage, “honour” based abuse and female genital mutilation.
- Victims aged 61+ are much more likely to experience abuse from an adult family member than those 60 and under and are also more likely to be living with the perpetrator. Older victims are significantly more likely to have a disability.⁴

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT TO PARENT VIOLENCE AND ABUSE (CAPVA):

- Abuse within the family includes CAPVA. This includes parents, those with parental responsibility, siblings, or extended families.
- CAPVA abuse can involve children of all ages and does not exclusively involve physical violence. If the child is over 16 years of age, CAPVA is considered domestic abuse.
- As with domestic abuse, CAPVA is often gendered, with the majority

For the year ending March 2020 it is estimated that:



1.6 million
females aged 16 to 74 years experienced domestic abuse in that year



757,000
males aged 16 to 74 years experienced domestic abuse in that year

Safelives data estimates that in the last year approximately

120,000
individuals aged 65+
have experienced at least one form of abuse (psychological, physical, sexual or financial).



Over 27% of women (1 in 4)
had experienced domestic abuse since the age of 16
14% of men (1 in 7)

of cases being perpetrated by sons against their mothers, though men and boys are victims too.⁶

MODERN SLAVERY:

- Modern slavery takes many different forms, both within and outside personal relationships and can encompass human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. In some cases, where there is a personal connection, the offence of controlling or coercive behaviour under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 may also apply.

2. Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk). 3. Office for National Statistics (ONS). Sexual orientation, UK: 2017. ONS, London, 2019. 4. SafeLives Safe Later Lives: Older People and domestic abuse 2016. 5. SafeLives, Safe Young Lives: Young People and domestic abuse, 2017. 6. Standing Together Domestic Homicide Review Case Analysis, 2016



National data suggest that

1 in 5 (19%)
people with a
learning disability
experienced some form
of domestic abuse in the
last year (2019 to 2020)

Between 2008 and 2015
over

2,800
Forced Marriage
Protection Orders



and almost

700
FGM Protection Orders
have been made

Home Office statistics
show

2,024
'honour'-based
abuse offences
were recorded by the
police in 2019/20

The introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 strengthens the support for victims of abuse by statutory agencies and enables perpetrators to be brought to justice.

There are a number of strands that will support this which include:

- Creating a statutory definition of domestic abuse
- Recognising children and young people as victims of domestic abuse
- Establishing in law the Office of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner
- Strengthening the engagement with partners as part of a Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board
- Conducting a needs assessment which will inform the development of a local domestic abuse strategy
- Placing a duty on Local Authorities in England to provide safe accommodation and support to survivors
- Emphasising the need to work collaboratively on a “cross border” basis to ensure survivors receive an appropriate response
- Strengthening existing criminal justice enforcement tools

A key element of the Act is the creation of a statutory duty on local authorities to comprehensively assess the level of need for domestic abuse safe accommodation within their local area and to publish a Domestic Abuse Strategy outlining the steps to be taken to ensure these needs are met.

In order to meet these requirements Hull City Council, with support from partner agencies, local residents and survivors, have completed an Equality Impact Analysis.⁷ The purpose of this was to establish to what extent the current service provision in relation to domestic abuse safe accommodation and allied support meets the needs of diverse victims and their children in Hull and to identify whether there are gaps in the current offer and any barriers to accessing appropriate support.

Additionally, this refreshed strategy takes information and evidence from the following:

- Co-production through the voices of victims with lived experience and who are experts in domestic abuse
- Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2021
- Community Safety Partnership Strategy
- Strategic Domestic Abuse Board
- Hull Collaborative Partnership
- Lessons learnt from Domestic Homicide Reviews and Child Serious Case reviews.
- Scrutiny Report commissioned by the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) which was completed in September 2021. This report focussed specifically on the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people and the effectiveness of service provision for them.

This Strategy and aligned Delivery Plan outline how the ‘new burdens’ grant awarded to the Local Authority will be deployed to meet those identified needs and where future funding will be directed.

For the financial year 2021 to 2022, because of the relatively short time scale from allocation of the government grant to the local authority and commissioning of services within the fiscal year the following has been agreed and implemented as directed by the Equality Impact Analysis.

