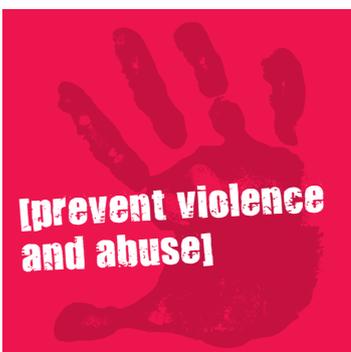


Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership

Strategy 2010 – 2015

Blackpool Council



Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership

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Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership

Foreword

We want Blackpool to be a safe place for people to live and work and recognise that for many people one of the most dangerous places for them is within their own home or their own relationships. It is important to recognise that interpersonal violence is a widespread problem that cannot be ignored. It is unacceptable and as a council we will promote the understanding that everyone has the right to live free from violence and abuse in any form and the responsibility for the violence lies with the perpetrator.

The impact of interpersonal violence is vast, having serious consequences for those involved and can occur in any household crossing boundaries of race, class and sexual orientation. Interpersonal Violence can have devastating effects extending beyond the victim, impacting on children, family, friends and work colleagues.

Blackpool council views interpersonal abuse as a particularly serious issue and recognises the importance of our role as a council both in the services that we provide and in coordinating the multiagency response.

I am delighted to present the second Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Strategy 2010-2015. The strategy provides the framework for our collaboration in preventing and responding to the issue and builds upon the success of the previous strategy. The purpose of the strategy is to raise and sustain the profile of interpersonal abuse in recognition of this as a priority of the council. We recognise we all have a role in preventing violence and abuse and in developing the foundations for our future generations.

Interpersonal Violence and Abuse has been called the “silent crime”, indeed for some people additional barriers can make it difficult to report, this strategy is a public expression of our determination to bring issues to the fore and deal with them effectively.

Cllr Sarah Riding

Cabinet Member for Equality and Diversity

1. Background information

1.1 Introduction

This is the partnership's second Strategy. It sets out the next stage for preventing and addressing interpersonal violence and abuse within Blackpool and how this can be achieved. This document builds upon the work already developed and achieved during the past 3 years.

The aim of this strategy is to establish high quality service responses across Blackpool. We can deliver this by developing a Coordinated Community Response to tackling domestic abuse in the town, focussing upon:

- Improving services to survivors of domestic abuse in the town
- Education of children and young people
- Holding perpetrators accountable for their actions and supporting them to change their behaviour.

The actions which the Strategic Management Board (SMB) proposes to take are outlined in the Delivery Plan. The SMB will link this work closely with the work of the Blackpool Safeguarding Children Board, The Children's Trust, the Safeguarding Adults Board, BSafe Blackpool and the Local Criminal Justice Board. The SMB provides strategic and business direction across Blackpool.

1.2 Impact of Interpersonal Violence and Abuse

Domestic abuse has devastating consequences for the victim, their families and the wider community. Despite chronic under reporting (only 35% of all domestic abuse related incidents are reported to the Police, Home Office 2002), domestic abuse is a high volume crime, representing in Blackpool (35%) of all reported violent crime. In Blackpool 36% (March 2009) of all incidents related to domestic abuse are repeat victims. Domestic abuse is costly; the total cost to the economy is £5.6 billion, which excludes the emotional and human costs which are estimated at £1.7 billion each year. In Blackpool this is equivalent to £469 per head population per annum.

The Blackpool Strategy outlines four main priority areas. These have been identified by the partnership and by drawing upon research studies, in addition to identification of areas where opportunities exist because of government policy or legislation. Blackpool wide consultation and participation with survivors, children and young people will be a key activity of the new strategy.

