

- **Maximising local intelligence through strong partnership working**

Desired Outcome – That there is an inclusive multi-sector partnership approach in driving forward a citywide Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy and Action Plan including Performance Management.

Recommendation 1

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group:

(i) Liaises with the Leeds Clinical Commissioning Groups to identify a commissioning representative(s) to join the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group.

(ii) Reviews the membership of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group, reflecting on recommendation 2 of the NICE public health guidance published in February 2014, to ensure it is relevant and inclusive.

(iii) Liaises with the Chair of the Leeds Children's Trust Board to consider appropriate membership of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group in reflecting support to children and families.

Formal response:

- 1) The CCGs have agreed that a clinical lead (GP) will represent all three organisations at the strategy group. This is most likely to be Dr Yen Anderson but will be confirmed by 1 September.
- 2) The membership of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group reflects the majority of the services detailed in recommendation 2 of the NICE guidance. A review of membership will be undertaken by October 2014 and relevant services / organisations approached for representation in line with the NICE guidance recommendation.
- 3) Children's Social Work, Children's Targeted Services, Youth Offending and the Children's Safeguarding Board are currently represented on the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group. The Chair of the group will liaise with the Chair of the Leeds Children's Trust Board to ensure that membership is appropriately reflects support to children and families.

Additional response from the Director of Children's Services:

The Director of Children's services will ensure that there is appropriate officer attendance from Children's Services on the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group.

The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group and Chair of the Leeds Children's Trust Board will meet to review membership of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group to ensure that it reflects the needs of children and families.

- **Raising the profile of domestic violence as a public health priority**

Desired Outcome – There are clear linkages made between the Leeds Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy and Action Plan and other relevant citywide strategies and action plans.

Recommendation 2

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group takes a lead on working with the Chairs of the local Strategic Partnerships to identify where linkages between the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy and Action Plan and other relevant citywide strategies and action plans need to be established or strengthened.

Formal response:

The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group will liaise with the Chairs of the five Strategic Partnership Boards on an on-going basis ensure that domestic violence is reflected in relevant citywide strategies and action plans and to arrange for items relating to delivery of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy and Action Plan to be presented to these Boards as appropriate.

- **Identifying and addressing key barriers to disclosure**

Desired Outcome – That victims of domestic violence and abuse feel confident in accessing support and advice through the Leeds Domestic Violence 24 telephone helpline.

Recommendation 3

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group leads on working with the Leeds Domestic Violence Service in actively promoting the Leeds Domestic Violence 24 telephone helpline and making it more explicit that victims can also use this helpline anonymously.

Formal response:

- 1) As part of the Leeds Domestic Violence Programme, a public awareness campaign will be delivered to raise awareness of both the Leeds Domestic Violence 24 telephone helpline and the Leeds domestic violence and abuse website which is under development. The publicity campaign is currently in the design phase and service users and practitioners will be consulted on the development of the materials.
- 2) A multi-agency review will be undertaken of commissioned domestic violence services which will include an evaluation of the 24 hour phone line to understand capacity and effectiveness. The review is timetabled for 2014/15 and will be concluded by the autumn of 2015.

Desired Outcome – That a virtual one stop facility is established to provide a comprehensive overview of the provision available in tackling domestic violence and abuse in Leeds and the appropriate referral pathways targeted at both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse.

Recommendation 4

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group progresses immediately with the development of a virtual one stop facility dedicated to tackling domestic violence and abuse and ensures that it is targeted at both victims and perpetrators and also acts as an effective tool for practitioners to use in terms of improving their understanding of existing provisions and the appropriate referral pathways.

Formal response:

The virtual one stop facility is currently under development and is scheduled to go live in October 2014. A number of practitioners have contributed to the content of the website and both the content and branding will be subject to consultation with service users, practitioners and the public. The website will be targeted at victims and survivors, perpetrators, practitioners, children and young people and the public.

Desired Outcome – That the additional barriers facing BME communities are recognised and factored into the commissioning framework for the provision of domestic violence and abuse services in Leeds.