Increase service provision from grant allocation for 2021-2022:

- Increase the capacity of the existing specialist commissioned services contracted via the current Housing Related Support Framework by awarding a 50% increase in funding to be deployed to enhance the availability of specialist floating support and to respond to victims with complex needs. To give providers certainty, the intention is to offer these contract variations for a 3-year period
- Create a contract compliance and monitoring resource to support the Domestic Abuse Commissioning Manager
- Create a dedicated housing and domestic abuse hub based within the local authority housing options team and DAP team who will adopt and promote a Whole Housing Approach model. It is proposed that this is jointly funded via Domestic Abuse “new burdens” Grant and Preventing Homelessness Grant
- Develop a range of publicity in a variety of formats to encourage groups that are currently underrepresented as victims to come forward for support. To also raise awareness of the impact on children and young people
- Increase the resources available to support “Sanctuary Scheme” measures, to enable victims who wish to remain in their own home with additional security installations and floating support to do so
- Commission additional therapeutic support services for children and young people that complements the existing commissioned provision.

Based on the Equality Impact Analysis for 2022 to 2024 the deployment of the grant will focus on developing more specialist support for victims experiencing multiple disadvantage and who require more intensive support to ensure services are accessible to them and for their needs to be met. Additionally, provision for children and young people in safe accommodation support will be increased. This will be achieved through market engagement and cross boundary partnership working.

Furthermore, by encouraging underrepresented groups for example those with disabilities, males and LGBT+ to come forward for support through more targeted publicity we will identify whether any additional specialist services need to be commissioned or improved partnership responses required.



More than
1 in 4

gay men & lesbian women
and more than

1 in 3

bisexual people
report at least one form of
domestic abuse since the
age of 16



Research found that
51%
of transgender people
who had experienced
domestic abuse in the last year
reported that their partner had
ridiculed their gender identity



1 in 7

disabled people
experienced domestic abuse
in last 12 months (ONS)
compared with

1 in 20

non-disabled people



WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT

Domestic abuse in Hull

APRIL 2020 TO MARCH 2021

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Humberside Police

10,883 incidents of domestic abuse reported which resulted in

7,508 recorded crimes of domestic abuse



The Probation Services

112 Men completed the Building Better relationships programme



Crown Prosecution Service

1038 Convictions for DOMESTIC ABUSE OFFENCES

SAFEGUARDING

Hull City Council Safeguarding Children, Young People and Family Services

The total number of contacts to Children and Young People Services:

13,354; of these contacts **3,528** were due to domestic abuse.



Total number of referrals received: **4,858**; of these **1,457** were due to domestic abuse.

The total number of assessments completed:

4,256 of these **1,733** were due to domestic abuse

Renew Substance Misuse Service

73 individuals accessing the service and domestic abuse raised as a concern



SUPPORT AGENCIES

Hull Women's Aid



59 women and **134** children benefitted from the provision of safe accommodation with an average length of stay of 77 days

During the same period our Floating Support Service supported **207** women in their own tenancies

Helpline received **3,210** calls
Children and Young People's Service supported **144** children

Sanctuary Scheme

544 victims and their children supported to remain at home



Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

930 High Risk Victims referred to MARAC, who had 895 children

32 Male
19 LGBTQ+
10 16/17 year olds referred to MARAC

Hull City Council Domestic Abuse Service

Supported **2109** females, **257** males
Average open case load of 416 victims who had 749 children

65 Women have completed the BRAVE Recovery Women's Groups

Strength to Change

179 men called the helpline
41 men completed the programme

On average **50** men accessing the Strength to Change programme per month

57 partners and ex partners supported

PRWC

Supported **636** clients



Hull City Council Housing



377 people approached Hull City Council Housing Options Team as potentially homeless due to domestic abuse

What the Equality Impact Analysis tells us about need in Hull

Domestic abuse impacts all sections of our society. Anyone can be impacted by domestic abuse but some, particularly women, are disproportionately more likely to be victims.

