

## **Leicestershire Domestic Abuse Business Case & Needs Assessment 2014**

**31<sup>st</sup> September 2014**

This document brings together a broad range of information regarding domestic abuse in Leicestershire to form the basis of our planning for strategy, framework and services regarding domestic abuse in Leicestershire.

The information included is:

- National information on prevalence and impact of domestic abuse
- Local information on prevalence and impact of domestic abuse
- Needs Assessment information from services and service users

The report is broken into the following sections to support ease of reference:

- Domestic Abuse Overarching and Crime
- Domestic Abuse and Health
- Domestic Abuse and Children & Young People
- Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Adults

### **Domestic Abuse Overarching and Crime**

- 1.1. Domestic abuse is an intractable and widespread problem. Two women per week are killed by their current or ex-partner and CAADA estimates that there are 100,000 victims at high risk of serious harm or murder.
- 1.2. It costs the tax payer an estimated £3.9bn per year, with high risk domestic abuse making up nearly £2.4bn of this. Domestic abuse has adverse impacts on the health and wellbeing of victims, and is closely associated with child abuse and neglect, as well as a range of other social issues including homelessness and substance abuse.
- 1.3. Nationally, 76 women and 15 men were killed by their current or former partner in 2012/13.
- 1.4. Domestic violence and abuse is an important cause of long-term problems for children, families and communities<sup>1</sup>. (2014, EIF)
- 1.5. Domestic abuse has inter-generational consequences in terms of the repetition of abusive and violent behaviours<sup>1</sup>. (2014. EIF)
- 1.6. It is estimated that the total cost of domestic abuse in Leicestershire is £66m a year (The Walby Cost of Domestic Abuse Report, 2009).<sup>2</sup> This includes cost

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.eif.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Early-Intervention-in-Domestic-Violence-and-Abuse-Summary-and-Recommendations.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/media/60461/costs%20of%20dv%20by%20local%20authority.pdf>

to public services and economic output cost, but not emotional and personal cost, estimated at a further £113.8m.

**Table 1 - Domestic Abuse in Leicestershire**

<b>What</b>	<b>How much</b>	<b>Date and Source</b>
Number of adults that have been a victim in the last year	14,000 women and 9,000 men (7.4% of female and 4.8% of male population 16-59)	Estimate based upon British Crime Survey
Number of adults supported by specialist domestic abuse services in a year	920: 470 referrals to IDVA 790 referrals to Outreach services 340 referrals between IDVA and outreach	2013-14, Leicestershire local services monitoring
Calls to Helpline from individuals or friends or family members	618 calls to the helpline	2013-14, Women's Aid Leicestershire
Cases considered at MARAC	256	2013-14, Leicestershire Police

- 1.7. It is recommended that further research findings and data to be collected on the broader determinants of domestic abuse.

### **Police Reported Domestic Abuse**

- 2.1. Leicestershire Police flag all reported incidents where domestic abuse is apparent or is a factor in an incident or crime.
- 2.2. It is estimated that the cost of domestic abuse to the Criminal Justice System in Leicestershire is £14.4m a year (The Walby Cost of Domestic Abuse Report, 2009).<sup>3</sup>

**Table 2 – Domestic Abuse Crime and Criminal Justice**

<b>What</b>	<b>How much</b>	<b>Date and Source</b>
Domestic Abuse Incidents reported to the police	7900 incidents per year	2013/14, Leicestershire Police
Recorded Domestic abuse offences reported to the police	2667 offences per year (8.5% of all recorded offences)	2013/14, Leicestershire Police
Domestic Abuse Violence against the Person (VATP) offences	2024 offences per year (33.6% of all recorded Violence against the Person Offences)	2013/14, Leicestershire Police
Domestic Abuse Assault	800 offences per year	Full year estimate based

