

## Appendix B

### Leicester Inter-Agency<sup>1</sup> Domestic Violence<sup>2</sup> Strategy 2007-09

#### Contributors to this draft<sup>3</sup>:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ LCC Housing &amp; Community Services Supporting People Team</li><li>▪ DVIRP</li></ul>   | Anita Adata and Mel Elliot<br>Suki Kaur, Glynis Middleton and Darren Youngs   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ LCC Housing &amp; Community Services Safer Leicester Partnership</li><li>▪ Witness Cocoon</li><li>▪ Refugee Action</li><li>▪ LCC Children &amp; Young Peoples Services</li><li>▪ New Futures</li><li>▪ Braunstone Community Association</li><li>▪ Bridges</li><li>▪ LCC Children &amp; Young Peoples Services</li><li>▪ LCC Housing &amp; Community Services</li><li>▪ Leicestershire &amp; Rutland Probation Area</li><li>▪ LCC Housing &amp; Community Services</li><li>▪ CAF/CASS</li><li>▪ Leicester City PCT</li><li>▪ Leicestershire Constabulary</li></ul> | Louise Lavelle<br>Denise Taylor<br>Amanda Soraghan<br>Paul Conneally, Ellen Collier<br>Jennie Skelding<br>Janice Vare<br>James Lynch and Margaret Cole<br>Penny Brown and Irene Doohar<br>Shobhana Patel<br>Sean Reynolds<br>Sangeeta Patel<br>Sheila Mosley<br>Carole Devaney<br>Superintendent Chris Garnham, Sarah Turner, Pete Williams<br>Kristel Bhatia |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Connexions Leicester Shire</li></ul>  |   |

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<sup>1</sup> A glossary of common abbreviations is included in the appendices. Every attempt has been made to detail each abbreviation on its initial use.

<sup>2</sup> This document uses the terms aggrieved, victim, survivor, perpetrator, abuser and offender. We use these terms to note harm, resourcefulness and responsibility. We acknowledge that people may not identify with these terms. The term violence is used to include all violating behaviours, and as such can be interchangeable with 'abuse'.

<sup>3</sup> The term 'contributors' is applied to mean people who supplied comments, and in some instances suggestions for amendments. Additional contributions have been received through the process of consultation workshops and development days 2005-6.

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**Forward**

[Short paragraphs and photographs from the following:]

Chair of the Safer Leicester Partnership

Chair of Leicester Domestic Violence Forum Partnership

## Executive Summary

Effective inter-professional working can lead to more effective service delivery and improved user outcomes<sup>4</sup> and it is essential in an area such as Domestic Violence. Domestic Violence has a negative impact on Healthier Communities and Older People, Economic development and Enterprise, Children & Young People and Safer & Stronger Communities. Domestic Violence represents a consistently high proportion of the violent crime occurring in the city.

There are clear economic and moral arguments for improving our response to Domestic Violence. The British Crime Survey estimates that 34% of incidents go unreported (to the police), so we can suppose that there are in the region of 200 incidents of Domestic Violence occurring every week in our city. No year has passed in the last five without a homicide related to Domestic Violence.

Local public services spend in excess of £3million on specific Domestic Violence Projects, and the actual cost of Domestic Violence in our city is far higher, as it includes the indirect costs absorbed by general Health, Criminal and Civil Justice, Education, Housing and Child Protection services.

Whilst homelessness in the City is falling, Domestic Violence continues to be a significant factor, with nearly 20% of acceptances being due to domestic violence. 25% of Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area clients have experience of domestic violence in their history, as either a perpetrator or victim.

Domestic Violence affects everyone, and occurs all over the world (WHO 2006). As an issue that relates to the abuse of power and control, particular attention has to be paid to those individuals and communities who may already be socially excluded, under served or oppressed due to their individual circumstances.

The vision and strategic priorities contained within this document are based on the principle that a co-ordinated community response<sup>5</sup> is required to reduce domestic violence. It includes those who are victims, survivors, perpetrators and witnesses; workers, volunteers and members of the public; children, young people and adults. The foundation blocks are those of Protection (High risk), Support (Medium to High risk) and Prevention (Culture Change).

It is our vision to reduce domestic violence through working together *to prevent* domestic violence, and to *provide support* and *protection* to anyone who has been, or may be, affected by domestic violence.

We will do this through continuing to build our knowledge base, with a commitment to campaigning for culture change, and a commitment to listen to those who often go unheard: In partnership.

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<sup>4</sup> Guy 1986 cited by Hudson 2002 'Interprofessionalism in health and social care: the achilles' heel of partnership?' Journal of Interprofessional Care Volume 16, Number 1 Taylor & Francis

<sup>5</sup> National Domestic Violence Delivery Plan Progress Report 2005-6 (2006)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Domestic Violence is a priority for Leicester and there are discrete targets within the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for the city on Domestic Violence that are related to a Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA), and therefore have the possibility of financial reward attached.

Domestic Violence has a negative impact on Healthier Communities and Older People, Economic development and Enterprise, Children & Young People and Safer & Stronger Communities. Domestic Violence also represents a consistently high proportion of the violent crime occurring in the city. The Local Area Agreement targets that are supported by work on Domestic Violence are listed in annex E.

Leicester Domestic Violence Forum (LDVF) has been the lead agency for this area of work in the City since 1999. It has managed partnership work in the area of Domestic Violence whilst also directly managing some services. Partnership work, and a strategic approach to Domestic Violence, is essential in order to increase safety, reduce the risk of harm, and to make the best use of the resources we have available.

In April 2006 Leicester Domestic Violence Forum began the process of winding down its registered charity and company limited by guarantee status to move towards a more inclusive partnership with stronger strategic capacity. This strategy marks the beginning of this new phase, where the organisation will be known as the LDVF Partnership.

Current provision of Domestic Violence services is good, as we have the following core services in existence:

- Helpline for men and women affected by domestic violence;
- Refuge and floating outreach provision for women fleeing violence, both generic and specifically for Asian women;
- An integrated project very active within the Forum that provides the helpline service, independent advisors to women from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities, is developing community (self-referral) work with perpetrators, leads the ASK project<sup>6</sup>, operates the helpline service and hosts the Cracking Conflict – Alternatives to Violence (CC-AV) Project (preventative work with children and young people).

The local Police have increased their resources for domestic violence work, particularly within the city centre, and the City Council have mainstreamed the LDVF Partnership post of Domestic Violence Co-ordinator. The Leicester Strategic Partnership (LSP), through the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, significantly supported an Integrated Response to Domestic Violence in the City during the 2002-2006 funding programme.

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<sup>6</sup> Additional Security KeepSafe Project involves increasing emotional and practical security. For further information see the support section, page 30.

Each year we develop a clearer picture of Domestic Violence locally. We monitor information on reports to both Police and Non-Police agencies and compare this information against census and other general population information we have available. We know that an average 120 incidents are reported to the police each week, and as the British Crime Survey reports that 34% go unreported, we can estimate nearly 200 incidents occurring each week in our city.

There are clear economic and moral arguments for improving our response to Domestic Violence. Leicester City Council spends approximately £2641,595.00 each year on specific Domestic Violence Projects. Force wide, the Police estimate that £1462,442.00 is spent on initiatives to tackle Domestic Violence. The actual cost of the impact of Domestic Violence in our city is far higher and includes indirect costs such as those of Health, Criminal and Civil Justice, Education, Housing and Child Protection.

A report by Sylvia Walby (2005), used in government literature, states that domestic violence costs the criminal justice system in the UK around £1billion a year, with civil legal costs estimated at £0.3billion a year, about half of which is borne by legal aid and half by the individual. The total cost to the UK economy, estimated within this study, is £23billion a year.

An initial increase in investment in a co-ordinated response to domestic violence can generate longer term cost savings. One organisation, assisting the Government with the Domestic Violence National Plan Implementation, estimates a minimum of £510,000 could be *saved* annually in a city with a population of 300,000 (CAADA 2005), through the introduction of some of the Co-ordinated Community Response Model elements.

The vision and strategic priorities contained within this strategy are based on the principle that a co-ordinated community response is required to reduce domestic violence. It includes those who are victims, survivors, perpetrators and witnesses to domestic violence; workers, volunteers and members of the public; children, young people and adults. The foundation blocks are those of Protection (High risk), Support (Medium to High risk) and Prevention (Culture Change).

### **Protection**

Protection includes the prevention of further harm. We need to prevent repeat incidents, through work with both the perpetrator(s) and victim(s). A key element in this focus is to share information appropriately across agencies to ensure that risk is adequately assessed and to work in partnership to reduce and manage that risk.

### **Support**

Support needs to be available for those who have experienced Domestic Violence, either as children or as adults, to limit the potential harmful impact of that experience. Support to children and young people has shown improvements in behaviour and relationships. Support to adult victims has shown increased satisfaction in the criminal justice system, improved brought to justice outcomes and improved safety and wellbeing for those individuals and their families.

### **Prevention**

Leicester has a strong history of actively recognising the importance of preventative work in the area of domestic violence. Working with young people to encourage positive, healthy relationships is a core element of our work. Children and young people are integral partners in working towards this aim and are highly supportive of this work.

## 2. UNDERSTANDING AND DEFINITION

Domestic Violence is a phenomenon that incorporates a *systematic* abuse of power and control that can manifest in a variety of behaviours that are violating<sup>7</sup>.

The government has adopted the following cross-departmental definition:

'Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) *between adults* who are or have been *intimate partners or family members*, regardless of their gender or sexuality' (areas of variance from the LDVF Partnership definition below are in italics).

The definition used by Leicester Domestic Violence Forum is:

'Domestic violence involves the misuse of power and is based on a range of control mechanisms which include: physical, sexual, psychological, social or economic abuse or neglect of an individual by a partner, ex-partner, carer or one or more family member, in an existing or previous domestic relationship. This is regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, religious, cultural or political beliefs, ethnicity, disability, HIV status, class or location'.

### Hidden Issues

Domestic violence often remains hidden, and is still be considered by some as a private matter. The personal and intimate nature of this issue is connected to the shame and stigma that can surround it; all of which can result in not reporting or discussing the issue. The BCS (2006) reported that 34% of women have probably never told anyone about the abuse that they are suffering.

One of the risk factors for serious injury or homicide is the point of separation. The fear of disclosing Domestic Violence is justified. Almost half of all women murdered by their partners had left or were in the process of leaving the relationship when they were murdered.

Domestic Violence includes acts such as forced marriage and female genital mutilation, and other harm committed in the name of honour. Research indicates that sexual violence is present in the vast majority of cases of domestic violence. National statistics show that 47% of serious sexual assaults, and 54% of rapes (including attempts), are committed by a current or former partner of the victim.

The areas of sexual violence and domestic violence share many overlapping issues, including the taboo nature of the subjects, the violation of intimate boundaries, the sense of loss, and the shame often internalised by the victim. In terms of managing offenders, we now know that people who commit sexual violence within a domestic violence context often go on to sexually assault strangers (Richards 2004).

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<sup>7</sup> hence the interchangeable terms of violence and abuse.



Victims of domestic sexual violence are likely to have suffered sustained and severe violence in other forms. 29% of women leaving a sexually violent relationship, compared to 18% leaving a violent relationship, found that the violence continued after the relationship was terminated, in the form of harassment and stalking.

