

Domestic Violence and Abuse

Domestic violence and abuse is a significant issue across Leeds impacting on the lives of individuals, families and children. It affects communities regardless of geography, relative affluence and ethnicity. It is a factor behind a high proportion of children, especially those under 5 being taken into care. Recognising the significance of this issue, the Council has made Domestic Violence and Abuse one of its key priorities over the next year.

Key facts

Domestic violence is the **largest cause of morbidity in women aged 19-44 years** – greater than war, cancer or traffic accidents.

Children who experience childhood trauma including witnessing incidents of domestic violence, are at **greater risk of having serious adult health problems**.

Domestic violence is a **primary indicator of child protection needs**. Nearly 75% of children on the child protection register live in households where domestic violence happens (strong link to child abuse)

Deaths of children - Domestic violence is involved in 11 out of 13 cases

Domestic violence accounts for **17% of reported crime** (significant level of under-reporting)

On average **two women a week are killed** by a male partner / former partner

Costs

One domestic violence killing **costs the state an estimated £1m**

Violence against women costs the **NHS an estimated £1.2 billion a year** for physical injuries and £176 million for mental health support

The full cost of violence against women is **£40.1 billion** every year in England and Wales

Citywide data and intelligence

In 2012 there were **3,628** referrals to Childrens Social Work service which related to domestic violence and abuse, which represented **31%** of the total number of referrals

Nearly three quarters of children on the 'at risk' register live in households where domestic violence and abuse occurs

In the 12 months to the end of June 2014, there were **14,128** incidents of domestic violence and abuse reported to the Police in Leeds, an increase of 858 on the previous 12 month period. It is widely recognised that domestic violence and abuse is underreported to the police and other agencies, therefore the actual number of incidents is estimated to be higher.

When domestic violence is reported to agencies in Leeds the majority of victims are female (**79.5%**).

Over the past 12 months where police attend incidents relating to domestic violence and abuse, the perpetrators were male in over **83%** of cases.

Both victims and perpetrators of reported domestic violence and abuse are overwhelmingly white British. However it is known there is under-reporting in some communities and the true picture is not known.

Since April 2011 there have been **15** domestic violence homicides in Leeds, of which 11 have progressed to a Domestic Homicide Review

Outer North West Data

WYP Reported Domestic Abuse Incidents July 2013 to June 2014

Ward	Number of Reported Incidents
Adel & Wharfedale	125
Guiseley & Rawdon	172
Horsforth	156
Otley & Yeadon	211
Total	664