

Domestic violence and abuse - action plan 2008-11

This Action Plan is a working document, subject to regular review.

Progress report – ‘traffic lights’ system:

red = deadline passed and action incomplete or insufficient progress to achieve future deadline;

amber = Progress slow, giving concern about meeting deadline

green = deadline achieved or sufficient progress made to achieve future deadline

Progress comments are in bold italics under each action.

Provision

Objective 5

Women, children and men from diverse backgrounds and needs are encouraged to report domestic violence/abuse and seek support. Agencies will ensure barriers to seeking support are removed.

Objective 5.1

Women and their children without recourse to public funds have access to support services.

By April 2011 we aim to have implemented protocols to ensure survivors/victims of DVA without recourse to public funds (those with insecure immigration status, nationals of specific EU countries) have access to support services, including financial support.

Ref	Action	Time-scale	Lead responsibility	Resources	Performance / outcome measures	1. Confidence level 2. Risks
5.1.1	Develop a protocol with Social Care (ACC & CYPS).	1 Apr 09	Team Manager Asylum Seekers, Adult Community Care	(Multi-agency) officer time	Women without recourse to public funds would be able to leave violent partners and	1 – High 2 – Low

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					access appropriate support	
Protocol ? not written down						
5.1.2	Set up a deposit bond scheme for EU nationals who are not entitled to housing.		Peter Anderson, Crime Reduction Manager, to liaise with Nick Hooper, Housing.	Costs???	EU nationals able to access private rented accommodation	1 – 2 – To be completed by Monira Chowdhury
Timescale to be completed, waiting to hear from N & HS						

Objective 5.2

Women, children and men with communication difficulties (due to language barriers and/or disability) have access to support services.

By April 2011 we aim to ensure that no survivor is unable to access support.

Ref	Action	Time-scale	Lead responsibility	Resources	Performance / outcome measures	1. Confidence level 2. Risks
5.2.1	Develop an action plan to assure Prevention, Provision of Services and Protection and Justice for people from all equalities groups involved in DVA to access relevant services	31 st Oct 2009	Gillian Douglas	Officer time Translation & interpreting services costs - £4K Calculate? Costs of materials in new formats, e.g. audio, braille	Women without recourse to public funds would be able to make safer choices and access appropriate support Survivors from discriminated against groups gain appropriate support from agencies Information materials available in variety of formats and languages	1 – Medium – new development, but funds allocated (Safer Bristol) 2 – Medium – lack of officer time.

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Objective 6

Survivors throughout the city have access to independent and flexible support, according to assessed level of risk and need, that offers a range of safety options and follows an empowerment and survivor-centred approach.

Objective 6.1

Support services provided are appropriate to need.

By April 2011 we aim to have in place a range of support services, incorporating choice and response according to need.

Ref	Action	Time-scale	Lead responsibility	Resources	Performance / outcome measures	1. Confidence level 2. Risks
6.1.1	Sustain <i>specialist DVA provision.</i>	1 st June 2009	Peter Anderson, Crime Reduction Manager.	Freedom Programme £3K pa + 1½ days/week coordination time; Other services' costs – to be established (see 2.1)	Current services maintained with mainstreamed funding.	1 – Medium/low – currently no funds 2 – High - lack of commitment/funds
No new money for DV in BCC Medium Term financial plan but commissioning officer has now been appointed.						
6.1.2	Develop new services to meet emerging needs.	1 Apr 11	Director, N & HS or Community Safety Manager	Officer time – quantify? Additional refuge spaces approx £150K pa. New community services £160K pa	Funding strategy developed. Number of refuge spaces appropriate for projected population <i>for refuge for women not currently served, e.g. substance misusers currently not compliant with a treatment regime.</i>	1 – Medium/low – currently no funds 2 – High - lack of commitment/funds

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					Community services in north and east Bristol	
6.1.3	Explore feasibility of 24-hour emergency access to refuge.	1 Apr 09	Director, N & HS	Officer time	Feasibility study complete and appropriate action plan in place	1 – Medium – relatively simple/low cost to achieve 2 – Medium – lack of commitment/funds?
6.1.4	To encourage all agencies to develop a policy for any employee affected by DA.	1 st April 2010	Lesley Welch	Officer time	Statutory agencies should have an HR Policy to cover DA.	
Work yet to be agreed/started						

Objective 6.2

Agencies systematically identify, document and refer on service users affected by DVA.

By April 2011 we aim to have a system in place to ensure that service users are sign-posted according to level of risk and need.

