

## AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

<b>Name of Committee</b>	<b>Corporate Services and Community Safety</b>	
<b>Date of Committee</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> December 2009</b>	
<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Domestic Abuse – A Strategy for Warwickshire: 1 Year Progress Report</b>	
<b>Summary</b>	A 1 Year Progress Report on the Warwickshire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 -2011.	
<b>For further information please contact:</b>	Kate Nash Head of Community Safety and Localities Customers, Workforce and Governance Directorate 01926 412177 <a href="mailto:katenash@warwickshire.gov.uk">katenash@warwickshire.gov.uk</a>	Sue Ingram Domestic Abuse Manager Customers, Workforce and Governance Directorate 01926 412016 <a href="mailto:sueingram@warwickshire.gov.uk">sueingram@warwickshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?</b>	No.	
<b>Background papers</b>	Warwickshire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 - 2011	

### CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Local Member(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable
Other Elected Members	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cllr Appleton, Cllr Davis, Cllr Chattaway
Cabinet Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cllr Hobbs
Chief Executive	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jane Pollard
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Kaye
Other Chief Officers	<input type="checkbox"/>	

District Councils

Health Authority ☐

Police ☐

Other Bodies/Individuals ☐

**FINAL DECISION** **No**

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:**

Details to be specified

Further consideration by ☐ .....  
this Committee

To Council ☐ .....

To Cabinet ☐

To an O & S Committee ☐ .....

To an Area Committee ☐ .....

Further Consultation ☐

## **Agenda No**

### **Corporate Services and Community Safety O&S Committee – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009.**

### **Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 – 2011 1 Year Progress Report**

### **Report of the Strategic Director of Customers, Workforce and Governance**

#### **Recommendation**

That the Corporate Services and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the attached Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 -2011 1 Year Report and comments upon it.

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Warwickshire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 – 2011 and accompanying annual actions plan show how partner agencies aim to improve the quality of life for people within the county by tackling the causes and effects of domestic abuse.
- 1.2 This Report demonstrates the progress being made in delivering the outcomes identified in the strategy and identifies areas for discussion and potential remedial action.

## **2 Warwickshire's Aims**

- 2.1 Our aim is to enable those experiencing domestic abuse to make changes in their lives through the provision of structured support. In particular we aim to:
  - Prevent and reduce the incidents of domestic abuse across Warwickshire, to reduce repeat victimisation and to protect victims and their children from abuse.
  - Provide an empathetic and supportive response to victims and their children from all appropriate agencies and consult with service users on the quality and appropriateness of services provided.

## **3 Outcomes**

- 3.1 The overall success of the strategy and action plan will be reported through the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for National Indicator 15: Serious Violent Crime. This indicator will be measured across the three years of the Local Area Agreement.

### 3.2 Performance against strategic outcomes:

	2007 - 2008	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	Direction
Number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the police	7156	8055	3932 Q1-2 Predicted year end 7864	<b>Amber</b>
Number of perpetrators charged and going to court	419 total 393 Magistrates 26 Crown Court	409 Magistrates only	173 to date Predicted year end 346 Magistrates only	<b>Red</b>
Number of reported <i>repeat</i> incidents of domestic abuse (recorded through MARACs)	MARACs not in operation	Rate of repeat High Risk incidents: 9.4%	Rate of repeat High Risk incidents: 17.33%	<b>Red</b>

