Changing Hearts and Minds

Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy

2017 - 2020
1. Contents

Foreword 2
Definition 3
Purpose 4
National Context 4-5
Local and Regional Context 5-8
Themes 8-9
Glossary 10

Appendix 1 National Strategy to End Violence Against Women and Girls 2016
Appendix 3 Children’s Social Care Data
2. Foreword

Tackling domestic violence and abuse remains a priority in Oldham.

No single agency or individual can deal with domestic violence and abuse alone and nor should they be expected to. Domestic violence and abuse is destructive in its very nature, and an abusive relationship can negatively impact on many people and society for many years, not just those persons at the very heart of it.

Sadly we hear of domestic homicides and of people taking their own lives as a result of domestic violence and abuse, on an all too frequent basis. It is hard to imagine the desperation those individuals must have felt, and also the feelings of loss and unimaginable heartbreak endured by family, friends, neighbours and colleagues left behind

Unfortunately, the voice of the child not being heard repeatedly echoes in so many of these cases. The impact of harm on a child who sees or hears domestic violence and abuse being perpetrated cannot be underestimated and we must respond accordingly. It is important that we use every opportunity to learn from these tragic events, and through this Strategy we will aim to do everything within our power to prevent any more deaths occurring or lives being destroyed

We must also listen to, and learn from, those individuals and families who are subject to violent and abusive behaviour every day. These people are our own family, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

Safeguarding of vulnerable persons remains our priority, but we must ensure that through this Strategy we have a holistic offer of support for all persons who are involved in domestic violence and abuse and who seek help from services, regardless of their status. We recognise that there can be many complex dynamics within relationships and external influences can be key contributors to behaviours. The aim of the partnership response to domestic violence and abuse is to encourage and to enable individuals and families to seek help and to engage with services in order to achieve better, safer long term outcomes

We must also understand and accept that some relationships will continue to exist despite the presence of domestic violence and abuse, and that some individuals do not want help. We need to acknowledge those cases where behaviour changes are not likely to occur and where enforcement and risk management must take precedent.

This strategy and associated delivery plan draws together stakeholders from all sectors, with the community being our most important partner of all.

Through this strategy we will work with our communities to promote a social norm where individuals treat each other with respect and dignity.

Jackie Hall                        Chief Inspector Sarah Morton

Co-Chairs - Domestic Violence and Abuse Partnership
3. Definition

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse includes 16 and 17 year olds and patterns of behaviour rather than single acts.

Domestic violence and abuse is defined as;

“All incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

• psychological
• physical
• sexual
• financial
• emotional

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.”

This definition, which is not a legal definition, includes so called ‘honour’ based violence and abuse, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

Whilst the definition includes 16 and 17 year olds, it is important to recognise that the duties and responsibilities pursuant to the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004, combined with the provisions contained within the latest version of the Working Together to Safeguard Children document, still apply and should take precedence for persons aged 16 and 17.
4. Purpose

Tackling domestic violence and abuse remains a priority in Oldham and the purpose of this Strategy is to ensure a Partnership coordinated response.

The work which runs parallel to this Strategy will bring together the traditional elements of protection and enforcement to tackle domestic violence and abuse, along with the new ways of working which have been created in line with the principles of public service reform.

The offer of support for victims and survivors of domestic violence and abuse in Oldham was expanded in 2012 to ensure all those who asked the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service for help received it. The transition of the Domestic Violence Advisors into the Early Help Service in January 2016 was a further step in extending services to the wider family, so enabling a whole system approach in our efforts to achieve long term behaviour change.

Tackling domestic violence and abuse is everybody’s business and through this Strategy we will ensure that all sectors, including communities are aware of their responsibilities in this regard and are able and equipped to play their part.

5. National Context

Tackling domestic violence and abuse also remains a national priority.

In the comprehensive spending review the DCLG announced funding of £40 million over five years to tackle domestic violence. The DCLG are now working with the Home Office and the Local Government Association and combined national funding of £80 million for DV over the next 3 years has been confirmed. Allocation of these monies will be arranged through the Service Transformation Fund which was announced in December 2016.

The new four year National Strategy to End Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) was published in March 2016 and can be found at Appendix 1.

