

DA in Plymouth

Services available in Plymouth

Plymouth Domestic Abuse service (PDAS) is commissioned through the Integrated commissioning team this funding is added to by Safer Plymouth and the Police and Crime Commissioner. The service commissioned is an outreach service with 12 Independent Domestic Violence advisers (IDVA), an 11 roomed purpose built refuge and 13 dispersed safe houses throughout the City. Staff at the refuge are also responsible for providing a Children's service for those witnessing DA and for DA awareness raising across the City as a result of Children in Need funding. This includes awareness raising at City College, in Schools through the delivery of the SHARE initiative and to employers throughout the City including DWP. To enable closer working with the Police teams an IDVA and an administrator from PDAS works with the police team based at Charles Cross police station this enables the IDVA to visit victims with the Police while the perpetrator is in custody. The refuge is about to recruit to ensure there is a worker on site 24/7.

Domestic Abuse Advocacy project – an initiative funded through ring fenced PRG monies. A consortium of 6 family law firms provide free legal advice to obtain Civil injunctions for those people who are suffering DA but who cannot claim Legal Aid. To date the project has seen 58 clients in 16 months and there is £30,000 remaining funding is being explored to ensure the project can continue but nothing has been forthcoming to date

MARAC – Multi agency risk assessment conference - those at highest risk of serious harm are referred to MARAC which is chaired by the police to look at the best ways in a multi-agency way to protect DA victims. Safe Lives (formerly CAADA) have assessed the Plymouth MARAC as working well despite some issues last year

Specialist Domestic violence Courts (SDVC) this court is specifically for DA cases and is held on a Monday morning at the Magistrates court. Figures from the SDVC are monitored on a monthly basis and to date the figures for Plymouth are improving with successful outcomes for victims. Some DA cases do go to court outside the SDVC where the need arises.

All the agencies in Plymouth have a very good working relationship with the Police Sexual Offence and Domestic Abuse Investigation Team (SODAIT) team based at Charles Cross Police station

Domestic Homicide Review

Following the recent sad deaths in Tamerton we will be starting a Domestic Homicide Review in the very near future as part of requirement from the Home Office. The Independent Chair has already been appointed

Following the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) into the death in April 2011 it was identified that there was a lack of understanding re the impact of DA service within agencies/organisation working with children and adults. Safer Plymouth is embarking on another round of DASH training for agencies across the City from a variety of organisations including the Church, the Court, Naval Family and Welfare service and DWP. Following the training a 'Best Practice guide' is given to workers so there is consistency and a definitive process for DA victims. Previous training has resulted in an increase in referrals to PDAS.

Gaps

An acknowledged gap in the provision for services in the City is a Perpetrator programme for those outside the Criminal Justice system. Those in the court system are referred to Probation and the CRC to undertake the

Building Better Relationships programme. In 2012/13 Safer Plymouth worked with Probation to deliver an Innovative perpetrator programme 'Making Change' this was funded through Safer Plymouth and Children's services and delivered with the assistance of PDAS. Unfortunately the programme did not deliver on its outcomes and despite the cost of £80K for 20 perpetrators there was no evidence that attendees had changed or modified their behaviour and stopped being a DA perpetrator and as a result the funding was withdrawn. At the moment we are looking to CRC to deliver a modified BBR programme this is still ongoing work a pilot course resulted in sessions where there was only one attendee and in case there was no-one. The joint commissioning team have commissioned AHIMSA to carry out some perpetrator work.

.The number of referrals to the PDAS service are monitored on a monthly basis and source of the referral is also recorded the biggest increase has been in self-referrals to the service this is to be encouraged as victims will be seeking help and assistance in forming a safety plan however not all these victims are willing to report DA to the police which may have an impact on the performance measure but non the less is encouraged

In order to address the current 'under performance' we are working in partnership with the Police and PDAS to increase awareness, our current DA leaflet will be included in the 'You Matter We Care' leaflet will be distributed by frontline police officers attending incidents of DA. PDAS have increased awareness raising to businesses and groups within the City as describe above.

Partnership working

Within the City we currently have two 'delivery' groups, a strategic DA partnership and an Operational group.

The strategic group has just seen an outgoing Chair D/Supt Munday and the incoming Chair is A/Supt Ben Deer, the partnership has an agreed terms of reference and includes representatives from:

- Police
- NEW Devon CCG
- Plymouth Community Healthcare
- Public Health
- Derriford Hospital.
- Naval Family Welfare
- Probation CRC
- Children's Services
- Adult Social Care
- Children's Safeguarding Board
- PDAS
- Housing
- Integrated Commissioning Team

Attendees have agreed to be the 'champion' for DA in their respective agency/organisation. The partnership work to deliver an agreed action plan, address issues as they arise such as the changes in legal aid, Domestic violence Protection notices and orders (DVPN/Os) and the adoption of the Public Health NICE guidance PH50 and the best way to ensure this is delivered. The action plan is attached. The partnership and PDAS works closely with I2s Company and the SARC in order to work with victims of Domestic Abuse who have also been subjected to sexual abuse

The operational group is made up of the same agencies/organisations but consists of the individuals delivering the services and also includes CAF/CASS, 12's Company, Plymouth and Devon Racial Equality Council, Plymouth University, The Zone, F/WAF, YOS and the Excellence Cluster, the group look at problem solving any issues the partnership raises and sort any blockages.