### 3.3 Performance Commentary

- 3.3.1 Immediately following the 2008 marketing campaign there was a 15% increase in incidents of domestic abuse reported to the police. April – September 2009 has seen a tapering off of incidents being reported, a 4% decrease on the same period in 2008. This may be due to victims having come forward and accessed services earlier, thus preventing further incidents and an escalation in violence.
- 3.3.2 We will continue to monitor the number of incidents being reported in order to analyse the trend. If by the end of quarter 4 this year evidence suggests we have hit the peak in terms of incidents being reported the strategic outcome may need to be amended.
- 3.3.3 Although the rate of repeat victimisation amongst high risk victims is increasing, a recent independent report suggests this is because victims are now confident in reporting incidents at an earlier stage. It may also be due to services “flagging and tagging” their systems more robustly so as we progress the rate of repeat victimisation will continue to rise.
- 3.3.4 Warwickshire’s average of 17% is still well below the national average of 24% repeat victimisation for high risk victims. A mature MARAC should expect a repeat rate of 33%.
- 3.3.5 The Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA) Service is specifically designed to reduce repeat victimisation and encourage victims to support a prosecution where a crime has been committed. Lack of victim support for a prosecution is one of the main reasons the number of perpetrators charged is so low. The service was specifically commissioned to deliver on Warwickshire’s strategic outcomes and the 2009 – 10 Criminal Justice data should reflect the work they are undertaking with victims.

## 4 Progress on Key Objectives

- 4.1 Five key objectives for this strategy were agreed by Cabinet in September 2008. Progress is outlined under each objective.

## **5 Safety and Support**

- 5.1 To ensure that the safety and support needs of those experiencing domestic abuse are met through well-resourced, safe, accessible services.

### **5.2 Achievements/ progress**

- 5.2.1 We are working with Supporting People to undertake an independent Strategic Review of all services for people affected by domestic abuse in Warwickshire. The Strategic Review will enable Warwickshire to move to a more co-ordinated pattern of support service provision giving service users the opportunity to have a say in how their support is delivered.
- 5.2.2 The Strategic Review will:
- Provide clear direction of how to move from current service provision to a planned desired mix of providers and services to meet the required strategic and service user outcomes.
  - Improve services to the specified client group
  - Improve value for money
  - Ensure alignment between commissioners of domestic abuse services
- 5.2.3 The initial report is due in January 2010.
- 5.2.4 The development of the Warwickshire Domestic Abuse Helpline, run by WCC has continued, with a new free-phone telephone number. Since the launch of the new free-phone number, calls have increased by over 100% each month.
- 5.2.5 In August 2008 Warwickshire Police began using a new dynamic risk assessment for victims of domestic abuse, resulting in a more comprehensive classification of risk and a way of measuring whether the risk posed to the victim is increasing or decreasing over time.
- 5.2.6 A common risk indicator checklist and assessment tool has been developed nationally. This will provide all agencies with an approved method of measuring/ monitoring risk to victims.
- 5.2.7 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) first met in April 2008. MARACs bring agencies together to identify ways to reduce the risks posed to victims of domestic abuse on a case by case basis. In 2008 – 2009 the Warwickshire MARAC reviewed 287 cases. Warwickshire are currently undertaking the MARAC Implementation Programme, a lengthy 3 stage process leading to a recognised quality assurance standard.
- 5.2.8 The first stage of the implementation Programme was an independent review of the Warwickshire MARAC. Recommendations included:
- All front line staff across all agencies should know how to make a referral to MARACs.
  - Development of a MARAC Sharing of Information Protocol to encourage non-attending agencies to engage with the process.

- Development of a Domestic Abuse strategic group in Warwickshire and a MARAC steering group, in the interim, MARAC development could be monitored by WSCP.
  - Increased capacity of the IDVA Service.
- 5.2.9 During the year the Domestic Abuse Outreach Service funded by WCC has been receiving over 400 referrals per quarter.
- 5.2.10 In March 2009 there were over 100 women on the waiting list for services. To combat this we have funded Supporting People to provide extra Floating Support for victims of domestic abuse.
- 5.2.11 Between April and September 2009 Rugby's Project Fresh-start (funded by Rugby LSP) has resettled 15 women and 19 children in the community. The project focuses on providing women who have fled domestic abuse with the skills, knowledge and understanding to support sustainable tenancies and integrate themselves and their children into the community.
- 5.2.12 Another new initiative this year has been the delivery of the Freedom Programme in Warwickshire, funded by WCC. The programme provides an opportunity for women to develop ways of thinking and behaving to protect themselves, their children and others from harm. It teaches skills that are necessary in order for survivors of domestic abuse to resettle and maintain their independence.
- 5.2.13 A Domestic Abuse Policy for Warwickshire County Council is being developed, in order to protect and support staff who are victims of domestic abuse.

