

**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
Domestic Abuse
and Sexual Violence Partnership
Annual Report
2018-19**



**Cambridgeshire
& Peterborough**
Domestic Abuse & Sexual
Violence Partnership

Contents

| | | |
|-----|---|----|
| 1.0 | Our Structure..... | 4 |
| 2.0 | Our Aims..... | 4 |
| 3.0 | Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Offer..... | 5 |
| 4.0 | Prevent..... | 5 |
| 5.0 | Protect..... | 8 |
| 6.0 | Pursue..... | 22 |
| 7.0 | Prepare..... | 24 |
| 8.0 | Priorities for 2018-19..... | 26 |

Introduction from the Chair

Dear Partners

I am pleased to introduce to you the Cambridgeshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Annual Report for 2018/19.

The last year has been exceptionally busy with not only the 'business as usual' to keep up with but also in developing new projects.

Domestic abuse and sexual violence affects whole families, having a long lasting impact, particularly for children often creating cycles of abuse. This is something we are passionate about trying to break. Having successfully bid for additional funding again we have been able to strengthen the services we provide to children and young people effected by Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence through providing additional counselling and support services. We have also been working to grow a network of domestic abuse and sexual violence champions across the county to support vulnerable victims by recognising signs of abuse and knowing what to do about it. I am really pleased to say we now have in excess of 250 dedicated and professional champions!

We continue to offer support to all victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence dependent on risk and need with over 2000 victims being referred to ISVA and IDVA services within the county. The feedback from victims receiving this support from our IDVA and ISVA services is something we are really proud of.

The next twelve months will be a period of challenge as we endeavour to continue to provide a service to all victims based on need and risk whilst many of our funding bids come to an end. This will lead us to developing a strong core offer to our communities with the ability to flex, enhancing our offer when additional funding becomes available. We would like to thank you in advance for all your support and hard work in the area of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Laura Kosciwicz

Chair, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership

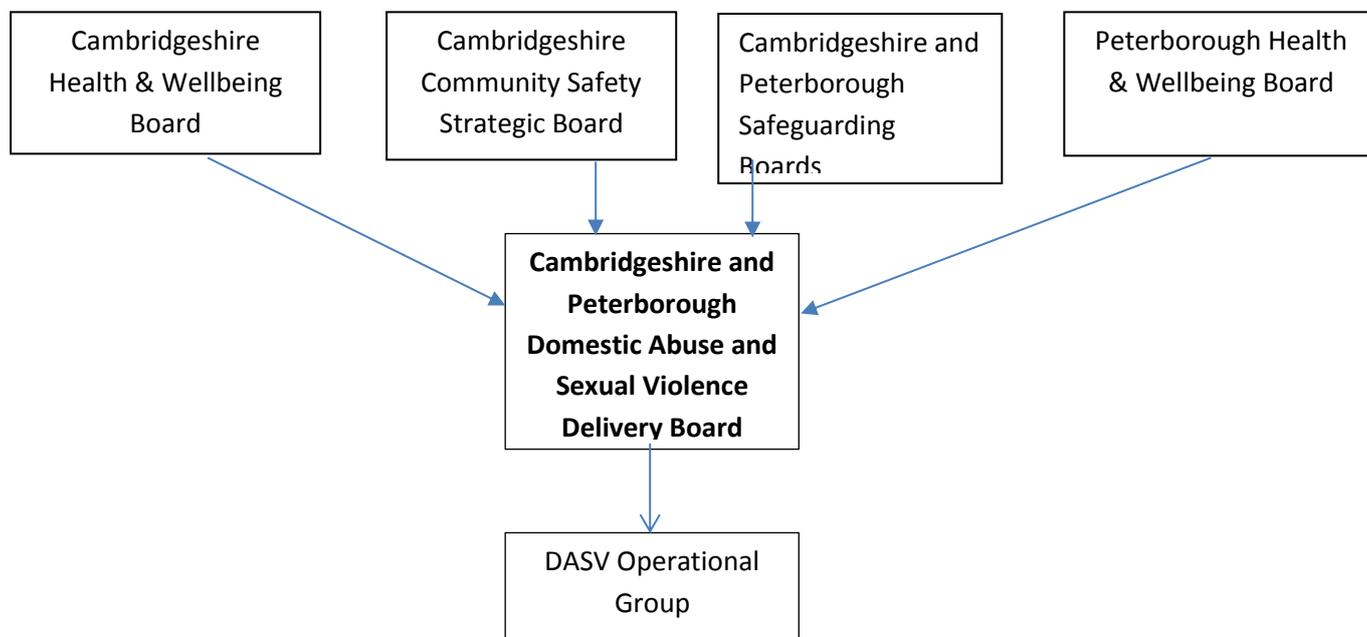
Key information from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Annual Report 2018-19

Key Headlines 2018-19 – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

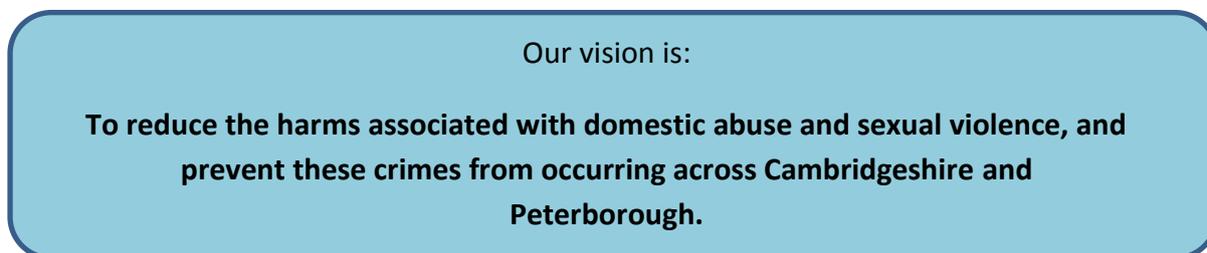
- ❖ There were 1838 referrals to the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Services for domestic abuse, a slight increase on 2017-18
- ❖ A total of 1547 cases were heard at MARAC - Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences
- ❖ A total of 13,834 domestic abuse incidents were reported to Cambridgeshire Constabulary which is a slight decrease on the previous year. However, crime conversion rates fell
- ❖ Refuges across the county housed 101 women and 165 children
- ❖ 939 people received support from domestic abuse outreach services
- ❖ The Adult ISVAs received 396 referrals and ChISVA had 170
- ❖ The Adult Safeguarding Teams received 699 referrals that involved a domestic abuse element and 240 with a sexual violence element.
- ❖ Children's Social Care received 1925 referrals where Domestic Abuse was a factor, an increase of over 100% from the previous year

1.0 Our structure

The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership operates across both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. At a strategic level, work is overseen by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Delivery Board who ensure the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, and associated Action Plan are delivered by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Operational Group.



2.0 Our Aims



The current Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) Strategy is based on Home Office expectations for VAWG services and identifies three priorities for the county:

Priority 1: We will make sure that people that have experienced VAWG can get help in their community from an Outreach Service. Our Partners will work together to make sure that people can get the support they need in a way that suits them.

Priority 2: We will set up a Domestic Abuse Unit. All our partner organisations will be involved in this so that people don't have to go to lots of different places to get help. The Domestic Abuse Unit will offer support to all victims of VAWG that live in Cambridgeshire or Peterborough.

Priority 3: We will make sure that everyone can get the support they need. Some people find it more difficult to get help – for example due to disability or language barriers. We will make sure that people can get help whatever their needs are.

The VAWG Strategy is accompanied by an Action Plan that sets out in detail what we will do to achieve the three priorities above. The Action Plan is divided into four sections:

- Prevent
- Protect
- Pursue
- Prepare

In March 2019, the Home Office released an updated VAWG Strategy and advised some new actions. In accordance with this the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough VAWG Strategy and Action Plan will be revised during 2019.

The current action plan can be found on the website at www.cambsdasv.org.uk and completed activities during 2018/19 are highlighted in the sections below.

3.0 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Offer

The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence ‘Offer’ is based on the Model of Staged Intervention, setting out services at four levels: the model is a key part of a wider integrated model of support services for victims of crime commissioned by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.



4.0 Prevent

- Preventative work with children and young people in schools and other settings
- Education and awareness for communities
- Young people at risk of using violence
- Supporting children and young people to recover

Our Prevent priorities for 2018-19 were:

- Developing the DASV Champions network across the county with representatives from all partner agencies and quarterly network workshops
- Continue the Break for Change programme
- Support and promote Embrace – Child Victims of Crime group work for young people demonstrating risky behaviours
- Continue with our campaigns and awareness raising campaigns across the community, linking with the White Ribbon campaign
- Develop a countywide approach to implementing recommendations from Domestic Homicide Reviews

4.1 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Champions

In April 2018 a networking group for professionals was set up called the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Champions. The network is open to any professional (including volunteers) working in any agency or organisation that may encounter victims of domestic abuse or sexual violence. The aim of the network is to have at least one person in each agency that has comprehensive and up to date knowledge of DASV and signposting and referral methods for specialist support. Through the sessions they will also develop a network of other professionals who can act as ‘phone a friends’ when questions or queries arise. Quarterly networking events are held – one in each district (6 in total) – and each quarter has a theme where speakers from relevant organisations are invited to talk about their services. Sessions so far have focussed on:

- IDVAS and Outreach
- Children & Young People
- Housing, benefits and no recourse to public funds
- Mental Health, Victim & Witness Hub

We currently have over 250 DASV Champions signed up including representatives from children’s and adult’s social care, mental health, NHS, police, voluntary organisations and community organisations.