80% of New Futures<sup>b</sup> service users in 2005-6 had been a victim of domestic violence and sexual violence. Women may be forced into prostitution as part of the domestic violence, or be more vulnerable in general to involvement in prostitution, through substance use issues related to coping with the violence, prior exposure or other experiences.

### **Gender and Sexuality**

Domestic violence takes place within same sex and heterosexual relationships, as well as within family and carer relationships. Both men and women can be victims of domestic violence and can be perpetrators of domestic violence. People who are transgender can also suffer from domestic violence.

Between 25 and 50% of women experience domestic violence at some point in their lifetime (Walby 2004). 89% of those suffering four or more incidents are women.

Men can be victims of domestic violence, from their female partners or ex partners, from family members or from male partners or ex-partners. The fact that male victims of female perpetrators are not in the majority can be a barrier for men to face in terms of seeking help, due to potential disbelief, isolation and stigmatisation.

Our understanding of the gender dynamics of Domestic Violence is growing all the time. A project established to support men affected by Domestic Violence found that up to 50% of those men presenting as victims of Domestic Violence, were perpetrators of Domestic Violence (Rowlands 2006). This has practice implications for services working with both men and women, particularly the need for screening tools and mechanisms.

There are fewer studies into the prevalence of Domestic Violence amongst Gay and Lesbian relationships. Available research does echo a similar rate to that found amongst heterosexual women: a rate of one in four lesbian, gay and transgender people having experienced domestic violence at some point in their lives. This abuse can be from a partner or ex-partner, or from family members, related to issues of sexuality: homophobic, trans-phobic and bi-phobic domestic violence.

### **Black and Ethnic Minority Communities**

Leicester has a significant population of refugees, asylum seekers, refused asylum seekers and migrant workers. The latter two groups may not have recourse to

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<sup>b</sup>a local agency working with women and young people engaged in or at risk of prostitution

public funds and therefore be particularly vulnerable. Leicester also has several Traveller sites and groups in the area.

There are several issues to take into account in order to understand and provide a response to Domestic Violence as it impacts upon people from BME communities. These include:

- How to reach people to raise awareness of Domestic Violence (identifying new communities; the 'invisibility' of migrant workers and refused asylum seekers; language; location; information relating to legal rights and responsibilities; housing).
- How to ensure that services are accessible and appropriate (people with no recourse to public funds due to their immigration status; poverty, women with large families; location of services; inclusion of Faith groups; attention to spirituality and religion; racism; isolation; language).
- Taking into account potential layers of abuse and oppression, for example those fleeing national conflict, the aftermath of war, rape camps, refugee camps, detention centres and possible torture.
- Barriers to reporting such as confidentiality breaches, easy identification and concepts of shame and honour such as Izzat and Sharam. For example, someone fleeing violence may fear being found by the perpetrator or being known by the support agency if they come from a small BME community. Concepts of shame and honour may be firmly embedded in individual and community identity, particularly where people feel that the family and community must be valued above the needs of the individual.

### **Children**

There is a considerable body of research which shows that children who grow up in families where there is Domestic Violence are at increased risk of significant harm<sup>9</sup>. Many who witness domestic violence as children, go on to lead fulfilling relationships with a commitment to non-violence. Others may struggle with their relationship with their parents and may struggle to attain an adult relationship free from such experiences.

Domestic violence is frequently present in cases of child abuse, with some studies showing correlations as high as 75%. 2 out of 7 incidents subject to serious case review (involving the serious injury to or death of a child) in Leicestershire stated Domestic Violence as a significant issue (1998—2004).

We also know that many young offenders, male and female, who have been convicted of a violent offence have witnessed violence in the family context<sup>10</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> Cleaver et al 'The response of children protection practices and procedures to children exposed to domestic violence or parental substance misuse' 2006;page 2

<sup>10</sup> Local snapshot data from the Youth Offending Service based on a 6month time frame found that 100% of female offenders charged with a violent offence had witnessed family violence.

Domestic violence can have a significant harmful impact against each of the 5 key outcomes for children and young people detailed in Every Child Matters:

- Staying safe
- Making a positive contribution
- Being healthy
- Enjoying and achieving
- Achieving economic well-being

It is important that services are available to safeguard children and young people and help those who have been affected by domestic violence to come to terms with their experience and offer them ways to rebuild their strength and resources to create positive relationships.

### **Drugs and Alcohol**

The links between Domestic Violence and substance misuse are controversial, largely undocumented and require much greater scrutiny (Stella Report 2003). What we do know is that reports to the police do increase on a Saturday and Sunday, where there may be higher levels of substance misuse, and alcohol in particular. Local police figures suggest that 17% of perpetrators of Domestic Violence were perceived as being under the influence of alcohol by Police Officers (2007 Domestic Violence Problem Profile).

Victim only drinking is rare. However victims can begin or increase their substance use as a coping mechanism for the abuse they are facing. Substance misuse may be a distinct element of the Domestic Violence, with the perpetrator introducing, withholding or otherwise controlling the use of substances, including methadone<sup>11</sup>.

An American study has shown that up to 90% of women accessing a drug treatment centre have experienced Domestic Violence within the last 12 months (Stevens & Arbiter cited in the 2003 Stella Project Report). Domestic Violence and substance misuse is therefore an issue for both the Domestic Violence sector and the Drugs and Alcohol sector to consider.

### **Summary**

Responding effectively to domestic violence has a positive impact on:

- Safeguarding children and adults
- Reducing crime, and violent crime in particular
- Increasing public confidence in the criminal justice system
- Social cohesion and sustainable communities
- Economic Prosperity
- Mental and physical health
- The 5 Every Child Matters Outcomes
- People achieving their potential

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<sup>11</sup> There can be misuse and abusive control of a wide range of prescribed medication.

Domestic Violence affects everyone, and occurs all over the world (WHO 2006). As an issue that relates to the abuse of power and control, particular attention has to be paid within a strategic response to Domestic Violence to those individuals and communities who may already be socially excluded, under served or oppressed due to their individual circumstances.

People may choose not to report Domestic Violence to any agency, including the Police for several reasons, some of which have been mentioned above. Fear and doubt can surround help seeking. Including the fear of losing children through custody disputes or through statutory intervention<sup>12</sup>. Initiatives to encourage help seeking need to consider the impact of Domestic Violence, how to reduce some of the barriers mentioned above and how to increase the options available.

### **Recognition in key local plans and strategies**

Domestic violence is noted as a priority within the following local documents:

Homelessness Strategy 2003  
Crime, Disorder & Drugs Reduction Strategy 2005-8  
Children and Young People's Plan 2006-7  
Supporting People Strategy 2005-10  
NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Domestic Violence Strategy  
Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2006-8

Additional documents make reference to domestic violence:

Cultural Strategy 2006-8  
Carers Strategy 2005-7  
Local Transport Plan 2006-11  
Local Area Agreement 2006-9  
Teenage Pregnancy Strategy  
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Board's Business Plan 2006-8  
Adult Protection Multi Agency Policy & Procedures  
Prostitution Strategy (in development)

The following national documents have significantly shaped domestic violence work:

- Vision for Services for Children and Young People (2005)
- Safety & Justice (2003)
- Violence at Home (2004)
- Local Government Association Tavistock Institute Research on Effective Domestic Violence Partnerships (2005)
- Responding to Domestic Abuse: A Handbook for Health Professionals 2006  
Department of Health

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<sup>12</sup> These fears will often be used as part of the abuse.

- Working Together to Safeguard Children: A Guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children (2006a)
- National Supporting People Strategy

The legislative framework for this area is vast, and includes:

- Crime & Disorder Act 1998
- Human Rights Act 2000
- Children & Adoption Act 2001
- Children & Adoption (Amendment) Act 2006
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2005
- Family Law Act 1996
- Homelessness Act 2002
- Housing Act 1996
- Immigration Act 2000
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Children Act 2004

### **3. CONTEXT**

#### **National Statistics**

##### *Prevalence*

- Findings from self-completion questionnaires within the British Crime Survey (2001) suggest that somewhere between 1 in 2 and 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence in their lifetimes.
- Nationally, the NSPCC reported that 1 in 5 young women had experienced domestic violence and over 1 in 3 of these had witnessed domestic violence at home (NSPCC Sugar Survey 2004).
- Research highlights that up to 75% of children on the 'at risk' register of social service departments, have experienced domestic violence.
- Roughly 150 people die each year in the UK, murdered by their current or ex-partner, more than 100 being women.
- Police, on average, attend one incident of Domestic Violence every minute, every hour, every day (Stanko 1999).
- 35% of incidents are reported to the Police.

##### *Who*

- Men are increasingly reporting domestic violence, with figures of between 1 in 6 and 1 in 10 stating that they have experienced domestic violence in their lifetimes.
- 89% of those suffering four or more incidents are women.
- The British Crime Survey states that approximately 50% of those experiencing domestic violence have dependent children.
- In 90% of Domestic Violence incidents, children were in the same or next room.

##### *What*

- Over 45,000 women and children stay in a refuge each year.
- £23billion each year is used to manage the impact of Domestic Violence (Walby 2004). Domestic Violence is believed to cost business as much as £2.7billion a year in lost productivity.
- Domestic Violence accounts for 31% of all violence against women and 5% of all violence against men (BCS 2005-6).

- Domestic Violence makes up between 17-25% (and more) of all recorded violent crime (2005).
- 13% of the households accepted as homeless by local authorities were fleeing Domestic Violence in 2005.

### **Local Statistics**

There are a variety of approaches to identifying domestic violence issues. The Domestic Violence Data Harmonisation Group has worked across the city and the county for a number of years to encourage and support organisations to collect data on Domestic Violence.

A sample database (known as the 'DV1'), developed by this group, is in use by some local agencies. Others have added a question on Domestic Violence into their own monitoring systems.

Domestic incidents are identified through a number of avenues in the police domain. The majority occur through the use of the 999 and non-emergency line; other referrals are received through: the enquiry desk, the crime input bureau, police officers, other agencies and as a result of other enquiries.

Leicester has some of the most disadvantaged areas in the whole of England, measured by the Index of Deprivation, which takes into account income, employment, health deprivation and disability, education skills and training, the living environment and crime. There are vast differences across the city and within super output areas (those areas listed as in the worst 5% for the previous categories).

The number of children on the child protection register in Leicester City at the end of March 06 was 288. This represents a percentage figure of 42.3 children per 10,000 under 18 years and is above the family average for similar authorities of 30.4 per 10,000<sup>13</sup>.

The following local Domestic Violence data represents one year (2005-6), unless otherwise stated. These figures represent a sample of the information we have collated and analysed through the DV data collation report 2004-6, currently in production. We have found that bringing agencies together to analyse Domestic Violence Data is the only way to gain an accurate sense of the local picture.

- 148 applications for injunctions were made to the county court (the vast majority of which will have related to domestic violence).
- 6208 reports of domestic violence were made to the Police in Leicester City: average 120 reports every week, 17 every day.
- 40% of male and female young offenders who have committed a violent offence had previously witnessed violence in a family context. If only

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<sup>13</sup> Page 19 Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB Annual Report 2005-6

female young offenders are considered, 100% have previously witnessed violence in a family context (6 month sample, small figures were analysed).