Recommendation 5

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group ensures that the following service issues are factored into existing and future commissioning frameworks for the provision of domestic violence and abuse services in Leeds:

- Enabling easier access to an accredited interpreter service, appropriately trained in relation to honour based abuse
- Provision of local specialist services for BME communities
- Provision of outreach services within particular vulnerable communities
- Enabling easy access to specialist advice services surrounding immigration status

Formal response:

- 1) A multi-agency review will be undertaken of commissioned domestic violence services during 2014/15 which will include an appraisal of how best to provide accessible and specialist services to BME communities and vulnerable communities. The review will ensure that appropriate and good quality responses to BME and vulnerable service users are factored into future commissioning frameworks.
- 2) Work is currently being undertaken to make variations to the specifications for LCC commissioned services. Access issues for BME and vulnerable service users are being considered.
- 3) The Domestic Violence Team is currently working with Corporate Communications to investigate different translation software options for the website.

Desired Outcome – That actions arising from the governments ‘A Call to End Violence against Women and Girls’ Action Plan 2014 are maximised locally to help reduce the acceptance of honour based crimes.

Recommendation 6

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group ensures that planned actions set out in the government’s ‘A Call to End Violence against Women and Girls’ Action Plan 2014 are closely monitored and utilised at a local level aimed at reducing the acceptance of honour based crimes.

Formal response:

- 1) The government’s ‘A Call to End Violence against Women and Girls’ Action Plan 2014m is not currently monitored and formally utilised at a local level.
- 2) The issue of honour based crimes is currently addressed through practitioner training delivered by the Domestic Violence Team
- 3) Responding to vulnerable groups, including honour based violence, FGM and forced marriage, is a requirement within the Domestic Violence Quality Mark training and this will continue to be the case
- 4) There are other responses across the council, for example, victims of forced marriage accessing the one stop shop in Harehills
- 5) The Domestic Violence Team has links with Karma Nirvana, an organisation that supports victims of honour crimes and forced marriages

• **Promoting and enabling early detection**

Desired Outcome – That there is sufficient capacity within the Leeds Domestic Violence Team to deliver domestic violence training and assist services across a wide range of sectors to attain the Safer Leeds Domestic Violence Quality Mark.

Recommendation 7

That the Chief Officer of Community Safety leads on working with the Leeds Domestic Violence Team to identify the capacity needs of the team in delivering effective training to assist services across a wide range of sectors to attain the Safer Leeds Domestic Violence Quality Mark.

Formal response:

- 1) The Domestic Violence Team (DVT) is largely responsible for delivering DV training and the DV Quality Mark. The structure and capacity of the DVT within Safer Leeds is currently under review as part of a wider review and re-structure of the Domestic Homicide Review process. As such, the capacity is likely to be enhanced and a clear focus for the team is the capability to deliver the Quality Mark.
- 2) As part of the current DHR review and with a desire to want to ensure that lessons learned are incorporated in daily business, there is a greater focus on the quality mark and our ability to ensure that as wide a market as possible is reached. It is clear that the status and credibility of achieving the quality mark is now part of the factors driving the review of the DVT.

- 3) In October 2014 the City is due to deliver its first DV themed Conference. Part of the theme of this Conference will be the highlighting of the quality mark and the role of it within Organisations. This driver is being led and delivered by the DVT and hence capacity needs to be able to meet demand.
- 4) There is currently being developed in Leeds some good practice from other Local Authorities and Forces. The new model is very much a broad framework for delivering DV services across the City and the role of the DVT is critical to it. As part of this holistic approach to delivering DV services, the current DVT capacity is being enhanced by seconded staff so that a model for the team can be developed to ensure it is fit for purpose in the new Leeds District model.

Desired Outcome – That the Safer Leeds Domestic Violence Quality Mark is being actively promoted across the health and social care sector in Leeds.

Recommendation 8

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group leads on encouraging greater take-up of domestic violence training linked to the Safer Leeds Domestic Violence Quality Mark by making clear associations with the training recommendations set out in the NICE public health guidance document published in February 2014.

Formal response:

- 1) The content and model of delivery for the Safer Leeds Domestic Violence Quality Mark is currently being reviewed to ensure that there is capacity to respond to a greater take up of the training. The review will also consider the best way to promote and potentially prioritise organisations to be assessed against the quality mark.
- 2) Quality marks are in development for the private sector, for children's clusters and GPs to respond to the specific needs of businesses, GPs, schools and other agencies that work with, and support, families and children.
- 3) A Leeds domestic violence conference is scheduled for October / November 2014 where the Safer Leeds Domestic Violence Quality Mark will be promoted to a range of organisations across the city
- 4) The Quality Mark will also be advertised on the practitioner pages of the virtual one stop facility

Desired Outcome – That GPs are given the knowledge and capacity to identify domestic violence and abuse and support patients at the point of disclosure to act immediately in seeking advice and support.

