

# Domestic violence and abuse

A strategy for  
the borough 2014-17



**WHAT HAPPENS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS,  
DOESN'T HAVE TO REMAIN A SECRET.**

DOMESTIC ABUSE CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE.

**Safer Rochdale**

Rochdale • Middleton • Heywood • Pennines



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**'when somebody has told you for six years you are worthless, no one will love you, no one likes you, you start to believe it ' – service user**

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## FOREWORD



Domestic violence and abuse has a devastating effect on victims, their children, their families and the wider community. It is a crime, and it is unacceptable at any level. It is characterised by patterns of coercive, controlling or threatening behaviour, and can involve physical, psychological, financial, emotional and sexual abuse.

The impact of domestic violence and abuse upon the victim, their children and family members can be sustained, traumatic and damaging. The average length of an abusive relationship is five years, though many victims suffer from abuse for much longer.

One in four women and one in six men will be affected by domestic abuse in their lifetimes, with women in particular suffering from high rates of repeat victimisation and serious injury.

Domestic violence and abuse account for 16% of all reported violent incidents, while each week two women are killed by their current or former partner. Domestic violence and abuse can result not only in loss of dignity or self esteem, but in loss of life. Every year, around 120 people are killed by a current or former partner, while over 100,000 victims are estimated to be at high risk of serious harm or murder.

It is estimated that 66% of victims have children living in or visiting the home, and that over 100,000 children are living in households where high risk abuse is taking place. Children living with domestic abuse are at increased risk of short, medium and long term impacts such as poor health, withdrawal, behavioural problems, low self esteem and increased vulnerability.

Domestic violence and abuse costs the community – nationally, the total cost to the tax payer per annum is estimated to be £3.9 billion, with high risk victims accounting for £2.4 billion of this. In the Borough of Rochdale, the estimated cost of domestic violence and abuse, using the same multiplier, is around £14 million per annum.

Over the last 10-15 years, domestic violence and abuse has gone from being a largely unspoken subject to one being tackled by the Government, statutory bodies and the voluntary sector. Despite this it is still under-reported, with less than 47% of actual violence being reported to the Police and, on average, over 20 assaults being

experienced by a victim before the Police are called.

Tackling domestic violence and abuse effectively requires a multi-agency response. In our Borough, all local agencies have a vital part to play in supporting victims, bringing perpetrators to account and raising awareness. Many of these agencies are already undertaking significant and valuable work to promote safety and provide effective interventions, however, we know there is still much more for us to do.

By producing this updated Strategy, the Safer Communities Partnership aims to send out a clear message that domestic violence and abuse will not be tolerated, and that we will work together to do all that we can over the next three years to raise awareness, prevent abuse, protect and support victims, and challenge perpetrators.

**CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT ANNETTE ANDERSON  
CHAIR, ROCHDALE SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP**

**'I felt bad about myself all the time, like it was my fault and I was to blame. I have sleepless nights and I get frightened and scared easily' – service user**

# THE ROCHDALE BOROUGH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE STRATEGY

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is the third Borough Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy, and has been produced for the Safer Communities Partnership by the Community Safety Unit. It has been informed by:
- discussions and workshops held by members of the Domestic Abuse Working Group
  - a Domestic Abuse Profile produced for the Partnership by New Economy
  - consultation with Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Children's Board, Health and Wellbeing Board and Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board
  - the views of victims of domestic abuse and those who work with them
- 1.2 Domestic violence and abuse is a serious social problem that cuts across all social, economic and cultural groups and has a potentially wide-ranging, lasting and devastating impact upon those affected by it.
- 1.3 This Strategy intends to further promote and develop over the next four years a co-ordinated, effective and sustainable approach to preventing and reducing domestic violence and abuse across the Borough.

## 2. GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

AVA	Action against Violence and Abuse
CAADA	Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advocate
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

## 3. STRATEGIC OWNERSHIP

- 3.1 The Safer Communities Partnership has primary responsibility for tackling the issue of domestic violence and abuse, and for developing and implementing this Strategy. However, it is such a complex social issue that success in reducing incidents and effectively supporting victims and survivors will only be achieved with the collective ownership and joined-up efforts of all agencies and services with a responsibility for crime prevention, health, social care and family support.
- 3.2 The Strategy recognises that other Strategic Boards and many of the Safer Communities Partnership's member bodies have organisational responsibility for preventing or tackling domestic violence or abuse, or responsibility for addressing causal or influencing issues.
- 3.3 In publishing this Strategy, the Safer Communities Partnership seeks to embed a co-ordinated, cohesive approach across all Boards, agencies and services to information sharing, training and awareness raising and to the sustainable funding, commissioning and delivery of high quality services to victims and programmes for perpetrators.