- Whilst homelessness in the City is falling, Domestic Violence continues to be a significant factor, with nearly 20% of acceptances being due to domestic violence.
- 27% of safeguarding adult referrals involved abuse from a family member (Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland).
- 73% of young people completing an online Connexions survey on domestic violence stated that they had experienced domestic violence.
- 35% of reports to the police of domestic violence recorded children as being present.<sup>14</sup>
- An average of 16% of referrals to the Children and Young People's Duty and Assessment Service were related to domestic violence.
- 25% of Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area clients had experience of domestic violence in their history, as either a perpetrator or victim.
- 25% of people reporting domestic violence to the police had already experienced an incident of domestic violence in the past 12 months. This was 32% in 2003-4.
- The Domestic Violence Integrated Response Project (DVIRP) recorded 1070 calls to their helpline.
- In some Local Policing Units, reporting of Domestic Violence incidents is increasing at the same time as repeat incidents are decreasing, highlighting positive responses to Domestic Violence.
- Some local areas record low rates of concern about Domestic Violence but are high in comparison to others in terms of reporting, and others report fairly high levels of concern and low levels of reporting.
- The market place and clock tower appear as a hot spot for Domestic Violence incidents reported to the police, which defies common assumption of Domestic Violence only taking place in private places.
- Police data reports that 17% of Domestic Violence incidents between 2003 and 2006 involved an offender believed to be under the influence of alcohol.

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<sup>14</sup> This was taken from a random sample and used CIS data.



- 77% of Domestic Violence incidents recorded by the police were from women reporting as victims, and 23% were men. 12% of offenders identified by the police were female and 88% were male.
- 58% of the cases of Domestic Violence reaching the Crown Prosecution Service resulted in a successful outcome.
- Approximately 50% of incidents reported to the Police are recorded as 'non-recordable', and are not progressed further. Non-recordable (non-crime) incidents include malicious telephone calls, first harassment incidents and other incidents, which are not offences within the criminal law. For these instances it is inappropriate to use the terms 'aggrieved' 'suspect' or 'offender' as the field 'aggrieved' is used to record details of all those involved in the dispute.

#### **4. LEICESTER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FORUM PARTNERSHIP VISION AND STRATEGIC PRINCIPLES**

It is our vision to reduce domestic violence through working together *to prevent* domestic violence, and to *provide support and protection* to anyone who has been, or may be, affected by domestic violence.

We will do this through continuing to build our knowledge base, with a commitment to campaigning for culture change, and a commitment to listen to those who often go unheard: In partnership.

##### **Prevention**

- a. Children and young people to receive education related to domestic violence and healthy relationships.
- b. Children, young people and adults affected by domestic violence are identified and receive appropriate interventions.
- c. Adults to have a basic understanding of domestic violence issues and the resources available.
- d. Organisations have a local understanding of the issues of domestic violence.

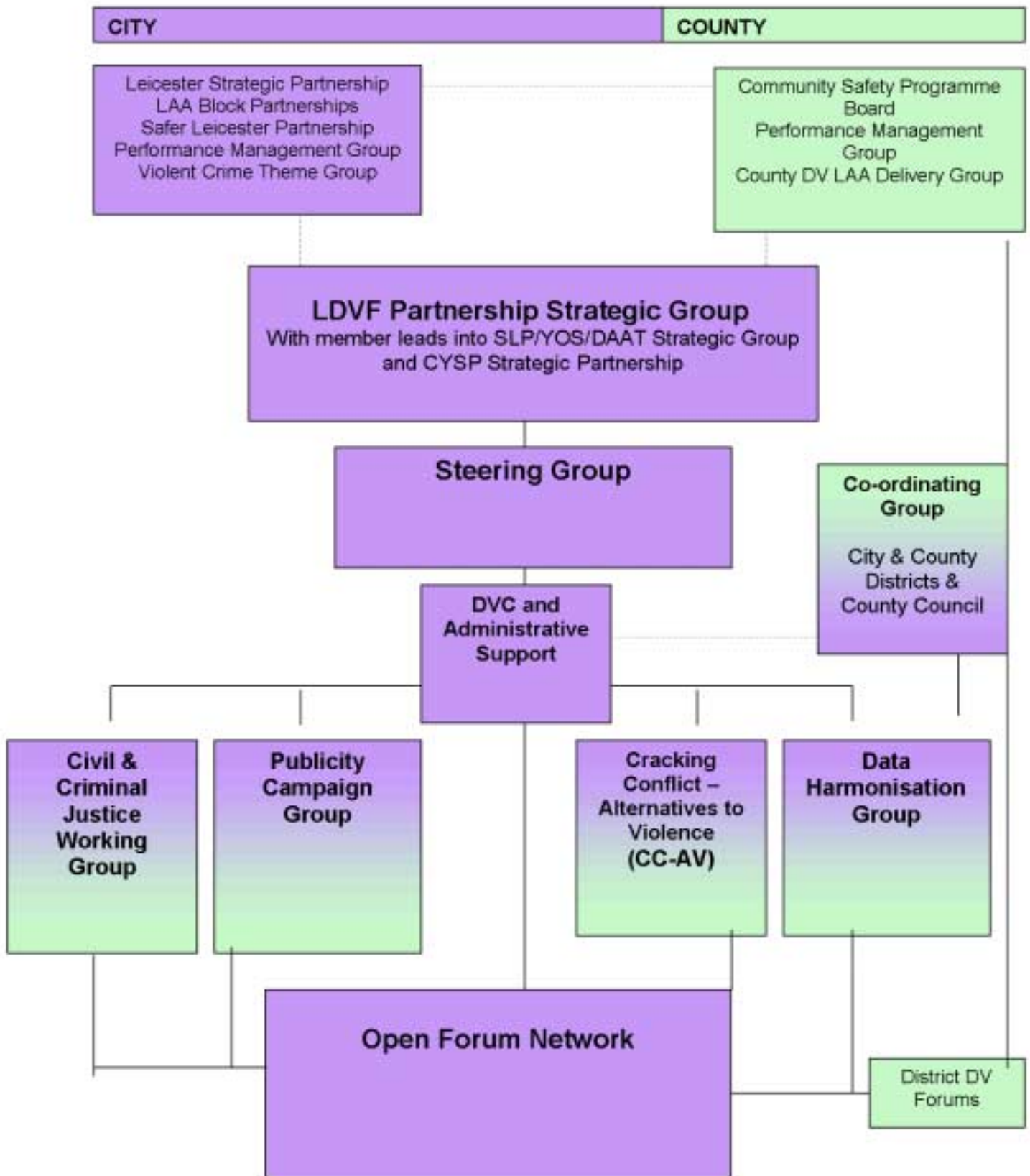
##### **Support**

- a. Organisations to recognise the issue of domestic violence and make a commitment to take appropriate responsibility for the welfare of their clients and employees.
- b. Public sector organisations to actively engage in partnership work on domestic violence, including making a commitment to the domestic violence forum/partnership at all appropriate levels.
- c. The Domestic Violence Forum Partnership to ensure that there is accessible, appropriate and sufficient, good quality specialist and general provision for people affected by domestic violence
- d. Organisations build a strong evidence base of positive outcomes.

##### **Protection**

- a. Those aware of domestic violence, suffering from domestic violence or perpetrating domestic violence to seek assistance at an early stage
- b. Employees to have the skills, knowledge and confidence to identify domestic violence and take appropriate measures.
- c. Organisations to identify manage and reduce the risk of (further) harm to staff, volunteers and service users, sharing information (personal and anonymous) appropriately in a safe manner.
- d. Multi-agency systems and protocols in place for risk management and safety planning of high-risk domestic violence victims.

**5. DELIVERY STRUCTURES**



## **Delivery Structures Continued**

### **Aim of the Leicester Domestic Violence Forum (LDVF) Partnership**

Provide an organisational lead and strategic approach to responding domestic violence in Leicester City.

### **Governance**

The LDVF Partnership Strategic Group has the responsibility for ensuring that there is a strategic approach to Domestic Violence in Leicester. This means that work on Domestic Violence is co-ordinated and that collaboration between agencies is actively encouraged in order to improve provision and effectiveness.

The LDVF Partnership operates as a Partnership, rather than as a registered charity or company limited by guarantee. It supports the framework of the Leicester Strategic Partnership (LSP). As such, it provides an effective body for consultation, planning and commissioning Domestic Violence work.

The LDVF Partnership Strategic Group nominate a Chair and Vice Chair annually. These positions hold additional responsibilities. Key stakeholders are invited to become members of the group and additional agencies may be invited to present papers as appropriate.

Each group within the structure has terms of reference and a membership list, which can be accessed through the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator or the Team Assistant (DV) of the Safer Leicester Partnership.

### **Groups**

The Steering Group consists of multi-agency service managers and senior officers who can input into planning and delivery of services required for the strategic vision to be realised. This group monitors progress against an annual action plan and reports regularly on emerging gaps or areas where improvement is required.

The sub -groups noted on the structure diagram as beneath the steering group are well established and the need for people to focus on these specific areas is likely to continue due to the amount of current and planned activity. The need for further groups is discussed as necessary.

These sub groups, lead by different organisations operate across the city and county areas. Current leads are provided by:

Leicester City Primary Care Trust (NHS)

Connexions Leicester Shire (Publicity)

Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) (Civil and Criminal Working Group)

Domestic Violence Integrates Response Project (DVIRP) (Cracking Conflict – Alternatives to Violence)

These groups may well establish additional task groups for discrete pieces of work, such as the report on Specialist Domestic Violence Courts, which necessitates a different group of people. Practitioners of all levels of seniority are engaged at this level. Many are giving their time 'voluntarily', or as a 'contribution in kind' as Domestic Violence partnership work is not included or funded in their job remit. For this reason, capacity issues have to be carefully considered.

The Open Forum Network Meeting is held four times a year and is an opportunity for wider information sharing and consultation amongst practitioners interested in the area of Domestic Violence work. The mailing list for this Network incorporates all of the aforementioned group members and items of importance are distributed as necessary.

### **Membership**

Members of the voluntary, statutory and commercial sectors are invited to join the work of the Domestic Violence Forum Partnership. For a full list see Annex B.

### **Finance & Resources**

The LDVF Partnership has a minimal amount of funding 'in reserve', accumulated since its inception in 1995. Funding for ongoing activities such as the Domestic Violence Campaign has to be secured annually. Leicester City Council fund and employ the post of Domestic Violence Co-ordinator (with part time administrative support) for the LDVF Partnership.

Initiatives of the sub groups that require funding are co-ordinated through the joint action planning process and it is the responsibility of the steering and strategic groups, with the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator, to secure funds for the action plan initiatives.

LDVF Partnership funds are held within City Council, and managed as stated within the Service Level Agreement between City Council and the LDVF Partnership Strategic Group.

### **Staff**

The LDVF Partnership, through City Council, employs one full time Domestic Violence Co-ordinator and a part time administrative assistant to aid the delivery of the Domestic Violence Inter-Agency Strategy. The successful delivery of the strategy is dependent upon the support of many agencies offering their staff time and other resources.