Sessions from April 2019 onwards will include sexual violence, adults with vulnerabilities and the Ask Me project.

4.2 Preventative work with children and young people in schools and other settings

The Healthy Relationships Group is made up of providers of Sex and Relationships Education to young people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. A range of settings are used including schools, youth centres and targeted work. The group meet bi-annually to share updates on their services and to discuss any upcoming events and national or local policy changes.

During 2018-19:

- The DHIVERSE ABC programme has been delivered to students at St. Ivo school, Cottenham 6th form, the IDEAL centre at Impington, Highfields in Ely and Littleport, Marshfields School, Unity Academy, Heltwate, HRC, Hinchingsbrooke School, Spring Common and Ramsey Abbey school.

- NSPCC have run two groups in Queen Katherine Academy on [Protect and Respect](#) service, and will be continuing with further groups in other schools around Peterborough in the coming months. A new member of staff is joining in April who will be tasked with focusing on the delivery of these groups and improving coverage. NSPCC are also looking to engage with the Youth Opportunity Partnership which is being led by PCVS, and hope will facilitate reaching out to youth groups run by volunteers across the city – they hope to be able to potentially run groups, or offer training to volunteers on our Protect and Respect programme so that they would be able to run the groups themselves in the future.
- Centre 33 and The Kite Trust delivered Healthy Relationship workshops in 8 Cambridge City Schools through funding from Cambridge Community Safety Partnership. These reached a total of 935 young people

A series of four posters were developed aimed at raising awareness of healthy relationships amongst young people and were distributed to schools, youth settings and organisations working with young people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in early 2019.

Cambridgeshire Youth Offending Service continue to take the lead in delivering the Break4Change programme which focusses on adolescent to parent violence. It comprises a 10 week programme with two groups running simultaneously in the same venue; one for parents/carers and one for their children. Both groups share their experience and work on strategies towards healthy ways of communicating with each other, so that they feel equipped to continue to build stronger relationships in the future. There is a creative element with music and art to engage the young people, encourage them to reflect, and to further reinforce and embed their learning. There is also a powerful and emotive restorative element involving a film dialogue between each parent/carer and their child. The programme is delivered through members of staff being made available from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough YOS and TYSS (Targeted Youth Support Service) and Early Help teams. Funding is in place to run one more programme and has been provided through the VAWG funding administered through the OPCC and Public Health, but this ends in March 2020. Additional support has been provided through the YMCA Respect project, acting as a ‘holding programme’ to support families prior to a B4C programme starting. There is no funding available for either programme after April 2020.

4.3 Supporting children and young people to recover

In 2017, a partnership bid, led by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, was successful in securing £400k for the county over three years, to enable young victims of domestic abuse/sexual violence (aged 13-19, or 24 where there are additional needs) to access specialist, community-based services providing one to one, and group, trauma-based therapeutic/counselling services, to improve their mental health and prevent further escalation of risk and need. Innovatively this service is also be accessible to young people who use violence and abuse as a result of being themselves traumatised or victims of other types of abuse. The OPCC was able to secure a further £72k in early 2018 which enabled the counselling waiting list for young victims of sexual violence held by the Cambridge and Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership to be cleared overnight.

In 2018, another partnership bid was made to the Home Office for funding to improve support to children who witness or experience domestic abuse. This bid was also successful and a total of

£900,000 was awarded to be used over 18 months. A number of partner organisations were involved in this bid and the funding used for the following projects:

Embrace – Extend trauma based counselling to child witnesses of domestic abuse to younger children aged 7 to 12.

Family Action – one post based at the Victim and Witness Hub to support children who have witnessed or experienced domestic abuse related crimes, one post to support children under five and their families in Peterborough, and a third post to support children and young people through the Family Court processes where domestic abuse is present.

Cambridge Women’s Aid and Refuge – 3 Children’s Worker posts based in women’s refuges.

Cambridge & Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership – an increase in hours to the Children & Young People’s ISVA posts to support young victims of sexual violence

IDVA Service – an additional Young People’s IDVA to cover the north of the county (including Peterborough).

BobbyScheme – additional funding to secure homes where children who have witnessed domestic abuse are living.

This funding is from October 2018 to March 2020 and, as it is not expected that the Home Office will release any more funding for similar work, these services will be time limited.

4.4 Education and Awareness for Communities

Raising awareness with the general public, and with specific community groups forms a large part of our work and is therefore included on the VAWG Action Plan.

Communications and awareness work delivered in 2018-19 included:

- Work with the Joint Mosque Council in Peterborough to raise awareness within the Muslim community
- Attending GP Safeguarding events to distribute posters and information
- Developing four new posters aimed at younger people
- Holding a White Ribbon stall at the Cambridge Folk Festival
- Launching an Instagram feed and continuing our other social media campaign work
- Holding a domestic abuse and White Ribbon stall at the Parish Council Conference
- Creating posters aimed at pregnant women and distributing to hospitals
- Domestic Abuse awareness sessions delivered for the National Citizen Service scheme for young people aged 16-18

4.5 Domestic Homicide Reviews

A countywide group is now in place to monitor recommendations from Domestic Homicides in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with representatives from Community Safety Partnerships, Safeguarding, Health and Police. An action plan has been drawn up to ensure that learning and

associated service improvements from DHR's are shared across the county. This group reports to the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Board.

Across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough four DHR's have recently commenced and a further 3 will start in 2019/20.

4.6 Our Prevent priorities for 2019-20

- Roll out of Ask Me Community Ambassador Scheme across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
- Continue to support the White Ribbon campaign and hold a conference to commemorate White Ribbon Day.
- Develop the Break for Change programme to become sustainable once external funding has ended.
- Continue work with community and faith groups including the Joint Mosque Council in Peterborough, and translate awareness raising materials into relevant languages.
- Continue to develop the DASV Professionals Champions Network
- Develop a preventative programme of resources to be used within education settings across the county.

5.0 **Protect**

Our Protect priorities for 2018-19 were:

- Developing the IDVA Service to meet Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council's Single Front Door programme and ensuring links with other key services based at the MASH are robust
- Identifying funding to extend Outreach Service beyond March 2019
- Identifying funding to enable the Bobby Scheme to continue to secure the homes of domestic abuse victims
- Developing and taking forward an Adult Safeguarding/Adult Social Care action plan for DASV
- Developing a group work offer for victims/survivors across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and supporting the Children's Social Care offer

5.1 IDVA Service

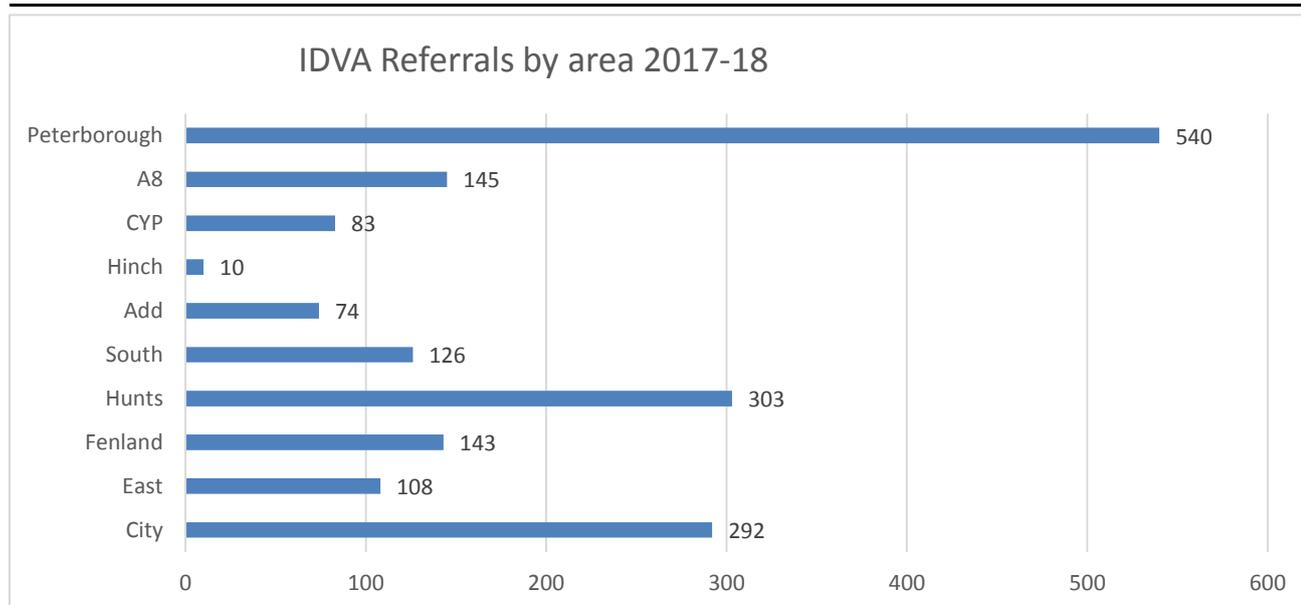
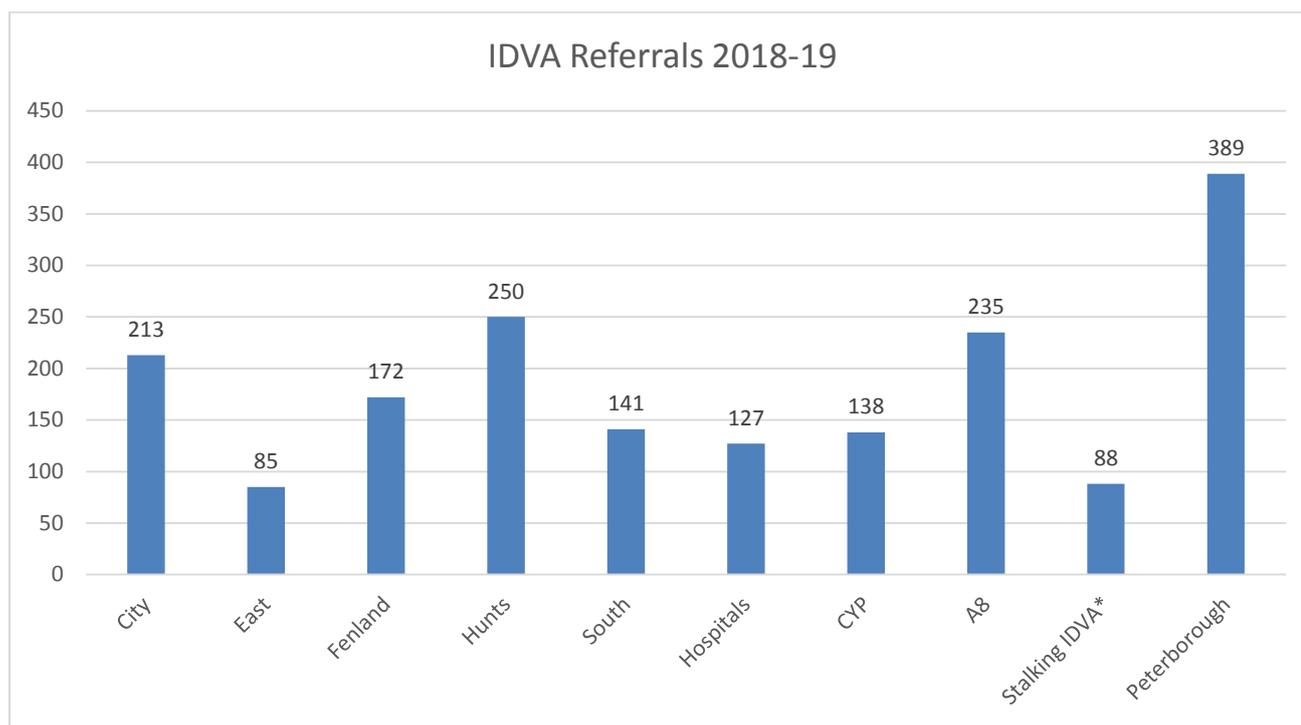
5.1.1 Cambridgeshire County Council manages the IDVA Service which includes 15.0 FTE Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors (IDVAs), an IDVA Manager, 2.2 MARAC Coordinators and 1.6 Business Support Assistants. The majority of the posts are based at the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in Godmanchester with posts covering Peterborough based at Copse Court. The IDVA Service works mainly with victims who are assessed as being at high risk of harm utilising the sector wide 'DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour-Based Violence) Risk Assessment Checklist but also has four specialist posts that take referrals at all risk levels:

- Young People's IDVA – works with young people aged 13-19 (24 with additional needs) that are experiencing abuse in their own intimate relationships and at all risk levels
- A8 IDVA – works with victims from Eastern European 'A8' countries at all risk levels

- Health IDVA – works with victims referred by all hospital and Midwifery Services at Addenbrooke’s and Hinchingsbrooke Hospitals, at all risk levels
 - Stalking and Harassment IDVA focussing primarily on non-domestic abuse related incidents
- IDVAs also provide a range of support to partner agencies such as delivering training, advice via a daily Duty IDVA service and attendance at team meetings. Four of the IDVA team are now qualified ISVAs (Independent Sexual Violence Advisers) as well.

5.1.2 Number of referrals to Cambridgeshire & Peterborough IDVA Service

The total number of referrals received for 2018-19 was 1838 which is a slight increase on 2017-18.



5.1.3 Engagement rate

The Engagement rate is the percentage of referrals that engage with the IDVA Service. Engagement is on a voluntary basis. Although all efforts are made to engage clients, in some cases it is not possible to safely contact the client or they may not wish to engage. The overall engagement rate for 2018-19 was 79% (target of 75%).

5.1.4 Repeat Rate – Cambridgeshire IDVA Service

The repeat rate refers to cases re-referred to the IDVA Service with the same victim and perpetrator within twelve months of the last referral. The overall repeat rate for 2018-19 was 32%, slightly less than 2017-18

Repeat referrals are not always a 'negative' thing; these can be viewed in a positive way, when the client is engaging with the IDVA Service and is reporting further repeat incidents to the Police in accordance with their agreed safety plan.

5.1.5 MARAC data

Current threshold for MARAC referrals countywide are:

- 14 or more on the DASH Risk Assessment
- Referrals made on evidenced professional judgement.
- Repeat incidents of violence, sexual violence and harassment, within 12 months with the same victim and perpetrator.
- Referrals brought to MARAC on escalation- 3 or more incidents attended by Police within the last 12 months.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough MARAC meetings take place daily, excluding bank holidays. Complex cases heard at Daily MARAC that require further investigation and more intrusive safety planning are escalated to a MARAC Plus meeting.

Such cases that require a more immediate response are managed by way of a Professionals Meeting arranged and convened by the primary safeguarding lead for the DV victim within a time frame specified at the Daily MARAC meeting.

The countywide service also provides support to MARAC victims that have suffered sexual violence as a primary abuse category.

Actions from MARAC are allocated to partner services via the MODUS database system.

From 1st April 2018, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough MARAC processes merged into one Daily MARAC covering the whole county with combined MARAC Plus meetings.

The total number of MARAC cases heard at Daily MARAC in 2017-18 was 1547 which is slightly less than the previous year although it should be noted that between 2014-2017 MARAC cases increased by over 50%. The number of cases heard at MARAC Plus in 2018-19 was 9, the same as the previous year.

5.1.5 IDVA Service Feedback

A new feedback process for the IDVA Service was started in August 2018 whereby, once a case is closed and providing it's safe to make contact, a telephone call is made to the client to ask for feedback on the impact working with IDVAS has had for the client.

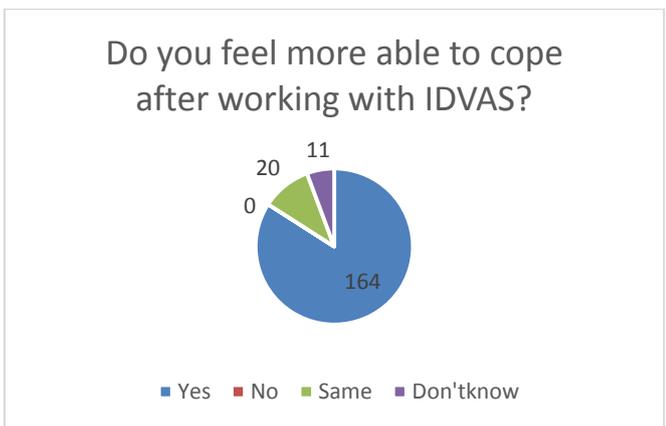
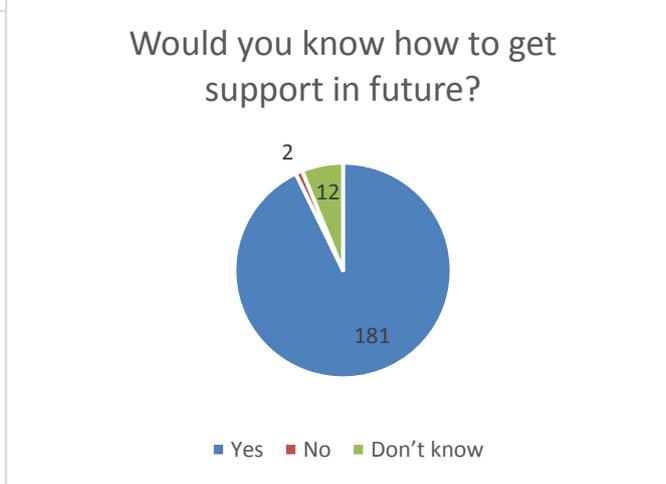
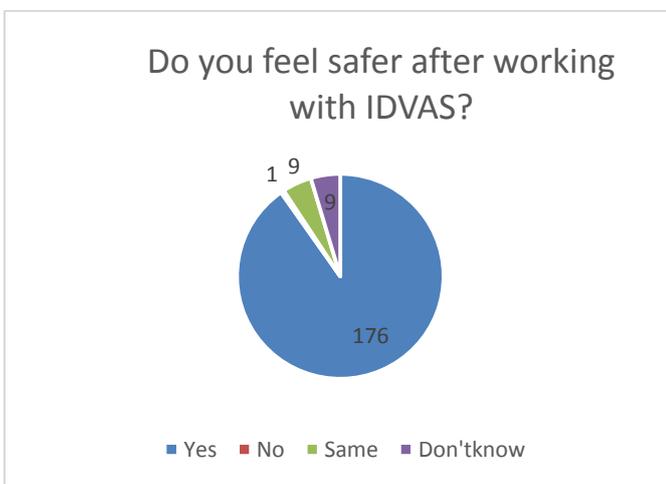
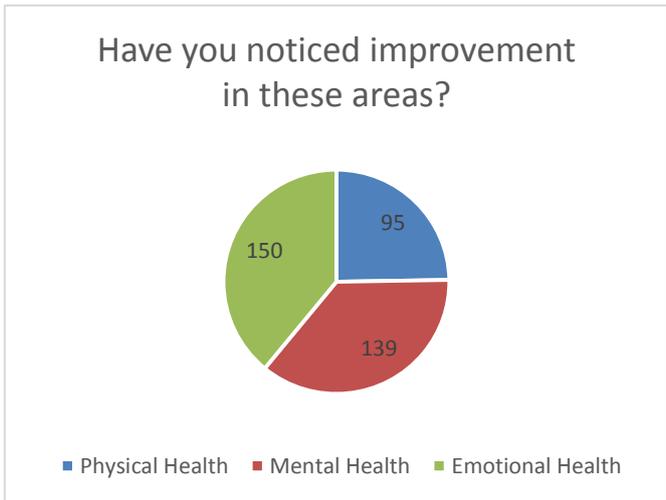
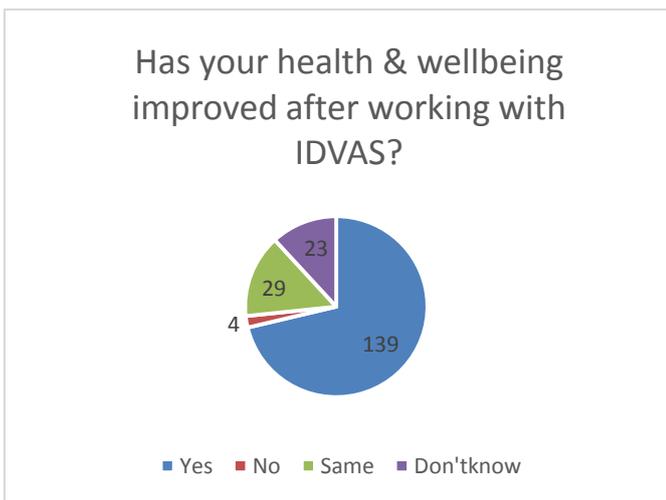
Questions are asked around the four Ministry of Justice outcome areas and responses are captured in quantitative format.