Recommendation 9

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group and the local Clinical Commissioning Groups:

- I. Work closely with the Leeds Domestic Violence Team in taking forward the recommendation of NICE and delivering integrated training for clinicians and administrative staff in local GP practices
- II. Look at the feasibility of developing an initiative in Leeds based around the Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) initiative in Bristol
- III. Work closely with GP practices to promote the need to create safe environments at the point of disclosure of domestic violence and abuse whereby patients are offered more time and a private environment to support them in accessing immediate advice and support rather than rely on them making a self-referral after the appointment.

Formal response:

- 1) Working with the identified clinical lead from the CCGs, the Domestic Violence Team will actively promote the domestic violence materials on the health pathway and map of medicines to GPs.
- 2) The Public Health Post seconded to the Domestic Violence Team will provide targeted training to GPs and briefings to GP safeguarding leads (again working with the clinical lead).
- 3) A bespoke Domestic Violence Quality Mark is in development for GPs.
- 4) The Quality Mark training is being reviewed and will reflect the suggested levels of training in the NICE guidance in the future. This will include creating safe environments at the point of disclosure of domestic violence and abuse.
- 5) The CCGs through the identified clinical lead and working with the Chair of the Domestic Violence Strategy Group will look at the feasibility of the IRIS and report back to the Strategy Group by December 2014.

Desired Outcome – That the views of Scrutiny are considered alongside other key stakeholders, including the Trade Unions, in the development of the Council's Domestic Violence Policy and Guidance document.

Recommendation 10

That the Chief Officer HR ensures that the views of Scrutiny are considered alongside other key stakeholders, including the Trade Unions, in the development of the Council's Domestic Violence Policy and Guidance document. In summary these include the following:

- Establishing linkages to undertaking stress linked assessments
- Exploring the merits of re-introducing 'Zero Tolerance Officers' in association with the principle of having additional link officers for staff to approach.
- Making it explicit that employees do not have to disclose their identity to obtain initial information and advice from the employee assistance provider service.
- Ensuring that the policy signposts perpetrators to support services too.
- Ensuring that the policy makes clear references to the Children's Safeguarding Policy in terms of when incidents need to be referred to Children's Social Work Services.

Formal response:

- 1) Working closely with Community Safety, the Trade Unions and employee assistance provider to ensure the promotion of confidentiality, support and signposting within the Policy.

Desired Outcome – That information regarding referrals that relate to Council employees is captured effectively through closer linkages between HR, the Duty and Advice Team and Adult Safeguarding.

Recommendation 11

That the Chief Officer HR leads on establishing closer linkages between HR, the Duty and Advice Team and Adult Safeguarding so that information regarding referrals that relate to Council employees can be captured effectively.

Formal response:

Working with the identified groups we are currently ensuring stronger links with Community Safety and the Duty and Advice team to capture the information.

Desired Outcome – That domestic violence training is incorporated into the Managers Challenge Programme.

Recommendation 12

That the Chief Officer HR leads on working with the Leeds Domestic Violence Team to incorporate training around identifying and responding to domestic violence into the Managers Challenge Programme.

Formal response:

Currently working with Community Safety and Leeds Domestic Violence Team to include Domestic violence training in the Managers Challenge Programme.

Desired Outcome - That the Council's Domestic Violence Policy and Guidance is actively promoted across the wider business community as a good practice model.

Recommendation 13

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group leads on working closely with the Chief Officer HR and the Chair of the Joint Trade Union Committee to explore opportunities to promote the Council's own Domestic Violence Policy and Guidance document as a good practice model across the wider business community.

Formal response:

The LCC Domestic Policy is in final draft form and consultation is taking place with the Trade Unions. The Domestic Violence Team will promote the Council's Domestic Violence Policy and Guidance as best practice to a range of organisations through the delivery of the Domestic Violence Quality Mark.