## 6. BEST PRACTICE

In 2003, the Government Green Paper 'Safety and Justice' established a framework for dealing with domestic violence based around Protection, Support and Prevention. In 2005 the first national delivery plan was devised for domestic violence and in 2006 the objectives of this first plan were re-defined. These objectives are currently:

- To increase the early identification of, and intervention with, victims of domestic violence earlier by utilising all points of contact with key front line professionals.
- To build capacity within the domestic violence sector to provide effective advice and support to victims of domestic violence.
- The promotion and promulgation of a co-ordinated community response to domestic violence
- To increase reporting and arrests rates for domestic violence.
- Increase the rate at which sanction detections are converted into offences brought to justice, particularly in high incidence areas and/or communities as well as in areas with high attrition rates.
- To support victims through the Criminal Justice System and manage perpetrators to reduce risk.
- Develop the evidence base to close key knowledge gaps, particularly around
  - Understanding the nature and scope of domestic violence
  - Understanding what works in reducing the prevalence of domestic violence

Key elements of best practices have emerged through the independent evaluation of Domestic Violence Projects around the country. These elements have now been incorporated into the Co-ordinated Community Response Model, which is being supported by national Government, as evidenced in the objectives above.

Findings from such projects include:

- Increased reporting and prosecution
- Reduction in victim retractions
- Dramatic reductions in repeat incidents
- Increase in victim satisfaction
- Increase in referrals for a Child Protection assessment
- Decrease in reports to Accident & Emergency Departments
- Increase in guilty pleas and convictions
- Reduction in discontinuances and cases where no evidence is offered

For very modest costs (mainly in terms of staff to set up specialist procedures), all Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (from which this model emerged) showed value in: facilitating good multi-agency working across the Criminal Justice System and finding ways to begin reducing repeat victimisation. The main costs incurred were for advocacy, training, allocation of police officers to the courts and monitoring of cases. Training and monitoring are both essential for good practice

and thus should be 'built-in' to the costs of delivering effective DV services (SDVC Evaluation Report 2005).

Integration

In Leicester, we have already integrated key services through the Domestic Violence Integrated Response Project (DVIRP). This project integrated the work of Leicester Action on Domestic Violence, the Domestic Violence Helpline, the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator (now separate), and the domestic violence project within the Community Helpline. The DVIRP holds strong potential for further integration of domestic violence services, as noted by the Local Government Association Domestic Violence Consultant Anthony Wills (2006).

Appropriate and timely support is an integral factor for reducing domestic violence, and the work of Cardiff Women's Safety Unit, Portsmouth Early Intervention Project, Leeds Inter-Agency Project and Standing Together have been forerunners in improving provision in this regard.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisors/ Advocates

Independent Domestic Violence advisors have been found to reduce violence, increase use of safety behaviours and increase access of community resources (Ramsay, Rivas and Feder 2005). They have also been found to increase satisfaction, public confidence and the number of offenders brought to justice (Domestic Violence Courts evaluation 2005).

Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (alternatively referred to as advocates) are domestic violence practitioners trained to a high standard in court process, supporting victims of domestic violence and liaising with other professionals on their behalf.

The organisation CAADA (Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse), estimate that 10.5 advocates would be required in an area with a population of 300,000. The majority of cases of domestic violence would not require high-level interventions – they estimate that only 15% would require more than advice, signposting or level one intervention support. High and medium risk cases constitute 20% of survivors and 80% of criminal justice system costs.

Perpetrator Work, both Court Mandated and Community Programmes

It has recently been evidenced that perpetrator programmes are most effective over the long term (4yrs plus) when knitted into an integrated community response (Gondolf 2005), including partner support, inter-agency risk assessment, and work with children. The main finding from a four year follow up study with the partners of Domestic Violence perpetrators indicated that the vast majority of men did eventually stop their violence and decrease their non-physical abuse and intervention (Gondolf 2002).

Multi-Agency Information Sharing and Risk Assessment and Management

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACS) are another major facet of a co-ordinated community response to Domestic Violence. These conferences ensure that those high-risk offenders are discussed in a multi-agency manner, with Domestic Violence practitioners central to this process, with a view to reducing the risk they present. This work compliments the Risk Assessment Management

Panels (RAMPS) that are a part of the Multi-Agency Public Protection Panels (MAPPA).

#### Enforcement

The Police Standards Unit (PSU) has provided additional resources in key areas concerning violent crime performance. In 2006 a campaign centred on Domestic Violence Enforcement, and tied in to the Football World Cup Tournament. This campaign focussed on:

- Improved investigation at call receipt/ control room;
- Improved evidence gathering at the scene; and
- Targeting of offenders.

The report of the campaign contains several recommendations, including increased and effective training for Police staff, targeting of prolific offenders and media and marketing campaigns aimed at both victims and offenders.

#### Employers

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) Employee Domestic Violence Policy is heralded as good practice in the National Plan Progress Report (2006). The Corporate Alliance Against Domestic Violence (CAADV) was launched in 2005 and is a group of 'progressive companies and organisations working individually and collectively to address the impact of Domestic Violence in the workplace.'<sup>15</sup> The local NHS group has also developed an employee policy that is regarded nationally as best practice.

#### Developing the evidence base

'External' university departments or researchers evaluated Cardiff Women's Safety Unit, Portsmouth EIP and the SDVC pilots<sup>16</sup>, and these reports have greatly informed knowledge of best practice. These evaluation have included the design of monitoring systems

Domestic Violence projects and partnerships around the country have adopted various IT systems to record and, in some instances track incidents of Domestic Violence across agencies. PALOMA and Canary are two types of software that have been recommended.

#### Specialist Domestic Violence Courts

The Specialist Domestic Violence Courts Programme places the courts firmly within the co-ordinated community response model. In the main the courts have followed models which either cluster adult criminal domestic violence cases in a particular courtroom or which fast track cases of adult criminal domestic violence<sup>17</sup>. There is a detailed programme of implementation that reaches far beyond the courts and includes all of the work mentioned above in this best practice section.

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<sup>15</sup> Domestic Violence National Plan Progress Report 2005-6 (2006) page 16

<sup>16</sup> The evaluation of the SDVC pilots was carried out by a group of researchers from several universities.

<sup>17</sup> 'Value & Feasibility Report for SDVCs in Leicestershire' Marshall et al 2007



## 7. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Issues frequently overlap in the area of Domestic Violence. We have chosen to structure our work around the following interlocking concepts:

1. Protection (high risk cases)
2. Support (standard risk response)
3. Prevention (changing culture)

### **Protection**

Protection includes the prevention of further harm. We need to prevent repeat incidents, through work with both the perpetrator(s) and victim(s). A key element in this focus is to share information appropriately across agencies to ensure that risk is adequately assessed and to work in partnership to reduce and manage that risk.

Many agency reviews and inspections have been published in recent years, showing that there remain failings in risk assessment and management, including:

- *Hmcpvi Violence At Home: A Joint Thematic Inspection of the Investigation and Prosecution of cases involving Domestic Violence HMIC February 2004*
- *Getting Away With It: A Strategic Overview of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault & Serious Incident Analysis 2004 MPS*
- *Domestic Violence, Safety & Family Proceedings. Thematic Review of the handling of domestic violence issues by the Children & Family Court Advisory and Support Service and the administration of family courts in Her Majesty's Court Service October 2005*

Service providers and service users need to feel confident in procedures and practice in relation to sharing personal information with other agencies. The limits of confidentiality need to be explained clearly, pro-actively and with support to guard against feelings of further abuse of power and control, and further risk to those already vulnerable.

There is a need to ensure that data is shared appropriately in relation to pupil records: when children and young people move to escape Domestic Violence or as part of a witness protection programme, services responsible for updating records (i.e. centrally held pupil databases) need to know that this is the reason for the move. They can then ensure that they are not put at risk by their new location being recorded.

Key to protection is being able to identify domestic violence, and being equipped to manage that knowledge appropriately. We need to secure quality standards and be confident that those working with domestic violence are supported to continue doing that work effectively.

Risk and need assessment and management processes can be variable and fragmented. Many public sector agencies do routinely make such assessments, for clients and staff. The degree to which Domestic Violence is specifically considered, including the knowledge gained from research into Domestic Violence homicides and 'near misses', within these systems is diverse.

It is now acknowledged, within the Children and Adoption Act 2006, that witnessing Domestic Violence is an indicator of significant harm for children. Reviews into the death or serious injury to a child routinely mention Domestic Violence as an issue. Anger management, perhaps due to a lack of other resource, is often considered an option for someone identified as perpetrating domestic violence. This is often not appropriate in many instances and may collude with the perpetrators' sense of being a victim and there being justifiable provocation. This can be extremely dangerous. It does not take into account the calculated abuse of power and control that may be present, or challenge perceptions of masculinity.

We also need to be aware that as we support a full definition of domestic violence that includes male and female partners, family members and carers, the systems we use need to identify Domestic Violence and the options available, need to be further developed. Screening methods to establish the particular dynamics of the relationship are essential if we want to avoid placing people at further risk. This facet of protection work has been greatly informed by the work of the Dyn project in Cardiff, which supports heterosexual, bi-sexual and gay male victims of Domestic Violence. Rowlands (2006) found that 50% of men reporting as victims were perpetrators. His work has also highlighted the high risk that male victims may face.

Services must endeavour to avoid:

- Colluding with the perpetrator
- Providing services to people who don't need them
- Equipping a perpetrator with information they can use against the victim
- Failing to accurately assess the risk presented, for all those involved (for example assuming children do not need to be considered in a relationship between two gay men)

### Local Picture

Leicester has been a forerunner in combining community, otherwise known as 'self-referred', perpetrator programmes with court mandated perpetrator programmes. Demand on this service, and loss of funding for partnership work in this area, has recently led to the withdrawal of services for self-referred men and this is a significant loss. Multi-agency risk assessment and management for non-court perpetrators also requires improvement, with no system in place for multi-agency work outside of MAPPA, where Domestic Violence cases rarely feature.

Funding for protection work largely sits with Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area, as they are the key providers of work with perpetrators. Each Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) group is estimated at £9000. Leicestershire &

Rutland Probation Area has a Domestic Violence team consisting of a women's safety worker, group facilitators, treatment manager and programme manager (the latter two posts work in additional areas).

The Local Safeguarding Children Board is also a key partnership in relation to this area, and the Business Plan for 2006-8 prioritises improved links with the local Domestic Violence Forum Partnership. We do not currently have figures on how many reports of concern are made by agencies working with Domestic Violence in relation to safeguarding children or adults.

#### Current activities

- At any one time there are up to 6 different IDAP groups of up to 12 men on each, running. There is high, and increasing demand from the Courts for IDAP (integrated domestic abuse programme) groups, leading to increased pressure on the whole Probation IDAP team, including the Women's Safety Worker element.
- Individual work takes place, but no programmes specifically run for female perpetrators, or other specific groups (for example Lesbian, Gay, or Transgender, BME groups).
- DVIRP are developing a programme, in partnership with Relate, to use with self referred male perpetrators, and are seeking funding to deliver this programme. This programme will be in line with national guidelines and will hope to be accredited by Respect.
- We have an overarching information sharing protocol for anonymous data but there is not a specific data exchange agreement in place to cover sharing personal information in relation to cases of Domestic Violence. This work is in progress.
- In relation to children missing education (CME), systems are being developed to ensure that central recording of data regarding pupils who have moved due to Domestic Violence is appropriate in order to protect their new location. In addition to this, work is ongoing in relation to supporting the education admissions process of all children and young people who come into the city, some of whom will have moved away from situations where Domestic Violence is present.
- City Council has established a rolling training programme for staff across all departments.
- DVIRP currently deliver some training sessions on request, as do Witness Cocoon and Women's Aid, however this is mostly at tier 1: basic awareness, and more specialised training remains in high demand with very limited capacity to meet the need.