- 3.4 The Strategy intends to support the work of the Public Service Reform Board to deliver on the long-term priorities set out in the Community Strategy and realisation of the Partnership Vision for 2011-2021.
- 3.5 The Strategy also takes account of wider developments in relation to the domestic violence and abuse agenda at Greater Manchester level, and in particular the Police & Crime Plan 2013-2016, which contains nine objectives including 'Protecting Vulnerable People' and 'Putting Victims at the Centre'.

#### 4. AIMS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 4.1 In producing and implementing this Strategy, the Partnership has the following aim:

**'To clearly demonstrate that domestic violence and abuse is unacceptable, and to reduce both the prevalence and impact of domestic violence and abuse upon victims, children, families and communities throughout the Borough'**

- 4.2 Our work to achieve these priorities will be underpinned by four **guiding principles**, derived from those that are central to the Government's 'Violence against Women and Girls' Action Plan (but equally relevant to male domestic abuse), namely:

**Partnership** working to obtain the best outcome for victims, their children and their families

**Preventing** such violence from occurring by challenging the attitudes and behaviours that foster it and intervening early wherever possible to prevent it

**Providing** adequate levels of support to victims, their children and their families when violence does occur, and

**Protecting** victims and **reducing the risk** to them by ensuring that perpetrators recognise and change their behaviours, and those who don't are brought to justice through an effective, co-ordinated judicial response

#### 5. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE - DEFINITION

- 5.1. This Strategy will adopt the current definition of domestic violence and abuse that was updated by the Home Office in March 2013, namely:

*"Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse: psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional.*

*'Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday*

*behaviour'*

*'Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assaults, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish or frighten their victim.'*

- 5.2 This definition incorporates so called 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and recognises that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group. The Partnership further recognises that parents can also be victims of abuse.
- 5.3 The Strategy will take account of the legal framework for protecting children. The Children Act 2004 amended the definition of significant harm to include the witnessing of abuse to others. This legislative change provided direction to safeguarding authorities that children who witness abuse should be considered within a child protection framework, and has subsequently been detailed in the 2013 Working Together guidance.
- 5.4 Domestic violence or abuse is rarely a one-off event and tends to escalate in frequency and severity over time. There is no typical abuser and no typical victim.

**The impact of domestic violence / abuse for anyone in a violent relationship can range from loss of self-esteem to loss of life.**

**'To say that my IDVA saved my life is an understatement. I was at my lowest point. If I had not met her when I did I would have gone back to my husband as it was easier than to go through the hell of separating from someone who had controlled my every move for years'**

## **6. DOMESTIC ABUSE – FACTS AND FIGURES**

6.1 Nationally, it is recorded that:

Victims

- One in four women and one in six men will experience domestic abuse at some time in their lives. In 2011/12 this amounted to 1.2 million female and 800,000 male victims
- In 2011/12, 88 women (one every four days) and 17 men (one every 21 days) died at the hands of their partner
- Over 100,000 victims are estimated to be at high risk of serious harm or murder
- Repeat victimisation accounted for 73% of all incidents of domestic violence, with 44% victimised more than once, and 24% victimised three times or more
- Disabled women are more than twice as likely to have experienced domestic abuse in their lives than non-disabled women
- The average length of an abusive relationship is five years, though for some victims it is much longer
- Approximately 66,000 women in England and Wales have suffered genital mutilation and it is estimated that over 20,000 girls in the UK under the age of 15 are at risk of FGM each year

- It is estimated that alcohol misuse contributes to 40% of domestic violence cases. Although not a direct cause, alcohol and / or drugs can often increase the severity and frequency of domestic abuse.
- Women experiencing domestic abuse are up to 15 times more likely to misuse alcohol and up to 9 times more likely to misuse other drugs than women generally

#### Crimes and incidents

- Police nationally recorded over 800,000 domestic incidents during 2011/12
- Domestic abuse accounted for 18% of all violent incidents reported in England and Wales in 2010/11
- In 2011, there were around 1500 instances where the Home Office / FCO Forced Marriage Unit gave advice or support related to a possible forced marriage, though it is suspected that many more take place that are unreported