Desired Outcome – That the local referral and assessment process relating to FGM, as set out in the procedures of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board, is widely promoted across the city.

Recommendation 14

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works with the Chair of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board in maximising opportunities to actively promote the local referral and assessment process relating to FGM.

Formal response:

The Chair of the Domestic Violence Strategy Group, as a member of the Leeds Childrens Safeguarding Board, is working with the Chair of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board to maximise opportunities to actively promote the local referral and assessment process relating to FGM. This will continue to be reviewed and assessed through regular discussion and actions agreed at the Safeguarding Board.

Desired Outcome – That by December 2014, information sharing protocols between partner agencies relating to domestic violence and abuse have been reviewed to ensure they are robust and fit for purpose.

Recommendation 15

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group ensures that a review of existing information sharing protocols between partner agencies relating to domestic violence is completed by December 2014 to ensure they are robust and fit for purpose.

Formal response:

As part of the Domestic Violence Programme, existing information sharing protocols between partner agencies will be reviewed and new arrangements established if required. This work will be undertaken as part of the targeted work being undertaken to further develop the Front Door.

- **Responding effectively to disclosures**

Desired Outcome – That Leeds responds positively to the recommendations arising from the 2014 HMIC inspection in relation to the effectiveness of the police approach to domestic violence and abuse.

Recommendation 16

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works closely with the Leeds Divisional Commander to ensure that all of the recommendations arising from the HMIC inspection are being reflected within local policing services.

Formal response:

The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group and the Chief Officer Community Safety will work closely with the Leeds Divisional Commander to receive updates on progress with respect to the recommendations arising from the HMIC inspection and ensure the provision of any required partnership support.

Desired Outcome – That there is a single point of contact to refer all incidents of domestic violence and abuse which provides a holistic multi-agency approach in meeting the needs of the victim and their family.

Recommendation 17

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group explores the feasibility of establishing a single point of contact, building on the current 'front door' arrangements, to refer all incidents of domestic violence and abuse with the aim of providing a holistic multi-agency approach in meeting the needs of the victim and their family. In particular, the victim should receive advocacy and support in accessing safe accommodation and, where necessary, a school place for their children.

Formal response:

The Front Door has been established, co-locating Police, Children's Social Work and Health Staff to provide immediate assessment, triage and action planning of domestic violence referrals involving children. Adult Safeguarding staff have also been involved in these arrangements. A project is now underway to expand the remit of the scheme to include high risk referrals not involving children and to invite representation from other relevant services and organisations to provide holistic support to the victim and their family. It is anticipated that the new arrangements will be in place by August 2015.

Desired Outcome – That Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) are utilised and monitored effectively within Leeds.

Recommendation 18

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works with the Leeds Divisional Commander to monitor the effective use of Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) in Leeds.

Formal response:

The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group and the Chief Officer Community Safety will work with the Leeds Divisional Commander to monitor the use of DVPOs in Leeds. The effectiveness will be reported to the Strategy Group and to the Safer Leeds Executive.

Desired Outcome – That vital skills and expertise built up within the third sector in terms of tackling domestic violence and abuse is being effectively harnessed.

Recommendation 19

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group leads on exploring how the Council and other commissioners of services can assist in ensuring that vital skills and expertise built up within the third sector in tackling domestic violence and abuse is effectively harnessed.

Formal response:

- 1) The Domestic Violence Forum is a sub-group of the Domestic Violence Strategy Group which comprises of third sector members. The group provides and opportunity for networking and raising practice issues. The forum is often utilised by the Domestic Violence Team to consult on service reviews or new initiatives e.g. the group will be consulted on the development of the virtual one stop facility
- 2) Additionally the third sector is represented at the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group as key partners.
- 3) The Third sector will continue to be involved in the evaluation of services such as Caring Dads and will be heavily involved in the review of commissioned domestic violence services.

Desired Outcome – There is greater consistency and quality assurance across all schools in tackling domestic violence and abuse through effective cluster partnership working.

Recommendation 20

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group leads on working with the Director of Children's Services, the Chair of the Leeds Children's Trust Board and the Leeds Domestic Violence Team in developing a customised domestic violence charter mark that is based around a set of minimum standards for cluster partnerships to aspire to.