- Health agencies have trained over 1000 practitioners 2005-6 and have embedded Domestic Violence training into many mandatory, discretionary and academic courses.
- A Performance Management Framework has been developed for agencies to apply and undertake self-assessments against domestic violence performance. This is based on good practice indicators for Domestic Violence work.
- Information booklets on domestic violence were produced in 2006 for members of the public and practitioners, together with service leaflets and safety planning guidance.
- Social Care & Safeguarding operate a contact centre to facilitate safe, supervised contact between parents and their children who are in care on legal orders. This is not available for cases of custody disputes and safe contact arrangements.

## Support

Support needs to be available for those who have experienced Domestic Violence, either as children or as adults, to limit the potential harmful impact of that experience.

Support to children and young people has shown improvements in behaviour and relationships. It helps them to 'Stay Safe', as listed as one of the 5 key outcomes for every child. Support to adult victims has shown increased satisfaction in the criminal justice system, improved brought to justice outcomes and improved safety for those individuals and their families. Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) are heralded as best practice in this area<sup>18</sup>.

Domestic violence is often prolonged and can have complex after effects, including poor physical and mental health. One such impact is Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD is a name for a series of symptoms that anyone can experience following trauma. It is a normal reaction to experiences where your life, or those you care about, is threatened – an *abnormal* event. Therapeutic work, including group work and counselling, can help people who have experienced Domestic Violence re-engage in the community, and build new resources for managing any PTSD symptoms and also issues such as loss, shame, body image, anger and guilt which may be a barrier to wellbeing and positive relationships.

Women's Aid nationally has received funding from the Government to produce service standards for work with victims of Domestic Violence and a draft was released in 2006<sup>19</sup>. The work towards the accreditation of perpetrator programmes, being undertaken by Respect, includes the essential work to support partners and children.

Education, employment and training work with people who have experienced Domestic Violence, particularly women, is very valuable and appears to indicate a positive outcome in terms of maintaining safety in the long term (Newham Asian Women's Project).

### Local Picture

Face to face provision in line with the advisor model, is reasonable within Leicester. There are generic and specialist (Asian and BME) providers of Domestic Violence support schemes. However, different agencies apply different models of approach, so there remains an element of overlap. Floating outreach work funded through Supporting People may echo support work offered by organisations such as DVIRP and FWA. As there is the experience and expertise available locally, there is an opportunity to build a network of advisors across different agencies, or develop the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA<sup>20</sup>) function within one specific non-statutory organisation. It is estimated that a

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<sup>18</sup> See page 24

<sup>19</sup> National Service Standards for Domestic and Sexual Violence, Women's Aid Federation of England.

<sup>20</sup> See page 22 for a full description of this role

minimum of two IDVAs are required if the focus is only to be on those at very high risk and engaged in the criminal court system. 10.5 IDVAs is thought to be the ideal number<sup>21</sup>.

We have core, specialist services available for adult domestic violence victims/survivors. However, many of these services are not financially secure beyond the next 6 months, and there is no dedicated provision for children and young people. There is also space for further integration and co-ordination across the service providers.

DVIRP and staff from the Common Mental Health Service undertook a pilot project in 2005, working with women who had experienced Domestic Violence. This project involved a jointly delivered therapeutic group programme for the women (identified through DVIRP), and was positively evaluated, however continued funding was not secured.

Funding of support services for adult victims of Domestic Violence comes mainly through various funding streams within City Council (Adult & Community; Supporting People; Safer Leicester Partnership), and grant making bodies. Indirectly, money is also spent through general services such as housing, education, health, welfare benefits and other voluntary sector projects supporting victims and witnesses.

Braunstone Community Association, through the New Deal for Communities Fund, are able to offer additional outreach support in their area to women affected by Domestic Violence, and have entered into another 3 year commitment (2005-8) with Women's Aid Leicestershire Ltd to provide this service to local residents. This service has been evaluated by Focus Consultants and they report that service users rate the service very highly.

#### Current activities

- The Forum developed a Performance Management Framework for agencies to adopt and complete on an annual basis, as a self-assessment tool for progressing work on domestic violence.
- We are in the valuable position of having a local helpline that is a key support and signpost agency operating 7 days a week and now operating as part of an integrated response project, being able to internally refer on to BME specialist workers, and those working with probation on perpetrator programmes. The helpline supports both men and women over the age of 16 affected by domestic violence and is in the process of securing accreditation with the National Helplines Association.
- Refuge provision in Leicester meets national standards for the bed space: population ratio, indeed it appears to be well above the minimum requirements of 10 spaces per 10,000 of the population. We have three refuges specifically for Asian women, and a general refuge. We also have

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<sup>21</sup> CAADA calculation based on population size.

experienced supported housing providers whose main client group is women fleeing Domestic Violence included in these figures.

- The unit cost for supported housing provision relating to Domestic Violence (including floating support) is significantly above the national average, and this will be considered in a future sector review.
- Refuges continue to be in position where they sometimes have to turn people away due to lack of a bed space, and it appears that there is extremely limited provision for disabled women. Refuge provision for male victims is controversial, with some projects supporting men who have experienced Domestic Violence stating that this is not a primary concern. However, the value of floating support for men who have experienced Domestic Violence remains incontestable.
- Size, location and condition of local refuges are other issues that need to be reviewed in terms of suitability. Many providers have been in place for a number of years in the same building/ location, whilst population needs, such as location confidentiality, family size and new minority communities that are non-Asian are changing considerably.
- Outreach provision, through the Supporting People programme, also shows 'overspend' for our population size. There are two organisations providing a floating support service to women affected by Domestic Violence. However agencies continue to report waiting lists and some organisations choose not to approach outreach services because of the known shortage in supply. This has been considered as part of the wider strategic review of floating services.
- Domestic Violence services work informally with local Employment, Training and Education schemes.
- Family Welfare Association (FWA) run Freedom Programme support groups for women who have experienced Domestic Violence.
- DVIRP are the lead agency for the ASK project (Additional Security, Keep Safe). This project is a partnership between DVIRP, the Police and local Housing Department, and involves risk assessment, practical and emotional support and security interventions and ongoing safety planning. The project is an option for people who wish to remain in their own home and think that they could be safe to do so with some additional help. Research into housing and Domestic Violence was undertaken locally in 2005. This research concluded that many people did know of their rights in relation to housing and proposed further work in this area. ASK is one aspect of this, and further development could include the appointment of an IDVA with specific knowledge and links relating to homelessness and housing management.

## **Prevention**

Leicester has a strong history of actively recognising the importance of preventative work in the area of domestic violence. We have undertaken annual awareness campaigns for over 10 years and have been developing multi-agency work in schools for a similar length of time. Working towards positive, healthy relationships is a core element of many of our local priorities and children and young people are integral partners in working towards this aim.

We wish to increasingly prevent domestic violence from occurring in the first instance, and we also wish to prevent domestic violence from re-occurring once it has already taken place. We know from national and international research that domestic violence is one of the highest offences for repeat incidents and is also severely under reported. We also know from domestic violence homicide reviews that there are often many opportunities for intervention that are missed, both by agencies and family and friends (Greenway, Sully and Reeves 2005).

Prevention is a challenging task, with information on domestic violence still in its infancy in terms of predictive factors and getting a 'true' picture of the issue in our society. Public Health work in this area does, however, indicate that Domestic Violence is both predictable and preventable.

Funding for prevention work has mainly come through donations and, more recently, through the Safer Leicester Partnership.

### Current picture:

We have limited information on the number of children and young people currently affected by domestic violence, and this needs to improve before we can adequately meet their needs and target prevention work appropriately.

In previous years we have benefited from a partnership project working specifically with children and young people affected by Domestic Violence: Going Forwards. This is no longer in existence, but some of the local expertise remains.

The Cracking Conflict – Alternatives to Violence project within the LDVF Partnership, has developed resources for work with young people aged 14-16 that is increasingly going out in to secondary schools and youth groups, to positive acclaim.

### Current activities

- We have developed an educational resource aimed at 14-16yr olds, called Cracking Conflict – Alternatives to Violence (CC-AV), and have piloted a dance project based on these materials (House Devil Street Angel 2005).
- We are in the process of reviewing the education pack to suit a wider range of intervention options, age ranges, and specific needs groups



- The CC-AV materials are to be delivered in 9 city schools at the time of writing. Between April 05 and March 06, CC-AV reached some 323 students in the city, delivering a total of 17 sessions.
- The NHS Trusts, major employers in the area, have joined CAADV<sup>22</sup>, and Leicestershire Constabulary are in the process of reviewing their employee policy. The NHS Trusts locally also operate a strategic group focussed on domestic violence service improvements.
- The Forum works to secure funds each year for a campaign against domestic violence to raise awareness of the forms it takes and the specific issues for people who may generally go unheard or unseen, such as those experiencing same sex domestic violence. The campaign aims to encourage help seeking, reduce tolerance and inform about options. Evaluation shows that this is a valuable week, with calls to both Domestic Violence agencies and the Police increasing at this time of year and participants speaking highly of the value of events held.
- We have a healthy relationships questionnaire for adult members of the public that is currently being revised. This questionnaire will be revised to enable us to gauge tolerance, knowledge of lawfulness and awareness of the different forms of DV and the different relationships in which it can occur.
- The Common Assessment Framework (CAF), which will shortly be held electronically, is currently being explored as a model for referral amongst Domestic Violence agencies for cases involving children. The CAF has an indicator built into it that prompts practitioners to consider whether Domestic Violence is an issue. Guidance in training will be given regarding the sensitive nature of Domestic Violence as an indicator and the dangers of increasing risk if information is shared inappropriately. Current active evidence of Domestic Violence within a household should result in a consultative dialogue with the Social Care, Children and Young Peoples service function of the local authority to determine whether there is a child in need/ child at continuing risk of significant harm as a consequence of the Domestic Violence. The security mechanisms embedded in the eCAF will be the highest currently available and will be continually reappraised for further learning.
- Discussions are in the early stages in relation to the development of 'third party' reporting. We are aware that many people report to agencies other than the Police, or report to many agencies. The unique identifier system was developed in Leicester, in conjunction with the Domestic Violence database, to assist with the anonymous tracking of people reporting issues of Domestic Violence. This was designed to help us assess demand, areas requiring further co-ordination and in general service planning and delivery. However, it has been slow to be adopted.

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<sup>22</sup> Corporate Alliance Against Domestic Violence, see page 25.

- There is a specialist Midwife for Domestic Violence and this post has established positive working practices in local hospitals and with Refuge providers. Routine questioning has been introduced by maternity services. Named health visitor links have also been identified between refuges and community nursing services.