1.3 Priorities

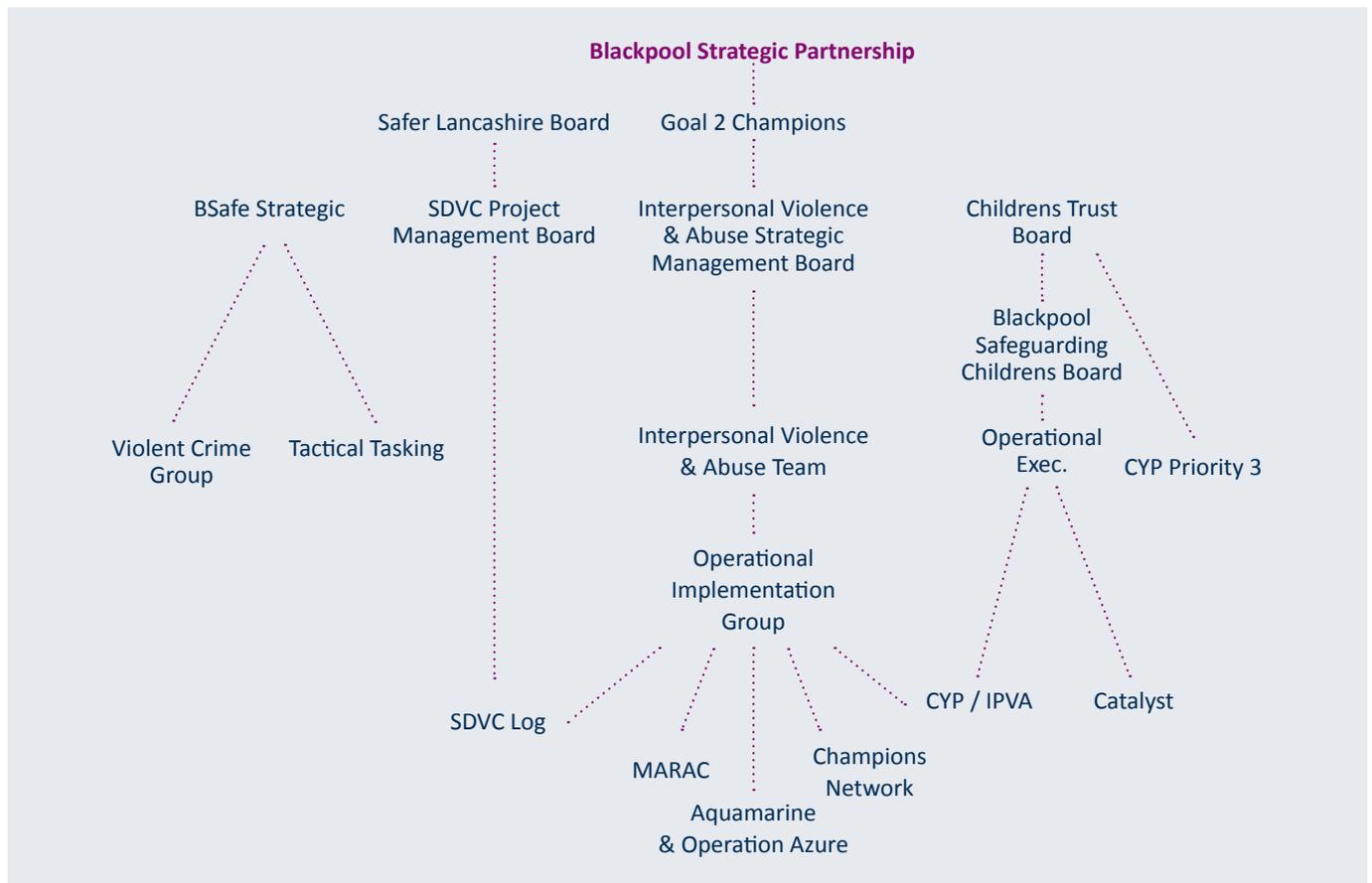
The four priorities identified are:

- **Priority 1:** Excellence in tackling interpersonal violence and abuse and sharing of information;
 - **Priority 2:** Prevention of all forms of interpersonal violence and abuse;
 - **Priority 3:** Provision of services across the partnership;
 - **Priority 4:** Protection of victims and their families.
-

2. Structure & membership

2.1 Structure

The structure of the partnership in Blackpool



Partner organisations acknowledge that tackling domestic abuse requires a multi-agency response and are committed to this.

The partnership is committed to:

Increasing the safety of victims and their children within Blackpool and holding perpetrators accountable for their behaviour.

2.2 Membership

The partnership is overseen by a Strategic Management Board, which comprises of partners from both statutory and non-statutory organisations.

Links between the Strategic Management Board, smaller organisations and voluntary groups is via the Blackpool Champions Network, (BCN) (formerly the Blackpool Domestic Abuse Forum) and BSafe Blackpool (CSP). The Blackpool Partnership Manager undertakes the work of the Board and provides the link between the Board and the BCN and BSafe, in addition to the Lancashire Against Domestic Abuse (LADA).