The Strategy and associated action plan overlaps a great deal with the domestic violence and abuse agenda. Specific pieces of work ongoing or planned nationally over the lifetime of the VAWG Strategy include;

- the creation of a National Statement of Expectations with associated data capture regarding local need and service response
- the potential creation of a set of minimum standards and new statutory duty to tackle DV
- the creation of a Home Office task and finish group to review the effectiveness of MASH arrangements in relation to domestic violence and abuse.
- the creation of a Peer Support Group, pulling together experts in the field of domestic violence and abuse from a variety of disciplines
- a review of grant funding periods in response to request for minimum 2 year grant schemes
• the publication of new National Guidance for the commission of Domestic Homicide Reviews (expected 2017)
• development of enhanced work to tackle DV and HBV in BME communities
• the publication of new statutory guidance for Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage – ensuring a clear rationale must be evidenced if statutory guidance is not followed or adhered to.
• a review of refuges and accommodation based support arrangements with the development of voluntary cross-border protocols. This will be reviewed after 2 years with the potential for a nationally commissioned refuge service if victims are not able to access refuge provision under the voluntary protocol.

The response to domestic violence and abuse is often led by services within the crime and disorder world, however the health and social care sectors also have a huge role to play. The impact of domestic violence and abuse upon a person’s physical and mental health and wellbeing cannot be understated and undoubtedly the cost to the NHS is far higher than any other organisation or sector.

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) published their own Domestic Violence and Abuse Quality Standard Document in 2016. The document shows a clear commitment to ensuring health and care services identify and respond appropriately to people experiencing domestic violence and abuse. The full Document, which can be found at Appendix 2 details a list of four quality statements which the standards are expected to contribute towards;

Statement 1 – People presenting to frontline staff with indicators of possible domestic violence or abuse are asked about their experiences in a private discussion.

Statement 2 – People experiencing domestic violence and abuse receive a response from a suitably trained member of staff.

Statement 3 – People experiencing domestic violence or abuse are offered a referral to specialist support services.

Statement 4 – People who disclose that they are perpetrating domestic violence or abuse are offered a referral to specialist services.

6. Local and Regional Context

The Oldham Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy reflects the local commitment to meet the needs of the people of Oldham who are affected by domestic violence and abuse, ensuring that the local offer is fit for purpose.

The Oldham Local Safeguarding Children’s Board will have responsibility for the formal governance of this Strategy, with the Domestic Violence and Abuse Partnership being the core body responsible for ensuring progress of the thematic work areas through the associated delivery plan. The implementation of the delivery plan will also be monitored by the Adult Safeguarding Board, the Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
Core members of the Oldham Domestic Violence and Abuse Partnership currently include:

- Elected Members
  - Oldham Council (Membership from teams within the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub)
  - Local Safeguarding Children’s Board
  - Greater Manchester Police
  - Inspire Women
  - The Children’s Society
  - Oldham Inter-Faith Forum
  - Positive Steps
  - The Collective Partnership
  - Threshold
  - Pennine Care Foundation Trust
  - Bridgewater Services
  - Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Services
  - Keeping Our Girls Safe (KOGS)
  - Adult Safeguarding Board
  - Partners of Prisoners (POPs)
  - Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service
  - Action Together CIO
  - Barnardos
  - DePaul Trust
  - One Recovery
  - ADS (Addiction Dependency Solutions)
  - Community Rehabilitation Company
  - Oldham Housing Investment Partnership
  - Registered Providers of Social Housing
  - National Probation Service
  - Education (representatives from Primary, Secondary, Further and Higher)

The above is not an exhaustive list and membership is open to other organisations and partners.

At a regional level, the Greater Manchester Domestic Violence Strategic Governance Board has been established by the Mayor (formerly Police and Crime Commissioner). The purpose of the Board is to oversee the local work which is ongoing within the 10 local authority areas, to ensure that learning is shared across the conurbation and to ensure external funding opportunities are pursued and explored. There are also a number of other Groups and Boards across the Greater Manchester conurbation which complement the local offer.

The importance of the role of the community and the voluntary sector in providing support and services to both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse cannot be underestimated and the Partnership welcomes any additional contributions from the community and voluntary sector.

The Partnership also works closely with other groups and boards across the Greater Manchester conurbation to ensure that services are aligned and coordinated.