## **9. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

As mentioned in previous sections, there are specific gaps in relation to equality and diversity that need to be addressed, and these are listed below. More areas will emerge as each agency improves their own understanding and monitoring in relation to this issue.

At the time of writing this strategy a full analysis of local data on Domestic Violence 2004-6 is in progress. This report will provide further information in regard to who is accessing which services in terms of age, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, disability and religion. This may highlight further areas where improvement is required.

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) considers those who have experienced Domestic Violence, as a socially excluded group. This is in recognition that without such a distinct status, large agencies and partnership structures would be likely to ignore or inadequately consider the needs of people who have experienced Domestic Violence.

The role of the voluntary sector is significant in this area. Work of the Victims and Witnesses Alliance, Leicester, undertook a key shift into improving the sustainability and impact of the voluntary sector in 2006, through the initiative it undertook to employ a fundraising consultant on a collaborative basis. One of the agencies taking part, and benefiting from, this initiative was the DVIRP.

### *Disability*

- The Leicester Domestic Violence Forum Partnership previously worked with the Centre for Integrated Living on a disability audit, however this is now out of date and we do not have a clear picture of what agencies have put into place to ensure that these services are accessible.

### *Black & Minority Ethnic Communities*

- Leaflets, literature, and support available in community languages, and visibility amidst communities are important accessibility issues. With scarce resources and new communities this presents a challenge to the sector and one that requires ongoing innovation and focus.
- Some partners have mentioned the need for provision for minority communities that is non-Asian specific. Whether this needs to be refuge or floating outreach type provision is currently unknown. Links with the Multi-Agency Refugee and Asylum Seeker Forum have recently been established, but more work needs to be done in this area. Connected to this is the work that is demanded by the local and national issue of trafficking of women for the purposes of sexual exploitation.
- Volunteers are actively recruited by local Domestic Violence services, and these often reflect the diverse community of Leicester.

- We do not have clear figures available for the number of local young people who have been affected by forced marriage, and it is unclear how we could get to a position of having robust data available in this area.

#### *Gender*

- Women wishing to exit prostitution, or women who have suffered from trafficking, are in need of safe and supported accommodation, and there are high correlations with Domestic Violence for these women. Specific needs in relation to language, substance use, volume of numbers, vulnerability and potentially having no recourse to public funds all present challenges for us to meet.
- Women who have experienced Domestic Violence may value specific help around Employment, Education and Training. This needs to be explored further.
- A piece of work needs to be undertaken with refuge providers about the challenges of providing safe accommodation for pregnant women with children who may require help with safe child care during labour. Difficulties relating to child-care for women fleeing Domestic Violence often appear, and some further work is required to see if a multi-agency initiative can ease these barriers.
- We do have some local services that support male victims of Domestic Violence, both generic services and the DVIRP, who have specifically recruited and trained male volunteers for the DV helpline service. We know that men are increasingly reporting as victims of Domestic Violence and we need to explore what services would most appropriately meet their needs.

#### *Substance Use*

- We need to improve the identification of people accessing help for Domestic Violence and/or substance use who are experiencing difficulties with one or both issues.

#### *Sexuality*

- Victims of Domestic Violence within same sex relationships appear particularly under represented in the local statistics. Recording practices may partly explain this, but it is very likely that this is an area of significant under reporting.

#### *Age*

- Domestic Violence is a significant issue for adults and children and young peoples' services. There are many competing agendas in both areas, and there is perhaps a particular vulnerability for teenagers who may fall between definitions and service criteria and who may not identify with generic publicity materials on Domestic Violence.

*Simultaneous and Complex Needs*

- Many people may wish to flee Domestic Violence but feel unable to do so because they have adult dependents, need live in carers, have male children over the age of 14, pets, multiple needs in relation to substance use or mental health or have large families that cannot be accommodated in current refuge provision. These areas of 'complex need' need to be considered in terms of the future development of local refuge provision, and statistical information relating to such 'unmet need' needs to improve.

*Mechanisms*

- A service user consultation system needs to be established. This will improve the picture of local provision, and inform future development. This group or process needs support from, yet also be independent of, current providers of services to victims of Domestic Violence.

## 10. AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

The Governments' crime and disorder self-assessment guidance suggests the following ratings for performance:

**Gap identified:** the partnership feels that, at present, it is not achieving the standard and that there is therefore a gap in its current practice. Alternatively, the partnership has made only very limited progress towards achieving the standard.

**Working towards:** the partnership is not achieving the standard, has identified a gap in current practice and has developed responses or actions to address it. Partial achievement of the standard has been made, but substantial further work is required.

**Some success:** the partnership has achieved substantial progress against the standard.

**Doing well** the partnership is delivering well on all aspects of the standard. There may remain some areas of development and refinement even where a partnership assesses itself as doing well against standards.

<b>Strategic Objective Prevention</b>	<b>Current Performance</b>
Children and young people to receive education related to domestic violence and healthy relationships.	Working towards
Children, young people and adults affected by domestic violence are identified and receive appropriate interventions.	Working towards
Adults to have a basic understanding of domestic violence issues and the resources available.	Some success
Organisations have a local understanding of the issues of domestic violence.	Some success
<b>Strategic Objective Support</b>	<b>Current Performance</b>
Organisations to recognise the issue of domestic violence and make a commitment to take appropriate responsibility for the welfare of their clients and employees.	Some success
Public sector organisations to actively engage in partnership work on domestic violence, including making a commitment to the domestic violence forum/partnership at all appropriate levels.	Some success
The Domestic Violence Forum Partnership to ensure that there is accessible, appropriate and sufficient, good quality specialist and general provision for people affected by domestic violence	Working towards
Organisations build a strong evidence base of positive outcomes.	Gap identified
<b>Strategic Objective Protection</b>	<b>Current Performance</b>
Those aware of domestic violence, suffering from domestic violence or perpetrating domestic violence to seek assistance at an early stage	Working towards
Employees to have the skills, knowledge and confidence to identify domestic violence and take appropriate measures.	Working towards
Organisations to identify manage and reduce the risk of (further) harm to staff, volunteers and service users, sharing information (personal and anonymous) appropriately in a safe manner.	Gap identified
Multi-agency systems and protocols in place for risk management and safety planning of high-risk domestic violence victims.	Gap identified

In light of the Domestic Violence National Plan objectives (page 22), and a review of performance against our local strategic objectives (see above), areas of improvement emerge for our attention.

<b>Strategic Objective</b>	<b>Primary Objective</b>	<b>Key Performance Indicator<sup>23</sup></b>
Prevention 4 Support 1,2,3 Protection 2	Improve the strategic response to domestic violence; the clarity of lead and co-ordination of commissioning and planning, through the LDVF Partnership.	Strategic Plans mentioning DV Referrals of concern for a child Referrals of concern for an adult <b>BVPI 225</b>
Support 4	Improve the evidence base.	Data submissions on DV Data submissions on outcomes
Support 3	Sustain current levels and develop outreach and refuge provision, including Independent Domestic Violence Advisors	DV Safety Plans Completed <b>Reducing Repeat Incidents</b>
Protection 1,3,4	Increase capacity for accredited court and non-court perpetrator programmes and multi-agency risk assessment.	MARACS held People referring for perpetrator programmes Perpetrator programmes delivered Referrals to ASK
Prevention1,2	Sustain and develop therapeutic and preventative work with children and young people, including the development of earlier intervention opportunities	Sessions delivered to young people
Protection 2,4	Improve court responses	Practitioners receiving DV training <b>Successful brought to justice outcomes</b>
Support 3,4 Protection 4	Improve performance on equality and diversity	<b>Reporting to Police</b> Reporting to Non Police agencies
Prevention 3	Sustain and develop campaigning and promotional activity	<b>Reporting to Police</b> Calls to DV helpline

<sup>23</sup> Indicators listed in bold are already performance indicators for the 2005-8 Crime Disorder and Drugs Reduction Strategy and also, in the instance of reporting and repeats, are subject to a LPSA agreement 2005-8.

## 11. IMPLEMENTATION

The delivery structure shown on page 19 will ensure that progress is made in the above areas of development. Clearly, these areas are vast and a mechanism for prioritising work will need to be identified within each action area relating to:

- Ease of implementation;
- Risk of not implementing;
- Current performance level.

Many of the areas are inter-related and require continued or additional funding of varying amounts. If this funding is not secured, there will be a significant threat to achieving the actions.

The Domestic Violence Steering Group will secure lead practitioners for each of the areas. These leads will ensure that the action areas note potential threats and key partners. If partner are not able to commit, there will again be a significant threat to progress.

If necessary, the Steering Group will establish new working groups to ensure that progress is made.

More detailed action plans will exist for each of the eight areas for improvement, as working documents, and performance will be monitored through the Steering Group.

**Action Area 1: Sustain and develop campaigning and promotional activity**

**Key Partners:** Leicestershire Constabulary, DVIRP, WALL, Panahghar, Suruksha, Witness Cocoon, Victim Support, City Council, NHS Family, LCJB.

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Develop new publicity materials focussed on an aspect of domestic violence for November Campaign
Deliver public events in local neighbourhoods
Deliver a conference on domestic violence – November Campaign
Publish an evaluation report
Improve knowledge and skills of practitioners
Increase awareness of members of the public
Increase resources and awareness of young people
Promotion of DV Campaign branding
Target under represented groups



**Action Area 2: Improve strategic commitment and response to Domestic Violence through the LDVF Partnership.**

**Key Partners:** Leicestershire Constabulary, Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area, DVIRP, WALL, Panahghar, Victim Support, Leicester City Council, NHS Family, LCJB.

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Agree and promote an Inter-Agency Domestic Violence Strategy
Review and development partnership resources for domestic violence
Improve internal evaluation mechanisms for domestic violence
Establish a commissioning process for domestic violence projects
Increase the number of partners with domestic violence action plans connected to the strategy
Increase partner attendance and participation
Develop inter-agency protocols
Secure core funding for priority areas
Monitor the level of reporting for safeguarding adults and children – concern referrals

**Action Area 3: Improve the evidence base.**

**Key Partners:** Leicestershire Constabulary, DVIRP, WALL, DAAT, Panahghar, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area, Victim Support, Suruksha, FWA, Witness Cocoon, Relate.

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Produce bi annual strategic assessments on domestic violence
Produce statistics on domestic violence and substance use
Increase data on ethnicity
Increase use of 'tracking' software
Improve outcome evidence
Analyse and compare areas of higher and lower reporting
Develop local costing maps
Improve the information for young people 19yrs and under

**Action Area 4: Sustain current levels and develop outreach and refuge provision, including Independent Domestic Violence Advisors**

**Key Partners:** Leicester City Council, DVIRP, WALL, Panahghar, Suruksha, Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area, NHS family, Relate.

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Agree a service specification for IDVA project
Deliver telephone counselling for people affected by domestic violence
Increase gender specific provision for male victims
Expand ASK
Secure counselling placements within domestic violence projects
Secure secondments to multi-agency projects
Assessment of provision against relevant WAFE service standards
Deliver therapeutic group programme for survivors

**Action Area 5: Increase capacity for accredited court and non-court perpetrator programmes and multi-agency risk assessment.**

**Key Partners:** Leicester City Council, Leicestershire Police, Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area; DVIRP, Relate, WALL, Panahghar, Victim Support, Witness Cocoon, NHS Family.