The Equality Impact Analysis highlights the following:

- 1.1** Respondents were overwhelmingly positive about the quality of service they received from the specialist domestic abuse agencies providing accommodation and floating support. However, many respondents identified that existing provision was not accessible for some victims.
- 1.2** There remains a gap in our understanding in terms of the number of people experiencing domestic abuse locally who could benefit from accessing a domestic abuse service but who do not, for a variety of reasons. Many people will seek support from family and friends and will have the financial means to resolve their housing situation.
- 1.3** The existing safe accommodation provision does not have sufficient capacity to meet current service demand. A range of accommodation options need to be available that are tailored to individual needs.
- 1.4** The evidence demonstrates that there may be barriers to accessing safe accommodation for certain protected groups. In particular:
 - Women experiencing multiple disadvantages, who have support needs that cannot be managed safely in the existing commissioned accommodation provision
 - Insufficient capacity within specialist safe accommodation to meet the needs of female victims locally
 - Disabled survivors who require accessible emergency accommodation, who cannot access the existing commissioned accommodation provision
 - Victims from newly arrived communities who may not be aware of their rights, may not speak English, who may have insecure immigration status, or who have no recourse to public funds
- Working women who would benefit from accessing the refuge provision are unlikely to be able to afford to do so, due to the high level of rent and service charges (which will be covered for those in receipt of means tested benefits)
- Trans survivors who cannot access the existing commissioned accommodation provision
- Children and Young People within households affected by domestic abuse, who cannot access therapeutic support as there is insufficient capacity within the existing commissioned services to meet the anticipated need
- Other groups may experience barriers, but this cannot be determined unless the diversity profile data for all victims, including those unable to be accepted into services is complete.





Vision, Values and Mission

OUR VISION

This Strategy will continue to build on previous achievements and progress made to date to accomplish our vision of:

“a city where everyone can live safe and healthy lives and achieve their full potential, without the threat and fear of domestic abuse”

In order to achieve this all organisations, need to understand their responsibility and contribute towards achieving this Vision by working together to uphold the following Values and Mission.

OUR VALUES

Partnership success is built on shared core Values which underpin all that we do:

- V**oice - put individuals affected by domestic abuse and their voices at the centre of our work
- A**dopt a systemic whole family approach and ‘Reach In’
- L**isten and communicate respectfully, effectively and maintain an open dialogue.
- U**nderstand local need through open and transparent proactive data collection, analysis and gap analysis
- E**ngage in developing shared goals and outcomes
- S**upport an evidenced based and needs led response

OUR MISSION

Make a pledge to individuals affected by domestic abuse by upholding the following Golden Principles:

- S**upporting to empower in a trauma informed way
- A**ctively listen, believe and reassure
- F**ocus on remaining professionally curious and understand that change can be achieved
- E**xpress empathy and respect
- T**o be mindful of our unconscious bias and be non-judgemental
- Y**ou can identify and define abuse and work to raise awareness, through continuous professional development to be able to proactively offer support

Strategic Priorities

Ultimately, our aim is to reduce the number of victims impacted by domestic abuse and ensure that when it does occur all those affected get a trauma informed, needs led response, quickly.

This strategy is designed around four key priorities which are intended to contribute to the overarching Vision.

These key priorities and commitments will drive our approach over the next three years.

The key priorities and their commitments are for all irrespective of:

- GENDER
- SEX
- AGE
- DISABILITY
- ETHNICITY
- SEXUAL ORIENTATION
- RELIGION

Recognising intersectionality of these characteristics, as evidenced and reflected in the Equalities Impact Analysis and detailed in the Delivery Plan.

PRIORITY 1:

Preventing domestic abuse through early identification and intervention

PRIORITY 2:

Provision of high quality services

PRIORITY 3:

Pursuing perpetrators and seeking justice

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 states that a perpetrator strategy is being developed and when published will result in this priority being reviewed to ensure key themes and messages are included

PRIORITY 4:

Partnership working, workforce development and co-production

PRIORITY 1

Preventing domestic abuse through early identification and intervention

OBJECTIVE/OUTCOME STATEMENT

“Prevent domestic abuse from starting and escalating by changing attitudes and behaviours through early help prevention and support interventions”

OUR KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

We will focus on improving **knowledge** and **understanding** to ensure domestic abuse is identified and interventions put in place at the earliest opportunity.