Plymouth Domestic Abuse Action Plan 2015/16

Work stream	Lead	Actions	Milestone	Dead-line	Progress Rating	Targets against KPI's	Progress to Date
SUPPORT AND RECOVERY FOR VICTIMS	RACHEL CARTER	Provide a Domestic Abuse Service (medium and high level risk)	<p>Include support for non-English speaking minority groups</p> <p>Ensure targeted support for children and young people in refuge</p>	New service tendered and in place. Quarterly monitoring in place	★		
	RACHEL CARTER	Provide a Domestic Abuse Service (standard level of risk)	Service commissioned in December 2013.	As above.	★		
	CHARLIE PITMAN	To provide an effective fit for purpose MARAC which ensures multi agency working across the City.	Ensure adequate admin and coordination to increase capacity and effectiveness	On-going - continually reviewed.	★		

Work stream	Lead	Actions	Milestone	Dead-line	Progress Rating	Targets against KPI's	Progress to Date
	A/D/SUPT BEN DEER	Ensure that all members of Domestic Abuse Partnership have internal HR policies.	Policies to be drafted and embedded across partner agencies including: Plymouth City Council, Probation, Victim Support, NHS, MOD	Ongoing	☀		
	CHARLIE PITMAN/SUE WARREN	Develop a multi-agency operating protocol to meet the needs of cases involving victims of honour based violence/trafficking and FGM	Create information/checklist for frontline personnel in all partnership settings To raise awareness of HBV/trafficking and FGM in the City	Ongoing	☀		On-going awareness raising will continue.
	JULIE PAGET	Establishing appropriate access to Service for people with cultural needs	Increased awareness within BME communities of domestic abuse and the services available -PDREC				Needs update from Julie Paget and overview of services and contact list from REC.
	ROBERT SOWDEN	Monitoring statistical data to target activity to identified hotspots.	Regular reporting to PDAP. Performance data to be adapted as required to meet changing need.	On-going	☀		On-track.

Work stream	Lead	Actions	Milestone	Dead-line	Progress Rating	Targets against KPI's	Progress to Date
EARLY INTERVENTION & PREVENTION	KATY BRADSHAW	Establish early intervention/healthy relationship work in schools	Establish and embed consistent healthy relationships programme for schools.	MARCH 2016			
	LIZ CAHILL/ TONY STAUNTON	Improve access to services for children and young people	<p>Strong linkages between the Plymouth Safeguarding Children's Board and Plymouth Domestic Abuse Partnership, member of PSCB attend partnership meetings</p> <p>Joint analysis of children and young people subject of child protection plans as a result of domestic abuse.</p>	<p>MARCH 2016</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>			<p>CAF officers to be trained to deliver DASH risk assessments. CAF Manager now sits on PDAP.</p> <p>Plymouth Safeguarding Children Board has held three multi agency case audits of children who are the subject to a child protection plan which have involved Domestic Abuse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two of the audits involved children subjected to emotional abuse The third case audit involved an unborn baby whose mother was subjected to physical abuse.

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							To ensure lessons learnt are shared at partnership meetings
	CSP SUE WARREN	To continue to work with partners to identify a Community perpetrator programme	Identify a suitable and evaluated Perpetrator programme and establish funding.	MARCH 2016		Qualitative and quantitative information to be co-ordinated by Probation to demonstrate efficacy of programme	Working with the Dorset, Devon and Cornwall CRC to deliver a perpetrator programme with Richard Wakely

Work stream	Lead	Actions	Milestone	Dead-line	Progress Rating	Targets against KPI's	Progress to Date
	PDAS/PROMISE/FIP	Establish network of Freedom programmes to aid recovery of victims.	Regular Freedom programmes to be delivered across the city. Ensure DASH risk assessment carried out before attending the course to minimise risk to victim. Best practice DA guide to distributed to those completing the DASH training to ensure consistency of practice across the city.	On-going			
	HEALTH (LEADS TO BE IDENTIFIED)	Delivery of the recommendations of the NICE guidance	Action plans for delivery established by NHS trust, Plymouth Community Healthcare	On-going			
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	SUE WARREN	Implementation of the ACPO DASH risk assessment checklist to all	Training module developed Agencies identified Training commenced First tranche	On-going			Continue with the programme of DASH training following the PSCB event in February - another 700 to be trained beginning in May 2015