- Improved Health & Wellbeing

- Increased safety and perceptions of safety
- Feeling empowered and better informed
- Better able to cope with daily life

Clients were also asked if they had any additional comments to make and this was captured in narrative form.

195 clients consented to provide feedback out of a total of 685 closed cases which is a response rate of 31%. The responses are displayed in the charts below



Qualitative feedback:

- I can't thank you enough, you have been so helpful when nobody else would help.
- I feel stronger and more assertive now.
- Just thank you for the help and support and always being at the end of the phone whenever I needed you and for guiding me through the steps I needed to take.
- The support I received was very informative and supportive. IDVA never pressured me into taking on the service and was very professional and caring throughout. I feel better having spoken to an IDVA.
- I feel in a much better place now and as a result I'm hoping to volunteer in some capacity to help victims of domestic violence.
- It has really helped me understand domestic violence and the effects it has had on the children.
- I feel a lot safer now having worked with you especially with the bobby scheme being put in place. All areas of my health have significantly helped.
Being a man, I did not expect to get the level of support that I did, this has put me in a much better place and I really am grateful for this.
- Thank you so much for all the support, literally saved my life.
I am so much stronger now and can see what she was doing to me and what effect had on my life .I couldn't of done that without you and will miss your support terribly but know I can do it now myself .
- An outstanding service, by an outstanding adviser. All the times I was upset and worried, never once did you refuse to talk to me. You always advised me well and without judgement. Thank You for everything.
- I feel the service is very effective and amazing, I feel empowered every time I spoke to my IDVA, she was able to 'wipe my tears ' and motivate me to regain control over my life
- I have some much more information now about my options and rights of which I was not aware of before. I feel I have an open door to the services and help at any stage I decide to change my life. I am able to make more informal decisions now
- Thank you for all your support ,I feel much stronger and safer now ,I know what to do if I need any more support .I feel that I can just get on with my life now

The IDVA Feedback process will continue throughout 2019-20.

Comment from IDVA Service Manager Deirdre Reed:

'I am pleased to say we have managed to achieve all major targets over 2018-19. Our overall engagement rate has been maintained over the year with an average of 79% -4 % over our target. Our repeat rates average is well within Safe Lives guidance.

We continue to receive repeat incidents that are 'positive'. Such incidents where DA victims are reporting to the Police, in line with agreed safety plans and thereby setting boundaries with perpetrator behaviours. This is a real indication that our work with victims is facilitating empowerment, independence and an ability to safeguard themselves and their children.

However, it has been a challenging year, we have suffered a high level of unforeseen sickness in the team that was not work-related and could not have been predicted or planned for. In addition, 3 IDVA staff have developed and moved on to pastures new, which has left us under resourced for periods of during the year.

We have also worked hard to overcome significant changes that have come out of organisational reviews in 3 of our major professional partner services:

- *Police*
- *Children's Social Care*
- *Drug and alcohol services*

These changes have certainly impacted on the service we give to our clients and has presented challenges in finding new creative ways to work with our practitioner core partners. We will as ever, continue to work together to overcome these challenges, in order to provide an effective holistic approach to safeguarding all DA victims in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.'

5.2 Specialist Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Support Services

The four women's refuges in Cambridgeshire housed a total of 101 women and 165 children during 2018-19. A successful bid to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has funded 7 members of outreach staff who will work in a needs led, flexible approach to victims, enabling them to remain safely in their own homes where possible, and support them to live safely elsewhere when necessary. There is one post per district council area, with Cambridge City, South and East being covered by Cambridge Women's Aid and Peterborough, Hunts and Fenland being covered by Refuge. These posts are funded until March 2020.

5.2.1 Cambridge Women's Aid 2018-19

Cambridge Women's Aid has been providing specialist services to survivors of domestic abuse in Cambridge and the surrounding areas for over forty years. Currently, CWA does this through the provision of refuge for eleven women and their children and by offering tailored specialist support to survivors living in Cambridge city, South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire.

CWA continued providing high quality refuge services during 2018/19. The refuge service focused on the safety of each person and worked with them to reduce their risk of harm while supporting them to recover from their experiences. In addition to in house individual support and specialist play therapy, staff also provided various groups and activities to build women and children's confidence and support their independence. CWA continued supporting women and children who left the refuge through resettlement support for as long as necessary.

- 48 women and 68 children were accommodated in refuge this year
- Refuge was occupied 92% of the time
- Emergency out of hours service was available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- Children's music sessions with Lady Lynn had 78 attendances
- After School Art & Play had 1,356 attendances

- Morning Art room for little ones had 611 attendances
- School holiday fun sessions had 565 attendances
- Forest school had 69 attendances
- Groups for women on empowerment, health and creativity had 204 attendances

CWA also offered a free and confidential service based in the community to support those affected by domestic abuse, either directly or by supporting those who know them or work with them.

- 576 people received one to one support
- The people receiving support had 630 children
- 120 people received brief advice
- Shine programme delivered with the C3 Church had 32 attendances
- Peer Support Art Group in East Cambs had 127 attendances
- Peer Support Art Group in Cambridge had 248 attendances
- Freedom Programme had 130 attendances

During the year, CWA also used their expertise to train and raise awareness of a number of different groups including

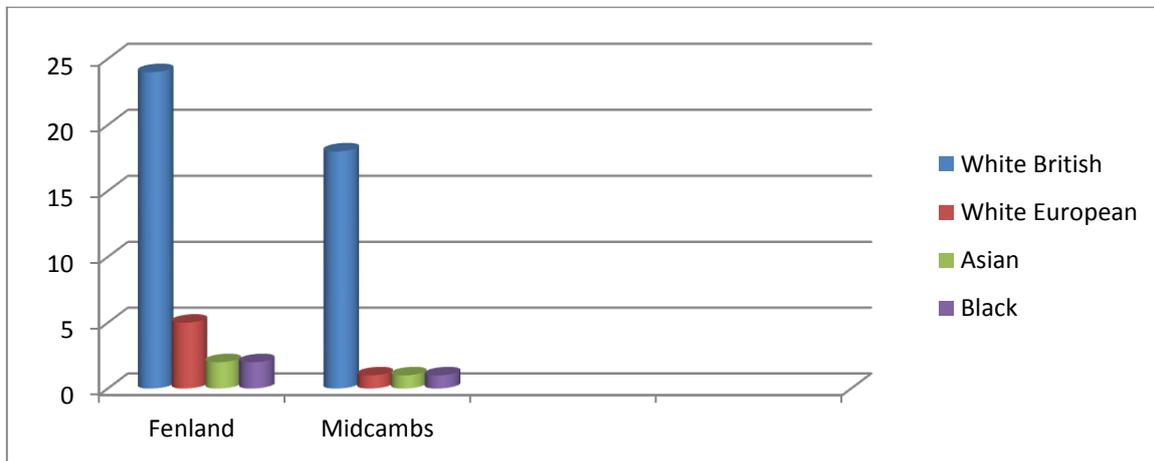
- Police
- Housing officers
- Social workers
- Medical students
- GPs
- Students
- Voluntary groups

We were also awarded funding to raise awareness of domestic abuse in our communities across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and started this work in March 2019.

5.2.2 Refuge 2018-19

Refuge runs two specialist safe houses for women and children escaping domestic violence in Cambridgeshire. The refuges are staffed by fully trained and experienced practitioners. Refuge's practitioners receive a comprehensive programme of specialist training to enable them to deliver support that meets the diverse needs of victims of domestic violence.

From 01 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 Refuge-Cambridgeshire received a total of 187 referrals. The referrals have been received from a variety of agencies (Fenland detailed below) It is extremely encouraging to see a rise in the number of self-referrals evidencing the hard work that has gone into advertising the Cambridgeshire service locally and also with appropriate partners nationally. The majority of the women accepted into the refuges are White British, however there is a notable difference between nationalities and the two sites.