#### Children and young people

- As many as 963,000 children are estimated as living with the many and damaging effects of domestic abuse. By virtue of the fact that they have witnessed that abuse they are victims of it.
- Over 130,000 children are estimated as living in households where high-risk abuse is occurring
- According to data from CAADA, it is conservatively estimated that over 3500 teenagers aged 13-17 are at risk of serious domestic abuse.
- Relationship abuse amongst teenagers is a further, growing problem, with 25% of girls and 18% of boys surveyed by the NSPCC in 2009 reported some form of physical abuse,
- Children abusing parents is an increasing though under-reported problem, according to research conducted by Adfam and AVA in 2012

**'My boyfriend was exactly like this, he was really nice for the first couple of months, but when sex came into the picture I told him I wasn't ready...he started saying I was frigid to everyone as well as, every time we saw each other he'd hit me more for the stupidest reason' – quote from ThisisAbuse message board**

#### Public service, economic and social costs

- The cost of the 'average' domestic abuse case is £14,000, excluding the longer term costs of unemployment, housing and social care
- The total cost to public services (the criminal justice system, health, housing, social care, civil legal services) is estimated at £3.8 billion per annum, with the loss to the economy estimated at £1.8 billion and the emotional and human costs amounting to over £9.9billion.
- One Police call out to a domestic violence incident costs the tax payer £1,027. As shown in 5.3 below, there were 5,260 such incidents in the Borough in 2012/13.

6.2 Locally, a Problem Profile produced for the Partnership by New Economy in July 2013 revealed that:

#### Victims

- Victims were female in 83% of cases, in line with the Greater Manchester average
- The average age of female victims was 32, the joint lowest in Greater Manchester, while the average for male victims was 37, again one of the lowest in Greater Manchester
- 84% of victims were recorded as White British, 10% Asian and 6% unknown. This is broadly representative of the Borough's demographic of 84% White British, 15% Asian, 1% others
- 49% of victims were unemployed. This is a significant over-representation of the Borough's unemployed population (around 10%), though not untypical of the Greater Manchester picture, where the average unemployment rate of victims is 50%

**'It's shattered my confidence in people, don't trust anyone anymore. It's affected my relationship with my children' – service user**

#### Crimes and incidents

- In 2012/13, a total of 5260 domestic incidents were reported to the Police in the Borough, a small reduction of 94 from the 2011/12 figure of 5354.
- Between 6<sup>th</sup> May 2012 and 6<sup>th</sup> May 2013, 13476 domestic abuse crimes were recorded in Greater Manchester, of which 1165 took place in Rochdale, the highest rate per 1000 population in Greater Manchester.
- 36% of these crimes were recorded as Actual Bodily Harm, 25% were common assaults and 10% harassment
- 25% of incidents and 25% of crimes recorded in 2012/13 took place in just three Wards
- In 37% (1936) of the 5260 incidents a child under 16 was present, while in 34% (1806) alcohol was involved
- While three Wards – East Middleton, Milkstone & Deeplish and Healey – saw notable percentage reductions in 2012/13, Bamford, North Heywood and Norden Wards saw similarly notable increases.
- Since 2009, there have been 3,029 recorded assaults that have required Accident & Emergency attendance, of which 550 took place in the home.

#### Children and young people

- There is a correlation between the areas of the Borough with the greatest numbers of children on child protection plans and those with the highest volumes of recorded domestic abuse crimes, indicating a need for a 'total place' response to abuse
- As at June 2013, there were 278 children on a child protection plan, of which 51% (142) had a domestic violence marker placed against them, demonstrating the correlation of the issues.

- Further work is needed to establish effective cross-mapping of Children's Social Care data with that of the Stronger Families cohort.

**'I've had lots of problem with my behaviour at school and Dad says I'm a psycho because I'm getting help from CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) I only need that help because of what he put us through at home' – young victim of domestic abuse**

#### Offenders

- Of the 2156 offenders linked to a domestic abuse crime in the previous 12 months, 511 (24%) were identified as repeat offenders, with 233 having the same victim on more than one occasion
- Of these, 72% committed crimes against the same victim twice, 17% did so 3 times, 6% did so 4 times, 2% did so five times, 2% did so 6 times
- 8 of the identified offenders committed crimes against more than one victim

#### Public service, economic and social costs

- Using the same multiplier as that which provides the national figure for the service, economic and social costs of domestic abuse, the cost in Rochdale is estimated to be in the region of £14 million per annum
- Applying the national costing in 5.1 above for Police call-outs, the 5260 incidents recorded in Rochdale in 2012/13 will have resulted in a cost of over £5.4 million
- If, as described in 5.1 above, the 'average', domestic abuse case incurs costs of around £14,000, the 215 high-risk domestic abuse cases referred to the MARAC in 2012/13 would have incurred costs to the Borough's services and agencies of over £3.01 million. On top of this are the costs incurred in responding to and supporting the victims of known low-medium risk cases.