## **6 Protection and Justice**

- 6.1 To ensure that perpetrators are both supported to change their behaviour and held accountable through a co-ordinated response, which does not compromise the safety of victims and children.

### **6.2 Achievements/ Progress**

- 6.2.1 The IDVA Service has been operational since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009. This provides an intensive support service for an extra 40 high risk victims each month, focussing on support through the criminal justice system. The aim of the service is to decrease repeat victimisation and increase the number of victims supporting prosecutions, thus making it a key service in delivering on Warwickshire's strategic outcomes. The service is currently subsidised by the Ministry of Justice, however it will become reliant on WCC funding in future.
- 6.2.2 Nuneaton and Bedworth CDRP have piloted the 'Breaking the Cycle' initiative in Nuneaton focussing on preventing repeat victimisation. Since April this year there has been a 30% reduction in repeat incidents reported by the families involved in the project.
- 6.2.3 Victim Support have launched the "Visual Evidence for Victims Scheme" in Stratford and Warwick Districts, funded by South Warwickshire CDRP. Staff are trained to take instant photographs of injuries and/or damage to property that has been caused by domestic abuse. These photographs can then be

stored and used as evidence up to 6 years later. The evidence can be used for Supporting a Criminal Injuries Compensation Claim, reporting the crime to the police, and civil proceedings.

- 6.2.4 The 3 above initiatives have contributed to fewer victim statements being retracted; and both have contributed to the conviction rate (of those perpetrators charged with an offence) continually rising. Warwickshire has the highest conviction rate (of perpetrators charged) in England and Wales at 87%. However in only 5.85% of incidents or 22% of crimes that have been reported to the police are the perpetrators charged with an offence (see table in 3.3 above). It is hoped that the new Crown prosecution Service Violence against Women Strategy will lead to an increase in the number of perpetrators being charged and held to account for their actions in court.
- 6.2.5 The recommendations of the Specialist Domestic Abuse Court (SDAC) National Steering Group have been completed. However, at present only 54% of domestic abuse cases are heard in the SDAC. The Warwickshire SDAC steering group is currently undertaking a period of process mapping with the aim of all Magistrates cases being heard in the SDAC.
- 6.2.6 Warwickshire's Magistrates have received Ministry of justice funding to receive revised training on domestic abuse which will include information on sentencing and the services available for vulnerable victims.
- 6.2.7 Perpetrators who are convicted of a criminal offence may be referred to the Probation Service's Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP). Area Based Grant funding has been made available to employ extra staff to increase the capacity of the IDAP. This will decrease the waiting time for those already sentenced and give magistrates the confidence to use this as a sentencing option.
- 6.2.8 The Domestic Abuse Counselling Service's Perpetrator Intervention Programme can be accessed by perpetrators on a voluntary basis. The programme is now available countywide following funding from the National Lottery. This will provide counselling to an extra 30 perpetrators a year in order to help them change their behaviour. Support is also provided for the victims' of perpetrators on the programme to ensure their safety remains paramount.

## **7 Prevention and early intervention**

- 7.1 To reduce incidents of domestic abuse and ensure that it is confronted and challenged so that victims, perpetrators and families can access services earlier.

### **7.2 Achievements/ Progress**

- 7.2.1 A strong Communications Strategy has been implemented involving targeted press releases, Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse campaign materials and website, and the Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse multi-agency Newsletter.
- 7.2.2 The Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse website, [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk) has continued to flourish. Compared to the same

period in 2008, from April – October 2009 there has been an increase in traffic to the site of 200%. It is predicted that the site will have been visited 20,000 times in 2009.

