



Safer Plymouth

DASV partnership group October 2021

Report from Member of DASV Partnership


SECTION A	
What is working well?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership continues to enjoy good levels of engagement from across the city. • Members actively contributed to the latest strategic assessment providing evidence to enhance data provided by MoRILE • The ‘Plymouth Approach to ...’ sub group quickly identified significant gaps in provision for those engaged in sex work, that left women particularly vulnerable, and worked together to re-establish services to meet some of their needs and help to better safeguard them. (see details below) • Members are working together to develop a calendar of events as part of the national 16 Days of Action scheduled for 25th November to 10th December. • Members were united in their condemnation of the Plymouth Herald article (see link below) that glamourized sex work and came together to help draft a letter of response to the newspaper editor.
What are we worried about?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Police & Crime Commissioner recently presented her draft Police & Crime Plan to the Police & Crime Panel and despite the increase in reported domestic abuse and sexual violence crimes, neither domestic abuse nor sexual violence and abuse feature as a priority within her plan. • The new Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, currently working its way through Parliament, includes a new statutory duty that offers an opportunity to tackle the root causes of crime. The proposed Serious Violence Prevention

Duty will require a range of public bodies including the police, health authorities, schools and other criminal justice agencies to work together to prevent and tackle serious violence, with the aim of reducing the numbers of victims and perpetrators crime. As the Bill currently stands, however, there is a significant omission from the definition of serious violent crime for the purpose of this new duty; Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). This is despite the fact that one third of all violence recorded by the police is domestic abuse-related, and the most common type of violence to be experienced on a repeated basis. Almost half of all female homicides (and 8% of male homicides) are domestic homicides. Home Office draft guidance says that local areas could consider VAWG as part of the new duty if they choose to – the implication being that this is not expected. VAWG, as a form of serious violence, should never be an ‘added extra’. Given that domestic abuse flagged cases make up such a significant proportion of offences against the person and homicides, surely any force that doesn’t consider it within the new duty will be failing to meet their responsibility to protect the public. With this in mind we wish to know what is the force position on this issue?

- We understand grant monies the OPCC previously provided to CSP’s are being given to their strategic partner Victim Support. Whilst we recognise Victim Support are responsible for providing and commissioning victim care service, the CSP grant also provided funding for priorities that sit outside of victim care provision, such as training and campaigns aimed at raising awareness in our communities. Therefore, wish to know how such activity will be funded in the future.
- The Plymouth Herald recently published an article <https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.plymouthherald.co.uk%2Fnews%2Fuk-world-news%2Fstudent-turned-sex-worker-explains->

	<p>5938475%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0F9yMmCS_XUwJUBTot7iQM6PRDVtKazUi2cRjMsyF0ctcZHyK9IkoTMiA&data=04%7C01%7CAnna.Moss%40plymouth.gov.uk%7C02089a7efa6149679ae708d97d1fe21b%7Ca9a3c3d1fc0f4943bc2ad73e388cc2df%7C0%7C0%7C637678398163941011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lkIhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=UUmn%2FEImU9S6bHzL2W7DgZlqlaCT5iWolffwUbgjMAk%3D&reserved=0 which glamourized sex work as a way of earning money within the student population. The ‘working arrangements’ clearly illustrated this was a brothel, yet the article in no way highlighted this fact. Hannah Shead the Chair of the ‘Plymouth Approach to ...’ sub group drafted a letter to the editor expressing our concern and offered to meet with them to help educate and inform the paper regarding potential future articles.</p>
<p>What needs to happen?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We respectfully request the Police & Crime Commissioner to reconsider her priorities set out in her Police & Crime Plan and look to include the issue of tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence and abuse. • The OPCC to provide the Board with an update as to its future plans re funding and collaboration to help tackle priorities set out in the Plymouth Strategic Assessment
<p>Identify Group Impact upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing violence, abuse and exploitation • Reducing re-offending • Early intervention and prevention of harm • Building community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ‘Plymouth Approach to ...’ sub group chaired by Hannah Shead, was established to both understand and tackle the issues associated with the various forms of sex work. Evidence revealed a number of services supporting this vulnerable community had been stood down as consequence of the pandemic and other reasons, leaving women particularly vulnerable, some even reporting the only way out of prostitution was suicide. Since then a volunteer multi-agency response team ‘Wednesday Women’ has been set up to support which we will be able to underpin with Safer Streets 3 funding • The Home Office DA Perpetrator Fund has funded Lynn Mckenzie a Behaviour Change Programme Facilitator employed

<p>resilience, reducing inequalities and improving lives</p>	<p>by Ahimsa. She recently presented a case study to the SW DA Provider Forum which illustrated the positive change she has managed to achieve with a 27 yr old serial perpetrator, who had been in 4 previous abusive relationships.</p>
<p>Formal recommendation to/action required of Full Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board consider lobbying the Police & Crime Commissioner to include DASV as a Police & Crime Plan priority • The Board consider lobbying the Government to include DASV within the proposed Serious Violence Prevention Duty within the Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill • The Board support the inclusion of DASV within their Serious Violence Prevention Duty
<p>Suggested work engagement with Trauma Informed Plymouth Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of the members of the DASV Partnership are also members of the TI network, ensuring effective learning and collaboration between the two.

<p>Name of Group Chair</p>	<p>Lyn Gooding</p>
<p>Signature of Group Chair</p>	
<p>Date Signed</p>	<p>11/10/2021</p>