

Domestic Abuse

October 2016

Staff Development

North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board (NYSCB) and the Local authority deliver Domestic abuse (DA) training on an annual basis providing opportunities for staff, to update their skills and knowledge

Harrogate and District Foundation Trust (HDFT) provide single agency E learning packages available to all staff including a section on DA in Level 2 & 3 training. There is a clear DA policy and a webpage on the HDFT intranet. Staff attend MARAC meetings across all localities and awareness posters appear in public and staff toilets, leaflets and cards are available for staff to give out. York teaching hospital provides DA training for all level III staff. Training for Hospital duty managers in the South Tees NHS Foundation Trust includes information regarding the practical aspects of support needed to protect victims of DA presenting to hospital. DA awareness training is fully integrated in the trust's safeguarding training programme. An in Airedale hospital DA awareness is included in basic safeguarding training and all levels of mandatory updates. to ensure staff on the front line are trained and recognise DA indicators.

All Children and Young people's Service (CYPS) staff undertake IDAS DA online training. and 40 staff are currently receiving training to enable them to deliver therapeutic programmes across the County for children and young people affected by DA. Course 1 is aimed at up to 13 years of age and course 2 is aimed at 13+ years of age where the peer group has more influence and also touches on those beginning to model abusive behaviour themselves. Courses are based on the Expect Respect toolkit endorsed by Women's Aid. As a

result, each of the CYPS Prevention Service teams will be delivering 8-10 week support programmes for small groups of children and young people affected by DA across the County.

All Prevention Service Workers will to attend a specially commissioned course designed and delivered by IDAS. This will develop knowledge and skill further re how to best support families where DA is present; possibly identified from working with families on other issues and where other services may be unaware that DA is an issue. Team leaders are receiving training in effective supervision of staff where DA is within their caseload. This uses the same tools in the practical toolkit and has been designed and delivered by IDAS. CYPS prevention teams are also delivering two pilot perpetrator programmes for adults. These are 8-10 week courses run by IDAS specialists, with the Prevention Service working with them to identify and refer individuals for assessment and suitability for the course.

Domestic abuse basic awareness training is provided to all TEWV trust staff.

Staff intranet site-website for Domestic Abuse some of the features include signs, responses, specialist support services for victims, perpetrators and children also regular updates are added to this page with external agency news

Link Professionals Safeguarding meetings-teaching session on DA.

MARAC advisors based in safeguarding team specialise in DA and advise to practitioners.

Multi-agency arrangements

Strategic arrangements for the multi-agency partnership working in relation to DA are led by the

Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Group (DAJCG) which sits across North Yorkshire and

Multi-agency arrangements

York. The DAJCG reports directly to North Yorkshire and York Community Safety Partnerships (CSP), with clear reporting links to the children and adult safeguarding boards. The group is co-chaired by the Head of Safer Communities, NYCC, and Head of Community Safety YCC. The group meets quarterly to ensure there is multi-agency overview and scrutiny of arrangements across the County. CSP's have the statutory responsibility for undertaking Domestic Homicide Reviews, when required, supported by the DAJCG, ensuring that actions are completed in a timely and effective manner and lessons are disseminated and implemented widely. An overview of all commissioned DA services is being undertaken. The DAJCG supports The DA Champions network which works well although meetings need to be reinstated as this forum has not met for some time.

Operation Encompass is an initiative introduced at the DA Strategic Conference October 2015 where it was agreed that it would be adopted across North Yorkshire and City of York. The purpose of the project is the sharing of information between NYP and a key adult in a school regarding any child who has experienced an incident of DA which has occurred the previous night. The objective is that schools are able to ensure that a child's needs are met and support offered within the school environment.

Safeguarding week is a joint initiative developed with a theme of DA. Events took place throughout North Yorkshire and City of York in conjunction with adult and children safeguarding boards, IDAS and CSP's. Events included information presented by IDAS and the DA Coordinators for each area regarding DA locally and across the County and also showcased resources. A 'market place' of

local services and information was facilitated in each area supported by a wide range of multi-agency colleagues. The graphic novel, 'It started with a kiss' was re-launched as a tool developed by young people to raise awareness in other young people regarding DA within their own relationships.

MARAC meetings locally are an extremely positive forum to discuss the impact of Domestic Abuse and Children and Young People well supported by a range of multi-agency colleagues.

CYPS undertake Daily SOS screening of all DA cases and it is anticipated that this will be enhanced by the proposals to improve the multi-agency approaches. Assessment and investigation of all referrals where DA is a feature, is routinely undertaken and Child protection and Child in need support is made available to children and families where DA is a feature. A project is underway to build on the existing front door arrangements and to develop the Multi Agency Screening Team (MAST). MAST Team will conduct daily reviews of all police incidents of DA. police colleagues will direct all 245 incident forms to the MAST and agencies will discuss these on a daily basis. MAST will share live information across agencies and consider prevention, intervention and support opportunities relating to the impact on children, with clear links to the MARAC process. Recruitment to an operational delivery manager post is underway and once in post the manager will work to enable an integrated partnership response to DA, Operation Encompass will be delivered through this approach. These proposals will improve information is shared and enable more timely multi-agency approach and interventions.

