



Bristol Domestic Abuse Forum

Minutes

Wednesday 7th July 2010

9:30 – 11.30

The Council House

S:\CST\Domestic Abuse\BDAF\BDAF City Wide Domestic Abuse Forum\BDAF Meetings - agenda & mins\2010-11\100707\BDAF minutes 7th July 2010.doc

Attendee	Representing
Leigh Forster (Chair)	WISH
Kirstie Billing (minutes)	Safer Bristol Partnership
Nicola Coggins	Womankind
Bev Gordon	Victim Support
Amy Campbell	NHS Bristol
Sally Morrissey	Novas Scarman
Charlotte Robson	Splitz
Liz Rogers	Bristol South AWP NHS Mental Health
Anna Rixon	Avon and Somerset Probation Trust
Sharon Quigley	The Bridge (SARC)
Sian Taylor	Wish
Rhianna Lewis	Iona Phillips of Lyons Davison
Lesley Welch	Safer Bristol Partnership
Emma Williamson	University of Bristol
Chris Taylor	CAFCASS
Barbara Bloomfield	Relate
Belinda Cox	Bristol Maternity
Mike Bedford	Splitz
Emily Moreton	Safer Bristol Partnership

Apologies received	Representing
Fran Lewis	Splitz
Brenda Billinghamurst	
Maureen Marsh	
Debbie Rogers	Better Together
Jon Peyton	Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership
Carol Metters	Next Link
Sarah Windfield	NHS

1. Welcome and Introductions

LF welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table and apologies were given.

2. Bristol's Voluntary Perpetrator Programme – Splitz

Mike attended the meeting to give an overview of Splitz and how it has been running.

The Voluntary Perpetrator Programme has been running since 2005. The group consists of two parts, the impact on people involved and how to change behaviour. This is a rolling programme so there are always people at different stages.

Wiltshire have also taken on referrals from other areas so there are currently 58 men on the waiting list. The starting of the Bristol programme will really help the waiting list for Wiltshire. There is a provisional date of September for the Bristol group to start and there is already a waiting list for the group.

- Control logs and individual action plans are used throughout the programme.
- Mike meets with each man every 6 weeks to review behaviour and to get information to help with the action plan.
- Every 10 weeks feedback is received from men as well as their partners to analyse where needed.
- When they have completed the programme, another 1:1 is held to complete a report and they can then go onto the Relapse Prevention Group.
- Before they start the Voluntary Perpetrator Programme, they have to attend two 2-hour sessions for information gathering purposes. A risk assessment is carried out alongside this.
- Splitz liaise with MARAC and MAPPAS and are always sure to link in with agencies whenever needed.
- There is always a place for an observer so anyone is welcome to attend to see how the process works.
- 8 men per group
- Motivation can be done on a 1:1 level before they start the group

- Formal reports on the feedback of men can go to courts
- The fallout rate after completion of the first module is around 5-6%. The pre group assessment and the first module are the most difficult to complete
- The programme works on a first come first served basis

ACTION 1: Splitz to send information on the programme to Emily Moreton for circulation.

ACTION 2: LW to approach the Prevention Sub Group and Strategy Group to publicise Splitz.

3. Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting

Action 1 - Bristol Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care, final report will be published end of May, LW to send out – completed.

Action 2 - LF told mtg that no Chair of Safer Bristol has been appointed, LW to follow up – completed. The chair is ACC John Long.

Action 3 – Carol sent an update on this item: Next Link and Richard Nochar have discussed this, and Next Link are now happy with the form.

Action 4 - Circulate SDVC feedback from Ministry of Justice – last year's statistics.

Action 5 - Election of BDAF non-voting rep to join JCG – five names were put forward but fell out. EM explained that the JCG decides where money is spent and it is very important that there is a rep from BDAF at the JCG. **ACTION 4: EM to send out an email asking for reps at the JCG as there is a strong need for a link between the JCG and BDAF.**

Action 6 - Lobbying group – took place last week

Action 7 - Fundraising group – on agenda

Action 8 - Media interviews – EM said that there were people interested and the training has taken place.

4. Matters arising not on the agenda

Nothing to be discussed.

5. Update on action plans

Provision of Services and Protection of Justice not present to update. Jon Peyton (prevention chair) noted in advance that he had no items related to perpetrators to update on.

AC updated on Prevention. Nothing new has been produced, although an annual review has been carried out. Information on past campaigns inspired a new level of enthusiasm. There will be a new post for Children and Young People Strategy Coordinator but it is currently stuck in vacancy control. There was good press coverage in February and a DVA quiz was organised. The quality of life survey is being used to measure outcomes. The pilot on Spiralling has been completed,

someone is needed to look at this work and put it out formally.

