Briefing/position paper on DA from a City perspective (CSP)

- Current service delivery and performance position against targets and what this actually means (the 'so what' context)

The only physical target set by Safer Plymouth is to increase reporting of domestic violence crimes and incidents. As can be seen below in the performance data from the previous 12 months to 31st August 2015 there has been a reduction in crimes and incidents over this period.

Sector	Domestic Abuse This Year	Domestic Abuse Last Year	% Change	% Arrests	% Children Present	% Drugs or Alcohol	% Repeat Victims
Plymouth North & Plympton Sector	1800	1844	-2.4%	20.6%	53.9%	26.7%	31.8%
Plymouth Central & Plymstock ...	1464	1687	-13.2%	22.1%	43.9%	29.8%	32.4%
Plymouth South Sector	960	1098	-12.6%	25.1%	37.0%	27.2%	32.1%
Plymouth West & Devonport Sector	2191	2398	-8.6%	28.7%	55.3%	32.0%	36.2%

I would argue the target is crude and does not deal with or push for an understanding of the issues within this complex area. Without having some qualitative data to add to the above quantitative data it adds little to the understanding of what success looks like. A richer data set needs to be utilised to understand if the priorities are being met, such as dip sampling PDAS users to understand from a service user's perspective.

Service delivery for domestic abuse from a partnership perspective is arguably good for example co-location of PDAS and Police within Charles Cross enabling safeguarding and support at the earliest known opportunity. Increased awareness across all partner agencies is being achieved through implementation of the ACPO DASH risk assessment checklist to all agencies linked to MARAC. Further training has been carried out to further disseminate this to interested agencies. Feedback on this training is positive.

- The presence or absence of a strategic direction on DA – where are we going and how do we know if we've got (or are getting) there

The below are the current priorities as set through the Plymouth Domestic abuse partnership:

1. Support and recovery for victims and look to secure/confirm funding for the continuation of the service through agencies
2. Continue an early intervention and prevention programme in schools and colleges around Healthy Relationships
3. Continue to develop the work force raising awareness of Domestic abuse and the DASH risk assessment
4. Seek to provide a perpetrator programme in the City

The four priorities above focus the actions of the group but are quite action focused as opposed to a mission statement or strategic direction.

The aim of the group as included in the terms of reference (TOR) is to develop and implement multi agency approaches to improve the range and quality of services for people affected by domestic abuse. Arguably this is the strategic direction with the priorities being high level actions that distil down into further detailed actions within the action plan.

- The current priorities/key themes and links that the professionals feels are important – where should we be investing energy

After taking over the PDAP meeting in June I felt it was necessary to go through the TOR to ensure that members of the group felt we were achieving what is set out. There will be a few minor alterations to change the name to the strategic delivery group as there is an operational delivery group and that differentiation was required. Another request was to understand and improve the information flow between meetings for cross cutting themes under Safer Plymouth and our own organisation's meetings. Once the terms of reference and the attendance are correct a review of the action plan will take place to finalise actions and create new ones as per the group's priorities. The action plan can be provided as an appendix.

- What actual outcomes do we want (what do the communities/service users want)

A domestic abuse service set across the partnership that is able to deliver safeguarding, education, support and if appropriate a successful prosecution. To achieve this the partnership needs to understand and identify domestic abuse of its customers and staff and seek to provide an early intervention or referral to the most appropriate agency to assist. The result of this should be confidence of service users within the community to promote the ability of the partnership to deal with domestic abuse.

- What support is needed at a strategic leadership level

At a strategic leadership level we need a greater buy in from all agencies and a willingness and motivation to make a difference. At present there are few vocal people within the group and I would question the importance some feel the group has. This could be for a variety of reasons i.e. change in chairs, visibility of effect and impact of the group and some actions not being completed despite being asked for several times such as the NICE guidance and internal HR policies for partner agencies on DA.

- What are the threats/risks and barriers to success

The risks and barriers to success are the attendance, desire and drive to engage and contribute to ideas and pieces of work to achieve the aim and goals. As above this may be an unfair reflection on the group having only just taken over and may not know what has been done and achieved and what the reasons are for an apparent lack of engagement from all partners. I am in the process of attempting to resolve this with a re-write of the terms of reference and a greater degree of scrutiny on the action plan and agreed actions.

Lastly what direction or focus does the delivery/operational level need Safer Plymouth to provide?

To provide the level of scrutiny around actions and achievements of the group that enables the chair to drive the action within the PDAP meeting. For Safer Plymouth to develop a way that captures the work of all the groups under it, to reduce duplication and to promote best practice across the delivery groups. A review by Safer Plymouth of the strategic direction of all the groups and terms of reference to ensure there is confidence in the big issues being addressed across the partnership.