Knowledge

- Increasing knowledge of domestic abuse within the community and with family and friends.
- Increasing knowledge of parental conflict within the community and with family and friends.
- Increasing knowledge of the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people within communities and agencies
- Staff are trained in domestic abuse and parental conflict and understand the difference
- Increasing knowledge of the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people within communities and agencies
- Cultural responses to domestic abuse are changing and professionals and the local community understand victims and children's lived experiences and understand the support they need
- Domestic abuse and understanding healthy relationships is an integral part of learning in all schools (including PHSE), colleges and the University in the city
- Professionals, employers and the community are able to recognise domestic abuse and know how to access support and advice for victims, children, young people and perpetrators.

Understanding

- Children, young people and adults understand about healthy relationships
- Better understanding of coercive and controlling behaviour and increased risk for victims and their children when ending an abusive relationship
- Better understanding of the complexities of domestic abuse and look to the perpetrator to effect change and not solely focus on what the victim can do
- Better understanding of economic abuse and the long-term impact this has on victims and children
- Increased shared understanding and identification of risk and safeguarding processes in place for adults, children and young people
- Strengthened understanding of parental conflict and the impact on parents, children and young people.

IMPACT:

The following outputs will be visible and measurable impacts of our work:

- 1** Increased uptake and provision of standalone domestic abuse training for professionals across all organisations
- 2** An effective early help and prevention whole family delivery approach model for domestic abuse that considers risk reduction through effective safety planning and ensures victims, children and young people are able to access support interventions that will be in place.
- 3** More agencies have signed up to the Domestic Abuse Minimum Standards and undertaken the self-assessment and audit process and acted on the findings with the partnership, taking responsibility for delivery of a clear action plan to support improvements to partnership wide improvement themes.
- 4** A robust and consistent approach to domestic abuse and healthy relationships is an integral part of learning in all schools, colleges and the university enabling more children and young people to grow up developing an understanding of what makes a healthy relationship. This includes engaging with ALL employers to support them to adopt a Domestic Abuse Workplace Policy which is actively promoted and understood by all staff and managers.
- 5** White Ribbon is an integral part of a growing culture across ALL organisations in the city and is included in the partnerships commissioning frameworks. Raised the profile and awareness of domestic abuse within the local community and with friends and family.
- 6** Developed and implemented a comprehensive partnership communication and marketing strategy to raise the profile and awareness of domestic abuse through a number of different mediums: campaigns, toolkits, social media, digital media, ensuring consistent and appropriate communication messages around domestic abuse. This includes the diverse needs of all those impacted by domestic abuse: LGBTQ+, older adults, children and young people, male, BAMER etc.
- 7** Agencies have improved data collection and data sharing in relation to domestic abuse which is brought together to develop a more comprehensive understanding of demand, diverse characteristics and unmet need and is used to inform service developments, future investment decisions and which aims to remove any identified barrier to accessing support.



PRIORITY 2

Provision of high quality service

OBJECTIVE/OUTCOME STATEMENT

“Victims, children and young people (including those in relationships) will receive support, advice and information”

OUR KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

We will **improve access to services, increase the number of victims seeking support and improve the long term health and well-being** of victims and their children.

Access to Services

- Improving access to appropriate support options for victims, children and young people.
- Parents experiencing abuse from their child are able to access support
- Ensuring services are accessible to all members of the community, irrelevant of diversity of need
- Families can access safe accommodation at the time they need it or access Sanctuary Scheme Measures to enable them to stay in their own home if its safe to do so.

Increase the number of victims seeking support

- An increase in the number of victims, children and young people coming forward and seeking support from all sections of the community
- An increase in the number of victims with diverse needs are accessing services
- An increase in the number of young people who are harming in their intimate relationships coming forward and seeking support
- Services are reporting supporting more victims from a cross section of the local community.