A membership list can be found at appendix 1.

3. Review and achievement

In 2006, the first Strategy was produced and launched, which contained actions for all partner organisations. Due to the high level of cooperation and commitment, 75 of the 92 actions were achieved within the first 18 months.

Key strengths and achievements of the partnership include:

- Domestic abuse is high on the political agenda within Blackpool.
 - MARAC funding from the Home Office for administration.
 - Successful bid to the Home Office for continuation funding for the IDVA Service.
 - Successful bid to the Ministry of Justice for funding to expand the IDVA Service into Fylde.
 - Successful bid to Home Office for ISVA provision.
 - All of Blackpool IDVA's trained by CAADA through Home Office funding.
 - CAADA stage 2 visit to Blackpool resulted in a very positive evaluation report, which highlighted best practice and some excellent areas of provision.
 - Implementation of a Repeat Victimisation Strategy through the Police.
 - During November 2008, Vera Baird MP, The Solicitor General was invited to Blackpool by Joan Humble MP and requested a meeting with members of the partnership to gain an insight into the development within the town.
 - Blackpool's Sanctuary Service received a Commendation from Foundations Improvement Agency in conjunction with Communities and Local Government.
 - Successful bid to the Home Office to establish a Children's IDVA Service.
 - The Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Team regularly attends the Blackpool LGBT Forum and also participated in Blackpool Pride 2009.
 - The Catalyst Team was launched in July 2009.
 - NHS Blackpool now employ a specialist health practitioner with a special interest in domestic abuse.
 - During 2009 Blackpool took part in the CAADA Quality Assurance process obtaining a Green rating for seven Principles and scoring Amber for the remaining four, a number of areas of good practice were recognised by the panel; the Independent MARAC Panel was chaired by the Home Office and included other key government departments.
-

4. Domestic Abuse Statement of Intent

The Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership will challenge and prevent domestic abuse by ensuring the effective participation of the private, public and voluntary sectors in the provision of appropriate services and the protection of both adults and children experiencing domestic abuse.

5. Statutory and Strategic Context

Since 2006, when the partnership's first Domestic Abuse Strategy was produced, change has been rapid and far reaching. Some of the key strategic developments are outlined below:

- In 2007/8 the objectives of the National Delivery Plan have been re-defined to allow for greater transparency and capture more clearly the model of local delivery growing out of the Specialist Domestic Violence Court Programme.
 - The Conservative Party launched their Ending Violence Against Women Strategy in December 2008. Blackpool's Partnership Manager was invited to meet Theresa May, MP Shadow Minister for Women to provide feedback.
 - The Home Office launched its Tackling Violence Action Plan and Implementation Guidance in December 2008, outlining Government's ambition to 'reduce the most serious violence, including tackling serious sexual offences and domestic violence'.
 - Specialist Domestic Violence Court Resource Manual was published to ensure the SDVC is working effectively. It identified 12 core components to be considered by local areas.
 - The Coordinated Community Response Model was drafted to illustrate the inter-relationship of agencies and levels of response for tackling domestic violence.
 - Government's Sexual Violence and Abuse Action Plan and Implementation Guide were launched in April 2007. The plan aimed to maximise prevention of sexual violence and abuse, increase access to support and health services and to improve the criminal justice responses.
-

6. Context

6.1 The National Context

- Together we can end Violence Against Women and Girls strategy
- Call to End Violence Against Women and Girls: Action Plan
- NHS Operating Framework for Women and Children and Gender Equalities
- The Lord Laming Report
- The Governments Response to Lord Laming – One year On
- The Right To Choose – Multi Agency Statutory guidance for dealing with Forced Marriage
- Forced Marriage Civil Protection Act 2008
- Domestic Violence Crime and Disorder Act
- Early Intervention: The Next Steps: Graham Allen MP

6.2 The Blackpool Context

Blackpool's total population in 2007 was estimated by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to be 142,500. The split between the resident population is 49% male and 51% female. Over half of the population (54.9%) are under the age of 45 years and a quarter (25.2%) are aged 60 years and over.

Ethnic minorities currently make up a small but growing proportion of Blackpool's residents. In the 2001 census, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) residents accounted for 1.6% of the total population. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2007 mid year estimates suggest that Blackpool's BME population has grown to 6%.