Multi-agency Developments

York teaching hospital is seeking to re-instate the DA Link Worker role in each Directorate/Clinical area as a point of advice or support for both patients and staff.

In December 2015 the CYPS, Prevention successfully

bid for a sum of £100,000 from the Department for Communities and Local Government for initiatives in relation to the provision of DA support across the County. This bid was put together by NYCC in

Multi-agency developments (continued...)

conjunction with the multi-agency team and used intelligence from the NYP Problem Profile for DA within North Yorkshire which was completed in Autumn 2015. The bid was aimed at early intervention and earliest identification of DA, as a result the Prevention Service is working in a whole family way across the County.

South Tees foundation trust has established a new post of Safeguarding adult advisor with specific responsibility for attendance at MARAC and raising awareness of DA throughout the organisation. Post holder has strong background in DA and in both adult and children's safeguarding.

TEWV has developed a Domestic Abuse policy, DA Training is being delivered trust wide and a DA information page has been added to staff intranet site. DA training will become mandatory in line with the DA

policy.

The North Yorkshire and York CCGs have:

- Provided all GPs receiving training around domestic abuse and implications for both children and adults as part of our Level 3 Hot Topics programme. This training also includes consideration of the 2016 NICE Standards around Domestic Abuse.
- A pilot project in place around involving GPs in MARAC processes.
- Provided all GPs with guidance developed by the Named GPs for Safeguarding regarding coding of domestic abuse in primary care records.
- Initiated work with MAPPA to link GPs into this process so that the highest risk offenders can be appropriately managed.

Areas for consideration

The Police & Crime Plan 2013-16 includes the aim 'to address Domestic & Sexual Violence: work with partners to':

- Provide services which better help victims to cope and recover
- Encourage increased reporting of cases by giving victims the confidence to come forward
- Reduce re-offending through robust management of offenders
- Ensure the most serious offenders receive appropriate sentences
- Ensure victims have the right support through their experience with the police and criminal justice partners
- Individuals are supported to Cope with the immediate affects, and recover in the long term from the harm caused by domestic abuse
- Reduced risk of repeat victimisation
- Reduction of assessed or escalation of risk (Safe Lives DASH RIC)
- Reduction in frequency and/or severity of domestic abuse incidents
- Increased confidence to access support services
- Increased access to early advice and information
- Increased access to practical support
- Increased self-referrals.

IDAS are a specialist DA service providing refuge accommodation, outreach support and IDVA and ISVA services to those experiencing or living with DA or sexual violence and includes support for women, men, children and young people. Working with both victims and perpetrators the service operates across the County. There are two refuges in York and Harrogate and emergency accommodation in Scarborough. There

are community bases in each of the other district council areas. A 24-hour confidential helpline offers a 'live chat' facility via the website providing specialist support to victims of sexual violence. A team of specialist IDAS workers support victims who need assistance through the criminal justice system and a dedicated children and young people's service provides support within refuges and via the outreach service. The accredited 'Respect' programme also provides support and challenge to young people. A number of IDAS staff are fully accredited facilitators of the court mandated **Building Better Relationships** programme and work in conjunction with the local Community Rehabilitation Company to provide this to medium and high risk perpetrators. The services receives over 4,000 referrals each year for support, advice and accommodation. A be-spoke training package is offered to agencies and a free on-line course, which is undertaken by approx. 50 professionals each month. There is a well-used website, twitter feed and Facebook account. IDAS is the process of developing an early Intervention project for adult victims and is commissioned to deliver training to all N York's family support teams and to provide two perpetrator programmes.

HDFT have Improved staff awareness and access to training. DA champions operate in the acute and community setting and provide safeguarding representation at MARAC and the NYSCB CSSG meetings

Areas for consideration

There has been a multi-agency review of the **domestic abuse strategy** with clear action plans implemented and embedded across organisations and statutory

partnerships. There is a communications strategy that involves partnerships, professionals and members of the public, describing DA where support can be sought.

Tools and Resources

Services commissioned by OPCC include services to prevent and address DA; Early Intervention Project (IDAS) is a service that picks up cases of DA before they become high risk. This does not replace the normal IDVA and outreach services but focusses on medium and standard risk cases that will not consent to a referral for specialist support. It can also include cases that are coming to the attention of local community safety integrated hubs. The project was piloted in York during 2014 and 2015 and initial monitoring has shown that it is effective in both improving engagement with services and reducing police call outs. The Early Intervention worker is a qualified, specialist worker who works closely with colleagues assessing referral suitability and carrying out home visits.