Ref	Action	Time-scale	Lead responsibility	Resources	Performance / outcome measures	1. Confidence level 2. Risks
6.2.1	Develop thresholds for referral on to specialist agencies and multi-agency risk and needs assessment tools and disseminate to all agencies.	30 th April 2010	DA Strategy Co-ordinator	(Multi-agency) officer time	Use of routine questioning in all relevant agencies will be adopted and monitored. Use of CAADA risk assessment process and referral protocols by all agencies.	1 – High – this work started already 2 – Lack of officer time (all agencies)
6.2.2	Develop links with drugs/alcohol agencies to offer training and	1 Apr 09	DA Strategy Co-ordinator	(Multi-agency) officer time	Drugs Treatment Plan and Alcohol Strategy show how they will	1 – High – this work started already 2 – Lack of officer time

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	support protocols.				reduce harm from DVA. Joint training events take place Inter-agency referrals increase	(all agencies)
6.2.3	Develop links with diversity agencies (Bristol Lesbian Gay & Bisexual Forum, Disabled Forum, BME Forum) and Care Forum to offer training and support protocols.	Mar 09	DA Strategy Co-ordinator	(Multi-agency) officer time	Diversity data collected, shows increased uptake of services. Care Forum members take up training and refer	1 – High – this work started already 2 – Medium - lack of officer time (all agencies) and small agency resources.

Objective 7

Children and young people who are or have lived with domestic violence/abuse and/or experienced domestic violence/abuse are identified and protected from harm and receive ongoing support for their recovery and promotion of their resilience.

Objective 7.1

Effective processes exist to identify and appropriately respond to children whose health and development are impaired as a result of their experiences of domestic abuse.

By April 2011 we aim to increase and improve CYPS Social Care interventions with children in need of protection due to living with or leaving DVA.

Ref	Action	Time-scale	Lead responsibility	Resources	Performance / outcome measures	1. Confidence level 2. Risks
7.1.1	DART and MARACs identify risk & needs	1 Apr 08	Director of Safeguarding,	Senior CYPS practitioner in	Engagement at the right level of CYPS in the	1 – High.

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	assess and target service delivery to children living with DVA, to reduce harm.		CYPS Ian McDowell	DART team. CYPS medium management officer time to MARACs	DART and MARAC processes. Improved capacity of CYPS to deliver best practice services to children in need of protection.	2 – Low
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Referral & Assessment clerk in DART, further work being planned to target service delivery; CYPS working well with MARACs but more joining up of children's services needed.

7.1.2	Develop parenting support	1 Apr 09	Chair, new DVA CYP & Parenting working group?	Cost of training? ? Consultation	Staff with specialist DVA parenting support skills in place in support agencies and CYPS Social Care	1 – Medium/low – resources not identified 2 – High – as above
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Work being undertaken by parenting group to get funding for specialist support

Objective 7.2

Children and young people have access to an appropriate support service.

By April 2011 we aim to have specialist CYP support workers in community projects across the city.

Ref	Action	Time-scale	Lead responsibility	Resources	Performance / outcome measures	1. Confidence level 2. Risks
7.2.1	Commission direct services to ensure specialist children's worker(s) attached to local community-based	1 st Oct 2009	DA Strategy Co-ordinator/ DVA CYP Co-ordinator (see 4.2.1)	£90K pa	An increase in the number of children and young people being supported while living in violent situations	To be revised

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	projects.					
No funds for CYP co-ordinator etc. - however provision group feel it is important to keep this in action plan!						
7.2.2	Develop Children & Young People's DVA strategy – link to Parenting Strategy	1 st May 2009	Strategy Leader CYPS - Safeguarding	(Multi-agency) officer time	Strategy and action plan with resources in place	1 – High – BSCB committed to this 2 – Medium/high – has not been prioritised
CYPS to take leading role in new DVA CYP & Parenting working group						
7.2.3	Develop a CYPS professional lead for Children and domestic abuse within CYPS.	Dec 08	Designated Manager with responsibility for updating records for children who have a child protection plan	Officer time	Professional lead in place with dedicated time and training	1 – High 2 – Low
7.2.4	Ensure school counsellors, nurses, Children's Centres staff and all who work with children of all ages are included in DVA training strategy	1 st Oct 2009	DV Co-ordinator	As in 4.2.1 Training costs £5K pa???	Systematic and repeated training offered and taken up in primary and secondary and out-of-school settings	1 – Medium/high – Training co-ordinate 2 – Medium/high – lack of officer time (Safer Bristol & CYPS Education)
7.2.5	Ensure all above services are culturally sensitive	1 st May 2009	DA Strategy Co-ordinator/ new post DVA CYP Co-ordinator/ BDAF Training Co-ordinator	As in 4.2.1	Take-up of support in schools shows accessed by children of different backgrounds	1 – High – incorporated in current plans 2 – Medium/low – equalities groups not yet well included in DVA strategy work