Blackpool is experiencing high levels of deprivation as evidenced by its fall from 24th to 12th in the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation. This deprivation is particularly severe in localised pockets across the town with 58,500 residents (41% of total population) living in the 20% most deprived Super Output Areas and 38,529 residents in the most deprived 10% (27% of the population).

The Conservative party have governed Blackpool since May 2007, 27 out of 42 councillors were Conservative, 12 Labour and 3 Liberal Democrat. During the recent local election, in May 2011, Labour won 27 seats, Conservatives won 14 seats and Liberal Democrats won 1 seat, meaning that the Labour Party now has overall control of Blackpool Council.

BSafe Blackpool

BSafe Blackpool is the Community Safety Partnership which was established in 2004 following the merger of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership (or CDRP) and the Blackpool and Drug Action Team (DAT). The Partnership is responsible for the implementation of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act as amended by the 2002 Police Reform Act, national drug, alcohol and antisocial behaviour strategies and local plans.

BSafe Blackpool's vision is "To reduce crime, disorder and substance misuse in Blackpool, addressing the fear of crime and providing reassurance to communities and to provide a first class service to key stakeholders within the Blackpool Community Safety and Drugs Partnership, with the aim of achieving a safer and stronger community in Blackpool."

6. Context

Bsafe Blackpool has adopted the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to identify the predominant issues on which to concentrate resources. The Strategic Partnership Group meets quarterly and, following analysis of crime and disorder patterns, agrees the control strategy (areas to be prioritised) for the Tactical Tasking and Coordinating Group and the wider partnership. Over the past four years Violent Crime, including serious violent crime and domestic abuse, has been a top strategic priority for the partnership.

In the last twelve/eighteen months the Partnership has become more aware and increasingly concerned regarding the impact of Domestic abuse within Blackpool, and hence why the Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership Manager is a member of the BSafe Blackpool Strategic Partnership Group as well as Tactical Tasking and Coordinating Group and Domestic abuse is a standard item on the agenda of the Strategic Partnership Group and it features regularly in the discussions regarding violent crime at the Tactical Tasking and Coordinating Group meetings.

Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

The Trust's Director for Nursing and Quality is the executive lead for safeguarding across the Trust. The Trust's Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children and Young People and Named Midwife has domestic abuse included in the safeguarding job role. This includes training for staff, raising awareness through mandatory training programmes, offering supervision to hospital based staff and the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) representative.

Awareness raising with information posters / leaflets occurs within the frontline services of the Accident and Emergency Department and Maternity.

NHS Blackpool

NHS Blackpool is committed to ensuring that domestic abuse is recognised in all its forms and that both patients and staff are provided with information and support to minimise risk. The roles and responsibilities of health staff at all levels of the organisation, including a lead senior manager, have been identified and underpinned by a Domestic Abuse Policy and a number of Guidance and Procedural documents.

NHS Blackpool Community Health Services provides a universal service and as such is in a unique position to be able to identify domestic abuse in all its forms and provide direct health input. Recent developments have included the appointment of a Domestic Abuse Nurse Practitioner to provide direct input to families as well as undertaking an awareness raising role within the organisation and providing support for health staff working with those affected by domestic abuse. The Domestic Abuse nurse practitioner also has training responsibilities within the Trust regarding domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour based violence and all related matters. The Trust recognises the need for a multi-agency co-ordinated response to domestic abuse and so this individual is linked to the multi-agency Catalyst Team.

The Trust is an active participant in the MARAC process and is represented on a number of domestic abuse committees locally and Pan-Lancashire including the Pan-Lancashire Strategic Group focusing on Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence.

Future initiatives include publicity aimed at raising awareness amongst client groups and an enhanced training programme for health staff.

6. Context

Blackpool Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB)

The BSCB is made up of representatives from the agencies and bodies which have regular contact with children or responsibility for services to them Blackpool. It is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations in Blackpool co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Blackpool and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do.

A key area of concern for some children and young people in our community is their exposure to domestic abuse and the very harmful effects on both the victim and family members. The BSCB has a primary responsibility to monitor the role of agencies and their response to domestic violence locally and welcomes this strategy developed by the IPV&A Partnership.

The BSCB will monitor implementation of the action plan and contribute to an evaluation of its effectiveness in reducing the harm endured by families in our town.

