

TRAFFORD PARTNERSHIP

Report to: Health and Well Being Board

Date: 15th April 2016

Report of: Kerry Purnell, Head of Communities & Partnerships, Trafford Council

Report Title

Domestic Abuse Update

Purpose and Summary

To provide an update on the Domestic Abuse work streams and our new governance arrangements for Domestic Abuse

Recommendation(s)

Report to be noted

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Apendices

Safer Trafford Partnership structures 2016

1 Governance

- 1.1 Until early 2015 there were numerous sub-groups which sat beneath the Domestic Abuse Delivery Board. However partners reported difficulty in attending and servicing the number of meetings and some fell by the wayside. Over the course of 2015 a root and branch review of the whole Trafford Partnership was undertaken in order to reduce duplication, maximise use of staff time and ensure work of the partnership delivers outcome focussed strategies and action plans which add value beyond what agencies would deliver as 'business as usual'.
- 1.2 As a consequence of the review and of a refresh of the Trafford Crime Strategy, the Safer Trafford structures were also streamlined from 3 sub-groups to 2 in late 2015. The Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) sub-group remains, largely unchanged, and Domestic Abuse forms part of the PVP action plan. However it quickly became apparent how complex and far reaching the DA delivery streams are and so the Chair of the PVP group asked that a Strategic DA Delivery Forum be reconvened to ensure oversight of all work streams and appropriate reporting mechanisms into both STP and the Children's and Adults Safeguarding Board. The Strategic Forum met for the first time in early March.

- 1.3 Trafford is connected into the GM DA structures and is represented on the GM DA Delivery Board, GM DA Co-ordinators Group, GM Service Led Improvement forum and the GM Strive Project Board.
- 1.4 Work is underway to pull together a single DA Delivery Action Plan to include the Children's Safeguarding priority actions as well as those in the PVP action plan with new work outlined in section 3 below to be added as it comes on stream. The Strategic Forum will monitor progress against the plan.

2 Work streams

2.1 STRIVE:- Early Intervention to reduce risk and demand on services

S - Safeguard
T - Threat Assessment
R - Re-Visit
I - Intervention
V - Volunteers
E - Engagement

Alongside the other 10 GM boroughs, using Home Office Innovation Funds and sponsored by the Police Crime Commissioner's Office (OPCC), we have developed a new service for victims of domestic abuse who report to the police for the first time. Where there is no crime recorded and no criminal justice outcome, and where the risk is assessed as standard or low, PCSOs and trained volunteers are being used to conduct follow up visits and offer bespoke support to families who would not otherwise be getting the help they need and are therefore likely to present again to the police or other services in the future. This service reform project runs until March 2017 and is being externally evaluated by the University of Lancaster.

GM Evidence base:

- In 2013-14, of the 66,174 DV related calls to GMP, 74% assessed as standard risk
- In these, repeat vulnerability was 68-82%
- 20% had children present
- Current model - standard letter sent out, no intervention
- HMIC inspection of GMP highlighted issues relating to standard risk
- From Jan 2014, pilots started in some GMP divisions which provided the basis on which bid to Home Office Funds was made.

Trafford has received considerable funding to get STRIVE up and running, £138k for 2015-16 and £20k for 2016-17. There is a huge amount of national interest in its progress given the outcomes of the HMIC thematic inspection of police forces around domestic abuse.

Key elements to the Trafford Strive Model:

- Multi-agency steering group of Council, GMP, Health and commissioned providers
- GMP began follow up victim visits using PCSOs in July 2015 and this continues.
- Volunteer Infrastructure: Pulse have an overall contract with the Council and for Strive have sub-contracted to Relate to recruit, train and manage volunteers. A full time Volunteer Co-ordinator is in place and since early December 2015 she has been conducting joint visits with PCSOs. 24 volunteers are now recruited and should start visits in April 2016.
- Referral Gateway: established involving GMP, CRC, MARAT and Relate to record cases which fit the STRIVE cohort, share intelligence, risk assess and allocate. This

gateway will ultimately fall into the All Age Front Door/ Public Service Hub model once this is implemented in Trafford.

- Project Co-ordination, risk assessment and development: CRC Partnership Intervention Co-ordinators have been commissioned to provide this service.
- Outcomes star licences purchased for consistent outcomes monitoring.
- Family Group Conferencing: Barnardo's have been commissioned to provide for up to 40 families to undertake FGC. This is unique across the GM STRIVE programme.
- DA Awareness training for frontline staff and volunteers: Has been commissioned from TDAS. 8 courses for 15 staff and volunteers have been arranged beginning March 2016 and running for 12 months.
- Network of Victims' Champions: Commissioned from Pulse as part of the Volunteer infrastructure to connect volunteers with commissioned providers to develop consistency of practice, shared learning and provide sustainability to the programme beyond March 2017.