- 7.2.3 Phase 3 of the marketing campaign is being launched at the end of November, with the aim of encouraging victims to come forward and seek help. It is hoped this will again lead to an increase in first time incidents being reported to the police.
- 7.2.4 A comprehensive multi-agency training programme has been devised and delivered including Forced Marriage Protection Orders, Domestic Abuse and Disability, Domestic abuse in same sex relationships and Domestic Abuse and Child protection. (115 professionals from a range of agencies have received domestic abuse training in 2009.)
- 7.2.5 The Sanctuary Scheme has re-launched, with WCC funding and with Warwickshire Police as the service managers. The scheme enables victims of domestic abuse to remain in their own accommodation. Where the perpetrator has left the home, extra security measures are installed, for example, reinforcing front and back doors, installing intruder alarms, and 'tagging' properties with the emergency services. Support Services are also engaged with the victim. Between April and October 2009, 77 victims of domestic abuse have benefitted from the Sanctuary scheme, protecting 127 children.
- 7.2.6 The Domestic Abuse and Alcohol Project continues to work with victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse. Of the 38 perpetrators who engaged with the pilot project, 26 completed the full programme. Of those completing the programme, 71% have not since re-offended and 73% have reduced their alcohol consumption. The success evidenced by the project has led to further funding through the Area Based Grant in order to deliver the scheme county wide.
- 7.2.7 The Primary Care Trust has established a working group to develop a domestic abuse policy for health care services, including a care pathway for victims of abuse. This work will ensure all health visitors and midwives have the necessary skills to identify and manage cases of domestic abuse.

## **8 Children and young people**

- 8.1 To ensure children and young people who have witnessed domestic abuse are able to access appropriate services and that children and young people are given the skills to build relationships based on respect and equality.

### **8.2 Achievements/ Progress**

- 8.2.1 The "Warwickshire Children's Services Outcomes Strategy For Children and Young People Affected By Domestic Abuse" has been completed. The strategy aims to improve the outcomes and quality of life for children and young people in Warwickshire affected by domestic abuse.
- 8.2.2 The new Common Assessment Framework is providing an early opportunity to identify children affected by domestic abuse.



- 8.2.3 The “Feeling Safe” therapeutic group work programme for children affected by domestic abuse and the non-abusing carer is now being delivered by Family Support Workers in locality settings across Warwickshire.
- 8.2.4 Warwickshire Domestic Violence Support Services are delivering both Children’s Counselling and a Children’s Advocacy service county wide.
- 8.2.5 A joint working group with, Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board and Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership has been established to develop an action plan to help prevent children and young people being subjected to forced marriage.

## **9 Next steps - Building on progress and meeting new challenges**

### **9.1 Increasing the number of perpetrators held to account through the criminal justice system**

- 9.1.1 Evidence from Warwickshire Police suggests that while the number of incidents of domestic abuse that are reported remain high, the number of crimes is falling, implying that more emotional abuse is being reported. Indeed, the overall serious violent crime rate in Warwickshire has fallen.
- 9.1.2 Where a crime has been committed, domestic abuse is acknowledged to be a difficult crime to prosecute. All too often there are no independent witnesses/ evidence to what took place “behind closed doors”.
- 9.1.3 Warwickshire Police continue to develop their evidence gathering techniques in order to increase the number of prosecutions where a crime has been committed. 2009 -10 will see an implementation plan for the use of digital recordings of 999 calls to be used in interviews with perpetrators in order to secure an early guilty plea.
- 9.1.4 The CPS has recently launched a new Policy for Prosecuting Cases of Domestic Abuse which should increase prosecutors’ awareness of domestic abuse.

### **9.2 Reducing repeat victimisation**

- 9.2.1 In the immediate future we must be prepared for the repeat victimisation rate relating to high risk victims to rise, due to:
- Agencies flagging and tagging cases more robustly
  - Victims having more confidence in services and reporting incidents at an earlier stage.
- 9.2.2 However, the IDVA Service is working to decrease repeat victimisation and so once a victim has accessed services the intensive level of support offered should help to maintain a steady rate of repeat victimisation over all.

## **10 Recommendation**

- 10.1 That the Community Protection Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers this Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 -2011: 1 year Progress Report and comments upon it.

David Carter  
Strategic Director of  
Customers Workforce and Governance

## **Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 – 2011**

### **Action Plan 2009 - 2010**

This action plan sits beneath the Warwickshire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2008 - 2011 and, together, the documents show how partner agencies aim to improve the quality of life for people across the county by tackling the causes and effects of domestic abuse (DA).