Blackpool Coastal Housing (BCH)

Blackpool Coastal Housing (BCH) is the Arms Length Management Organisation contracted to manage Blackpool Council's Housing stock of just over 5,800 dwellings, including leasehold flats and maisonettes, Hostel Rooms and the homes that are let on weekly tenancies.

BCH recognises that it has a major part to play in identifying the problems of domestic abuse faced by its tenants and will use all the tools we have been given to tackle the problem. BCH will enforce Tenancy Agreement/Covenants by taking all necessary steps, including legal action against perpetrators of Domestic abuse. Enforcement will demonstrate BCH's commitment to tackling this type of behaviour with an intention to deliver an effective response using current legal powers.

As part of our service standards BCH will respond to all reports of domestic abuse where there is a serious risk of violence and or damage to the property within 24 hours. BCH works closely with the Police and the Council to provide an extended service to victims of this abuse. BCH will also arrange emergency accommodation to victims where there is a danger of physical assault or injury.

BCH provides training for staff, raising awareness through mandatory training programmes, offering supervision and is represented on the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

Blackpool Probation Service (Lancashire Probation Trust)

The Field Team at Talbot Road, Blackpool, supervises some 1,800 cases of which 140 are involved in varying degrees of domestic violence.

One of the County Interventions Teams is also based in Blackpool (Avroe Crescent) and they provide a Community Domestic Violence Programme. Approaching 100 Blackpool offenders graduate from this Programme each year.

Lancashire Probation Trust is represented on all the key strategic fora and play a full role in the MARAC process. Domestic violence is regarded as a significant criminogenic factor in the Blackpool area and Probation is committed to working closely with partner agencies to combat this social evil.

7. Implementing the strategy

The Blackpool IPV&A Strategic Management Board (SMB) through the Blackpool Partnership Manager will monitor the implementation of the strategy and report on progress. The strategy sets out key priority areas, a set of agreed actions and the Board member responsible for overseeing implementation of key priority areas. A Delivery Plan for each priority area will monitor and report on progress against a set of agreed output measures.

7.1 Outcomes and Priority Areas

The partnership is advocating a coordinated community response to tackling IPV&A in Blackpool. This approach tackles the problems at all levels, prioritising the safety of survivors and the needs of children, holding perpetrators accountable for their actions and supporting them to change their behaviour, and challenging views about the nature of IPV&A.

Priority 1 – excellence in tackling interpersonal violence and abuse & sharing of information

Structure, policy and strategy

IPV&A is an ‘everywhere and no where issue’. All partners have a part to play in promoting safety and providing effective interventions but no single agency can do it alone. The partnership provides the vehicle for organisations to link and work together to tackle the problems. It will ensure that all these complex issues are included in all relevant strategic documents within Blackpool.

For all partners the strategy will be advocating that:

- IPV&A is a core and mainstream activity.
- IPV&A is represented at senior manager and officer level in all partner agencies.

- IPV&A is reflected in individual partner agencies’ business plans, strategies and policies.
- Minimum standards and best practice guidance for IPV&A services in Blackpool.
- Employee domestic abuse policies are in place for all partner agencies.
- Partners adopt a standardised information sharing protocol.

Data collection and performance management

Effective performance management is crucial to the development of services. The impact of the changes proposed by the strategy will be monitored via a set of performance indicators. Performance indicators are based on current baseline data. This data collection and monitoring will allow the partnership to monitor the pace of change, ensure that policies are being translated into practice and identify any emerging trends.

Data will be collected from Police crimes and incidents, CPS data from the SDVC, data from the IDVA Service, Sanctuary Service, Blackpool MARAC, Project Aftermath (Victim Support), Fylde Coast Women’s Aid, and Blackpool County Court etc.

Data management will allow the IPV&A Strategic Management Board to:

- Effectively monitor performance against performance indicators and targets.
- Provide commentary on the main patterns of performance.
- Provide commentary from SMB and task groups on the management of activities.
- Provide the method of local delivery planning for establishing actions for meeting targets.
- Enable milestones to be met for management purposes.