2.2 Commissioned services in support of victims

The Safer Trafford Partnership and Public Health jointly commission a number of support services to higher risk and repeat victims of Domestic Abuse including one to one support and refuge services. The commissioning outcomes and framework was refreshed in 2014. The current services commissioned until 31st March 2018 are:-

Provision	Service Commissioned	Brief Description of Service
Community Based Services	IDVA x 3 fte (Victim Support)	The IDVA is a trained specialist whose goal is the safety of domestic abuse victims over 16 years referred to MARAC. The IDVA's job is to be a bridge between victims and the MARAC meeting and provide on-going support. One of the IDVAs primarily focuses on support to the BME community.
	IRIS x1fte (Victim Support)	IRIS is a GP practice-based domestic violence training, support and referral programme for primary care staff. It is a targeted intervention for patients aged 16 and above experiencing current or former DA from a partner, ex-partner or adult family member. IRIS provides care pathways for all patients living with abuse as well as information and signposting for male victims and for perpetrators.
	Information and Advice Line/Brief Intervention (Victim Support)	The Information and Advice Line supports people who have a significant local connection with Trafford who are experiencing or have experienced domestic abuse.
	Support Worker. 0.5 fte (Victim Support)	The Domestic Abuse Support Worker provides advocacy and support to male and female victims of domestic violence. This involves offering follow up support in reported cases of DA, discussing the range of suitable options and arranging practical measures to increase personal safety, undertaking risk assessments, encouraging reporting incidents to the police and ensuring early signposting to other agencies, e.g. child safeguarding referrals to social services, potential homeless referrals to refuge and housing providers.
	Children/Families Worker 0.5fte (Victim Support)	Works with children and young people for whom there is DA in the family setting.

Refuge and Floating Support	Refuge and Floating Support (TDAS)	Provides support to users of the Refuge and a Floating Support units.
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2.3 Stronger Families

We have also received an additional £40k from the PCC's Office to enhance existing commissioned services. We have decided to use it innovatively in support of Public Service Reform and Complex Dependency and have commissioned Victim Support to employ a further IDVA who will be seconded full time to the Stronger Families programme. This goes live in April 2016 and will be piloted for 1 year.

2.4 MARAC

The MARAC panel continues to provide multi-agency assessment and support to high risk victims. The MARAC is a monthly meeting chaired by the police. It is intended to share information about very high risk clients in order to prevent serious harm, develop a safety plan, put all possible support in place and lower the risk as soon as possible. The meeting is attended by any organisations which may be involved in supporting victims, or which are connected with the perpetrator. MARAC data and any emerging strategic issues will be monitored by the DA Strategic forum.

2.5 Behaviour Change programmes

Safer Trafford has identified a gap in provision for those who cause harm through DA, who are not in the justice system, but who are motivated to seek help. Public Health has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of local need and the cost of DA to the local economy. GM also recognise the gap and as part of the bid to the Home Office Innovation fund the PCC's Office has secured resources to pilot and support the roll out of programmes across the city region. 3 providers with 3 programmes have been procured and are currently being piloted in 5 boroughs. Funding was due in 2016-17 to support each borough to roll out a programme and the DA Strategic Forum had intended to develop a specification bespoke to Trafford. However the PCC's Office has identified an underspend in other funding which is being diverted to early intervention Behaviour Change programmes and so we recently had an offer of an immediate £50k if we selected one of the 3 GM providers and commissioned them before 31/3/16 for delivery in the next financial year.

We held conversations with the providers during early March and have selected Inner Strengths. Inner Strengths were commissioned by GM to develop a new screening, risk and motivation assessment tool which will be rolled out GM wide and have developed a new flexible 'IS Lite' 12 session, strengths-based group work programme. Developed jointly by an academic and a clinician it is based on analysis of what works and what doesn't and is appropriate for both genders and for young people and trials so far I indicate low attrition rates and positive person and family centred outcomes across a range of behaviours. They also offer a train the trainer package which would provide a more sustainable and cost effective model for the future.

We will be contracting with Inner Strengths for an 18 month programme with a 3 month lead-in from April to July 2016. We envisage referral routes being through the following cohorts:

- STRIVE
- MARAT
- Stroger Families
- IDVAs
- Primary Care
- Custody disposals where there has been an arrest but No Further Action., Simple Caution of Restorative Justice

We intend to ensure that Inner Strengths is embedded in the wider DA programme and that the providers are well connected with our other commissioned services to ensure that we take a whole family approach wherever possible
Our programme will form part of the GM independent evaluation which is being provided by the University of Cumbria.

3 Future Plans

- To ensure DA delivery becomes embedded within any new operating models for Public Service Reform in Trafford e.g. Key worker approach and the All Age Front Door an Public Service Hub
- To ensure there is alignment and connectivity between all commissioned providers to ensure all referral pathways are maximised and services are person/family centred to produce the best outcomes and reduce risk.
- To scope the Op Encompass model currently operating in Bolton and Rochdale whereby information is shared routinely by GMP with schools following police attendance at a domestic incident where a school aged child was present.
- To map and scope our current curriculum input in schools around healthy relationships and to assess if more services or training is needed for schools to support those children affected by domestic abuse
- To commission more TDAS training sessions for frontline staff and volunteers
- To commit further OPCC funding for core service provision (2016-17) to maintain our commissioned services at current levels

4 Recommendations

Report to be noted