63% of clients had suffered physical abuse, 25% sexual abuse, 70% psychological abuse. 9.7% of clients had suffered other violence including FGM, forced marriage and HBV. There has been an increase in tech abuse with 50% of clients stating that technology had been used to abuse and control them

This year there has been a focus on making Midcamb's more friendly and inviting. A new play room has been designed and the upstairs and downstairs lounges have been re-furnished. There is also a new welcome room where new clients can hopefully feel comfortable and safe.



Both refuges have supported a high number of mothers during the year. In Fenland refuge there were 40 children offered support by refuge staff included a part time Children's Worker. In Mid Camb's refuge 30 children were resident at the refuge during the year. 27% of these children had directly witnessed physical violence. 52% were known to Social Care 92% of clients leaving the refuges felt **Somewhat safer / much safer**

90% of clients felt **not at all or a little frightened**

87% felt **quality of life had improved**

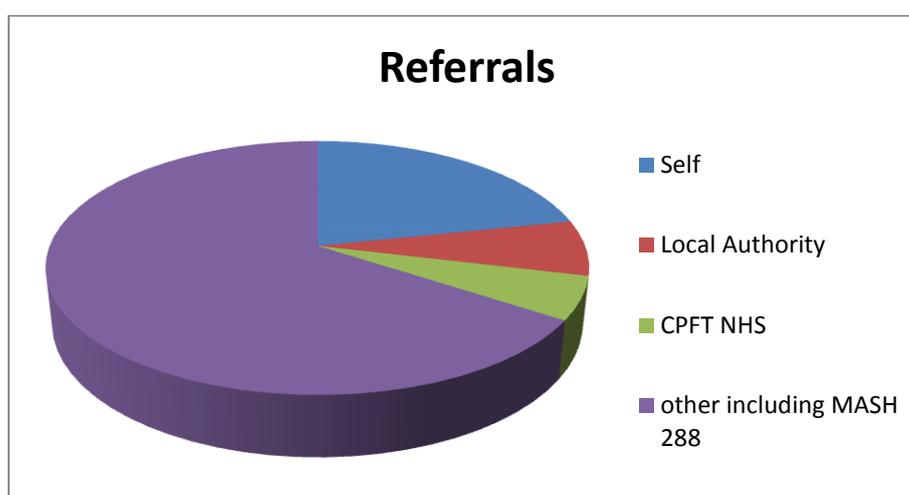
100% felt confident in knowing how to access help

Outreach

The Outreach team now hold drop-ins at 2 Children’s Centres in Peterborough and 1 in Huntingdon. These are extremely successful and 2 clients have escaped violence into refuge because of these drop-ins. The Wings Programme has been delivered at a Wisbech school.

The Service Manager has attended a number of events to promote the service including training at district councils, with specialist midwives and GPs, community groups across the county and operational level

This year the Outreach team has received 494 referrals. 243 were accepted into the service. All other clients were either offered short term support, or were uncontactable after 5 attempts. Referral sources are listed below. It is very encouraging to see that self-referrals have risen to 95 throughout 2018/19.



93% of clients leaving the refuges felt **Some what safer / much safer**

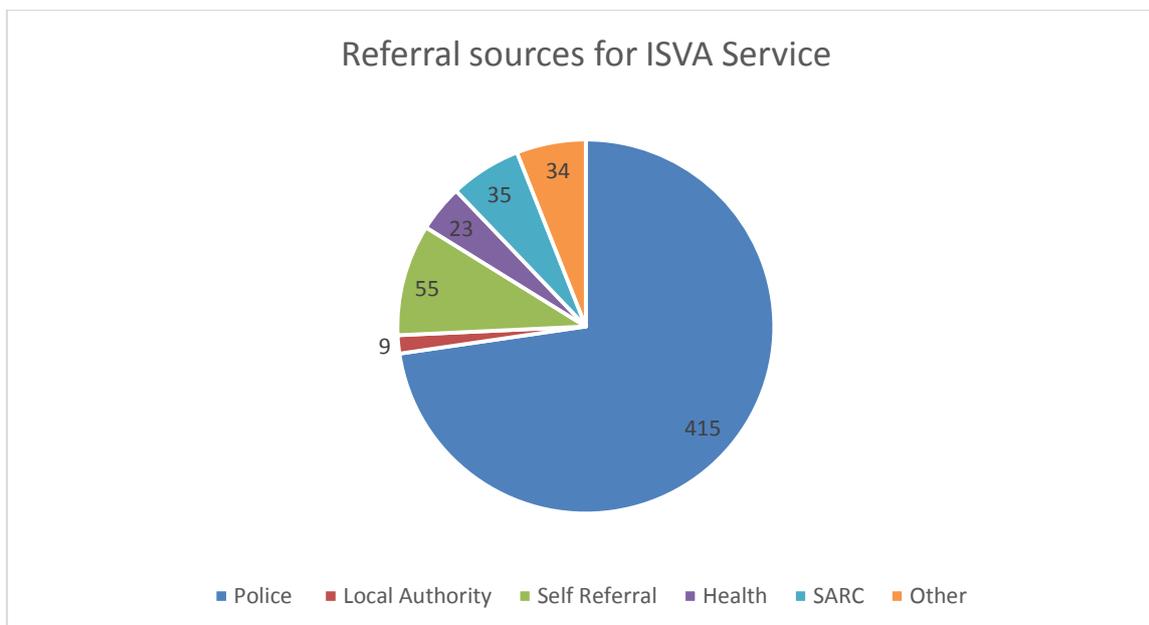
94% of clients felt **not at all or a little frightened**

85% felt **quality of life had improved**

100% felt confident in knowing how to access help

5.2.3 Cambridge and Peterborough Rape Crisis Group and ISVA Service

Rape Crisis supported 1516 survivors across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in 2018-19. A total of 396 referrals were received by the Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy service (ISVA Service) and 170 for the ChISVA (Children and young people’s ISVA)



| | |
|---|-------------|
| Number of calls to the helpline service | 536 |
| Total number of new/first time callers to the helpline | 510 |
| Number of helpline opening hours | 387 |
| Total number of clients accessing emotional support and counselling | 376 |
| Total number of active volunteers | 92 |
| Total number of volunteer hours | 3578 |

5.2.4 Sexual Assault Referral Centre

The Elms Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) is jointly commissioned by Cambridgeshire Constabulary and NHS England and supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The SARC is based on the Hinchingsbrooke Hospital site and run by Mountain Healthcare. The SARC offers free and practical support to anyone in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough who has experienced sexual violence and/or sexual abuse. The SARC offers confidential emotional support, referral to ISVA Service and counselling and also forensic examination. The SARC is also home to the Embrace Child Victims Of Crime service that offers support to young people that have experienced or witness domestic abuse or sexual violence.

During 2018-19 the SARC received 200 referrals for people over 18 and 88 for people under 18. For comparison, the referrals for 2017-18 were 191 and 102 respectively.

Other work the SARC has been involved in over the last year includes:

- Mapping pathways for children and young people referrals
- Recruiting an ISVA to work at the SARC with acute cases
- Working with partners to improve responses to victims with complex needs
- Setting up a Service User Group
- SARAC pilot (Sexual Assault Risk Assessment Conference)
- Pilot for Excelicare Data Management System for SARC's
- A pilot site for CQC inspections for SARC's

5.3 Supporting victims to remain safely in their own homes

A partnership bid to the Department of Communities and Local Government enabled funding for the Bobby Scheme to continue to secure the houses of domestic abuse victims so they, and their children, can remain in their own homes. In 2018-19 The Bobby scheme secured the homes of 420 victims in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, with a total of 794 children in these households.

Department of Communities and Local Government funding was also used to implement the Domestic Abuse Housing Accreditation scheme across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Throughout 2018-19 workshops were held with housing providers to explain the standards required and to encourage sign up to the DAHA scheme, which is run in partnership with Standing Together and Peabody Trust. DAHA promoted DAHA accreditation and outlined the principles of the toolkit of best practice identifying and responding to domestic abuse to local housing associations and local authorities. To expand these further 10 workshops were delivered which were attended by 132 housing professionals, representing 16 housing providers in the East of England who have stock in Cambridgeshire. Of these we received 2 statements of intent to pursue accreditation, one from a local authority and one housing association. The feedback from the workshops was excellent. We have had 5 other expressions of interest from housing providers including 2 local authorities. We are currently delivering another suite of revised workshops for 2019/20 and we are receiving more bookings for this in our second year than the first as DAHA is now largely recognised and respected within the social housing sector. We also set up a Domestic Abuse Housing Operational Group which is jointly chaired between DAHA Development Manager and Housing Manager from a large local housing association. This group has grown in number and has now been operating for a year and invites guest speakers to present relevant services to the group and facilitates a discussion of best practice and problem solving with peers. We have been used as a resource and our advice sought on operational issues in relation to domestic abuse and housing by both the housing sector, and the specialist domestic abuse sector and we have facilitated greater engagement between the two. We have also had the opportunity to present to and engage in conferences and events organised by the Chartered Institute of Housing and the National Housing Federation.

A Joint Bid Across Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, West London Tri-Borough & the charity Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse, to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government was successful so work can progress during 2019-20. This was the largest bid awarded from this fund, with a total bid of £1.47m. Vickie Crompton is the lead Programme Manager for this work across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Key elements of the Whole Housing Approach included within this work:

Private Rented Sector

Work with national bodies, communications with local landlords via newsletters, landlord forums and other mechanisms locally with training offered free of charge.

