

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Health Scrutiny Committee
Date: 9TH March 2022
Report for: Information
Report of: Rhys Dower

Report Title

Domestic Abuse perpetrator support programs and resources for victim support services.
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Summary

This report is to provide information on the service progress of the perpetrator support programs within Trafford and resources for victim support services.
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Recommendation(s)

Committee to note report

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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1. Introduction

Domestic abuse is a widespread issue, affecting millions across the UK. On average the police receive an emergency call relating to domestic abuse every 30 seconds. It is estimated that each year an estimated 5.5% of adults aged 16 to 74 years (2.3 million) experienced domestic abuse. Of these, up to 100,000 victims are at risk of being murdered or seriously injured as a result of the abuse they are experiencing. However, the problem is much bigger than shown in official statistics. Researchers estimate that domestic abuse statistics are 140% higher than those stated in the Crime Survey for England and Wales.

Domestic abuse (DA) is a vitally important issue for all services across Trafford. Using estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) up to the end of March 2018, it is estimated around 5,316 women (7.9%) and 2,749 men (4.2%) in Trafford have experienced DA in the last year. Nationally, 28.9% of women and 13.2% of men have experienced DA since the age of 16, which in Trafford could amount to 19,448 women and 8,638 men. Based on findings from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2021, of those that experience domestic abuse every year in Trafford we can estimate that 6,720 (68%) are female victims and approximately 3,520 (32%) male victims.

Demographic Breakdown

There are 186,884 individuals aged 16 or over in Trafford of which we can estimate around 32,700 will have experienced domestic abuse over their lifetime. On an annual basis, this equates to 9,840 individuals likely to have experienced domestic abuse (both familial and intimate partner violence).

- Based on the population of young people in Trafford, we estimate that 1,840 young people between 16-24 years will experience domestic abuse every year.
- Based on the age of the population in Trafford we estimate around 1,760 individuals over the age of 60 will experience domestic abuse every year.

Trafford has undertaken a comprehensive needs assessment and developed a strategy to implement a number of recommendations to redesign the pathway and service via a robust, place-focused, holistic approach. Following the Domestic Abuse Strategy, Trafford Council created an implementation plan with four key priorities and objectives. The following objectives outline the need for perpetrator provision which is whole-family focused:

- A unified offer of support for those concerned about their behaviour within intimate and family relationships.
- Service provision is accessible without delay to victims, children and perpetrators including from all protected characteristic groups or where there is a complexity of need.
- A coordinated safeguarding approach to assess the needs of each family member to ensure support plans are 'whole family' focused.
- Developed pathway for families experiencing domestic abuse that stay together

Trafford Partnership is committed to preventing and reducing the harm caused by DA by developing and implementing a sustainable system wide approach to prevention, early

intervention, response and support. This report aims to provide an update on perpetrator provisions within Trafford, and the ways Trafford Council is meeting the objectives outlined above.

2. Make A Change (MAC)

Earlier in 2021, TLC: Talk, Listen, Change secured Lottery funding via Respect to deliver the Make a Change programme in Trafford (working in partnership with Trafford Domestic Abuse Services), over the period 2021 – 2025. Make a Change (MAC) has been developed by Respect in consultation with the Women's Aid Federation.

MAC is a whole-community approach to domestic abuse perpetration, offering interventions for those using abusive behaviour in their intimate or previously intimate relationships, support for their partners and/or ex-partners, community outreach, and workforce development to help recognise and respond to domestic abuse perpetration effectively.

Prior to Make a Change, Trafford did not have a commissioned perpetrator provision. Therefore, the model is designed to fill a significant gap in current service provision, for situations where people know that domestic abuse is taking place, but where the behaviour or concerns have not yet met the threshold for a statutory / family court / criminal justice referral.

Home Office Funding

In June 2021, the Home Office published an invitation to Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales to apply for grant funding to support the introduction of perpetrator-focused domestic abuse programmes.

The funding was aimed at increasing the geographic expansion of existing programmes and the target cohort through adaptation of programmes to reach wider needs.

There were three areas of focus within the fund:

Programmes that addressed known issues in relation to DA offending amongst adults (£7.1m)

Programmes that focus on children and adolescents (£2m)

Programmes aimed at stalking perpetrators (£2m).

Adults

The Home Office requested bids for funding to deliver programmes that adopted a whole-system approach, which enable perpetrators to fully participate in behaviour change. This can include addressing factors which increase the likelihood of reducing violence, such as substance misuse and addressing mental health support needs; and those that work with perpetrators during times of known trigger events, for example a partner's pregnancy and loss of employment.

The Home Office also invited bids that focused on early intervention and prevention in the community, for example education on healthy relationships.

Children and Young People

The Home Office states that many young women aged between 16-20 years were victims of domestic abuse. The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) year ending March 2020 showed that women aged 16 to 19 years were significantly more likely to have been victims of domestic abuse in the last year, however, there is little dedicated provision for support or activity to tackle those who perpetrate abuse in their adolescent relationships.

The Home Office are also aware of the increasing demand for programmes that work with children and adolescents who are violent or abusive towards their parents and carers so welcome bids that address child/ adolescent to parent abuse. A recent report suggested that nearly 70% of practitioners had seen an increase in referrals for families experiencing child/ adolescent to parent abuse during the COVID pandemic.

It was a requirement that any programme that addresses this should be embedded within child safeguarding and child protection principles and practice.

