

Reducing domestic abuse: response to Scrutiny Inquiry recommendations

The following recommendations take account of the recent Needs Assessment completed for Southampton and attached as Appendix 2.

All recommendations should be reflected in forthcoming DSA and Serious Violent crime strategies to increase the focus on perpetrators and help keep the city safer.

Recommendations	Accepted by Executive? (Y/N)	How will the recommendation be achieved? (Key actions)	Responsible Officer	Target Date for Completion	Resource implications / notes (estimated)
Universal primary prevention					
<p>1. Communications Campaign – 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>	Y	<p>Finance required {secure}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority (SCC) commitment (Budget setting 2020) Local agency commitments (campaigns budgets/external funding bids) DA Bill funding (when opportunity arises) OPCC funding (when opportunity arises) Charitable and academic funding routes 	DSA Chair	Feb 2020	Estimated at £5k based on current investment in public health priorities each year and secures a minimum level of social media and physical promotion
		<p>Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree a clear focus around perpetrators and where focus is aimed at 	DSA Chair	Feb 2020	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all agencies communications strategies join up and complement each other. <p>Delivery of communications campaign plan</p>	DSA Chair	Feb 2020	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider link to White Ribbon day if focus appropriate or Separate specific campaign to highlight perpetrator work Consider multi agency approach Link to victim and survivor campaigns Consider recommendations related to communications made in Needs Assessment (NA) on preventing perpetration of intimate partner abuse (IPA) (see Needs Assessment) <p>Reporting through DSA to SCP</p>	DSA Chair	<p>Plan by Nov 2019</p> <p>This recommendation should run continually</p>	
<p>2. Reporting Domestic Abuse – 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. (https://act.welevelup.org/campaigns/54)</p>	Y	<p>Communications Team to lead the dialogue with media outlets /press, supported by SCC leads for DSA</p> <p>Support from, and progress reports to, DSA strategy group and SCP</p> <p>Reporting through DSA to SCP</p>	<p>Head of communications</p> <p>SCC DSA leads</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>November 2019 2020 2021</p>	
<p>3. Relationship Education - 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>	Y	<p>Responsibility for delivery of the statutory guidance Draft guidance Relationships Education Relationships and Sex Education pdf 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). A number of</p>	<p>No lead officer – monitor through Head teacher forum</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Estimated £10k for DSA training for school leads and educational resources.</p>

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		<p>resources are quality assured and available to schools and should continue to be used and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe4me.co.uk • PSHE association • Sex Education forum <p>Existing mechanisms to support exist through City-wide teacher led networks for Personal, Social Health and Economic (PSHE) education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). These should continue to be supported. This includes work to develop a Southampton focussed version of the national PSHE Programme of Study once the national version has been updated nationally.</p> <p>Ensure all schools are compliant with the statutory requirements from 1 September 2020 when Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education become statutory for publicly funded schools. Then identify any ongoing support schools need.</p> <p>Reporting through 0-19 Prevention and Early Help Strategy Group and Multi-Agency Children's Board.</p> <p>Updates to DSA strategy group</p>	<p>ICU and Public Health commissioners</p> <p>Derek Wiles - service lead for education. Monitor through Head teacher forum</p> <p>ICU and Public Health commissioners</p>	<p>Await update of national PSHE programme of study</p> <p>April 2021</p>	

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<p>4. Adverse Childhood Experiences - 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>Y</p>	<p>SCC's ongoing consideration and strategic, operational and professional work around ACE incorporates reducing DSA including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through continuous relationship education requirements • Establish mechanism to share data to identify those with multiple ACE indicators • Review service provision for i) children affected by domestic abuse and ii) support for parents who are struggling for any reason (see Needs Assessment) <p>Reporting through 0-19 Board</p> <p>Where finance is required, it will need to be secured</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authority (SCC) commitment (Budget setting 2020) • Local agency commitments (campaigns budgets/external funding bids) • DA Bill funding (when opportunity arises) • OPCC funding (when opportunity arises) • Charitable and academic funding routes 	<p>SCC lead for ACE</p> <p>DSA Chair</p>	<p>ACE timescales</p> <p>Feb 2020</p> <p>Feb 2020</p> <p>As set by Govt./OPCC</p>	