Privately Owned Property

Influence nationally with financial institutions and work locally with banks/building societies. This will include training for DA specialists.

Managed Reciprocity

This is now operational across London and meetings are taking place with services locally to see how these arrangements might work in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. There will also be consideration for how perpetrators might be relocated to other areas.

Sanctuary Schemes

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have a single scheme "The Bobby Scheme" which is accessible for any tenure of property. The Bobby Scheme will receive £60,000 of funding for 18 months, which will support around 300 families.

Outreach/floating Support

Funding for 7 members of outreach staff who will work in a needs led, flexible approach to victims, enabling them to remain safely in their own homes where possible, and support them to live safely elsewhere when necessary. There is one post per district council area, with Cambridge City, South and East being covered by Cambridge Women’s Aid and Peterborough, Hunts and Fenland being covered by Refuge. These posts are funded until March 2020.

Perpetrator Management

This element of the programme will develop a toolkit for housing providers to aim to reduce the harms caused by those perpetrating domestic abuse. The toolkit will include both enforcement options and support options. The victim will always be at the centre and fully considered where perpetrator options are being considered.

Resident Support Schemes /Flexible Funding

For Cambridgeshire there is £45,000 available to enable victims to be able to live safe and autonomous lives. This funding is for unique circumstances where this funding would not be available elsewhere. Applications for this funding must come via a specialist DA worker. Examples of funding agreed include purchasing second-hand furniture, paying rent arrears to enable victims to move tenancy and paying for a removal van to help a victim move home.

Domestic Abuse Housing Accreditation

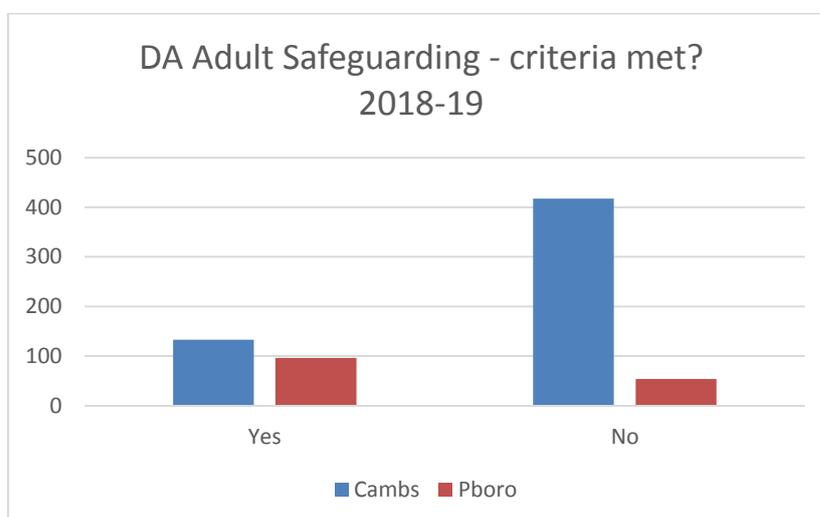
This work will continue with dedicated staff, aiming to improve the response of housing providers to domestic abuse. Cambridge City are the first provider in the county to seek accreditation and will hear back by April if they have been successful.

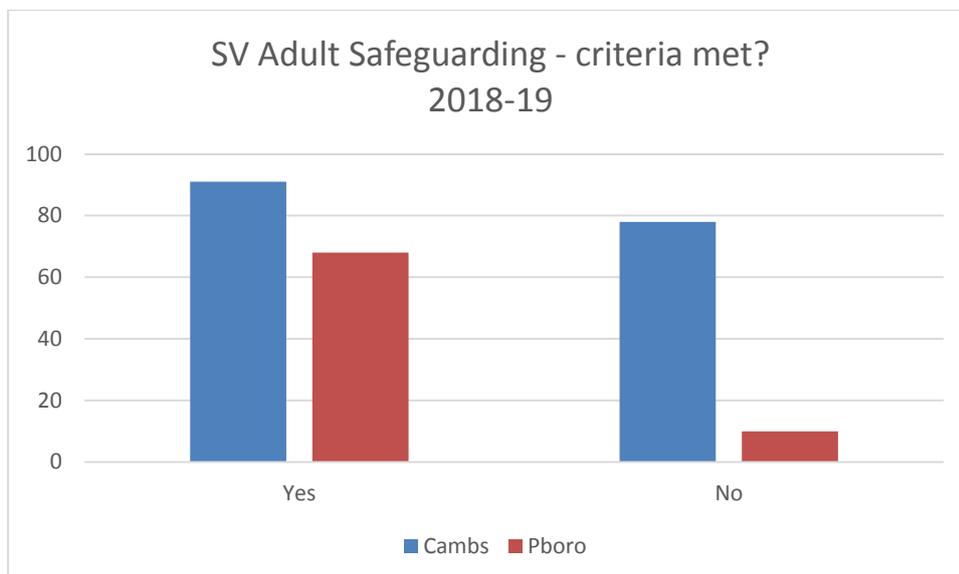
5.4 Develop and take forward work around DASV with Adult Social Care and Adult Safeguarding

5.4.1 Adult Safeguarding data

The total number of Adult Safeguarding (AS) referrals to the Cambridgeshire MASH with a domestic abuse element in 2018-19 was 549. There were 167 referrals relating to sexual violence/assault. The total number of AS referrals to the Peterborough MASH with a domestic abuse element in 2018-19 was 150. There were 73 referrals relating to sexual violence/assault. The 2018-19 figures are slightly less than the 2017-18 data across both categories and across both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

As the charts below show, Adult Safeguarding criteria under the Care Act 2014 is not met in the majority of cases involving domestic abuse or sexual violence/abuse that are referred to the Adult Safeguarding MASH Teams.





In 2016, the national advocacy organisation Shaping Our Lives were successful in a funding bid for a project looking at domestic abuse support for women with disabilities. The DASV Partnership Officer was invited to be the professional advisor on the project. The project findings and recommendations were published in April 2019 and these will be discussed with Adult Safeguarding, Adult Social Care and the IDVA Service to ensure best practice is being used when working with women with disabilities and domestic abuse issues.

5.5 Developing a group work offer and supporting children’s social care

Two new programmes funded by the Home Office VAWG funding began in late 2018 when practitioners were trained to deliver the Caring Dad’s and Recovering Together programmes.

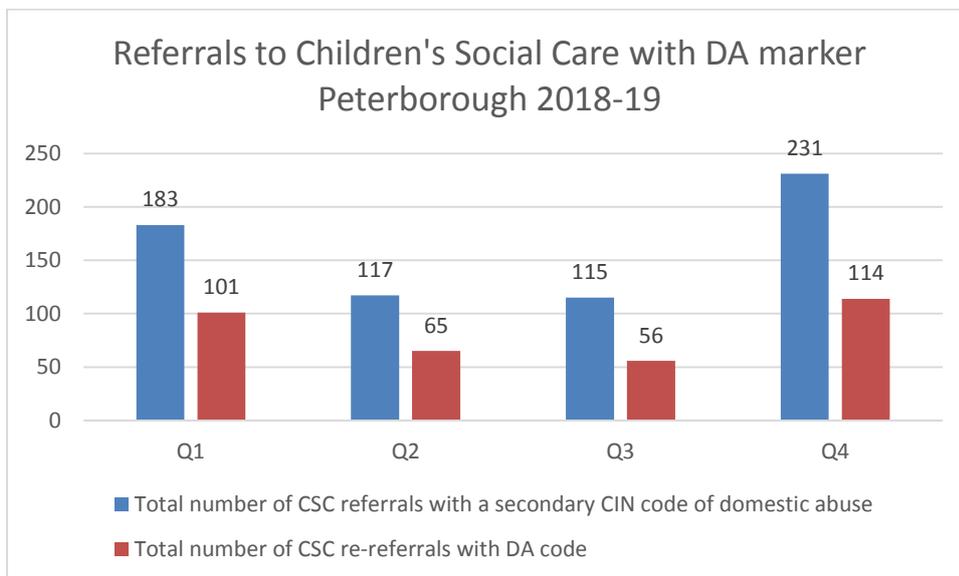
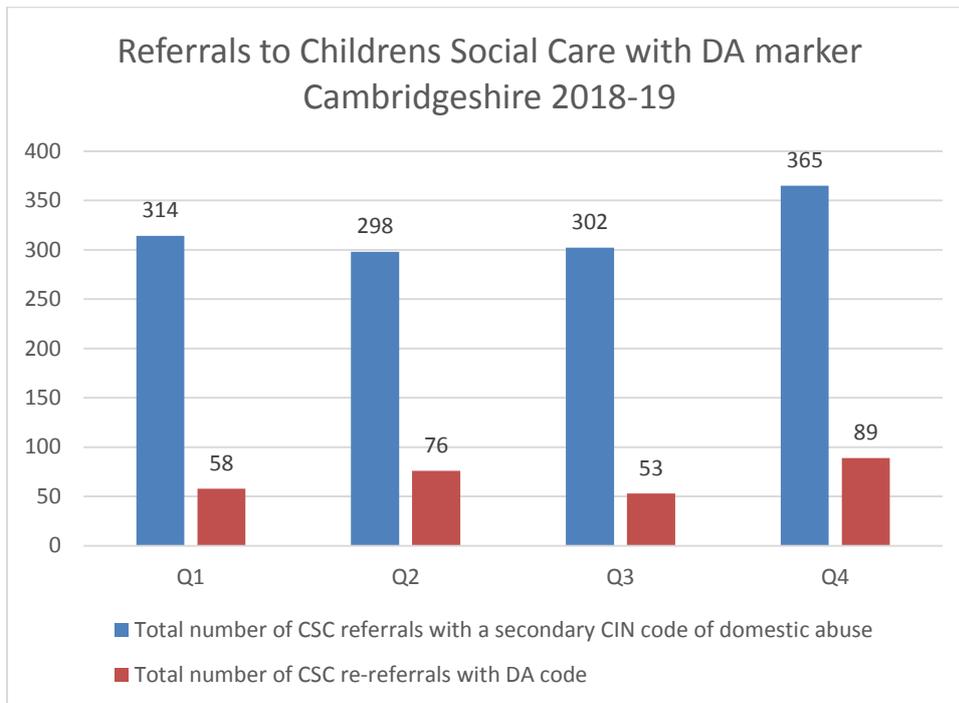
Caring Dads is a program that aims to contribute to the safety and well-being of children through a 17-week, empirically-based, manualised group parenting intervention for fathers, systematic outreach to mothers to ensure safety and freedom from coercion and ongoing, collaborative case management of fathers with child protection and probation referrers, and as appropriate, with other professionals involved with men’s families.