AC also reported that there is a new strategy so there are new actions to be completed. The action plans are on the BDAF website.

Mike reported that ITV will be doing a documentary next month on young people's experiences of DVA. Splitz could arrange for them to show this to BDAF. The meeting agreed this would be very useful. **ACTION 5: Mike/Splitz to arrange for ITB to show the YP documentary to BDAF.**

6. Feedback from Strategy Group

The Strategy runs out in March so the group are currently working on a new one. Chairs met last week and looked at what to do with violence against women and girls work as we are now required to have a violence against women and girls strategy. The Strategy Group would therefore like the new DVA Strategy to incorporate this work. LW agreed this was a good suggestion. The group has written to the chair of the Rape and Sexual Assault Strategy Group.

The Strategy Group meets again next week and will draw up a process for the strategy.

7. Feedback from local forums and action groups

Nothing to be discussed.

8. Approval of proposed new terms of reference

Agreed to add the main aims as discussed at the development day, as well as local forums and two-way reporting.

ACTION 6: EM to incorporate above comments into the ToR and circulate to BDAF, if no comments come back the ToR will be agreed.

9. Amendment to BDAF definition of DVA

EM displayed the current definition of DVA (also circulated). It was agreed to add the following:

1. A pattern of events/behaviour (this was an ACPO recommendation)
2. The use of children to partly/fully control the adult
3. Psychological (as well as emotional)
4. Sexual assault and rape – if groups become linked

The group agreed the definition pending the addition of the above comments.

ACTION 7: EM to add the meetings comments, as stated, to the definition of DV and circulate for final approval.

10. Summer teen abuse campaign update

AC reported that the campaign is young people focused and there have been strong links with agencies for this campaign, which will be running in August. There is a teen campaign pack available on the BDAF website and hard copies are also available. The campaign is also advertised on the 4YP and NHS Bristol websites.

Community grants have been put out to various people and there will be a really good range of events across the summer. These events are expanded on within the information packs.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for any of the events over the summer please contact Amy Campbell. Amycampbell@nhs.net

A campaign is being held by the Safeguarding Adults Board around abuse of vulnerable people. AC has posters available if required.

11. Fundraising Group

Leigh is convening a Fundraising Group. Details will be circulated shortly and anyone is welcome to attend.

12. Sentencing guidelines for DVA crime

ST expressed frustration around the miniscule sentences for perpetrators as Magistrates Court can only impose sentences up to 1 year, which is where the vast majority of cases go. In most cases perpetrators are only doing 4-5 weeks in prison for assaults such as GBH. This is causing concern for safety issues, as this is not enough time to re-house the victim before the perpetrator is released.

Suggestions:

1. Use comparisons of sentences to put out to the media
2. Invite the magistrates/judges to look at how they are applying guidelines to sentencing.

ACTION 8: LW to take this sentencing issue to the Protection and Justice meeting next week.

ACTON 9: DVA Coordinators from the South West to write to the Ministry of Justice and Strategy Group regarding sentencing issues.

13. AOB

Please let Emily Moreton know if you are interested in the November campaign. There is a meeting being held on 8th July to start discussion for this.

LW informed the meeting that at the Queens Birthday Honours 2010 both Carol Metters and Fran Lewis (Executive Director of Splitz) were awarded an MBE.

BDAF passed on their congratulations to both Carol and Fran.

Action Points	Actions from BDAF mtg 28 th April 2010	By Whom	By When
1	Send information on the programme to Emily Moreton for circulation	Splitz	ASAP
2	Approach the Prevention Sub Group and Strategy Group to publicise Splitz	LW	Next meeting
3 c/fwd	Housing DA incident report form, still not clear which form is being used, CM to follow up with Richard Nochar	CM	ASAP

4	Send out an email asking for reps at the JCG as there is a strong need for a link between the JCG and BDAF	LW	ASAP
5	Arrange for ITB to show the YP documentary to BDAF	Mike/ Splitz	
6	Incorporate above comments into the ToR and circulate to BDAF, if no comments come back the ToR will be agreed	EM	Next meeting
7	Add the meetings comments, as stated, to the definition of DV	EM	Next meeting
8	Take this sentencing issue to the Protection and Justice meeting next week	LW	ASAP
9	Write to the Ministry of Justice and Strategy Group regarding sentencing issues	DVA Coordinators	Next meeting

Details of next meeting

Date: Wednesday 6th October 2010

Time: 9.30am – 11.30am

Venue: Council House