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Implement MARACS
Adopt an information exchange agreement for personal data in cases of domestic violence
Deliver multi-agency risk assessment training
Increase the capacity of inter-agency training on domestic violence beyond tier 1
Develop and deliver a community group programme for perpetrators of domestic violence to meet emerging Respect standards
Increase the number of IDAP groups delivered
Produce a report on the local management of risk in relation to domestic violence

**Action Area 6: Sustain and develop therapeutic and preventative work with children and young people, including the development of earlier intervention opportunities**

**Key Partners:** DVIRP, CAMHS, Juniper Lodge, WALL, Panahghar, FWA, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire Police, Leicester Fire & Rescue, NHS Family

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Sustain and develop preventative and educational sessions 11-16 year olds on domestic violence and sexual violence
Expand preventative and educational sessions to 5-11 year olds.
Establish therapeutic group work programme for CYP affected by domestic violence
Establish individual support for CYP affected by domestic violence
Increase CCAV delivery in non-school settings
Deliver CCAV in more secondary schools
Deliver a domestic violence project for CYP involving an arts medium
Deliver a 'teenage perpetrators' pilot group programme

**Action Area 7: Improve performance on equality and diversity**

**Key Partners:** Panahghar, WALL, DVIRP, Leicestershire Constabulary, Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area, Victim Support, Witness Cocoon, Leicester City Council, NHS Family.

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Agree priority areas
Establish a working group to plan and deliver on actions
Increase accessibility to support services and prevention materials
Increase monitoring and identification of issues
Attain at least one fully DDA compliant refuge (DV entry criteria)

**Action Area 8: Improve Court Response**

**Key Partners:** HMCS, DVIRP, Leicestershire Constabulary, LCJB, Victim Support, Witness Cocoon.

<b>Second Level Objectives</b>
Support the proposal for an Implementation Manager for SDVC work programme
Support a Multi-Operational Steering Group
Involvement in training connected to SDVC



## ANNEX A Acronyms

ASK	Additional Security Keepsafe
CC-AV	Cracking Conflict – Alternatives to Violence
CDRP	Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (Safer Leicester Partnership)
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
DVIRP	Domestic Violence Integrated Response Project
DVOs	Domestic Violence Officers (Police)
FSU	Family Services Unit (now part of FWA)
FWA	Family Welfare Association
GOEM	Government Offices for the East Midlands
LCC	Leicester City Council or Leicestershire County Council
LDVF	Leicester Domestic Violence Forum
LGA	Local Government Association
LCJB	Local Criminal Justice Board
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board (previously ACPC: area child protection committee)
LPSA	Local Public Service Agreement
PCTs	Primary Care Trusts
SDVCs	Specialist Domestic Violence Courts
SLP	Safer Leicester Partnership (City CDRP)
SVN	Sexual Violence Network
VAL	Voluntary Action Leicester
WALL	Women's Aid Leicestershire Ltd

**ANNEX F Membership List<sup>24</sup>**

Action Homeless - Bridge House	Dodds & Partners	LCC Housing Management	NSPCC Bal Raksha
Addulam Homes Housing Assoc	DVRP	LCC Housing Options	Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service
Age Concern	Education Psychology Service	LCC Social Care & Health	Primary Mental Health Team
Anima Dance	Education Welfare Service	LCC Supporting People Team	Quetzal Project
Apna Ghar	Elmfield House	LCC Youth Offending Service	Rape Crisis
ASRA Midlands Housing Association	Emery Johnson Solicitors	Local Criminal Justice Board	Refugee Action
Bethany Project	Fairdeal	Leicester Anti Social Behaviour Unit	Relate Leicester
Bhagini Women's Centre	Family Welfare Association	Leicester Children Fund	Robinsons Solicitors
Border House Hostel	Fern Training	Leicester City Magistrates	Sure Start Beaumont Leys
Braunstone Health & Social Care Centre	First Step	Leicester City PCT	Sure Start Braunstone
Bridges	Forest Lodge Education Centre	Leicester City Youth Service	Sure Start New Parks
CAFCASS	Foundation Housing Association	Leicestershire Constabulary	Sure Start Saffron
CBII	HMP Gartree	Leicester County Court	Sure Start St Matthews
Central Lending Library	Homestart	Leicester Drug & Alcohol Team	Sure Start Thumbby & Crown Hills
Central Reference Library	JobCentrePlus	Leicester Housing Association	The Suraksha Project
Centre for Fun and Families	Jones & Duffin	Leicester Life	Turning Point Women's Centre
Child Behaviour Intervention Initiative	Juniper Lodge	Leicester MALE	Unison
CMHP Service	LAMP	Leicester Mediation Service	University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust
Connexions	Lancaster Boys School	Leicester Partnership Trust	Victim Support
LeicestHERday Trust	LCC Adult & Community Services	Leicestershire & Rutland Probation Area	Women's Aid Leicester Limited
Coventry Panahghar	LCC Children's Service Planning Unit	Leicester University Nightline	Wilson Browne Solicitors
Crown Prosecution Service	LCC Community Drugs Team	Nelson's Solicitors	Witness Care Unit
Dept of Criminology, University of Leicester	LCC Community Safety Team	New Futures Project	Witness Cocoon
Diversity Hub	LCC Housing Department		Witness Service, Leicester Magistrates Court

<sup>24</sup> This list represents City organisations only. Agencies in the County are also on the LDVF Partnership mailing list at their request

## ANNEX C

## Services and Projects (2006-6)

Nature of Work	Mainstream	Time Parameters	Cost (based on last year unless otherwise stated)	Contact & Evidence <sup>25</sup>	Outcome
<p>LCC Human Resources are currently reviewing the employee policy on Domestic Abuse, have established an internal project team, implemented a programme of training and are exploring ways to increase data collection on DV.</p>	Yes			Shobhana Patel	
<p><b>Housing &amp; Related Support Services.</b> Providers listed below include domestic violent as primary &amp; * secondary client groups and the total unit capacity is 221)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Womens Aid – Floating Support Service &amp; Refuge (also funded by Adult and Community Services Voluntary Sector Service)</li> <li>• Coventry Panaghgar – Refuges &amp; Floating Support (also funded by Adult and Community Services Voluntary Sector Service)</li> <li>• Suraksha – Refuge</li> <li>• Bridge House – Refuge</li> <li>• Apna Ghar – Supported Accommodation</li> <li>* Bethany – Supported Accommodation</li> <li>• Border House Hostel –Supported Accommodation</li> <li>• *Kirtan Lodge – Supported Accommodation</li> </ul> <p>Not housing related, WALL, Panaghgar and DVIRP receive some funding from Housing &amp; Community Services for aspects of their service delivery (work with children and the DV helpline)</p>	Yes	Ongoing (but subject to contract renewal and service review)	<p>£2,445,295 (supporting people fund)</p> <p>Total £128,300 (adult &amp; community services voluntary sector)</p>	<p>Anita Adatia 229 4177</p> <p>Sue Talton Adult &amp; Community Services</p>	Community

<sup>25</sup> Evidencing outcomes for work that takes place in such a sensitive, pervasive and critical arena is often complex. Qualitative information such as case studies and client testimony is often very insightful, yet takes resources and skill to obtain and record, and cannot be compared across agencies very easily.

The projects in the city are becoming more adept at being able to record outcomes on perceptions of safety, repeat incidents, repeat offending, parenting and general health and well being. This requires ongoing work, as the most vulnerable voices can often remain hidden in an area such as this.

Nature of Work	Mainstream	Time Parameters	Cost (based on last year unless otherwise stated)	Contact & Evidence <sup>25</sup>	Outcome
<p><b>DV Co-ordinator</b> and part time administrative support, based within the SLP team, with associated budget, co-ordinating work across the voluntary, statutory and commercial sectors through multi-agency partnership structures.</p> <p>Supporting task groups where necessary to develop new partnership initiatives on DV, support all sectors to improve practice and policy on DV and improve data collection, monitoring and awareness work.</p>	Yes (salaries only)		£68,000 (based on full project costs)	Stephanie McBurney 0116 252 8566	
<p><b>Domestic Violence Integrated Response Project (DVIRP)</b></p> <p>Provides a DV helpline 7 days a week, a specialist BME advocacy project, a risk assessment manager, volunteer service, support of CCAV (education and prevention work in schools) and therapeutic support for children and young people. DVIRP also undertake a significant amount of campaigning work in this area, provide the lead agency function for ASK, deliver the LOC training programme and offer awareness sessions for other organisations.</p>	No		£250,000	Suki Kaur Project Manager 0116 255 0003	
<p><b>Braunstone Community Association</b> fund additional outreach support and administration specifically for Braunstone residents through Women's Aid Leicestershire Ltd.</p>	No	3 years	£211,000 (2005-8)	Janice Vare (BCA) 0870 170 6984  Pamela Richardson (WALL) 0116 285 8079	
<p><b>Social Care &amp; Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Leicester City Council works with children and families within tier 3-4 level of need, working to protect children and young people from significant harm from domestic violence. Audits are undertaken from Child Protection Conferences for Domestic Violence as an issue and further work is ongoing to improve data collection. Work is also ongoing in relation to Safeguarding Adults.</p>	Yes			Penny Brown  Kala Subbuswamy	



Nature of Work	Mainstream	Time Parameters	Cost (based on last year unless otherwise stated)	Contact & Evidence <sup>25</sup>	Outcome
<p><b>Police</b></p> <p>1 Inspector, 1 DV/ Violent Crime Sergeant, 5 Domestic Violence Officers, 6 Constables dealing with domestic violence repeat offending in the central area and DVOs in East and West areas which cover parts of the City boundaries.</p> <p>Standard implementation of risk assessment, help implement initiatives with partner agencies such as the ASK project.</p> <p>Ongoing training program which last year trained 13 officers on DV attachments enabling them to return to shifts and provide competent DVO experience and advice at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>Provide staff to train partner agencies in the role of the police to foster understanding of working practices.</p> <p>Have devised and implemented the first DV repeat offender database for bad character information.</p> <p>Employ a force wide DVO/ Co-ordinator, who chairs the DV steering group, supports the DV data harmonisation group, attends the County LAA delivery group and supports the publicity campaign and the dissemination of information.</p>	Yes		£1,462,442 (for the entire Force area)	Sergeant Peter Williams 0116 248 6669	

Nature of Work	Mainstream	Time Parameters	Cost (based on last year unless otherwise stated)	Contact & Evidence <sup>25</sup>	Outcome
<p><b>Health</b></p> <p>The Public Health Directorate for the City PCT provides a leadership function for the Group, which has no dedicated finances or administration but has undertaken a significant range of work. Membership is drawn from the City &amp; County PCTs, Leicestershire Partnership Trust &amp; University Hospitals Leicester. This includes the development of training packages; delivery of training to over 1200 health staff and trainee clinicians in 2005-6 through a pool of trainers; interventions such as the development of a direct referral scheme from refuges into midwifery services, peer support networks for NHS Staff and safety planning leaflets; audits and surveys and production of policies and guidelines. The group has developed a DV strategy for the local NHS family which compliments the Inter-Agency DV Strategy</p>	Yes			Carole Devaney 0116 296 1514	

## **ANNEX D Resource List**

The following resources are available from the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator and Safer Leicester Partnership Team Assistant (DV).