Formal response:

A Domestic Violence Quality Mark is currently being piloted for cluster partnerships. The cluster based work involves delivering sessions to practitioners in children and young people's services and schools to promote and support the use of resources to address domestic violence. This includes looking at useful interventions for those children and young people affected by domestic violence as well as looking at preventative work around conflict resolution, respect, equality and sexual consent. Restorative practice is one of the models promoted as part of a menu of options to foster healthy relationships.

Additional response from the Director of Children's Services:

The Director of Children's services will review the existing plans in clusters around domestic violence identifying work done and any areas for further development. A draft chartermark is currently being finalised. This will be developed further with a number of clusters in the Autumn and roll out to further Clusters later in the financial year. A number of Clusters have been identified to be included in the first phase of Cluster training and development, the final decision will be made by the end of September. The DV team will have increased capacity from the beginning of September with staff seconded from YOS to lead on this area of activity.

Desired Outcome – That clear associations are made between tackling domestic violence and abuse and the significant impacts this can have on achieving the 3 main obsessions as set out within the Children and Young People’s Plan.

Recommendation 21

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works closely with the Chair of the Leeds Children’s Trust Board to make clear within the Children and Young People’s Plan how tackling domestic violence and abuse can have significant impacts on achieving the 3 main obsessions set out within the plan.

Formal response:

- 1) The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group is a member of the Children’s Trust Board. The Trust Board is clear on how tackling domestic violence can have significant impacts on achieving the three main obsessions within the plan. Working with the Chair of the Trust Board and the Director of Children’s Services, the Chair will continue to ensure that the Children and Young People Plan has a clear focus on tackling abuse and violence.
- 2) Strong links exist between the Safer Leeds Executive, the Leeds Adult Safeguarding Board and the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board. Key documents such as the Children and Young People’s Plan will be presented at all three Boards.
- 3) The Domestic Violence Team were involved in the development of the Think Family Protocol and are consulted when the Children and Young People’s Plan is revised.

Additional response of the Director of Children’s Services:

The behaviour of adults is recognised by the Leeds Children’s Trust Board as the most significant contributory factor leading to children becoming looked after and subject to a child protection plan.

Domestic violence has been identified as an issue in over 50% of cases where children under 5 become looked after.

The Leeds Children and Young People’s Plan is revised.

Desired Outcome – That existing communication mechanisms linked to schools are maximised to promote the importance of tackling domestic violence and abuse and sharing good practice.

Recommendation 22

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works closely with the Director of Children's Services to ensure that existing communication mechanisms linked to schools are maximised to promote the importance of tackling domestic violence and abuse and sharing good practice. Such mechanisms should include the Leeds Education Hub website and the 4-Heads peer support model.

Formal response:

- 1) The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group will continue work with the Director of Children's Services and the Deputy Director with responsibility for education to ensure that existing communication mechanisms are maximised. This includes greater working with the Youth Council to ensure the voice of the child and young person is heard in relation to how the impact of domestic violence and abuse is understood in a school setting.
- 2) See response to recommendation 20 re. cluster work

Additional response of the Director of Children's Services:

The Director of Children's Services will ensure that the relevant training and information for practitioners in schools is provided, to assist them to effectively identify, support, protect and undertake direct work with children, young people at risk of, or experiencing honour based violence through :

- Developing a 'light bite' awareness raising session for school professionals to access.
- A preventative curriculum resources page on Leeds Education Hub for PSCHE and designated lead officers, with practical resources for schools.
- Making sure that schools complete and disseminate DV policies.
- Working with the LSCB, devise and develop an Honour Based Violence Policy for all professionals.
- Using the existing communication mechanisms, particularly designated lead officers, to raise the profile of domestic violence and abuse and promote existing good practice amongst schools and clusters.

Desired Outcome – That there is a clear mechanism in place to ensure that schools across the city are informed immediately of any incidences/referrals associated with a pupil so that they can respond appropriately and sensitively to the needs of that child and also to family members.

Recommendation 23

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works closely with the Director of Children's Services and the Leeds Divisional Commander to ensure that there continues to be commitment from all key partners towards the development of 'Operation Encompass' within Leeds.

Formal response:

The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group will work closely with the Director of Children's Services and the Leeds Divisional Commander to monitor progress with respect to 'Operation Encompass' and report back to the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group.