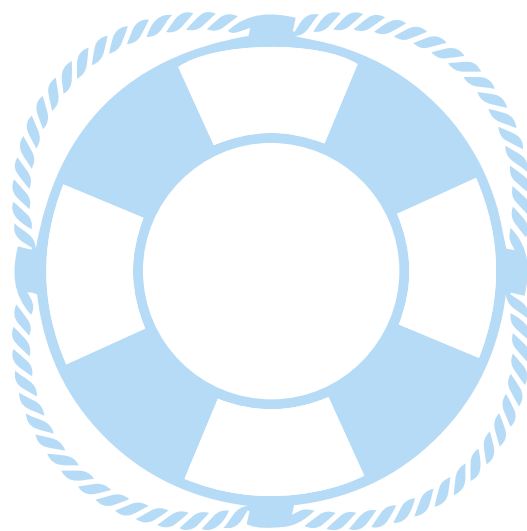
Improve the long-term health and well-being of victims and their children

- Victims and their children access support together to recover from the abuse experienced
- More children/young people have good emotional health and wellbeing and resilience
- Reduction in repeat victimisation to prevent further abuse for victims, children and young people
- Victims, children and young people report improvements in their health and wellbeing, safety, self-esteem and confidence
- Victims, and their children report improvements in their relationships with each other
- Victims report a reduction in abuse experienced and that they feel safer
- More victims and children/young people report feeling believed, heard and that they have received a supportive and non-judgemental response
- Victims with multiple needs are reporting that their needs have been met (including when intersectionality is present)

IMPACT:

The following outputs will be visible and measurable impacts of our work:

- 1** Reduced the risk to victims and their children becoming homeless as a consequence of domestic abuse and ensure, whenever necessary, they are supported to make the move into safe and suitable accommodation without facing additional emotional, economic or social disadvantage.
- 2** Enhanced the Sanctuary Scheme to enable more victims and their children to be able to remain in their own homes - if it's safe to do so, reducing the number of house moves, and changes in employment, school, college and university that negatively impact on families.
- 3** Promoted early identification and intervention in order to ensure services are provided at the earliest possible opportunity.
- 4** An increased number of agencies using the DASH risk identification tool to identify and assess risk and inform safety planning.
- 5** Delivered direct trauma informed support and interventions for children and young people to recover from the impact of living with domestic abuse
- 6** Developed clear referral pathways to establish support for groups underrepresented in accessing services. This includes a bespoke service for victims with multiple needs
- 7** Worked with neighbouring authorities and national organisation to ensure effective cross boundary partnership working takes place.



PRIORITY 3

Pursuing perpetrators and seeking justice

OBJECTIVE/OUTCOME STATEMENT

“Safeguard victims, children and young people (including those in relationships) by supporting and engaging perpetrators to change their behaviour”

OUR KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

We will **deliver perpetrator programmes** for those who are committed to making changes in their lives; improve the understanding of perpetrator tactics amongst professionals; **disrupt those who commit domestic abuse and work to ensure their ex/partner and children receive support**. We will work in partnership to develop an age-appropriate response to work to reduce Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA).

Perpetrator Programmes & Improved Understanding

- Having a clear strategic, planned and sustainable approach to dealing with perpetrators of domestic abuse
- Reduction of repeat high harm abuse by perpetrators
- Increasing professionals understanding of the multiple tactics perpetrators use and the impact of coercive control on risk and harm for victims and children
- Increasing professionals understanding and knowledge of the impact domestic abuse has on children and young people
- Having a clear strategic, planned and sustainable approach to reducing CAPVA
- Developing an improved approach to managing perpetrators which includes equipping frontline professionals with the skills to work with them in a safe way .

Disrupt Perpetrators

- Increasing positive action and prosecution rates and evidence led prosecutions
- Improving the management of domestic abuse perpetrators
- Monitoring the DAPO pilot
- Increasing use of the Domestic Abuse Disclosure Scheme.
- Monitoring and reviewing the polygraph testing pilot for high risk offenders released on licence
- Increasing use of Stalking Protection Orders
- Increasing provision for CAPVA and ensuring young people and their parents are offered interventions that understand and respond to everyone's needs

Support their victims

- All victims report a reduction in high harm abuse types
- Young people and their parents report improvements in their relationships.
- More parents feel supported and have gained knowledge and tools to support their child who has used violence and/or abuse towards them
- More victims report feeling protected through the use of DVDS and DAPO
- More victims have accessed special measures in the criminal/family courts