- Domestic Violence Information Booklet for Members of the Public
- Domestic Violence Information Booklet for Practitioners
- Working Together to reduce Domestic Violence DVD (Introduction to the work of the Forum Partnership and DVIRP)
- Domestic Violence Data Collection Report 2003-4
- Domestic Violence Data Collection Report 2004-6 (forthcoming)
- Terms of Reference for the LDVF Partnership Groups
- Domestic Violence Services Leaflet
- House Devil Street Angel DVD
- Off Limits DVD and Work pack
- LDVF Annual Report 2004-5
- LDVF Annual Report 2005-6

## ANNEX E

### Targets

1.1. Leicester City has a Local Area Agreement with rewards attached for the achievement of specific stretch targets for work on domestic violence.

#### 1.2. LPSA (and LAA SSC2.3) DV Targets 2005-8:

- Increase the number of reported incidents (to the police) of domestic violence by 33%. This carries a 40% importance weighting. We need to secure 8,160 reports of DV for 2007-2008.
- Decrease the percentage of reported incidents (to the police) that are repeat incidents in the last twelve months by 4%. This carries a 60% importance weighting. We need to secure 28% of CIS reports showing as repeats for 2007-2008.
- The baseline for these figures is from 2003-4. Target 1 is set from performance review figures, which are monitored monthly. Target 2 is set from CIS figures on reporting and repeats and is monitored quarterly. Target 2 measures the percentage of times any person is a repeat victim (within a 12 month period).

#### 1.3. Additional Community Safety Strategy Targets 2005-8

- Establish a baseline and then increase the percentage of offenders brought to justice for domestic violence crimes
- Attain and sustain 100% on the BVPI 225 (local authority performance indicator on DV)

### Related LAA targets

- CYP2.1 a) Reduce rates of teenage conception
- CYP2.2 Promoting positive mental health (development target)

- CYP3.1 (i)(ii) Child protection registrations
- CYP3.3 Improve safeguarding for new communities
- CYP4.7 Increase the number of young people up to 19 who achieve a full level qualification
- SSC3.1 The percentage of people who think that the police in their area are doing a good or excellent job is higher than the baseline year.
- SSC4.3 Increase in volunteering as expressed by the % of residents who affirm that they carried out voluntary work in an organisation once a month or more in the past year
- SSC4.4 Growth of the community and voluntary sector as expressed by the % of VCS groups and organisations (i) affirming growth in activity – financial (ii) accessing capacity building (iii) accessing training opportunities
- SSC6.1 Access to cultural activity and institutions as expressed by access by priority groups
- SSC10.1 The % of households attending housing options interviews where homelessness was prevented.
- HCOP1.3 Reduced infant mortality rate
- HCOP1.9 Reducing inequalities by improving access to health and social care facilities and services: © Number of integrated health and social care facilities
- HCOP2.1 (b) Reduce rate per 100,000 of new diagnoses on Gonorrhoea
- HCOP2.5 Reduce harm from alcohol
- EDE1.5 Reduction in the number of working age families claiming key benefits (Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance and Incapacity Benefit)

## ANNEX F: 2007-8 Action Plan

Primary Objective	Secondary Objective	Lead	Target	Resource Implication
Sustain and develop campaigning and promotional activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop new publicity materials focussed on an aspect of domestic violence for November Campaign</li> <li>▪ Deliver public events in local neighbourhoods</li> <li>▪ Deliver a conference on domestic violence – November Campaign</li> <li>▪ Publish an evaluation report</li> <li>▪ Improve knowledge and skills of practitioners</li> <li>▪ Increase awareness of members of the public</li> <li>▪ Increase resources and awareness of young people</li> <li>▪ Promotion of DV Campaign branding</li> <li>▪ Target under represented groups</li> </ul>	Kristel Bhatia, Connexions Leicester Shire	<p>Increase the number of reports to the Police (CIS) by 20% on same week, previous year.</p> <p>Increase the number of calls to the DVIRP Helpline by 20% from same week, previous year.</p> <p>Increase the % of attendees who felt that their knowledge and skills had increased following the event (immediately and 3 month follow up).</p> <p>Establish a baseline for the number of people (members of the public) who are aware of the Campaign.</p>	<p>Staff and volunteer time</p> <p>£3000 November Campaign Events.</p> <p>£6000 Publicity Materials</p> <p><b>TOTAL: £9,000</b></p>
Improve strategic commitment and response to Domestic Violence through the LDVF Partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agree and promote an Inter-Agency Strategy</li> <li>▪ Review and develop partnership resources</li> <li>▪ Improve internal evaluation mechanisms</li> <li>▪ Establish a commissioning process</li> <li>▪ Increase the number of partners with domestic violence action plans connected to the strategy</li> <li>▪ Increase partner attendance and participation</li> <li>▪ Develop inter-agency protocols</li> <li>▪ Secure core funding for priority areas</li> <li>▪ Monitor the level of reporting for safeguarding adults and children – concern referrals</li> </ul>	Stephanie McBurney  LDVF Partnership	<p>2 resources developed or updated and reproduced</p> <p>70% attendance for all group members</p> <p>Baseline and increase participation in DV partnership initiatives</p> <p>Increase number of members internal DV action plans</p> <p>Improve internal evaluation mechanisms of DV projects</p> <p>Increase the number of independent multi-agency evaluations of DV projects</p> <p>Establish commissioning systems for DV projects</p> <p>Collate and increase the number of inter-agency protocols relating to DV</p> <p>Sustain and develop financial resources to for the LDVF Partnership core activities and action plan.</p>	<p>Senior staff time.</p> <p>£30,000 external multi-agency evaluation project.</p> <p>£8000 DVF Partnership core work.</p> <p>£10,000 Resources</p> <p><b>TOTAL: £48,000</b></p>

<p><b>Improve the evidence base.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Produce bi annual strategic assessments on domestic violence</li> <li>▪ Produce statistics on domestic violence and substance use</li> <li>▪ Increase data on ethnicity</li> <li>▪ Increase use of 'tracking' software</li> <li>▪ Improve outcome evidence</li> <li>▪ Analyse and compare areas of higher and lower reporting</li> <li>▪ Develop local costing maps</li> <li>▪ Improve the information for young people 19yrs and under</li> </ul>	<p>Carole Devaney  Leicester City PCT</p>	<p>6 agencies supplying quarterly statistics at DV1 level of detail.</p> <p>3 agencies using 'tracking/identification' software.</p> <p>Workshop on outcome measure options.</p> <p>4 agencies submitting data on DV and substance use.</p> <p>2 data collation reports.</p>	<p>Staff time.</p> <p>£6000 analyst support.</p> <p>£1000 report printing.</p> <p><b>TOTAL: £7000</b></p>
<p><b>Sustain current levels and develop outreach and refuge provision, including Independent Domestic Violence Advisors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agree a service specification for IDVA project</li> <li>▪ Deliver telephone counselling for people affected by domestic violence</li> <li>▪ Increase gender specific provision for male victims</li> <li>▪ Expand ASK</li> <li>▪ Secure counselling placements within domestic violence projects</li> <li>▪ Secure secondments to multi-agency projects</li> <li>▪ Assessment of provision against relevant WAVE service standards</li> <li>▪ Deliver therapeutic group programme for survivors</li> </ul>	<p>Chair LDVF Partnership</p>	<p>160 ASK interventions.</p> <p>30 support contacts with men affected by domestic violence.</p> <p>2 secondments to multi-agency DV projects.</p> <p>30 counselling sessions delivered.</p> <p>5 assessments against WAVE criteria.</p> <p>50% increase in DV Helpline referrals.</p>	<p>Staff time.</p> <p>£100,000 for three IDVA, including one specifically for male victims.</p> <p>£3000 IT equipment.</p> <p>£20,000 ASK capital and revenue.</p> <p>Health costs for joint programme?</p> <p><b>TOTAL: £123,000</b></p>

<p><b>Increase capacity for accredited court and non-court perpetrator programmes and multi-agency risk assessment.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement MARACS</li> <li>• Adopt an information exchange agreement for personal data in cases of domestic violence</li> <li>• Deliver multi-agency risk assessment training</li> <li>• Increase the capacity of inter-agency training on domestic violence beyond tier 1</li> <li>• Develop and deliver a community group programme for perpetrators of domestic violence to meet emerging Respect standards</li> <li>• Increase the number of IDAP groups delivered</li> <li>• Produce a report on the local management of risk in relation to domestic violence</li> </ul>	<p>Pete Williams Leicestershire Constabulary</p> <p>Suki Kaur DVIRP</p> <p>Andrew Chivers Leicestershire &amp; Rutland Probation Area</p> <p>Shobhana Patel LCC</p>	<p>80% completion rate for perpetrator programmes.</p> <p>60 referrals for non-court perpetrator work.</p> <p>10 MARACS held</p> <p>6 IDAP groups.</p> <p>3000 staff receiving DV training</p>	<p>Staff time.</p> <p>£5000 MARAC training.</p> <p>£40,000 Programme Manager Post</p> <p>£9000 IDAP group.</p> <p><b>TOTAL: £54,000</b></p>
<p><b>Sustain and develop therapeutic and preventative work with children and young people, including the development of earlier intervention opportunities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustain and develop preventative and educational sessions 11-16 year olds on domestic violence and sexual violence</li> <li>• Expand preventative and educational sessions to 5-11 year olds.</li> <li>• Establish therapeutic group work programme for CYP affected by domestic violence</li> <li>• Establish individual support for CYP affected by domestic violence</li> <li>• Increase CCAV delivery in non-school settings</li> <li>• Deliver CCAV in more secondary schools</li> <li>• Deliver a domestic violence project for CYP involving an arts medium</li> <li>• Deliver a 'teenage perpetrators' pilot group programme</li> </ul>	<p>Darren Youngs DVIRP</p>	<p>200% increase in CCAV sessions.</p> <p>200% increase in young people receiving CCAV sessions.</p> <p>Primary school pilot.</p> <p>Out of school pilot.</p> <p>2 arts based programmes.</p> <p>15 active facilitators.</p> <p>10 week group programme for young people</p> <p>60 CYP supported</p>	<p>Staff time.</p> <p>CCAV Project Manager plus project revenue £40,000</p> <p>£6000 Arts Project</p> <p>£30,000 CYP DV worker plus revenue (PT)</p> <p><b>TOTAL: £76,000</b></p>



<b>Improve performance on equality and diversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agree priority areas</li> <li>▪ Establish a working group to plan and deliver on actions</li> <li>▪ Increase accessibility to support services and prevention materials</li> <li>▪ Increase monitoring and identification of issues</li> <li>▪ Attain at least one fully DDA compliant refuge (DV entry criteria)</li> </ul>	Sobia Shaw Panahghar		Staff time  £1000 Translation of materials.  <b>TOTAL: £1000</b>
<b>Improve Court Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support the proposal for an Implementation Manager for SDVC work programme</li> <li>▪ Support a Multi-Operational Steering Group</li> <li>▪ Involvement in training connected to SDVC</li> </ul>	Rachel Marshall HMCS		Staff time.  £25,000 Implementation Manager (PT)  <b>TOTAL: £26,000</b>
				<b>£343,000</b>