#### **Outcomes**

The overall success of the strategy and action plan will be reported through the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for National Indicator 15: Serious Violent Crime. This indicator will be measured across the three years of the Local Area Agreement.

Further targets to be used to assess the success of the Domestic Abuse Strategy are:

1. Increase in number of first time reporting of domestic abuse
2. Increase in the number of perpetrators charged and going to court
3. Increase in numbers of children and young people affected by domestic abuse provided with support
- [4. Reduction in numbers of reported repeat incidents of domestic abuse – further work needs to be undertaken before a baseline for this indicator can be established.]

This Strategy and Action Plan is designed to accompany and complement work contained in other local strategies, as detailed in the Strategy document.

## Safety and Support

Key Objective: To ensure that the safety and support needs of those experiencing domestic abuse are met through well resourced, safe and accessible services.

Safety and Support				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
1. Provision of point of contact for victims	1.1 Provide sustainable local DA Helpline	DA Manager	Commission specialist 24 hr free phone helpline – April 2010	Increase in reporting of DA incidents Decrease in repeat victimisation
	1.2 Maintain and develop Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse (WADA) website	DA Manager Warwickshire Police Web Editors group	Public website consultation - September 2009 Website updated – November 2009 Website translated into top 5 Warwickshire languages – January 2010 Mobile website developed – November 2009 Mobile website tested December 2009 Mobile website goes live – January 2010	Increase in reporting of DA incidents Decrease in repeat victimisation Increased awareness of DA and service provision
	1.3 Develop website for Forced Marriage and Honour based violence.	DA Manager Warwickshire Police	Research undertaken –January 2010 Test site developed - February 2009 Website live - March 2010	Increase in contact for forced marriage and honour based violence

Safety and Support				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
2. Risk and needs assessment for victims making contact, including Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs)	2.1 Introduce the Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment (DASH) common risk assessment for use by all agencies in DA cases	Police Partner agencies DA Manager	Police Officers trained – Nov 2009 Multi-agency implementation plan developed – February 2010 DASH tool endorsed by Warwickshire Safer Communities Partnership (WSCP) for use in all agencies– March 2010 Multi-agency training delivered to frontline professionals – March 2010 Partner agencies using DASH risk assessment model – April 2010	Decrease in level of risk to victims and families  Increased appropriate referrals to MARAC
	2.2 Improve MARAC process	Police DA Manager	Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) cases to be Managed through MARAC – August 2009 MARAC Implementation programme (MIP) stage 1 delivered – Sept 2009 MIP stage 1 report submitted – October 2009 MIP stage 2 delivered – March 2010 Full time MARAC CO-ordinator employed by the police – February 2010	Reduced levels of risk to victims  Reduced repeat victimisation

Safety and Support				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
3. Move towards a mix of providers and services to meet the required strategic and service user outcomes	3.1 Undertake Strategic Review of domestic abuse services countywide	DA Manager Supporting People District and Borough Councils	Consultant appointed – Sept 2009 Draft report submitted – Jan 2010 Final report submitted – March 2010 Report with recommendations submitted to WSCP – March 2010	Agreed implementation of recommendations.
	3.2 Identification of the needs of diverse victims and victims with additional needs e.g. older people, Black and Minority Ethnic and Refugee (BaMER), male victims	DA Manager Supporting People District and Borough Councils	Needs assessment conducted as part of the strategic review – see 3.1 above	Needs identified
4. Victims provided with appropriate support	4.1 Provide county wide Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA) service	DA Manager Refuge	Service operational countywide – June 2009 Service integrated into the criminal courts – August 2009 Referral pathways developed – October 2009 Links developed with civil courts – January 2010 Service monitored quarterly - ongoing	Risks reduced cases supported through IDVA service

