# Domestic Abuse Act 2021 Part Four: Progress Report

October 2022

#### Stephanie McBurney



# Outline

- Background
- Legislation
- Safe accommodation
- Strategic objectives and priorities
- Reporting and governance
- Actions against requirements
- Plans



#### **Domestic Abuse in Leicester**

- Needs assessments
- Over 54,000 pp in Leicester since age 16
- Police offences increasing year on year
- 35% of all violent crime
- Opened 19 domestic homicide reviews since 2011
- Diverse range of agencies, and funding
- New service system



#### Domestic Abuse Act 2021

- Funding released Feb 2021
- Royal Assent 29 April 2021
- Statutory Guidance first published October 2021
- Draft Strategy required by December 2021
- Published Strategy required by 5 January 2022
- Definitions and commitments



#### Priorities 2022-25

- Establishing the Leicester Domestic Abuse Locality Partnership Board
- Improving understanding of need in Leicester, and barriers to meeting those needs
- Developing and supporting the workforce responding to accommodation related support for victim-survivors of domestic abuse in Leicester
- Expanding the accessibility and suitability of the safe accommodation available in Leicester, including culturally appropriate promotion of available services and engagement activity.



#### Local Impact

- Improved staff confidence and skills = greater identification, disclosure and improved first response
- More options = more victims (adult and children) securing and sustaining safe accommodation
- Reducing the length (and harm) of abuse
- More ability to recognise and meet needs
- Improved likelihood of recovery and improved well-being



### Progress #1

- Target dates met
- Representation on Locality Board
- Needs assessment
- Procurement
- New initiatives
- Sub-regional structure



## Progress #2

- Expanded 'by and for' BME safe accommodation
- Piloted Respite Rooms
- New locations
- Expanded specialist support to those in safe accommodation (substance use, counselling, immigration, mental health, young people, resettlement)
- Procurement
- Trauma informed safe accommodation framework



### Plans

- Visits
- Expanding range of safe accommodation options
- Workforce training
- Access fund
- Embedding and reviewing the performance management framework
- Pathway improvement



#### **Questions and Comments**

@\_howmanytimes <u>Domestic and sexual abuse (leicester.gov.uk)</u> <u>Domestic abuse safe accommodation strategy (leicester.gov.uk)</u>

Helpline & Engagement Service T: 0808 80 200 28 www.freeva.org.uk