## 7 CURRENT SERVICE PROVISION

7.1 A number of Council services, partner agencies and commissioned providers have responsibility for the delivery of direct support, accommodation or advocacy services, or the provision of services that address particular issues faced by victims, survivors, their children and families, or that deal with perpetrators of abuse.

7.2 Principally, though not exclusively, these currently include:

- Victim Support
- WHAG (Women's Housing Action Group)
- Rochdale Council
- Pennine Acute Hospitals Trust
- Greater Manchester Police
- Greater Manchester Probation Trust
- Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust

- Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale Clinical Commissioning Group
- Rochdale Connections Trust
- Substance misuse treatment providers

(In the case of the services provided by WHAG and those funded by Rochdale Council Adult Care Service, these can also be accessed through the Shelter Central Access, Information and Assessment Service(CAIAS)).

- 7.3 Victims and survivors are also able to access or be referred to other services provided by agencies operating at Greater Manchester level, such as the EndtheFear website, Greater Manchester DV Helpline and the St Mary's Sexual Health Referral Centre.
- 7.4 The range and quality of services and support available to victims has improved during the period since our last Strategy was published. However, both the Problem Profile and ongoing work being carried out by the Domestic Abuse Working Group have identified that there are some gaps, most notably in terms of provision for currently lower risk victims and for young victims.
- 7.5 Over £300,000 was spent in 2012/13 on direct provision of victim support and accommodation services, and was supplemented indirectly by resources from a range of Council services and agencies such as Police, A&E, GPs and Probation. When, however, this is compared with the figures in 5.2 above relating to the costs of domestic abuse in the Borough, the extent of the investment challenge for all partners is striking, especially when the extension of the definition of domestic abuse to include 16-18 year olds is taken into account.
- 7.6 The action plan attached to this Strategy will include specific actions to:
- conclude its currently ongoing work on service mapping and gap analysis, and to
  - use this information and that in the Problem Profile to aid development of a comprehensive and cohesive funding / commissioning plan for awareness raising, education, early intervention, victim support and challenge to perpetrators for 2014/15 and beyond.

## **8 ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVES – HOW WE'LL DELIVER**

- 8.1 In the action plan that follows at Appendix 1, we describe the range of actions we intend to take in order to achieve the overall aim of our Strategy. The actions are grouped broadly according to the four guiding principles detailed in 3.2 above.

## **9. GOVERNANCE AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

- 9.1 This Strategy will be agreed and endorsed by the Safer Communities Partnership Board, having been shared with:
- Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Childrens' Board
  - Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board
  - Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board
  - Public Service Reform Board
  - Children and Young People's Partnership

- 9.2 The overarching action plan shown at Appendix 1 will be subject to annual refreshment through the lifespan of this Strategy and quarterly progress monitoring, the responsibility for both of these tasks resting with the Domestic Abuse Working Group. The membership and Terms of Reference of this body are attached at Appendix 2.
- 9.3 The Domestic Abuse Working Group will monitor the performance of the action plan quarterly and will provide twice-yearly progress reports to the Safer Communities Partnership Board, for onward reporting to the above mentioned Boards. The Safeguarding Children's Board will hold agencies to account in terms of how effectively they are safeguarding children and young people who are at risk of becoming victims through witnessing domestic abuse
- 9.4 Success of the Strategy in achieving the aim set out in 3.1 above will be measured using a range of performance and outcome measures. The performance measures are as detailed below. Work will be progressed during the remainder of 2013/14 to establish baselines for these measures where they do not already exist, in order that full year targets may be set for 2014/15. Detail on the outcome measures for each individual action can be found in the table at Appendix 1.