Safety and Support				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
	4.2 Provide Floating Support Service countywide	Supporting People DA Manager Warwickshire Domestic Violence Support Services (WDVSS)	Short term extra floating support units purchased – November 2009 Funding secured for long term extra floating support units – March 2010	Decrease in waiting list for Floating Support Service
	4.3 Resettlement – Project Fresh start	Rugby Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) WDVSS	Project commences April 2009 One year pilot; to report back March 2010	Decrease in repeat victimisation
	4.4 Freedom Programme	WDVSS DA Manager	Facilitators trained April 2009 First programme commences – September 2009 2 programmes delivered by March 2010	Decrease in repeat victimisation

Safety and Support				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
	4.5 Develop multi-agency Forced Marriage and 'Honour' Based Violence Strategy and Action Plan	Police Partner agencies DA Manager Warwickshire Race Equality partnership (WREP)	Police Domestic Abuse Unit Manager attends advanced 'training for trainers' course – June 2009 Multi-agency working group developed – August 2009 Police Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Working Group established – October 2009 Practitioner and Community Workshop – February 2010 Strategy and action plan developed – March 2010 Strategy and action plan agreed by WSCP – March 2010	Reduction in numbers of victims of DA who have experienced forced marriage or honour based violence
	4.6 Implement police Sexual Violence Strategy and Action Plan	Police DA Manager	Full details in Police Sexual Offences Action Plan Sexual Assault Referral Centre under development – March 2010	Increased reporting of domestic abuse related sexual abuse Decrease in no. of victim statements retracted Decrease in repeat victimisation



Safety and Support				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
5. Accommodation requirements for victims and families	5.1 Increase provision of refuge spaces for women and children fleeing domestic abuse	Supporting People WDVSS Refuge	Refuge premises secured in Nuneaton and Bedworth/ North Warwickshire – December 2009  Premises converted into 5 units – date to be determined	Decrease in repeat victimisation  Increase in no. of units available.
	5.2 Provide refuge for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) women and children fleeing domestic abuse	Supporting People Ashram	Developed as part of the Strategic Review.	Decrease in repeat victimisation
	5.3 Review accommodation needs	Supporting People District/ Borough Housing Depts  Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)	See 3.1 Strategic Review	Needs identified
	2.2 Re-develop Sanctuary Scheme	DA Manager Police  Fire and Rescue	Scheme managed by Warwickshire Police – April 2009  Additional arson reduction units purchased – November 2009	Reduction in homelessness among victims

## Protection and Justice

Key Objective: To ensure that perpetrators are provided with support and held accountable through a co-ordinated response, which does not compromise the safety of victims.

Protection and Justice				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
1. Identify repeat victims of DA in order to target services and reduce incidents	1.1 Update police data recording system for DA incidents to facilitate identification of repeat victims	Police	CATS database version 9 operational (single Domestic Abuse and Child Protection database)– December 2009	Baseline data established  Police able to produce more robust data, including child protection.
	1.2 Police projects for victims of repeat incidents:  Breaking the Cycle (Nuneaton and Bedworth)  Domestic Abuse Re-assurance Team (Stratford)	Police DA Manager  Nuneaton & Bedworth Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP)  South Warwickshire CDRP	Repeat victims identified for both projects– April 2009	Decrease in repeat victimisation for those families in pilot project
2. Improve evidence collection	2.1 Utilise evidence gathering, including new technology, to ensure appropriate action against perpetrators	Police	Speed of evidence collection improved (use of digital technology) implementation plan developed – March 2010  Headcams used by officers – May 2009	Increase in no. of cases passing the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) 'threshold test' for charging and prosecuting

Protection and Justice				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
	2.2 Introduce Visual Evidence for Victims (VEV) scheme county wide	Victim Support CDRPs	<p>Scheme continued in south Warwickshire – April 2009</p> <p>Scheme introduced in Nuneaton and Bedworth – April 2009</p> <p>Scheme introduced in Rugby April 2010</p>	<p>Decrease in number of victim statements retracted</p> <p>Increase in no. of cases passing CPS 'threshold test' for charging and prosecuting</p>
3. Improve Specialist Domestic Abuse Courts (SDAC)	3.1 Implement recommendations of National Steering Group in order to retain accreditation	SDAC Steering Group	<p>IDVAs in place – April 2009</p> <p>Service user satisfaction monitored – August 2009</p> <p>Sittings revised – August 2009</p> <p>Process Map completed – November 2009</p> <p>Updated Magistrates training – December 2009</p> <p>Protocol reviewed – March 2010</p> <p>Local performance measures developed – March 2010</p>	<p>Decrease in waiting time for cases to be heard</p> <p>Decrease in no. of cases adjourned for further information</p>
4. Support provided for victims and witnesses through court process	4.1 Provide IDVA Service to support victims and witnesses	DA Manager Refuge	See Safety and Support 4.1	Reduction in victim and witness statements being retracted