7. Implementing the strategy

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- Allow performance information to be challenged so that it best informs management decisions.
 - To assist partnership working and a joint understanding of problems and solutions to identify further enabling measures.
-

PRIORITY 2 – PREVENTION

Zero tolerance towards domestic abuse

This partnership aims to change attitudes in Blackpool toward all forms of IPV&A. A survey revealed that whilst 20% of women admit they have lived, or do currently live in fear of abuse happening, more than half (52%) told researchers they would be too embarrassed and ashamed to tell their friends. Even more (59%) would not tell their families (You Gov 2004). Children are even less likely to reveal that they live in an abusive household and are more likely to display changes in behaviour that can impede their ability to function well within a school or social environment. The partnership aims to:

- Change attitudes toward domestic abuse in Blackpool.
- Increase public awareness and understanding with regard to IPV&A.
- Develop an education and prevention resource for Blackpool.

Early identification

The government's national plan sets out key activities for early identification of victims and perpetrators. They are based on the principle that victims and perpetrators do not live in a vacuum, they live in communities, and they go to work and are part of a comprehensive and complex social network. The partnership will work towards making health, education and social care services in Blackpool more sensitive to identifying perpetrators and victims, much earlier and will look towards greater sharing of information between frontline professionals and partner agencies.

Information and education

The partnership will be committed to preventing violence and abuse happening in the first place, through changing public attitudes to it (particularly among young people), general public education and awareness raising within partner organisations. Work with young people not only equips them with the skills needed for equal and respectful relationships but also creates a support network for children affected by violence and abuse. Building on best practice nationally, the partnership will work closely with the Blackpool Safeguarding Children Board, the Children's Trust Board with a view to producing educational materials that will cover the violence and abuse agenda in Blackpool.

Communication and publicity

The partnership aims to enhance the effect of awareness raising campaigns by greater coordination across Blackpool. Raising awareness is not just about increasing the unacceptability of domestic abuse, it can also act as a way of improving support to victims as, in the first instance, they are more likely to disclose the abuse to family members, friends, neighbours and employers rather than service providers. Blackpool campaigns will link into county and national campaigns.

Training

Training has been identified by the partnership as a key priority area. It is essential that high quality and consistent training be available in the following areas:

- Basic awareness training.
- Specialist training for staff whose role involves a significant proportion of domestic abuse work.
- MARAC training.
- FM/HBA training.
- Ongoing training as part of implementing policy or legislative changes.
- Training the trainer courses.

7. Implementing the strategy

PRIORITY 3 – PROVISION

To ensure that individuals affected by violence and abuse have access to appropriate advice, support and services.

Outside of any statutory services provided by the criminal justice services and other statutory providers, the majority of violence and abuse related services within Blackpool are provided by the voluntary sector.

The partnership is committed to developing consistent and safe services and will be committed to strengthening and developing the following services and processes:

- Independent Domestic Abuse advocacy and advice services.
- Community based children's services.
- Provision for service users from disadvantaged groups.
- Customer satisfaction surveys.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service

The sustainability of the IDVA Service in Blackpool is a key priority. Evaluations of advocacy services have shown that independency of the statutory services is necessary to ensure survivor safety remains paramount at all times and central to multi-agency involvement. The recent CAADA Insights Report highlights the overwhelming need for the service and the complexity of cases.

Domestic abuse service provision and young people

More services to support children and young people who have been exposed to violence and abuse are required e.g. community based children's services. In addition, services to be developed include children's groups and advocacy provision for the non-abusing parent.

Blackpool is piloting a Children's IDVA Service funded and supported by the Home Office and Comic Relief.

Provision for service users from disadvantaged groups

Some service users are poorly served by current provision because specific needs may not be addressed by the mainstream services available. These include individuals using substances or with alcohol problems, those with mental health problems requiring high levels of support, individuals with insecure immigration status and black and minority ethnic women. The partnership will work closely with BSafe Blackpool and NHS Blackpool to look at the best methods of improving responses to this group of individuals. It will look at best practice and research with regard to this area of work and respond positively in Blackpool to this priority area. It will work with the IDVA Services to look at the most effective methods of ensuring that the needs of black and minority ethnic and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups are met.

Customer satisfaction

It is crucial that service users are involved in the process of developing services and that there is a high level of service user satisfaction from services. The partnership will build upon work undertaken elsewhere in the country, compile examples of good practice and develop customer satisfaction surveys to be utilised countywide.

Housing

Lack of appropriate housing options is often a key obstacle preventing many abused people from changing their circumstances.