#### Performance measures

1. Monitor the number of reports of domestic abuse incidents to the Police
2. Monitor the number of self referrals to domestic abuse service providers
3. Increase the number of children who are victims of abuse or who are affected by living with abuse who receive co-ordinated early help
4. Monitor the number of children who are on child protection plans who are victims of abuse or who are affected by living with abuse
5. Increase levels of satisfaction with DV services amongst victims accessing such services, including those with children
6. Reduce the level of repeat victimisation
7. Monitor the number of referrals into domestic abuse service providers from 16-18 year olds
8. Increase conversion rates for domestic abuse cases
9. Reduce attrition rates for domestic abuse cases taken to the SDVC

## **10. COMMUNICATION AND PROMOTION**

- 10.1 Publishing, communication and promotion of this Strategy and action plan will be delivered as part of the Safer Communities Partnership's overall Communications Plan and led by the Council's Media Officer.
- 10.2 Target audiences will include:
- Safer Communities Partnership, Rochdale Safeguarding Children's Board, Rochdale Safeguarding Adults Board, Public Service Reform Board and Health & Wellbeing Partnership Board members
  - Staff of the Council and all other member bodies of the Safer Communities Partnership and Domestic Abuse Working Group
  - Elected Members
  - Voluntary and community sector organisations and service providers,

- including at Greater Manchester level
- Other Greater Manchester Community Safety Partnerships
- Victims and survivors
- People who live and/or work in the Borough
- Specific groups over-represented within the Domestic Abuse Profile
- Local media

10.3 Primary communication methods will be developed, agreed and modified as required over time with the Media Officer, but will be anticipated to include:

- Local print and radio media
- Websites / intranet sites of all agencies involved in delivery of the strategy
- Social networking sites
- Printed communication materials, e.g. leaflets, posters
- EndtheFear website
- Linkage with GM and national campaigns
- Community campaigns, involving Community Champions and local residents / community groups

10.4 Key messages will include:

- All partners endorse and support the aim of the Strategy and will work to ensure that all work relating to domestic violence and abuse in Rochdale has that aim at its heart
- The Strategy outlines a multi-agency approach to tackling domestic violence and abuse, bringing together expertise from across the Borough
- The Strategy was developed through consultation with and input from stakeholders and will continue to be updated and evolve as needs, issues and national policies change
- The Strategy is supported by senior champions within partner agencies and by clearly structured partnership working and information sharing
- Successes and achievements will be reported and publicised regularly

## 11. FURTHER INFORMATION / REFERENCE

For further information about any aspect of this Strategy and Action Plan please contact Ian Halliday, Principal Community Safety Officer, telephone 01706 924694 or email at: [ian.halliday@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:ian.halliday@rochdale.gov.uk)

**'I tried to get out of the relationship but I couldn't get rid of him. He'd threaten to kill me if I said I was leaving. I didn't think it was domestic abuse, just that I was in the relationship from hell' – teenage victim of domestic abuse**

## APPENDIX 1

### ROCHDALE SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE STRATEGY – ACTION PLAN

#### 1. Partnership Working

Action no.	Action	Lead agency	Timescale	Output	Outcome
1.1	Recruit, train and promote the role of, a network of Domestic Abuse Champions across the Council and members of the Community Safety Partnership. Initially, their brief to include promoting information exchange, joint working and the training / awareness raising of front-line staff in recognising abuse and supporting victims	Caroline Ward / Angela Everson / Gill Parnell-Jackson	June 2014	Champion role promoted, Champions engaged and trained in the agenda and their role	Greater awareness of the DA agenda across services and agencies, ability to recognise abuse and signpost / refer
1.2	Audit, review and ensure mutual understanding of existing single agency policies, tools & powers and procedures that relate to domestic abuse or have an impact upon protection or provision for victims	Community Safety Unit	March 2014	Documents collated, reviewed and shared amongst all partner agencies	Greater mutual understanding of and synergy between policies, procedures, tools and powers
1.3	Identify funding to support recruitment and retention of a dedicated strategic Domestic Abuse Lead for the Borough	Ch Supt Anderson	March 2014	Funding sought and appointment made	Strategic direction and co-ordination of the DA agenda
1.4	Conduct a comprehensive Domestic Abuse cost / benefit analysis exercise for the Borough	Steph Winstanley (New Economy) / Ian Halliday	January 2014	Analysis completed and presented to Working Group	Greater understanding of the costs of abuse and the benefits of investment
1.5	Utilise findings of Problem Profile, service mapping / gap analysis, and cost / benefit analysis to inform production of a comprehensive and cohesive investment, funding and commissioning plan from 2014/15 to 2016/17	Ch Supt Anderson / Councillor Ali / Public Service Reform Board	October 2014	Interim document produced for 2014/15 followed by broader document for 2015/16 onwards	Comprehensive range of value-for-money provision across the Borough
1.6	Establish a multi-agency children's safeguarding 'front door' to facilitate screening and information sharing (triage), which will aid multi-agency decision making in respect of domestic abuse contacts	Pamela Wharton / Julie Daniels	January 2014	i) Holistic multi-agency response and decision-making process established ii) Increase in families where DA is a feature being signposted to Early Help services	Threshold around risks to children living in families where DA is a feature is understood and consistently applied