Recovering Together is a group programme for children aged 8-10 and their mothers. The 12 week programme is an integrated community group programme for children and their mothers who have experienced domestic abuse. Current groups are for children in school Year 4 or 5.

A Recovering Together programme started in Cambridge in March 2019 and both programmes will be delivered throughout 2019-20, with evaluations undertaken.

The Early Help Teams have developed a programme entitled RISE for victims and survivors of DA, that focusses on healthy relationships. In 2018/19 2 pilot programmes were delivered.

There have been significant increases (over 100%) in the number of Child In Need referrals made that have a domestic abuse element since 2017-18. This is thought to be due, at least in part, to a targeted domestic abuse training programme that was delivered to social care staff during 2018.



5.6 Protect Priorities for 2018 19

- Agreement of a core DASV Offer that can expand and contract dependant on funding available
- Review of the IDVA Service to ensure we are making the most impact for vulnerable adults and children
- Recommissioning of Sexual Violence Services
- Pilot the Domestic Abuse Alliance project with the police in Peterborough to support victims to access relevant civil orders and support
- Review of MARAC effectiveness making recommendations for future delivery
- Taking forward the Adult Safeguarding/Adult Social Care action plan for DASV
- Delivery and evaluation of Caring Dad's, Recovering Together and RISE
- Rollout of For Babies Sake Programme
- Support the development of the Family Safeguarding model in Cambridgeshire

6.0 Pursue

Our Pursue priorities for 2018-19 were:

- Monitor the impact of the local policing review
- Monitor the Domestic Violence Perpetrator Panel (DVPP) in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough responding to high-risk and high-profile perpetrators
- Develop a Sexual Assault Risk Assessment Conference

6.1 Policing Review

Since the local policing review we have established a DA Scrutiny group that meets monthly to audit DA cases in order to identify opportunities for individual and organisational learning. We have also re-introduced the DA Delivery group to ensure that governance of DA issues is clear and robust underpinned by a revised Force DA policy.

The implementation of ATHENA during May 2018 presented some organisational challenges, particularly in respect of data quality and availability of accurate and reliable performance data, but much work has been done to improve the position and significant progress has been, and continues to be made in this area.

The most significant change following LPR was the transition of DA investigations to frontline officers and investigation teams and redeployment of the specialist Domestic Abuse units (DAISU). Quality of investigations and safeguarding has suffered and a lot of work is going into trying to upskill and develop officers including the introduction of a new Safeguarding Officer post whose key role is to deliver briefings and training to frontline officers as well as one 2 one coaching based on feedback from crime audits. Other highlights include the launch of Op ENCOMPASS (DA notifications to schools) across Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, development of our DA Champions network and work with the Courts and CPS to implement the national Best Practice Framework.

6.2 Multi-Agency Domestic Violence Perpetrator Panel (DVPP)

The DVPP was expanded to include both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in 2018 and formal terms of reference for the group was put in place. In 2018-19, 221 perpetrators were discussed at DVPP and action plans to manage risk to victims were put in place. During 2019 the process for DVPP will be reviewed and a scoring mechanism put in place and closer follow-up on actions.

6.3 Develop a Sexual Assault Risk Assessment Conference (SARAC)

A Sexual Assault Risk Assessment Conference (SARAC) was piloted in November 2018. In order to keep the number of referrals manageable for the pilot, referrals are accepted from the police, SARC and Cambridge & Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership. The referral criteria is as follows:

- An identified need for intensive support
- A rationale regarding how and why this could be achieved in a multiagency context.
- A significant risk of repeat victimisation / repeat offending regarding the individual adopted.

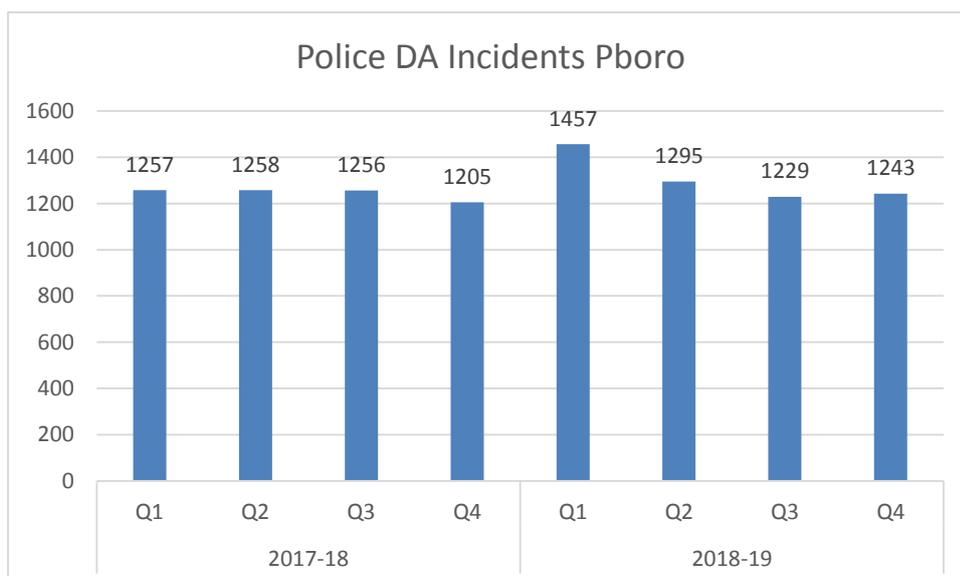
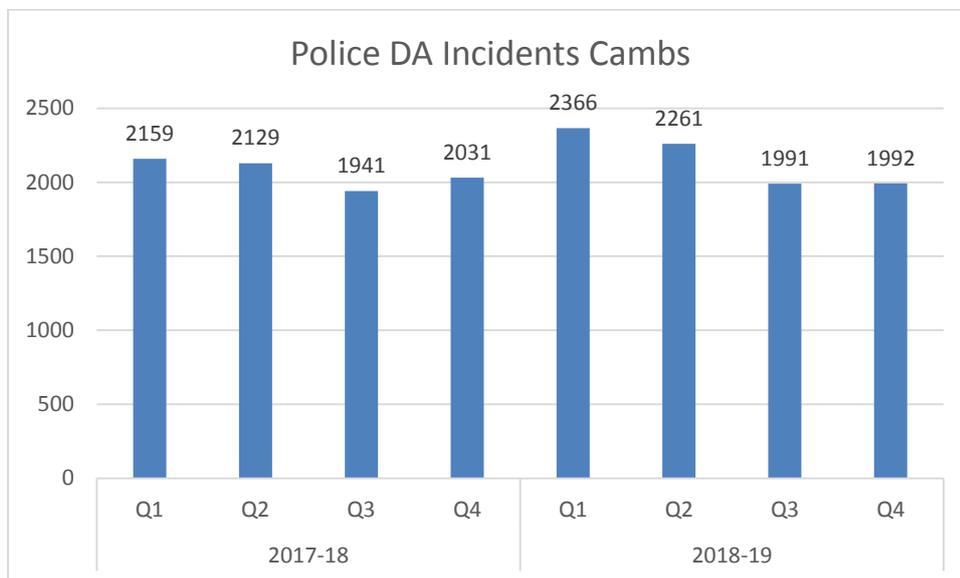
- Confirmation that they are not already being supported via another existing forum (MARAC/ MAPPA / Op Farmington).

Clients are referred on professional judgement rather than on a Risk Indicator such as the DASH Risk Assessment score. Professional agencies involved with the client are asked to attend the meeting.

From November 2018 to May 2019 four SARAC's were held which heard five cases. The process has recently been reviewed and some minor changes will be made, however those involved felt that the pilot so far has been successful.

6.4 Police data 2018-19

The Total number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Cambridgeshire Constabulary (including Peterborough) for 2018-19 was 13834 which is a slight increase on the 2016-18 figure.



Pursue Priorities for 2019-20

- Pilot the CARA (Conditional Cautions and Relationship Abuse) project
- Pilot the Domestic Abuse Alliance project in Peterborough and use data to monitor breaches of civil orders
- Review the process for the DV Perpetrators Panel and develop a scoring mechanism to closer follow-up on actions
- Further review and evaluation of SARAC

7.0 PREPARE

Our Prepare priorities for 2018/19 were:

- Developing the DASV Champions Network across the county with representatives from all partner agencies becoming Champions and attending informative quarterly network workshops.
- Achieving White Ribbon accreditation for Cambridgeshire County Council.
- Supporting Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust (CPFT) to implement the BARTA package from Against Violence and Abuse
- Review the workforce development offer across the county and re-establish a countywide training group.

