

Recommendations for the Domestic Abuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment are outlined as follows:

Partnerships:

- Statutory partners consider the Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment and determine how they will individually respond to the content and recommendations included within it.
- To ensure partners work to address the recommendations and lessons learnt emerging from Domestic Homicide Reviews
- Provide those with lived experience the opportunities to influence and shape the development of services and strategies related to domestic violence and abuse (DVA) and violence against women and girls.
- That all partner agencies across Warwickshire embed Routine Enquiry into DVA into their own procedures.
- That all MARAC representatives have a working knowledge of relevant legislation and policies e.g., Care Act 2014, Adult Safeguarding, and domestic abuse.
- Improve data collection in relation to those with protected characteristics to ensure a greater understanding and improved response to victim-survivors and perpetrators of DVA.
- Use the Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment as the basis for a new strategy to address DVA.
- All statutory agencies to ensure they have a DVA workplace policy.

Children, young people (CYP) and families:

- Identify and respond to the support needs of CYP who have been a victim of, or experienced DVA by living in a household where it is taking place.
- Review the current provision of RSE within schools to ensure it includes DVA awareness and that staff teams and CYP understand it and know how to access advice and support.
- Promote a wider understanding and develop responses to Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (ADVA).
- Prioritise the identification of alternatives to child removal, and develop a trauma informed support offer for those who have had their children removed as a consequence of DVA.
- Provide services that support the psychological and behavioural needs of children who have witnessed DVA.
- Explore why more care leavers end up in abusive relationships; identifying and developing approaches to reduce this from happening.

Communication:

- Ensure that the referral pathways into DVA services are widely communicated to statutory and third sector organisations, and members of the public.
- Develop coordinated communication and awareness raising campaigns (including website updates).

Training:

- Warwickshire Safeguarding Board to confirm what their expectations are in relation to training requirements of key agencies and roles on domestic abuse and risk assessment and safety planning.
- All statutory agencies to review their current training offer on domestic abuse for staff and determine whether it meets their current and future needs.

Criminal Justice:

- Warwickshire Police to ensure that victim-survivors are made aware of the tools and powers available to address perpetrator behaviour and empower them to make their own decisions regarding this; keeping them informed of progress at all times.
- Develop a comprehensive DVA perpetrator offer and embed this throughout Warwickshire – ensuring that there are mechanisms in place to enable self-referral.
- Ensure that services who are supporting victim-survivors have up to date information regarding a perpetrator to ensure effective safety planning.
- Increase the number of sanctions deployed to address DVA perpetrator behaviour and monitor the outcomes.
- Explore options for operating a joint specialist DVA court across Coventry and Warwickshire; ensuring that IDVA capacity is linked directly into this provision.

Housing:

- Create a coordinated approach towards the provision of safe accommodation for DVA victim-survivors across the county that is accessible and open to all.
- Review temporary accommodation provision to ensure that female only spaces are created, where they do not currently exist.
- Review local housing allocations schemes to ensure that the consequences of being a victim-survivor of DVA (ASB, Criminal Damage, Rent Arrears, debt) do not present a barrier to appropriate rehousing; that this requirement is extended to Registered Social Landlords (RSL).
- Empower victim-survivors to make their own decisions regarding accommodation provision; ensuring that they are aware of the options available to remain in their own home, should they wish.

Health:

- Consider how patient records can be joined up across health care systems to improve the identification of, and responses to DVA.

- Drug and alcohol services to record data on DVA to provide holistic support and enriched recovery for service users.
- Develop a Dual Diagnosis protocol and pathway for those who have co-existing conditions of alcohol/ drug dependency, mental health needs and experience, or perpetrate DVA.
- Provide specialised, trauma information therapy for victim-survivors of DVA of all ages.
- Recognise the prevalence of DVA in pregnant women and those with young children, ensuring that maternity and health visiting staff are trained and able to facilitate disclosures, undertake risk assessments and safety plans.
- Recognise the prevalence of anxiety and depression in victim-survivors of DVA and ensure that GP's and their staff are trained and able to facilitate disclosures, undertake risk assessments and safety plans.

Service specific:

- Commission sustainable local services that provide dedicated provision for different victim-survivor groups; this includes those experiencing Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Sexual Violence, Forced Marriage, Harmful Practices, trafficking, exploitation, stalking and harassment.
- Commission DVA services that are accessible to victim-survivors from all backgrounds and monitor referrals and engagement with DVA services from marginalised and minoritised communities.
- Identify the barriers that prevent victim-survivors from seeking support from commissioned services. This includes both men and women, those over 65 and under 21 years, gypsy and traveller, rural, marginalised and minoritised communities and those with disabilities (physical and mental).
- Ensure that appropriate Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) capacity is commissioned in line with Safelives recommendations.
- Develop an approach for DVA victim-survivors who have no recourse to public funding.

National:

- That the National Domestic Abuse Commissioner requires Third Sector providers and statutory agencies improve their responses to LGBTQ+ and male victim-survivors.