IMPACT:

The following outputs will be visible and measurable impacts of our work:

- 1** Provided safe and effective interventions for perpetrators to access in order to change their behaviour. Developed an improved approach to dealing with perpetrators which includes equipping frontline professionals with the skills to engage and develop an informed understanding of risk and safety planning. Increase perpetrators from different cultures, communities and circumstances engaging with programmes.
- 2** Ensured special measures are accessible in both criminal/family courts. Ensured prohibition of cross examination in person in family/civil proceedings. Evidence-led prosecutions are considered where appropriate to support and safeguard victims.
- 3** Ensured children and young people affected by domestic abuse do not experience additional physical, emotional or psychological harm as a consequence of contact arrangements (both court and privately arranged) with the abusive parent.
- 4** All partners worked together to provide disruption opportunities targeted at perpetrators. Monitored the implementation of DVPO's and how these are to be implemented nationally. Increased number of victims being given a DVDS in order to make informed decisions. Increased use of Stalking Protection Orders.
- 5** Worked with schools, Youth Services and the Youth Justice Service to identify and support teenagers who are demonstrating controlling and coercive behaviours.
- 6** Worked with partners to recognise the impact of CAPVA and to provide training. Increased support for families where CAPVA is taking place
- 7** Explore options to address the needs of women offenders with a history of domestic abuse. This will include the consideration of community-based alternatives to a custodial sentence to divert vulnerable women away from crime and tackle the root causes of their offending.



PRIORITY 4

Partnership working, workforce development and co-production

OBJECTIVE/OUTCOME STATEMENT

“We will co-produce and listen to those who are experts through lived experience, ensuring policies, service improvements and changes reflect their voices and will work together within a co-ordinated community response model which is inclusive of all”

OUR KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

In line with the Domestic Abuse Act we have established a Domestic Abuse Strategic Board who will lead and drive forward progress made against the key priorities and ensure robust communication links with other strategic groups.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Board will:

- 1** Establish a victim advisory group who are experts through lived experience and whose voices are critical for achieving co-production and for learning from their experiences.
- 2** Work jointly to complete a Domestic Abuse Diversity and Equality Needs Analysis which evidences the gaps that need bridging to improve lives.
- 3** Ensure partner agencies work together to consistently deliver the following:
 - effective and timely identification, referral and allocation processes
 - effective information sharing and good co-ordinated joint work with families
 - effective and timely engagement with families at each stage of their journey, including hearing and responding to the voices of each member of the family
 - effective in understanding risk and how this impacts decision making
 - Understand the importance of believing victims and that they are experts through lived experience and are constantly trying to manage risk and implement safety plans.
- 4** Ensure Domestic abuse data is regularly collated, analysed and reviewed to ensure outcomes are being achieved. Multi-agency audits are to take place to consider the qualitative impact of progress made against the key priorities and the difference that this has made to the lives of victims and their children.

- 5** In line with the Domestic Abuse Diversity and Equality Needs Analysis consider and inform commissioning / de-commissioning ensuring alignment with the National Statement of Expectations and Domestic Abuse Act
- 6** Develop a Delivery Plan which captures the objectives to be completed in the short and longer term, which is reviewed and updated to reflect legislative changes/outcomes contained in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. Report back to Central Government via annual reports
- 7** Ensure lessons learnt from Domestic Homicide Reviews, child and adult Serious case reviews (which include aspects of domestic abuse) are shared with organisations and are jointly considered at senior partnership level and learning is cascaded throughout the partnership.
- 8** Review and update the Domestic Abuse Minimum Standards and increased the number of agencies who have signed up to the Standards.
- 9** Work with and support agencies to attain White Ribbon Status
- 10** Work together to improve systems so that every contact is responded to in a coordinated and timely way and is informed by trauma informed practice.
- 11** Review the partnership response to high-risk MARAC cases and those cases with multiple incidents.
- 12** Work alongside social workers to understand the dynamics of domestic abuse and share tools and models of best practice so both children and adult services are able to identify domestic abuse and diversity of need.