An important development in recent years has been to make it possible for survivors to stay in their own home without the abuse; this can sometimes be a more viable choice for some survivors. This is known as the Sanctuary Service and is coordinated by a dedicated

7. Implementing the strategy

Domestic Abuse Police Community Support Officer. The service involves additional security measures to the home and involves the survivor being provided with advocacy support in devising safety plans. The primary aim of the service is to increase the housing options available to survivors of domestic abuse and should only be used when it is their choice to do so.

The Supporting People grant funds a 5 bed refuge for women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

The strategy sets out the provision of safe and secure housing for both men and women affected by domestic abuse as a key priority area and will work with providers to:

- Explore the full range of domestic abuse accommodation options.
- Ensure support and systems are in place for survivors to remain in their own home.
- Evaluate the Sanctuary Service.
- Collate statistics of all homelessness presentations in respect of domestic abuse.

PRIORITY – 4 – PROTECTION

Victim Safety

The partnership will work together to deliver an effective police response when victims report violence and abuse. It will aim to improve the prosecution of cases, making sure that sentences reflect the crime and that victims are not deterred by the way they are treated at any stage of the justice process.

It will aim to ensure the criminal justice system offers the maximum protection to all survivors to stop the abuse recurring. Fundamental to victim safety will be the embedding of the Specialist Domestic Violence Court and the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference.

Specialist Domestic Violence Court

Fylde Coast Magistrates Court based in Blackpool has achieved Home Office accreditation.

Research and evaluation has shown that SDVC's deliver much improved outcomes such as:

- Enhanced effectiveness of court and support for victims.
- Advocacy and information sharing is easier to accomplish.
- Victim participation and satisfaction is improved.
- Public confidence in the criminal justice system is improved.

The partnership will continue to work with the SDVC Project Management Board and the Local Operational Group (LOG) through the Blackpool Partnership Manager who is the Fylde Coast Magistrates Court Project Manager and Chair of the (LOG).

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

The centre piece of the government's National Delivery Plan was the work of the specialist court which has provided a good practice model of service delivery. At the heart of the Coordinated Community Response model is the MARAC, which is key to identifying high risk victims and ensuring that they are kept safe and that perpetrators are managed effectively.

Research from the Women's Safety Unit in Cardiff demonstrates that:

- Repeat victimisation has fallen from around 38% to under 10%.
- Over 40% of survivors who have been to MARAC have suffered no further abuse after a year.
- Of those survivors who did suffer further abuse, they reported it at a much earlier stage than had previously been the case.

7. Implementing the strategy

- The number of victims who have refused to make a complaint after a police call out has fallen from 54% to 14%.

The Blackpool MARAC has been operating since April 2007 and is a beacon of excellence.

Perpetrator accountability

On average over 20% of the Blackpool Probation workload involves cases of violence and abuse, this means that at any given time around 280 male perpetrators are supervised on Community Orders or pre and post release from custody. In addition about 50% of the female caseload (currently 197) subject to Probation supervision in Blackpool disclose they are victims of violence and abuse.

The majority of domestic abuse perpetrators are thoroughly assessed by Probation staff before they are sentenced in order to inform the decision of the Court. The quality of the assessment is supported by up to date and relevant information obtained from partner agencies including the Police and Social Services.

Offenders can be sentenced to Community Orders which include structured supervision to address the issues which led to their offending. This work is delivered by a qualified Probation Officer for a period of up to three years. Some men will also be assessed as suitable for the Community Domestic Violence Programme (CDVP), intensive group work which lasts for 27 sessions and is followed up by one to one work with Probation Officers which reinforces Programme learning. The partners of men attending the Programme are also seen by Women's Safety Workers whose role is to share information about how CDVP works and encourage victims to engage with local services such as Women's Aid.

More serious offences can result in a period of custody. Offenders sentenced to more than 12 months in prison are supervised by the Probation Service and can be made subject to strict Licence conditions on release. These can include a requirement to attend the CDVP, not to contact named victims, reside at an Approved Premise, address drug or alcohol problems or abide by an exclusion zone.

Perpetrators who do not comply with the requirements of their Community Order or Licence are returned to Court for resentencing or can be recalled to prison custody.

Lancashire Probation Trust is committed to working in partnership with other agencies to assess and manage the risk posed by domestic violence perpetrators and ensure victims of abuse are assisted to access appropriate support. Whilst perpetrators who are not sentenced by the Court are unable to access CDVP we recognise our responsibility to contribute to developing effective voluntary interventions alongside other agencies.