Some of these groups and boards include:

- DV Leads Group (GM)
- DV Strategic Governance Board (GM)
- Victim Services Board (GM)
- STRIVE Programme Board (GM)
- Police and Crime Leads/Steering Group (GM)
- Thrive (GM)
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Services
- DePaul Trust
- Barnardos
- DePaul Trust
- One Recovery
- ADS (Addiction Dependency Solutions)
- Community Rehabilitation Company
- Oldham Housing Investment Partnership
- Registered Providers of Social Housing
- National Probation Service
- Education (representatives from Primary, Secondary, Further and Higher)
In 2016 a national Domestic Violence Practitioners Group was also established.

During the period of the previous Domestic Violence Strategy the number of domestic violence related calls for service to Greater Manchester Police was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total calls for service</th>
<th>Converted to crimes</th>
<th>Calls for service - children present</th>
<th>Converted to crimes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>5543</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>2304</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6489</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
<td>2380</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6225</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
<td>2392</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>6115</td>
<td>33.76%</td>
<td>2394</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below shows the breakdown of referrals into the MARAC Process for years 2013 to 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total referrals to MARAC</th>
<th>No. of cases featuring children</th>
<th>No. of children in households</th>
<th>No. of repeat cases</th>
<th>No. of victims aged 16 - 17 years</th>
<th>No. of male victims</th>
<th>No. of cases from black and minority ethnic</th>
<th>No. of LGBT cases</th>
<th>No. of cases where victim has a registered disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table below shows the breakdown of the calls for service to Greater Manchester Police for 2016 into ward areas for the borough.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Total DIV calls for service</th>
<th>Converted to Crimes</th>
<th>Calls for service children present</th>
<th>Converted to Crimes</th>
<th>% of total where children present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chadderton Central</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>42 (18%)</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>23 (24.4%)</td>
<td>40.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chadderton North</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>89 (36.3%)</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>31 (32.9%)</td>
<td>36.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chadderton South</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>102 (34.2%)</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>43 (36.1%)</td>
<td>39.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failsworth East</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>72 (36.7%)</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>18 (26.1%)</td>
<td>32.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failsworth West</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>86 (33.7%)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>31 (31%)</td>
<td>39.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollinwood</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>176 (33.2%)</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>66 (26.2%)</td>
<td>46.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. James</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>118 (25.1%)</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>58 (27.3%)</td>
<td>45.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>173 (35.1%)</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>61 (33.5%)</td>
<td>36.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worsley</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>134 (31.9%)</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>60 (35.9%)</td>
<td>39.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Centre</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>47 (51%)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14 (63.6%)</td>
<td>23.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra</td>
<td>967</td>
<td>179 (31.5%)</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>91 (36.5%)</td>
<td>41.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coldhurst</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>147 (30%)</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>42 (26.7%)</td>
<td>32.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medlock Vale</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>117 (30.9%)</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>54 (29.6%)</td>
<td>48.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worsley</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>120 (33.5%)</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>53 (38.4%)</td>
<td>38.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromforth</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>53 (28.4%)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>16 (27.1%)</td>
<td>32.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royton North</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>52 (30.5%)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>22 (30.9%)</td>
<td>42.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royton South</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>47 (28.9%)</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>20 (37.7%)</td>
<td>33.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaw</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>78 (32.7%)</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>30 (37%)</td>
<td>34.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddleworth North</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>36 (42.5%)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>11 (42.3%)</td>
<td>31.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddleworth South</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>37 (47.4%)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8 (36.3%)</td>
<td>28.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddleworth West &amp; Lees</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>65 (33.5%)</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>21 (31.3%)</td>
<td>34.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2016, on average children were present in 37.1% of cases of domestic violence and abuse when Greater Manchester Police attended. This figure represents an increase from 36.38% in 2015.

The response to domestic violence and abuse must encompass a whole family approach to ensure the needs of all persons affected are assessed, identified and responded to.

The inclusion of the voluntary, community and faith sectors within the offer is crucial and capacity building within these sectors must be a priority to ensure we are able to co-design and commission services which are fit for purpose and which complement our ethos of being a co-operative borough.

Appendix 3 details the number of children and families affected by domestic violence and abuse who are engaged with Children’s Social Care at points in time (quarterly data). As this Strategy is a 3 year document, the quarterly data will be added to Appendix 3 throughout the period.