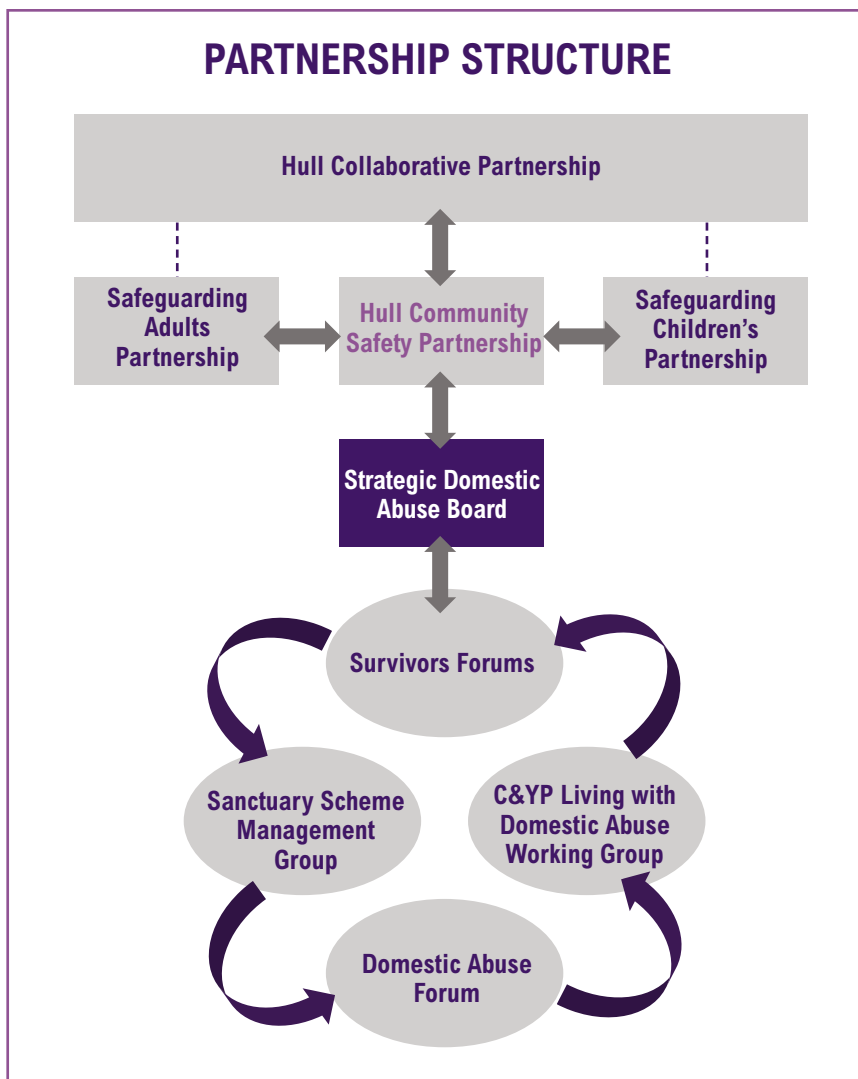


Governance and Performance

Domestic abuse is a key priority for the city, the Hull Collaborative Partnership through its coordination role will share information and data with the Strategic Domestic Abuse Board.

The Board will work together to ensure victims of domestic abuse and their families have access to high quality, appropriate and timely support. It will deliver a co-produced, robust, co-ordinated community response to domestic abuse across the strategic partnerships and plan effective use of resources to improve outcomes for families that are trauma informed. It will work together and co-produce to improve outcomes for victims and their children through a strategic approach to identifying and addressing gaps in support within safe accommodation services. It will ensure Hull meets the duty placed upon the city council to provide safe accommodation for victims of domestic abuse and their children.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Board will support Hull City Council in reporting back to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on delivering the duty in line with statutory guidance.




Domestic Abuse Delivery Plan 2021 -2024

The Delivery Plan outlines how each of the four priority areas and commitments will be driven forward, who will be responsible, and the timescales by which they will be completed.