Appendix 1- Blackpool Interpersonal violence and Abuse Partnership Members

Partner organisations include:

- Addaction
- Age Concern
- Alcohol Dependency Solutions
- AWAKEN
- Barnardos
- Blackpool 6th Form College
- Blackpool Advocacy
- Blackpool and Fylde College
- Blackpool Care and Repair
- Blackpool Coastal Housing
- Blackpool Council
- Blackpool Council Children, Adults and Family Services
- Blackpool Council Mental Health
- Blackpool Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (BSafe)
- Blackpool Housing Options
- Blackpool Legal Services Partnership
- Blackpool LGBT Forum
- Blackpool Local Public Service Board
- Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Committee
- Blackpool Safeguarding Children Board
- Blackpool Schools
- Blackpool Services
- Blackpool Youth Offenders Team
- Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- CAADA
- CAFCASS
- CAMHS
- CATALYST
- Change for Children – Family Intervention Project
- Childrens Centres
- Connect
- Connexions
- Council for Voluntary Services
- Creative Support
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Drugline
- EWIST
- Fylde Coast Womens Aid
- Great Places Housing
- Her Majesty’s Court Service Lancashire
- Home Start
- Inward House
- Kensington Foundation Trust
- Lancashire Care Foundation Trust
- Lancashire Constabulary
- Lancashire Crown Prosecution Service
- Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service
- Lancashire Probation Service
- Mental Health Criminal Justice Liaison
- Muir Group Housing
- Muir Housing
- NHS Blackpool
- NHS Direct
- North Lancashire PCT
- North West Ambulance NHS Trust
- NSPCC
- Places for People
- Sanctuary Service
- Springboard
- Stonham Housing
- Student Support Team
- SureStart
- The HUB
- Victim Support Lancashire
- Windmill Housing

Appendix 2 - Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership

Role and Responsibilities

Chair

- To manage meetings to ensure they are timely, papers are distributed in good time prior to the meetings and that members are encouraged to be task focused
- To provide regular updates to the Blackpool Strategic Partnership on performance and progress
- To support board members in undertaking their tasks

Members

- To be a representative for their agency on the board and to represent the board to their own agency
- To be an active member of the board who is committed to the Interpersonal Violence and Abuse agenda
- To have a duty to prioritise and attend all scheduled meetings having read the papers and documents distributed in advance
- To respond to requests within specified and agreed deadlines
- To contribute to quality assurance arrangements such as audit
- To highlight areas of concern to the board

Appendix 3 - Operational Implementation Group

Terms of Reference

1. Scope

This document is intended for the members of the Operational Implementation Group.

2. Purpose of the Group

The purpose of the Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership Operational Implementation Group is to oversee the implementation of the Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Delivery Plan.

3. Objectives

Aim:

- To effectively manage the implementation of the delivery plan;
- To provide reports to the Strategic Management Board;
- To provide performance management data across the partnership.

4. Group Membership

The Group should have a membership consisting of representatives from relevant agencies within the Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership;

Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership

BSafe Blackpool

Housing Options, Blackpool Council

Lancashire Care Trust

SDVC (Special Domestic Violence Court)

Witness Service

Blackpool County Court

Witness Care Unit

NHS Blackpool

Victim Support

Lancashire Probation Service

FCWA (Fylde Coast Women's Aid)

NHS Blackpool – Substance Misuse

Blackpool Advocacy

CATALYST

Lancashire Police

Student Support Team

BCH (Blackpool Coastal Housing)

Blackpool Council Member Champion

Blackpool, Wyre & Fylde NHS

Foundation Trust

Looked After Children

It is the individual members' responsibility that relevant items discussed at the meeting are disseminated to the appropriate staff within their own department/agency.

Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership

5. Chairperson and Secretariat

The meetings will be chaired by the Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership Manager, Andrea Thorley-Baines. Actions will be recorded at each meeting, and a member of the Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Team will act as administration to the group.

6. Meetings and Reporting Procedures

- It is proposed that meetings should take place bi-monthly, to be reviewed after 6 months.
 - Actions will be recorded at each meeting and distributed by e-mail to all members of the group.
 - Progress on the implementation of the delivery plan will be reported to the Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Strategic Management Board by the chair.
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Contact us

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