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		<p>Agencies to educate and raise awareness around ACE and a common, agreed approach across agencies is in place to ensure a joined up and consistent approach</p> <p>This recommendation should be commenced as soon as possible with acceptance that outcomes will be medium to longer term</p> <p>Reporting annually through DSA to SCP and 0-19 Board</p>	SCC lead for ACE	ACE timescales	
<p>Perpetrator Services / Whole system approach</p> <p>We cannot reduce domestic abuse without reducing the number of people who are abusive. People who are abusive often need support to recognise their abuse and to change. Perpetrator services help to reduce the risk to partners, current and future, and mean fewer children live in families affected by domestic abuse. It also sends a clear social message that victims or survivors do not cause domestic abuse.</p>					
<p>5. Raise awareness of, and increase referrals to, perpetrator services - 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</p>	Y	Develop a multi agency plan outlining all agency approaches to raising awareness of and increase referrals to perp services and, where possible and appropriate. Introduce DSA champions into services in contact with people who	DSA Chair		£3,750 for 10 workshops at £750 per day. Includes 2 workshops per day.

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<p>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>are perpetrators or survivors of DSA (see Needs Assessment)</p> <p>Finance required {secure}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority (SCC) commitment (Budget setting 2020) Local agency commitments (campaigns budgets/external funding bids) DA Bill funding (when opportunity arises) OPCC funding (when opportunity arises) Charitable and academic funding routes <p>With funding, develop and deliver awareness training to include identification, available services and referrals pathways.</p> <p>Hampton Trust to deliver ongoing awareness training as part of contractual requirements.</p> <p>Hampshire Constabulary to share information and raise awareness of the new 'High Harm' capability which will focus on high risk and repeat DA perpetration and planned opportunities</p>	<p>DSA Chair</p> <p>Hampton Trust (with funding)</p> <p>Hampton trust</p> <p>Police</p>	<p>Feb 2020</p> <p>Feb 2020</p> <p>As set by Govt./OPCC</p> <p>Funding dependent</p> <p>Feb 2020</p>	

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		<p>emerging from this to disrupt and divert.</p> <p>Reporting through DSA to SCP</p>			
<p>6. Introduce routine enquiry for perpetrators – 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>Y</p>	<p>Use existing co-location practice within Hampton Trust to provide a basis for research and evaluation of routine inquiry approaches. Consider using small qualitative studies. Link to rec 9 below</p> <p>Finance required {secure}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authority (SCC) commitment (Budget setting 2020) • Local agency commitments (campaigns budgets/external funding bids) • DA Bill funding (when opportunity arises) • OPCC funding (when opportunity arises) • Charitable and academic funding routes <p>Use findings to inform appropriate approaches are developed and used effectively for routine enquiry approach for perpetrators in key settings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary care - Mental health - Substance misuse 	<p>Public Health</p> <p>DSA Chair</p>	<p>Feb 2020</p> <p>Feb 2020</p> <p>As set by Govt./OPCC</p>	<p>£5k for the evaluation</p>

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		- Maternity services			
<p>7. Seek additional resources to support perpetrator services in Southampton – 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>	Y	<p>Prioritise requests for funding from all available sources to address unmet need including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authority (SCC) commitment (Budget setting 2020) • Local agency commitments (campaigns budgets/external funding bids) • DA Bill funding (when opportunity arises) • OPCC funding (when opportunity arises) • Charitable and academic funding routes <p>Services commissioned when funding secured</p> <p>Reporting through DSA to SCP</p>	<p>DSA Chair</p> <p>ICU lead</p>	<p>Feb 2020</p> <p>Feb 2020</p> <p>As set by Govt./OPCC</p>	<p>Increased capacity £53,000 (double current).</p> <p>£8,000 per annum for a LINX Practitioner in schools for one day a week.</p>
<p>8. MATAC (Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordination) – 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 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.</p>	Y	<p>Await the outcome of the evaluation</p> <p>Finance required {secure}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authority (SCC) commitment (Budget setting 2020) • Local agency commitments (campaigns budgets/external funding bids) • DA Bill funding (when opportunity arises) 	<p>DSA Chair</p>	<p>Feb 2020</p> <p>Feb 2020</p> <p>As set by Govt./OPCC</p>	