Protection and Justice				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
5. Voluntary Perpetrator Programmes	5.1 Counselling Service for Perpetrators delivered county wide	Domestic Abuse Counselling Service (DACS)	Lottery Funding secured – July 2009 Service expanded – August 2009	Decrease in repeat victimisation Increase in number of counselling sessions available
	5.2 Development of Perpetrator Programmes as exit strategy from individual counselling	DACS	Staff trained to deliver programmes – December 2009 Programme developed – March 2010	Decrease in repeat victimisation
6. Perpetrator Programmes for DA offenders	6.1 Develop Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) across the county	Probation DA Manager	Extra IDAP sessions delivered – January 2010	Decrease in repeat victimisation Reduced waiting time to access IDAP
	6.2 Perpetrator Co-ordinator post	Probation Warwickshire Police	Funding secured - June 2009 Co-ordinator's recruited – November 2009	Decrease in repeat victimisation

## Prevention and Early Intervention

Key Objective: To reduce the incidents of domestic abuse and ensure that it is confronted and challenged so that victims, perpetrators and families can access services earlier.

Prevention and Early Intervention				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
1. Communications/ Media strategy developed	1.1 Develop a proactive programme of timely and targeted press releases	Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Corporate Community Safety Manager  Police and WCC Communications	Domestic Abuse communications strategy updated – January 2010	Increased awareness of DA and service provision  Increased reporting of DA
	1.2 Implement Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse (WADA) Talk2someone campaign	All partners (initial co-ordination from Police and WCC)	Phase 3 launched – November 2009  Materials translated into top 5 Warwickshire languages – January 2010  Business plan in place – February 2010	Increased awareness of DA and service provision  Increased reporting of DA

Prevention and Early Intervention				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
2. Multi and single agency training programme	2.1 Deliver multi-agency training programmes	DA Manager Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) Training Officer	Multi-agency training programme – ongoing  5 courses delivered by March 2010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic abuse and disability</li> <li>• Domestic abuse in same sex relationships</li> <li>• MARACs</li> <li>• Forced Marriage and Honour based violence</li> <li>• Using the DASH risk indicator checklist</li> </ul>	Increased awareness of DA amongst staff in all agencies  Trained frontline staff know when to act to protect children and vulnerable adults.
	2.2 Deliver Single agency training programmes	Safeguarding Adults Co-ordinator  DA Manager District and Borough Councils	Adult Social care staff training developed – March 2010  Homelessness Law and Domestic Abuse training delivered – December 2009	Increased awareness of DA amongst staff in all agencies  Trained frontline staff know when to act to protect children and vulnerable adults.

Prevention and Early Intervention				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
3. Drugs and Alcohol Misuse in relation to DA	3.1 Expansion of DA and Alcohol project county wide	DA Manager Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) Community Alcohol Service	Extra staff trained – August 2009 Service extended to Rugby – September 2009 Service extended to south Warwickshire December 2009	Reduction in alcohol/ substance misuse for perpetrators and victims  Reduction in repeat DA incidents
4. Health needs for victims and children identified and service provision improved	4.1 Collect data of DA injuries treated through Accident & Emergency (A & E)	DA Manager CDRPs Warwickshire Observatory	Data collected at St Cross and Warwick hospitals – April 2009 System implemented at George Elliot Hospital – March 2010 Data reported quarterly to Warwickshire Observatory April 2009 onwards	Victims identified and provided with information and sources of support.
	4.2 Screening by midwives and health visitors for DA risks to ensure victims of DA have access to information and can be referred to specialist services	DA Manager Primary Care Trust (PCT)	Training delivered to midwives at St Cross Hospital – August 2009 Training delivered to midwives - March 2010 Domestic Abuse and the healthy child working group established – June 2009 Referral pathway for health care practitioners complete – March 2010	Increased reporting of DA





## Children and Young People

Key Objective: To ensure that children and young people who have witnessed domestic abuse are able to access appropriate services and that children and young people are given the skills to build relationships based on respect and equality.