Greater Manchester Police and Crime Commissioner led a bid to the Home Office, and Trafford was included in this bid.

3. Opportunities for Trafford

The Make a Change programme lends itself well to a specific post focused on working with young people. While Respect confirmed that the programme is not suitable for young people below age 18, it was agreed that work with 18-25 year olds would be beneficial.

As the Home Office funding included reference to adult perpetrators, it seemed logical to explore the possibility of securing a contribution towards the wider Make a Change programme.

Lastly, it seemed a good opportunity to secure funding to pilot work with young people using harm over the 12-month funding period, in order to inform future commissioning and strategic decision making in Trafford.

Trafford's part of the Home Office bid therefore had three elements:

Make a Change

Funding to cover an additional post within the Make a Change team with a focus on 18-25 year olds specifically

Support for the wider Make a Change programme

Young People Using Harm

Funding for the provision of additional counselling and behaviour change work with young people using harm in their intimate relationships and / or with their parents / carers

4. Finance

A key element of both opportunities is that match funding is required.

Make a Change: Match funding must be secured to the value of 20% of funding in Year 2 and 40% in Years 3 and 4.

Item	Overall total cost	Secured from Lottery	Proportion as match	Match required
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Year 1 2021-22	£152,028	£152,028	0%	£0
Year 2 2022-23	£152,432	£121,946	20%	£30,486
Year 3 2023-24	£152,840	£91,704	40%	£61,136
Year 4 2024-25	£153,252	£91,951	40%	£61,301
Totals	£610,552	£335,683		£152,923

Home Office funding: The Home Office provides funding for 8 months of delivery, with local authorities to match the remaining 4 months.

Item	Home Office (8 mths)	Trafford MBC Request (4 mths)
Make a Change Worker (18-25s)	£26,666	£13,333
Make a Change	£13,333	£6,666
Young People Using Harm	£58,333	£29,166
Totals	£98,332	£49,165

Community Safety are contributing £50,000 worth of funding towards the match fund element of this provision. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) funding for Domestic Abuse is ring-fenced for the second consecutive year for accommodation-based services only. Therefore, Local Authority funding for Domestic Abuse cannot be used for community-based services, such as Make a Change or other preventative early intervention provisions. Trafford council have approached Probation and GMP to enquire about providing some additional funding towards the provision.

5. The Proposed Work

Home Office funding

TLC will deliver:

Respect Young People's Programme for children and young people aged 10-16 who are abusive or violent towards their parents/carers.

The programme covers:

Insight into violence and abuse and its' effects
 Emotional regulation
 Solution focused work and goal setting
 Cognitive behavioural work
 Empathy building, and
 Conflict resolution.

The Respect Young People's Program also includes four 1:1 sessions with the Child/Young Person, and separate sessions with the parent/carer.

TLC Healthy Relationships Programme is an adapted and shortened version of TLC's Domestic Abuse Prevention Programme (behaviour change programme), for children and young people aged 10+ who are violent towards their intimate partners / peers. It comprises therapy and behaviour change work via 1:1 sessions.

The programme covers:

Parenting (as relevant)
Isolation and jealousy
Intimidation and coercion
Emotional abuse
Sexual respect, and
Gender.

Trafford Domestic Abuse Service (TDAS) will provide additional support for victim / survivors of the programme participants for the duration of the time they are engaging in the provision.

6. Monitoring and Outputs

Trafford Council's Domestic Abuse Manager monitors the effectiveness of the provision via quarterly reports and monitoring outcome meetings with Talk Listen Change. Thus far, two monitoring outcome reports have been received and two monitoring outcome meetings have taken place. The Domestic Abuse Manager is the link between TLC and GMCA, by submitting the reports to GMCA, who then submit to the Home Office.

Since the launch of the provision in August 2021, TLC have received 25 referrals into Make a Change. The first group started in December 2021 and in the last quarter TLC ran three information sessions for professionals and trained 39 people. The community outreach element of the programme is progressing well with the team identifying and contacting 107 community organisations. Talk Listen Change have also presented at a number of boards and meetings within Trafford.

Make a Change

The extra post created within Make a Change through the Home Office funding will enable TLC: Talk, Listen, Change and TDAS to work with an additional 15 perpetrators, 11 survivors, 4 children and 1 friend / family member within the year. The postholder will also deliver work around raising awareness amongst professionals and within the community, specifically regarding working with young people using harm in their relationships.

Including the Lottery funding already in place for the wider Make a Change programme, TLC: Talk, Listen, Change and TDAS will work with a total of 66 perpetrators, 50 survivors, 16 children and 8 friends and family referrals per year.

Young People Using Harm

TLC: Talk, Listen, Change will work with 75 young people over a 12-month period. Support duration will vary depending upon each young person's situation, but will average between 3-6 months.

Outcomes

All work will deliver sustained reductions in frequency and gravity of abuse, risk posed by young people using harm and improved safety and protection for related victims. Plus improved relationships and emotional wellbeing, resilience and behavioural insight.

Risk levels will be measured using the Domestic Abuse, Stalking & Harassment and Honor Based Abuse Risk Identification Checklist (DASH RIC). Abuse and safety outcomes will be measured through the following participant questionnaires:

Young People: Strengths & Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) / Circumplex Scales of Interpersonal Efficacy / YP-Core

Parents: SDQ parent version / Parent Problem Checklist

Partners & All: Short Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale.

Appendix 1

Staff Structure for TLC MAC / CYP