Additional response of the Director of Children's Services:

The Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group, the Director of Children's Services and the Divisional Commander will work to ensure the principles of 'Operation Encompass' are explored, understood and developed in Leeds. The detail of exactly how this will take place will be determined over the next few months.

- **Investing in preventative measures**

Desired Outcome – That Leeds has developed a sustainable approach towards effective management and engagement of perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse.

Recommendation 24

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group ensures that work is undertaken immediately to develop a Leeds model aimed at providing a more sustainable approach towards effective management and engagement of perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse.

Formal response:

- 1) The Caring Dads programme is currently being piloted across 3 areas with a total of 30 men signed up to a 17 week group programme. Caring Dads is a parenting programme which seeks to improve relationships between men and their children and reduce abuse to partners.
- 2) The requirements for perpetrator services in Leeds will be confirmed as part of the review of commissioned services. It is estimated that this will commence within the next two years.
- 3) An interim solution is currently being developed for perpetrators who are not fathers to ensure that there are a range of responses to perpetrators in Leeds.

Desired Outcome – That the effectiveness of local domestic violence perpetrator services and programmes can be clearly demonstrated through robust evaluation processes.

Recommendation 25

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group ensures that work is undertaken immediately with existing providers of domestic violence perpetrator services and programmes in developing a robust evaluation process aimed at assisting service providers to demonstrate the effectiveness of future programmes.

That particular progress surrounding such work is brought back to Scrutiny for consideration in September 2014.

Formal response:

- 1) Caring Dads will be evaluated externally by Leeds University. This will involve analysis of police call outs along with questionnaires and interviews with perpetrators, victims, Social Workers, the Caring Dads facilitator and Victims' Support Workers. The team are also considering how they can include the voices of children. This approach to evaluation can be replicated on other perpetrator schemes if it is considered to be robust and provide the evidence required.
- 2) Any new perpetrator service that is delivered or commissioned by the Council will include the requirement to achieve outcomes and key performance indicators

Desired Outcome – That there is greater awareness of, and a multi-agency response to, adolescent to parent abuse in Leeds.

Recommendation 26

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group leads on undertaking work to ensure the following:

- (i) That local and national intelligence surrounding the risks posed by adolescent to parent violence is widely disseminated to increase greater awareness of this growing area of concern and galvanise action in tackling this problem.
- (ii) That the lessons arising from the Parents and Children Together (PACT) programme are used to inform the provision of future services in providing a multi-agency response to adolescent to parent abuse in Leeds.

Formal response:

- 1) The Domestic Violence Team and the Youth Offending Service co-deliver a course to practitioners to increase understanding of adolescent to parent abuse including risks. This will continue to be delivered.
- 2) An Operational Manager from the Youth Offending Service delivered a presentation on domestic violence in teenage intimate relationships to a range of partners at the Domestic Violence Strategy Group in April 2014. She also talked about adolescent to parent abuse.
- 3) The Youth Offending Service co-hosted a child to parent abuse conference with Leeds

University on Tuesday 15th July 2014 with speakers from the youth justice board, academia and practice. Leeds PACT presented an item and the PACT parent mentor who attended the first PACT programme and who has co-facilitated the latest programme spoke at the conference. The Youth Offending Service will continue to seek out similar opportunities.

- 4) The PACT programme, which responds to adolescent to parent abuse, is currently being delivered to adolescent boys and their mothers. The evaluation of the first programme has been produced and is being used to inform future programmes. The evaluation is scheduled to be presented to the Domestic Violence Programme Board in September 2014.

Additional response of the Director of Children's Services:

(i) The Director of Children's Services will ensure that Leeds YOS leads on this area of work through raising awareness in Leeds across all partners. The service will monitor and report on take up of:

- A one day awareness raising course on adolescent to parent violence with Leeds domestic violence unit, piloted as part of the City council's domestic violence training for the workforce in Leeds.
- A 2 day training programme to support practitioners in this area across a range of multi-agency teams.

The Leeds YOS has been asked to present at the Leeds domestic violence strategy meeting to facilitate discussion with a view to highlighting further actions that need to be undertaken in Leeds.

(ii) The Director of Children's Services will ensure that the learning from the PACT programme informs future planning through:

Disseminating the findings from the evaluation of the programme, particularly the impact on parents.