There are clearly defined objectives for each priority area and as recommended by the Equality Impact Analysis improved data collection will be used to evaluate and capture progress to date.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Board will monitor and review the Delivery Plan on a quarterly basis and ensure any corrective action or barriers to implementation are addressed.



“ I’m black and disabled, I have had to work extremely hard for what I have achieved in life and have been met with so many barriers and challenges along the way, the abuse I now experience is another barrier I have to deal with, its exhausting”

“I was so scared I felt powerless and didn’t know who I could turn to for advice and support”

What success will look like

The aims and objectives of this strategy defines the coordinated community response to ending domestic abuse in Hull. No one agency alone can achieve this.

By 2024, information and data collated from across the partnership will need to demonstrate how the work completed has made a lasting difference for victims, children and young people (including those in relationships) and their families. It will need to evidence how the identified objectives have made a tangible difference in relations to the defined outcomes.

This is an ambitious strategy, and rightly so, because we want to strive to ensure now, and in the longer-term that victims and their children and young people feel safe at home, in relationships, community and society. Everyone has the right to live their lives free from abuse and fear.

“I had no money, my partner controlled all the finances, if I needed money I had to ask for it and justify why I needed it – even for my most basic needs”

“I felt so embarrassed, not only did I have to share that I was being abused, but also that I was trans, I was so scared that no one would believe me”

DEFINITION: As set out in PART 1 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021**PART 1.1****Domestic abuse is defined as:**

- (2) Behaviour of a person (“A”) towards another person (“B”) is “domestic abuse” if
 - (a) A and B are each aged 16 or over and are personally connected to each other, and
 - (b) the behaviour is abusive.
- (3) Behaviour is “abusive” if it consists of any of the following:
 - (a) Physical or sexual abuse.
 - (b) Violent or threatening behaviour
 - (c) Controlling or coercive behaviour.
 - (d) Economic abuse
 - (e) Psychological, emotional, or other abuse. and it does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a course of conduct.
- (4) “Economic abuse” means any behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on B’s ability to
 - (a) Acquire, use, or maintain money or other property, or
 - (b) Obtain goods or services.
- (5) For the purposes of this Part A’s behaviour may be behaviour “towards” B despite the fact that it consists of conduct directed at another person (for example, B’s child).
- (6) References in this Part to being abusive towards another person are to be read in accordance with this section.
- (7) For the meaning of “personally connected” see footnote below – Section 2.

PART 1.2**Personally Connected is defined in section 2 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 as:**

- (1) For the purposes of this Part, two people are “personally connected” to each other if any of the following applies –
 - a. they are, or have been, married to each other.
 - b. they are, or have been, civil partners of each other.
 - c. they have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated).
 - d. they have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated).
 - e. they are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other.
 - f. they each have, or there has been a time when they each

PART 1.3**Children as victims of domestic abuse:**

- (1) This section applies where behaviour of a person (“A”) towards another person (“B”) is domestic abuse.
- (2) Any reference in this Act to a victim of domestic abuse includes a reference to a child who –
 - (a) sees or hears, or experiences the effects of, the abuse, and
 - (b) is related to A or B.
- (3) A child is related to a person for the purposes of subsection (2) if –
 - (a) the person is a parent of, or has parental responsibility for, the child, or
 - (b) the child and the person are relatives.
- (4) In this section –
 - “child” means a person under the age of 18 years;
 - “parental responsibility” has the same meaning as in the Children Act 1989 (see section 3 of that Act);
 - “relative” has the meaning given by section 63(1) of the Family Law Act 1996.

have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child they are relatives.

- g. they are relatives
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) (f) a person has a parental relationship in relation to a child if—
 - a. the person is a parent of the child, or b. the person has, or has had, parental responsibility for the child.
- (3) In this section –
 - “child” means a person under the age of 18 years.
 - “civil partnership agreement” has the meaning given by section 73 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004.
 - “parental responsibility” has the same meaning as in the Children Act 1989 (see section 3 of that Act).
 - “relative” has the meaning given by section 63(1) of the Family Law Act 1996.





Safer Hull

Safer, Stronger, Resilient Communities

Community Safety Partnership
c/o Clough Road Police Station
Clough Road
Hull HU5 1SW
Tel: 01482 318759