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		misuse and perpetrator treatment programmes where applicable.			
Evidence Based Decision Making					
10. Update the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy (DSA) – 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.	Y	Strategy unit to lead on a city wide coordinated DSA strategy for 2021 onward, informed by this action plan, the domestic abuse needs assessment, the safe city assessment and any further work.	Strategy Unit SCC	Dec 2020	
11. Evaluation of perpetrator services – 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.	Y	Public Health to review literature and evidence base for perpetrator services (2020 – 2022 inclusive). Public Health to share examples of ‘what works’ and provide evidence of what works. Services to evaluate their work (see Needs Assessment)	Public Health Public Health DSA Chair/ICU	Jan 2021 March 2021	£5k evaluation costs
12. Return on Investment for Perpetrator Services – 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.	Y	Return on Investment work to be developed for perpetrator services. Finance required • Public Health resources	Public Health	Dependent on resources available	More involved work would cost £5k-£10k to commission

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<p>13. Alcohol and Substance Misuse – 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 decisions and strategies relating to domestic abuse and substance and alcohol misuse.</p>	Y	<p>Public Health and ICU monitor developments and provide timely updates to SCP and reviews of both Alcohol Strategy and DSA strategy (see also Needs Assessment).</p> <p>Report through DSA to SCP</p>	Public Health lead/ ICU DSA lead	As required	
<p>14. The role of Public Health – The Director of Public Health considers domestic abuse when the new funding arrangement and mandate for Public Health is announced nationally, timescale unknown.</p>	Y	<p>Public Health to provide report to SCP reflecting consideration and outcome for DSA when new funding arrangement is announced.</p> <p>Report through DSA to SCP</p>	Public Health	Announcement dependent.	
<p>15. Consideration of the impact on victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse when making Council decisions – 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 as if they were a protected characteristic.</p>	Y	<p>To include a more robust outline about the range of vulnerable adults (DV, homeless etc.) noted in the ESIA process. Present findings to Equalities forum/Cabinet.</p> <p>Report through DSA to SCP</p>	SCC DSA leads		
<p>16. Working with Government – Southampton has good survivor services and is recognised as a vanguard area for perpetrator services.</p>	Y	Proactive engagement with DA commissioner and wider government		Aligned to Govt developments	

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However, the number of reported incidents of domestic abuse continues to rise. The draft Domestic Abuse Bill provides an opportunity for 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.		officials to secure further investment in innovation.	Cllr Shields/Cllr McEwing/ Public Health Director		

Summary of estimated costs

Recommendation	Est. cost	Detail
Rec 1: Communications Campaign	£5,000	Estimated at £5k based on current investment in public health priorities each year and secures a minimum level of social media and physical promotion
Rec 3: Relationship Education	£10,000	Estimated £10k for DSA training for school leads and educational resources. Potential to increase and include dedicated staff resource.
Rec 5: Raise awareness of, and increase referrals to, perpetrator services	£3,750	£750 per day. Includes 2 workshops per day. Current rate paid by HCC
Rec 6: Introduce routine enquiry for perpetrators	£5,000	Evaluation costs
Rec 7: Seek additional resources to support perpetrator services in Southampton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LINX service 	£8,000	LINX Practitioner in schools for one day a week.

Rec 7: Seek additional resources to support perpetrator services in Southampton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased capacity. 	£53,000	This would double the current investment. Currently 6% of SCC investment in Domestic abuse services and would increase it to 12%.
Rec 9: Co-location of Hampton Trust staff within the key service areas	£41,567	This would finance a full-time post and include on costs.
Rec 11: Evaluation of perpetrator	£5,000	Evaluation costs
Rec 12: Return on Investment for Perpetrator Services	£5,000	More involved work would cost £5k-£10k to commission
	£136, 137	

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