7.1 DASV Champions

This is covered in point 4.1 above

7.2 White Ribbon

Cambridgeshire County Council were accredited by the White Ribbon charity in 2018. Accreditation involved recruiting White Ribbon Ambassadors and developing an action plan to embed the work of White Ribbon across a range of key areas. A working group meet regularly and the action plan continues to be delivered and developed. Work delivered in 2018 included having a White Ribbon stall at the Cambridge Folk Festival, internal communications about the campaign to Cambridgeshire County Council staff, linking with local music venues. East Cambridgeshire District Council also achieved White Ribbon accreditation and Cambridge City Council were re-accredited. Cambridge City Council held a successful White Ribbon conference and the County Council joined with Cambridgeshire Libraries to make copies of the book Operation Lighthouse available for free.

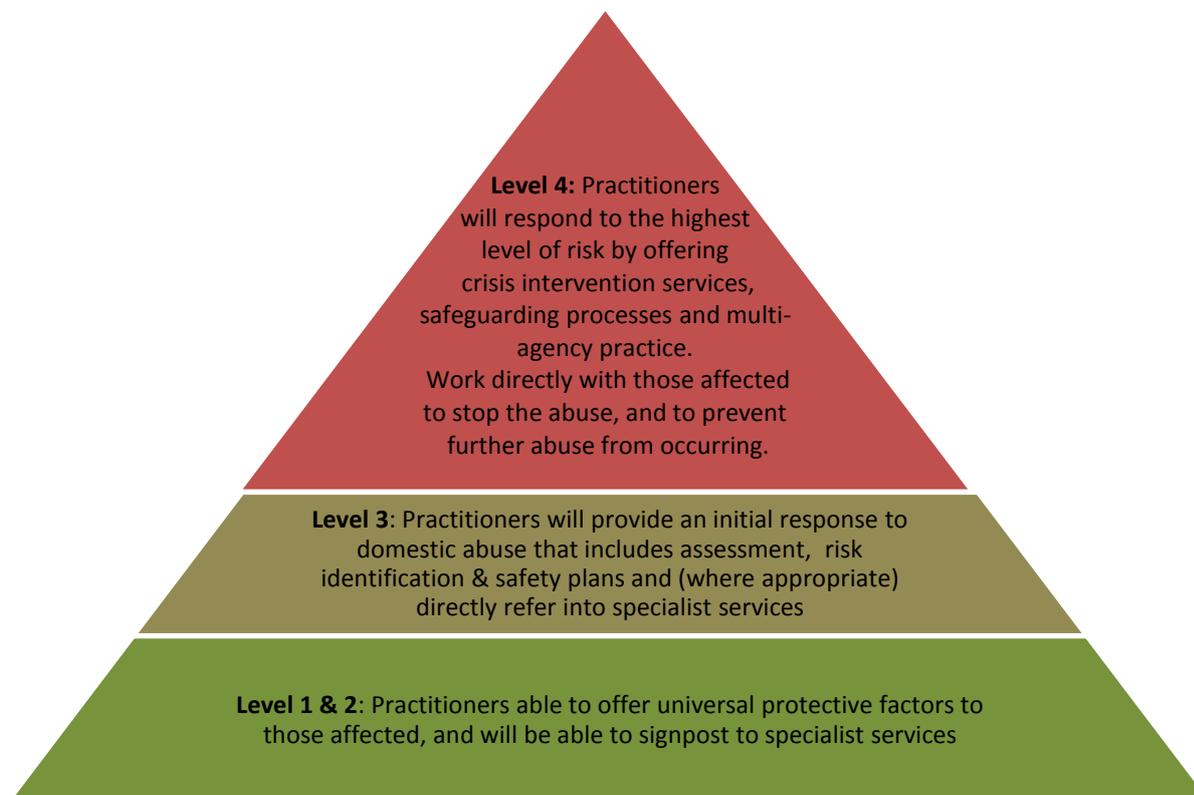
7.3 Supporting Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust (CPFT) to implement BARTA

Work with CPFT to implement the BARTA (Be Aware and Respond to Abuse) change management package has continued throughout 2018/19. Progress has been slow and this will be a priority for 2019/20.

7.4 Review the workforce development offer and re-establish a countywide training group

The workforce development offer around domestic abuse was reviewed in 2018 and updated. A domestic abuse and sexual violence workforce development group was set up with representatives across all key agencies and the group meet quarterly to share information and ensure consistency of training.

Training is offered on four levels to link in with the local offer.



ELearning – The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Basic Awareness eLearning modules are available for free on the DASV Partnership website. The Domestic Abuse module was completed by 498 learners between April 2018 and March 2019. The Sexual Violence eLearning module was completed by 28 learners between April 2018 and March 2019.

The Domestic Abuse e-learning module is being updated and the revised version will be available by Summer 2019.

LGSS DA Training attendance 2018-19

- 45 people attended the Domestic Abuse Awareness training, all but one was a CCC employee (charge for external attendees)
- 12 completed the DA risk Assessment training
- 26 People attended DA Typologies training
- 16 people attended Managing Domestic Abuse in Families training

The Safeguarding Boards Domestic Abuse Training (free) was attended by 104 people.

Police DA Training attendance 2018-19

| <u>Delivery Group</u> | <u>Training Delivered</u> |
|---|--|
| <p>Police Officer Initial Recruits (IPLDP)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DA Matters – Delivered to all Police Constable Initial Recruits - BCH • DA Training to week 40 Probationers as part of the IPLDP – Delivered by ISD – 11 courses of 14-17 officers per course. <i>Includes practical guidance on the Initial investigation of Domestic Abuse & completion of DVPN/DVPO's</i> |
| <p>Police Constable / Detective Constable</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint Skype Training delivered on District Training Days by DAISU DS's in March/April 2018 – Several Hundred Officers/staff <i>Included Allocation Policy, Safeguarding Options(Practical/Pastoral), Victim Management, Suspect Management (Custody/Manhunt), Voice of the Child, Evidence gathering/File building, CPS Management, Evidence led prosecution, Disposal Options & Civil Orders</i> • DA Matters – Delivered to 72 front line officers (Force DA Champions) – List held on DA Champions One Note • PIP2 – Domestic Abuse Input delivered by a DA Subject Matter Expert on the ICIDP Course (Detective's Course) |
| <p>Police Sergeant / Detective Sergeant</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIP1 & PIP2 Supervisors - Training delivered by DAISU DS's in April 2018 <i>Allocation Policy, Identifying Risk, Identifying and recognising offences (Controlling & Coercive/Stalking and Harassment), Safeguarding Options(Practical/Pastoral), Victim Management (DVNA/IDVAS/MASH), Voice of the Child, Evidence gathering/File building, Suspect Management (Custody/Manhunt), CPS Management, Evidence led prosecutions, Disposal Options including Civil orders (DVPN/DVPO)</i> |

| | |
|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sergeants Operational Activity Course - Newly promoted/acting Sergeants attend a 3 day course. DA is now on the curriculum from April 2019, delivered by Subject Matter Experts. |
| E-Learning - Available to All Officers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various NCALT content available on Domestic Abuse Coercive Control – DA Toolkit (PDF), DASH, understanding Domestic Abuse (e-learning), DVPN/DVPO's. |

In addition to the table, the following DA inputs have been delivered –

- May 2019 - DA Champions Conference – Police Officers (69) & Partner Agencies (25) in attendance – Mixture of inputs from Anglia Ruskin University, Slater & Gordon, CARA Project & a DA Case Study.
- May 2019 – Sherlock Conference – Input delivered to approximately 60 front line Police Sergeants/Inspectors & front line staff (supervisors).
- Stalking & Harassment – District Training Days – Inputs delivered over a 3 month period to several hundred front line police officers and staff – North/South/Demand Hub.
- Face to Face feedback/Training is now being delivered direct to officers/investigations identified by the DA Scrutiny group & tracked on a DA Scrutiny group spreadsheet. This is from cases that are identified by the DA Scrutiny Group where an officer needs some further Investigative/Safeguarding training.

7.5 Other Training

General awareness training is also provided on an ad-hoc basis by the Partnership Manager, IDVA Manager and specialist services. During 2018-19 the IDVA Service delivered the following training:

- Mental Health professionals - apx. 50 participants
- Education professionals - apx. 60 participants
- Housing professionals - apx. 30 participants
- Health professionals - apx. 130 participants
- Adult Social Care - apx. 20 participants
- Fenland District Council - apx. 60 participants
- Substance misuse - apx. 20 participants
- New social workers – apx. 20 participants

7.6 Prepare Priorities for 2019-20

- Update DA elearning module
- Support CPFT with implementing BARTA programme.
- Hold White Ribbon conference in November
- Oversee governance of the DWP Reducing Parental Conflict programme

- Develop the Intimate Relationship Spectrum for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

8.0 Summary

This year has been a hugely successful one in many ways, in particular with the bids to the Home Office and MHCLG (Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government) bringing in over £1.5 million of external funding to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This has enabled us to continue our outreach provision and also to extend funding for key services such as Embrace counselling and the Bobby Scheme. It has also enabled the Whole Housing Approach to Domestic Abuse project to work across the county in 2019/20.

We have also seen preparation for the roll out of various DASV programmes during the coming year, with facilitators trained or recruited for Caring Dad's, Recovering Together and For Babies Sake. We have also successfully rolled out the DASV professionals' champion network.

2019/20 will be a period of review where we revise the VAWG strategy and look to develop and design a core offer of domestic abuse services and recommission sexual violence services.

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