OPCC - Commissioned services:

- Independent Domestic/Sexual Violence Advisor Service for all High and Medium Risk victims, including self-referrals, and Standard Risk victims referred by the Police.
- Early Intervention DA Service for Standard and Medium Risk Victims who have had police involvement and are assessed as suitable for early intervention.
- Respect Young People's programme to work with

young people aged 10-16 years who are demonstrating high risk abusive behaviour within the family setting.

- Counselling/talking therapy services
- Expanded existing Independent domestic/sexual violence advisor service to include standard risk victims referred by the Police from July 2016.
- Independent Domestic/sexual violence advisor service will shortly include a dedicated community engagement strand to increase awareness and earlier take-up of support services by those in rural and hard to reach communities, including men.
- Early intervention DA service from April 2016 in York, and County wide from July 2016.
- Respect Young People's Programme from April 2016 in York & Selby, and County wide from July 2016.

Voluntary Perpetrator Programme (Humberside, Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire CRC). This programme is aimed at offenders who wish to change their behaviour. DACs identify suitable cases and pass to a DA Panel. CRC make contact with perpetrator to seek their engagement and agreement to attend the course.

Disruption

CYPS performance and intelligence service have been commissioned to carry out research into, report upon and make recommendations on DA hotspots across the County. It is anticipated that this information will provide opportunity to work with families where DA is a factor but not yet reported. It is anticipated that this information will allow for more targeted support and intervention for families.

Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation trust is vigilant to identify those affected by DA and provide patients with support including signposting them to appropriate

services. The trust has also implemented individual patient safety management plans to protect victims, involving action by trust security staff and engagement with police.

Airedale Hospital has a draft strategy in place to begin training staff on the wards and departments to ask every woman who uses the service whether violence is an issue for them. 'Routine enquiry-asking the question'. The safety of women and children is paramount and should and will only be asked when the woman is alone. Areas within the trust such as

Disruption (Continued...)

Emergency department, children's ward, training department, outpatients and maternity area are given posters and leaflets on domestic abuse to display in public areas. Other areas such as the visitors toilets and lifts are also targeted. System One is able to record on the safeguarding template information to highlight information to share with health professionals the issues of concern

The DAJCG arrangements, membership, chairing and reporting arrangements. Have been revised and refreshed. Performance data is presented to the group on a six monthly basis. This data contains information from NYP, IDAS and Foundation with initial analysis from the DA Co-ordinators. There are 4 DACs across the County and they are jointly funded by North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council. DA has been included within the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership delivery plan 2016/17, allowing further strategic overview and scrutiny of arrangements.

Increased awareness of domestic abuse issues will promote early intervention and challenge attitudes.

- Undertaking an overview of training available to practitioners. Ensuring it's up to date, accessible and relevant and being consistently evaluated

- Multi-agency conference aimed at practitioners across North Yorkshire and York, LSCBs, SABs and CSPs.
- Multi-agency guidance being further developed. With clear identification of the issues in North Yorkshire using the performance framework and NYP DA local profile and up to date signposting of the service available locally.

Reducing the Risk through direct work with both victims and perpetrators.

- Ensuring commissioned services are meeting the needs of those affected. Closely monitoring the effectiveness of OPCC commissioned services
 - ✓ Voluntary perpetrator programme
 - ✓ Respect programme for young people
 - ✓ Early intervention project.

York teaching hospital midwives ask at 3 stages of pregnancy if DA is a feature in

a woman's life, either currently or in the past to ensure that support is provided appropriately. YTH would like to see Improved information sharing for example the development of a system to ensure that police colleagues inform relevant health professionals if a woman has been subjected to Domestic Abuse, currently this only happens with pregnant women.

Young People

Families are signposted to therapeutic services to children and young people who have experienced DA.

Respect Young People's Programme (IDAS) is designed to work with young perpetrators of domestic abuse and individuals displaying signs of or demonstrating abusive behaviour towards their family members. The service is available for young people aged 10-16 years in North Yorkshire. The service will focus on empowering young people change their behaviour and to build their relationships with a parent/s, guardian/s and/ or siblings. This is normally on a one to one basis but can be group sessions.

All services commissioned by the OPCC are available to young victims directly, dependant on their competence and maturity to make decisions regarding the support on offer to them. Where they are not

assessed as suitable for direct support, appropriate support and guidance is provided to their parents or guardians to enable them to appropriately support their child.

Staff at YTH are aware that some children attending the Paediatric CSAAC may have been witnesses to DA. In which case they are referred to appropriate support agencies.

Help and support is provided for young victims of DA in Craven, form the Barnado's 'Hope project',

A graphic novel '**It started with a kiss**' has been developed by young [people locally to assist their peers in recognising DA within their own relationships. This resource is available free to organisations working with young people in North Yorkshire.