## 2. Prevention

Action no.	Action	Lead agency	Timescale	Output	Outcome
2.1	Further local promotion of the Domestic Abuse Disclosure Scheme through housing offices, customer service centres, children's centres etc	Ian Halliday / Helen Wilkinson	January 2014	Scheme publicity rolled out to all front-line contact points	Increased take-up and reduction in volumes of high risk cases of abuse
2.2	Carry out audit of domestic abuse training amongst Council and partner agency front-line staff, identify gaps and work collectively to develop and commission solutions, e.g. training / e-learning package.	Laura Beesley / Gill Parnell-Jackson	September 2014	Audit completed, findings collated and reported	Staff across the RSCP benefit from quality training and deliver consistent responses to abuse
2.3	Assess viability of placement of domestic abuse training on a mandatory footing and working towards a Quality Mark or similar standard, as per practice in Leeds	Ian Halliday / Gill Parnell-Jackson	September 2014	Models researched and proposals put to DA Working Group and RSCP	Staff across the RSCP benefit from quality training and deliver consistent responses to abuse
2.4	Contribute from a domestic abuse angle to ongoing work at AGMA level, including the development an agreed set of core competencies for front-line workers	Ian Halliday / Councillor Ali (general), Laura Beesley / Amanda Jackson (core competencies)	June 2014	Progress with GM-wide initiatives is reported to DA Working Group and embedded within our local developments	Greater understanding and awareness of DA amongst front-line staff and ability to signpost / refer
2.5	Investigate currently available local interventions for 16-18 year old victims and perpetrators and work to address identified gaps or shortfalls	Andrea Sales / Amanda Jackson / Hamaira Younus / Ian Halliday	March 2014	Available support and interventions mapped, gaps and shortfalls identified, plans developed to address them	Comprehensive range of support and services for young people
2.6	Promote awareness amongst young people of the extended definition of domestic abuse and the range of currently available support to those in the 16-18 age group	Ian Halliday / Helen Wilkinson / Gill Parnell-Jackson	March 2014	Appropriate promotion mechanisms agreed and implemented	Increased reporting / referral to services from this group
2.7	Organise local distribution and promotion of GM-produced FGM leaflet and other campaign / awareness raising material	Ian Halliday / Helen Wilkinson / Gill Parnell-Jackson	December 2013	Leaflets received and distributed, electronic version uploaded onto relevant websites	Increased awareness and reporting

<b>Action no.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead agency</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
2.8	Targeted promotion of forced marriage awareness amongst agencies and services, and of the help available for those who may need it	Ian Halliday / Helen Wilkinson / Gill Parnell-Jackson	March 2014	Appropriate promotion mechanisms agreed and implemented	Increased awareness and reporting
2.9	Work with primary and secondary school safeguarding leads, pastoral and attendance officers to raise awareness of support available for young people who are being affected by domestic abuse.	Sandra Bowness / Jude Crabtree / Gill Parnell-Jackson / Victim Support	September 2014	Training package produced, participants identified and input delivered	Increased awareness and reporting amongst young people
2.10	Challenge agencies to ensure that the cohort of children of victims whose cases are addressed to MARAC are effectively monitored and provided with pathways to available care and support	RBSCB / Children's Services / Stronger Families Co-ordinator	January 2014	Children of MARAC victims identified, support needs established and pathways agreed	Children affected by domestic abuse receive sufficient advice and support in limiting the impact on their lives
2.11	Work with Early Years professionals and delivery points to develop and deliver programmes and parenting advice aimed at fostering positive attitudes towards relationships at an early age	Laura Beesley / Wendy Rigby (Colette Barrett while on mat leave)	March 2014	Target participants identified, appropriate input devised and delivered	Short-term increase in reporting, long-term reduction in levels of teenage relationship abuse and domestic abuse
2.12	Ensure that all GPs are aware of and operating in accordance with Royal College of GPs guidance on responding to domestic abuse. Ensure that GPs are fully aware of the range of support services available locally and how to access them	Hazel Chamberlain / Hamaira Younus	July 2014	GPs have received appropriate briefing / training input	GPs in Rochdale feel confident to provide information to clients that disclose DV on how they can access support Increased reporting / referral to services
2.13	Ensure that interventions for children and young people subject to child protection plans and who are looked after prevent escalation	Pamela Wharton / Helen Delamere	January 2014	CP/LAC plans are SMART – all partner agencies understand their contribution to those plans	The needs of children, young people and their families are responded to

Action no.	Action	Lead agency	Timescale	Output	Outcome
2.14	Work with substance misuse service providers to ensure that key links and referral pathways are in place to / from domestic abuse support agencies	DAAT / Pennine Care / Victim Support / WHAG / RCT	May 2014 (pathways in place)	Increased referrals between substance misuse and domestic abuse services.	Better identification of substance and domestic abuse issues within services.