Children and Young People				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
Identification of children and young people affected by DA	1.1 Route for reporting DA through Common Assessment Framework (CAF) process agreed	Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) DA Manager	Reporting route agreed – March 2010  Data relating to CAFs with DA flag collected quarterly – March 2010	Reduction in risk of harm to children and young people
	1.2 Develop identification and referrals pathway for use by Children and Family Practitioners	Children's Trust DA Manager	Pathway developed – December 2009  Pathway and guidance disseminated to practitioners – March 2010	Reduction in risk of harm to children and young people  Referrals pathway agreed
	1.3 Provide DA and Child Protection Multi-agency training programme	CYPF WSCB	Training Plans revised – December 2009  3 x level 1 courses delivered by March 2010  3 x level 2 course delivered by March 2010	Increased awareness of DA amongst staff in all agencies
	1.4 Provision of awareness raising for all designated safeguarding children school staff	Education Safeguarding Manager DA Manager	Independent Schools seminar delivered – July 2009  State schools workshops delivered November 2009 – March 2010	Increased awareness of DA amongst staff in all agencies

Children and Young People				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
2. Specialist service provision for those children and young people most at risk from domestic abuse	2.1 Expansion of therapeutic 'Feeling Safe' group work programme for children and non-abusing parents who have been affected by DA	CYPF Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust DA Manager	Facilitators trained – April 2009 Groups delivered in localities – September 2009	Improved accessibility for therapeutic work Reduced risk of harm to children and young people Children better able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy and achieve</li> <li>• Stay safe</li> <li>• Be healthy</li> </ul>
	2.2 Counselling service for children	WDVSS CYPF	Counselling and advocacy service operational - May 2009	Reduced risk of harm to children and young people Children better able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy and achieve</li> <li>• Stay safe</li> <li>• Be healthy</li> </ul>

Children and Young People				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
3. All children and young people and their parents/carers informed about healthy relationships and impact of DA	3.1 Ensure provision of programmes for Children's Centres, and schools on positive relationships including the impact of DA and its prevention	CYPF DA Manager Corporate Community Safety Manager	Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board commit to continue Taking Care programme – May 2008  Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) programme of work delivered in schools – Apr 2008  Cross Government Violence Against Women and Children Strategy agreed (including statutory requirement for healthy relationships work through PSHE) – March 2010	Reduced risk of harm to children and young people Children better able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy and achieve</li> <li>• Stay safe</li> <li>• Be healthy</li> </ul>
4. Services for children and young people affected by DA systematically planned, sustainable and co-ordinated	4.1 Develop strategy for children affected by DA	CYPF WCC Corporate Community Safety Manager	Strategy for Children affected by DA reviewed - Jan 2010	Reduced risk of harm to children and young people
5. Review safeguarding policies around child contact and domestic abuse	5.1 Establishment of task and finish group to review safeguarding policies where there are concerns around child contact and domestic abuse	WSCB Development Manager DA Manager	Group Established – November 2009  Review completed – March 2010	Policy agreed and implemented

Children and Young People				
Aim	Action	Ownership	Milestones	Outcome
6. Develop Warwickshire County Council cross directorate Forced Marriage Policy	6.1 Establishment of working group to develop Warwickshire County Council policy on Forced Marriage	DA Manager WSCB Development Manager Safeguarding Adults Co-ordinator	Paper presented to Strategic Directors Leadership Team (SDLT) – September 2009 Group established – November 2009 Policy developed – March 2010	Policy agreed and implemented