Working in partnership with Leeds University to identify how to evaluate the programme from an academic perspective.

To host the YJB launch of guidance for local areas on adolescent to parent violence early next year. This will hopefully also provide the opportunity to continue local conversations about how we take the work forward in Leeds.

To disseminate a new model of working with domestic violence in Leeds around adolescent to parent abuse. The challenges identified are:

- Ensuring all services who work/come into contact with children and families understand and have a shared approach to tackling adolescent to parent violence-ideally a shared protocol.
- Meeting the significant demand for the programme.
- Improving the first response to this issue so families are identified and appropriate support identified.

Desired Outcome – That the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme is utilised and monitored effectively within Leeds.

Recommendation 27

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works with the Leeds Divisional Commander to monitor the effective use of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme in Leeds.

Formal response:

The Head of Localities and Safeguarding, Community Safety chairs the MARAC meetings and the effective use of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme will be reviewed at the MARAC Strategic Group. Progress and any issues will be reported back to the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group.

Desired Outcome – That all local head teachers and governing bodies understand the significant impact that targeted prevention programmes based around respect and conflict resolution can have in helping future generations to understand and develop healthier relationships.

Recommendation 28

That the Chair of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy Group works closely with the Chair of the Leeds Children's Trust Board and Director of Children's Services to raise greater awareness amongst local head teachers and governing bodies of the significant impact that targeted prevention programmes based around respect and conflict resolution, whether delivered through PSHE and/or SRE, can have in helping future generations to understand and develop healthier relationships.

Formal response:

- 1) An aspect of the work currently being piloted with cluster partnerships is talking about how to promote healthy relationships amongst students. Restorative practice is one of the models promoted as part of a menu of options to foster healthy relationships.
- 2) See response to question 20 for details of work with cluster partnerships

Additional response of the Director of Children's Services:

The Director of Children's Services will monitor and report on take up of training for school staff, head teachers, designated safeguarding leads and governors on the importance of the preventative curriculum in relation to domestic violence. In relation to:

- The **Primary PSHE Scheme of work and Secondary PSHE schemes of work** including units on a spiralling curriculum on relationships, which includes the wider Sex and Relationship Education.
- A new training programme -'**Is this Love? Healthy relationships and young**

people' (http://www.schoolwellbeing.co.uk/training_courses/58) which provides an insight into the issue of abuse within teenage relationships including the current government campaign tackling the issue, explores OFSTED requirements in relation to safeguarding and pupil health and wellbeing, consider ways in which to educate and embed key learning into the PSHE curriculum through interactive activities.

- The jointly facilitated **'The Challenge! How to deliver CSE, Pornography and Teenage Domestic Abuse' (including FGM and forced marriages)** co facilitated with the Domestic Violence Unit and Education and Early Years safeguarding team, on how schools can best join up their delivery and resource bank to support the teaching and learning about positive healthy relationships and young people as a whole.
- The take up of **classroom based sessions to Primary schools** which includes activities adapted from a range of quality resources; beginning to explore the issue of acceptable behaviour within relationships. With the aim that pupils will be able to identify positive qualities within a relationship, recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviours, identify sources of support
- The take up of **classroom based sessions to Secondary schools** which uses Bristol's Safer Partnership resource 'Spiralling' to explore the concept of an 'unhealthy' relationship and enables young people to gain an understanding of behaviours which are controlling and abusive. With the aim the pupils will be able to recognise the early warning signs of an abusive relationship, define behaviours which are controlling and abusive, identify sources of support for someone who is involved in an abusive relationship.

Desired Outcome – That all local head teachers and governing bodies understand the significant added value to be gained through embedding restorative practices in schools and feel supported in taking this forward within their own school.

Recommendation 29

That the Chair of the Leeds Children's Trust Board and the Director of Children's Services ensures that further work is undertaken immediately to raise greater awareness amongst local head teachers and governing bodies of the significant added value to be gained through embedding restorative practices by citing existing good practices. Linked to this, assistance should be given to schools in taking forward this approach.

Formal response:

The Chair of the Leeds Trust Board and the Director of Children's Services will ensure that the Partner Headteachers and the Governors Support Service develop and implement a training plan for restorative practice. This will be introduced to all schools and learning settings. This area of work will underpin the leadership and management strand of the Leeds for Learning programme.