### 3. Provision

Action no.	Action	Lead agency	Timescale	Output	Outcome
3.1	Utilise evaluation of Victim Support / PAHT pilot to inform consideration of funding for IDVA provision located in A&E units accessed by Borough residents. Develop care pathways for victims into safety and recovery services, including substance misuse mental health and safeguarding where necessary / appropriate	Shakeela Bano / Hamaira Younus	October 2013	Pilot scheme launched, IDVA posts in place, referrals received support needs identified and pathways established	Increased / earlier reporting / referral to services
3.2	Examine and implement measures to maximise the visibility of DV support services and access arrangements, e.g. on Council, other agency and EndtheFear websites, GM helpline, posters, till receipts etc.	Hamaira Younus / Ian Halliday / Wendy Rigby	March 2014	Information made available to victims in variety of agreed formats on agreed platforms	Increased /earlier reporting and referral to agencies
3.3	Consider utilisation of available 2013/14 funding to increase the scope of the DV Support Worker to provide support to lower risk victims on receipt of incident records from Police	Hamaira Younus / Ian Halliday	October 2013	DVSW works with agreed number of additional low risk cases	Earlier intervention, reduction in levels of abuse and rates of referral to MARAC
3.4	Evaluate WHAG pilot service for men and consider options for further funding if proved successful	Colette Barrett / John Noble / Ian Halliday	March 2014	Evaluation report produced and considered as part of forward commissioning plan	Increased awareness, reporting and reduction in rates of abuse amongst male victims
3.5	Work with RMBC Adult Care Service to give victims the option of accessing Careline service as an additional reassurance measure for victims where appropriate	Hamaira Younus / Wendy Rigby / Adult Care Service	December 2013	Procedure established for referral of victims and sign-up to service	Greater numbers of victims successfully resettled in the community

Action no.	Action	Lead agency	Timescale	Output	Outcome
3.6	Progress current proposals for two funding allocations for service projects from the Public Health Investment Plan	Shakeela Bano / Hamaira Younus	March 2015	Projects launched, performance measures agreed	Earlier intervention, reduction in numbers of victims becoming high-risk and referred to MARAC
3.7	Identify and promote ways in which funding can be directed to the widening of access for victims to Freedom Programmes, to enable greater take-up for women from all socio-economic groups	Ian Halliday / Kathy Thomas	March 2014	All potential funding streams examined and explored	Increased take-up of places from those not currently accessing
3.8	Identify continued funding for DA accommodation in the Borough and secure agreement for extension to current contract	Amanda Higgs	March 2014	12 month extension to funding agreed	Continued availability of adequate bed space in the Borough
3.9	Carry out consultation with victims and survivors of abuse, including children who are victims or who are living with abuse, to inform the shaping of future service planning, funding and provision	Ian Halliday / Hamaira Younus / Children's Services	March 2014	Victim journey interviews completed with five victims	More informed shaping of services based on victim feedback
3.10	Provide training for newly commissioned substance misuse service providers on domestic abuse signs & recognition, signposting to victim support services and programmes for perpetrators	Victim Support / Pennine Care / High Level / Early Break / Renaissance	From April 2014	Increased referrals for domestic abuse support from drug and alcohol services.	Heightened awareness in substance misuse services of domestic abuse within the client group.