7. Themes

This Strategy will focus on seven key themes with an additional work stream to monitor the action plan which has been developed as a result of the Domestic Homicide Review conducted in Oldham in 2014/15.

The key themes for this Strategy are;

- Protecting children and young people from harm
- Early help, intervention and support
- Developing healthy relationships
- So called honour based violence and abuse, forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- Exploitation (CSE, human trafficking, modern slavery and sham marriages)
- The impact of DV on health and wellbeing
- Training, governance and collaborative working

Protecting Children and Young People From Harm

The safeguarding of children and young people is at the heart of this Strategy and this will remain our key priority.

Witnessing domestic violence and abuse within the home environment can significantly affect a child’s life chances. We are committed to protecting children by improving information sharing with schools, colleges and other educational establishments in order to ensure that children from households where domestic violence and abuse occurs, have accessible support in a safe place.

Early Help, Intervention and Support

We will seek to work with individuals and families at the earliest opportunity. We will offer specialist support to victims of domestic violence and abuse, and will endeavour
to engage those who perpetrate violence in behaviour change programmes. Where circumstances allow we will aim to work with all family members to identify and address complex issues which are factors within the family dynamic in order to achieve long term solutions.

**Developing Healthy Relationships**

We will work with our communities to promote a social norm of respectful, responsible relationships through education, engagement and support. We will ask our communities to act as positive role models for young people and to challenge persons who believe domestic violence and abuse is an acceptable form of behaviour.

**So Called Honour Based Violence and Abuse, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation**

We will be clear in our messages that we will not tolerate so called honour based violence and abuse under any circumstances and will take any action needed to protect vulnerable persons from harm. We will work with communities to enable them to educate their peers and to empower them to challenge any violent or abusive behaviours which are carried out in the name of honour.

**Exploitation (CSE, Human Trafficking, Modern Slavery and Sham Marriages)**

We will do our utmost to protect vulnerable persons from being exploited for the purposes of sexual activity, forced labour, domestic servitude, organ harvesting and other criminality and will work with our partners to ensure identified offenders are brought to justice.

**The Impact of DV on Health and Well-Being**

We recognise that domestic violence and abuse impacts on emotional, mental and physical health and that dependencies can develop as a coping mechanism in response to violent, abusing and controlling behaviours; and that this can create a negative cycle of harm to a person’s health and well-being. We will ensure services are available and accessible for people to seek help and support to assist them to improve their overall health and wellbeing and so gain a more positive outlook for the future.

**Training, Governance and Collaborative Working**

The ability of staff across the Partnership to recognise domestic violence and abuse, and be aware of the services available to support those in need is essential. We will continue our efforts to raise awareness of the dynamics of domestic violence and abuse amongst the joint workforce and will seek to expand this to businesses and to the community throughout the life of this Strategy. We will monitor performance locally and will work with colleagues across the conurbation to ensure the standard of response to domestic violence and abuse is the best it can possibly be.
# Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASB</td>
<td>Anti-Social Behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASBRAC</td>
<td>Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATR</td>
<td>Alcohol Treatment Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBO</td>
<td>Criminal Behaviour Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>Community Rehabilitation Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSC</td>
<td>Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSCP</td>
<td>Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCLG</td>
<td>Department for Communities and Local Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHR</td>
<td>Domestic Homicide Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRR</td>
<td>Drug Rehabilitation Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DV</td>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVDS</td>
<td>Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVPN</td>
<td>Domestic Violence Partnership Notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVPO</td>
<td>Domestic Violence Protection Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FGM</td>
<td>Female Genital Mutilation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FM</td>
<td>Forced Marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMU</td>
<td>Forced Marriage Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOM</td>
<td>Integrated Offender Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAPPA</td>
<td>Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARAC</td>
<td>Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASH</td>
<td>Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPS</td>
<td>National Probation Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPD</td>
<td>Public Protection Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPIU</td>
<td>Public Protection Investigation Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSR</td>
<td>Pre-Sentence Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RO</td>
<td>Restraining Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHBVA</td>
<td>So Called Honour Based Violence and Abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UKBA</td>
<td>UK Border Agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 1

National Strategy to End Violence Against Women and Girls 2016
Appendix 2

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
Quality Standard Document 2016
Appendix 3

Children’s Social Care Data – 31\textsuperscript{st} January 2017