#### 4. Protection

Action no.	Action	Lead agency	Timescale	Output	Outcome
4.1	Implement all recommendations of the follow-up report to the MARAC self-assessment day and report on progress to the Domestic Abuse Working Group	Caroline Ward	December 2013	Action plan received and actions implemented	Improved outcomes reported at next self assessment
4.2	Identify and resolve issues behind lower-than-target engagement and completion rates of offenders in mandatory perpetrator programmes	Zoe Holmes (GMPT)	January 2014	Issues identified and actions in place to address them	Improved engagement and completion rates

<b>Action no.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead agency</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
4.3	Implement pilot voluntary perpetrator programme in conjunction with GM Probation Trust, evaluate and complete options paper for further roll-out	Amanda Jackson / GM Probation Trust	March 2014	Target participants identified, course arrangements made and first programme delivered	Reduction in numbers of high risk victims
4.4	Seek to develop Community Orders for perpetrators with conditions attached to engage in substance misuse treatment, anger management programmes or counselling	GMP / Probation/ Renaissance/ Magistrates	April 2014	Increase in mandated orders with treatment conditions attached	Substance misuse treatment for this cohort leads to reduction in DV incidents.
4.5	Build greater links with Crown Prosecution Service and HM Courts service to promote effective operation of the Specialist Domestic Abuse Court and greater synergy with other aspects of support provision for DA victims	Supt Hankinson(LCJG Chair)	March 2014	Increased numbers of successful prosecutions	Victims satisfied with their experience of the CJS, their overall journey and exist strategy
4.6	Carry out research and analysis to understand the prevalence of child to parent violence in the Borough and examine good practices approaches to addressing the issue (e.g. Wakefield)	Ian Halliday / Steph Winstanley (New Economy)	March 2015	Research undertaken and initial report of findings presented to DA Working Group	Ability to deliver appropriate responses and interventions for victims and perpetrators
4.7	Explore the scope for regular publishing of greater numbers of positive news stories on convictions gained against perpetrators of abuse	Ian Halliday / Helen Wilkinson / Lynn Marsh (GMP)	February 2014	Schedule and arrangements agreed and in place	Increased confidence amongst victims to report / self-refer
4.8	Co-ordinate the conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews, publication of reports and dissemination of learning amongst all partner agencies	Ian Halliday	As required by Home Office to March 2017	Reviews carried out and conducted based on notifications received	Learning from reviews is used to improve prevention, protection, provision and partnership working

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **DOMESTIC ABUSE WORKING GROUP**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- To develop and publish an updated Domestic Abuse Strategy for the Borough, which will result in better outcomes for victims and families and in earlier identification of abuse.
- To develop and promote a greater understanding of the issue of domestic abuse in the Borough, through effective sharing and use of information and intelligence.
- To oversee the conduct, improvement and development of the MARAC process in the Borough.
- To establish clear and effective governance arrangements for multi-agency work to tackle domestic abuse within the Safer Communities Partnership's business structures.
- To oversee commissioning arrangements for 2013/14 for services across the continuum of need.
- To direct the local contribution to development of a co-ordinated Greater Manchester response to the issue of domestic abuse.
- To direct local work to explore and develop voluntary programmes to address the issues of perpetrators of domestic abuse that are not dealt with under existing mandatory conditions.
- To oversee the conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews as and when they are required, and to ensure that learning from reviews is being used to influence in procedures and/or practice.
- To build and maintain a clear understanding of the available range and nature of services to support victims in the Borough, understand what the gaps in service are and work collectively to identify ways of addressing such gaps.
- To oversee the local implementation of new legislation and national policy, and to arrange for publication of relevant guidance and information.
- To oversee local contribution to implementation of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme and co-ordinate distribution of promotional materials to Council services and partner agencies on an ongoing basis.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of the Domestic Abuse Working Group will comprise representation from the following agencies:

- Rochdale Council - Community Safety Unit
- Rochdale Council - Strategic Housing Service
- Rochdale Council - Adult Care Service

- Rochdale Council - Children's Social Care Service
- Rochdale Council – Children's Targeted Services
- Rochdale Council – Strategic Lead for Stronger Families
- Rochdale Council - Strengthening Communities Portfolio Holder
  
- Greater Manchester Police - Divisional Commander (Chair)
- Greater Manchester Police - Public Protection Unit
  
- Greater Manchester Probation Trust - Local Partnership Lead
  
- Victim Support
  
- Women's Housing Action Group
  
- Public Health
  
- Rochdale Boroughwide Housing
  
- Heywood Middleton & Rochdale CCG - Named Nurse, Safeguarding
  
- Pennine Acute Hospitals Trust - Named Nurse, Safeguarding
  
- Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust, Named Nurse, Safeguarding

**For further information on the range of support and services available to those affected by domestic abuse, please contact:**

**Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership, Community Safety Unit, Number One  
Riverside, Smith St, Rochdale OL16 1XG**

**Greater Manchester Domestic Abuse Helpline  
0161 636 7525**

**EndtheFear – Greater Manchester Against Domestic Abuse, [www.endthefear.co.uk](http://www.endthefear.co.uk)**