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/media/60461/costs%20of%20dv%20by%20local%20authority.pdf>

with Less serious injury (AWLSI)	(38.2% of all recorded AWLSI offences)	upon April-December 2013, Leicestershire Police
CPS Prosecutions for Domestic violence related crimes Leicestershire	947 convictions out of 1220 prosecutions (77.6% success rate)	2012-2013, Violence against Women and Girls Crime Report, CPS
Forced Marriage	There are estimated to be between 5000 and 8000 cases of forced marriage reported in England each year.	Forced Marriage – prevalence and service response – London; Dept for Children, schools and families

### Trends

- 2.3. Reported incidents have fluctuated over the last few years at around 7,300 incidents, but have seen a significant increase in 2013-14.
- 2.4. Referrals to support agencies have also seen a significant increase in 2013-14. Many services are struggling with capacity or having to manage lengthy waiting lists.

**Table 3 - District breakdowns – proportion of total county population, police incidents and IDVA referrals by district (April 13-March 14)**

	Population	Police incidents	IDVA referrals
Blaby	14.4%	12.7%	13.9%
Charnwood	25.8%	30.1%	23.7%
Harborough	12.9%	8.2%	8.8%
Hinckley & Bosworth	16.2%	15.7%	16.2%
Melton	7.7%	6.7%	9.8%
North West Leicestershire	14.2%	16.8%	17.9%
Oadby & Wigston	8.7%	9.7%	9.6%

### **Domestic Abuse and Adult Needs**

- 3.1. Needs of those affected by domestic abuse vary, but the following have been identified through work with front-line practitioners and engagement with those affected by domestic abuse. These are depicted in needs maps at Appendix 1.
- 3.2. **Emergency needs** include: Safe accommodation (refuge, sanctuary, other and linked needs such as childcare, employment support); Safety planning; Legal & financial aid and Criminal Justice support
- 3.3. **Other Domestic Abuse (DA) specific needs** include: Understanding and able to identify DA and their role; DA specific emotional support; DA specific legal support; Effective enforcement/protection/response.

- 3.4. Non-domestic abuse specific practical needs include:** Legal aid; Financial support (benefits, financial advice etc.); Practical support: Food / clothing / amenities / childcare; Health treatment (physical, mental health, substance misuse)
- 3.5. Emotional Needs include:** Support to deal with trauma/DA; Recovery planning and support; Someone to trust; Supportive accountability; Long –term support available; Support for family members
- 3.6. General needs from all services include:** Services understand DA; Services treat person as an individual; Services provide appropriate balance of support and empowerment based upon individuals' needs; Services have knowledge of key services and can answer key questions; Services respond appropriately; Services share information with each other to be informed.
- 3.7. Support needs for family members include:** Information available on DA; generic counselling for family members; Therapeutic and specific DA support for children (see later); Appropriate responses to and interventions for perpetrators.

### **Domestic Abuse and Health**

- 4.1.** Domestic Abuse can have significant impact on the mental as well as physical health of those affected by it.
- 4.2.** Abused women are more likely to suffer from depression, anxiety, psychosomatic systems, eating problems and sexual dysfunction. Violence may also affect their reproductive health. (WHO, 2000)
- 4.3.** It is estimated that the total cost of domestic abuse to the Health Service in Leicestershire is £19.8m a year (The Walby Cost of Domestic Abuse Report, 2009).<sup>4</sup>

**Table 4 – Domestic Abuse and Health**

<b>What</b>	<b>How much</b>	<b>Date and Source</b>
Domestic Abuse Violence against the Person (VATP) offences	2000 offences per year (33.6% of all recorded Violence against the Person Offences)	Full year estimate based upon April-December 2013, Leicestershire Police
Domestic Abuse and pregnancy	Around 30% of domestic violence starts or worsens during pregnancy.	NHS Domestic Violence London: A resource for professionals
Domestic Abuse and pregnancy	one in six pregnant women will experience domestic violence.	The British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology reports that
FGM	66,000 women in England and Wales have undergone Female	A Statistical Study to Estimate the Prevalence of Female Genital

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/media/60461/costs%20of%20dv%20by%20local%20authority.pdf>

	Genital Mutilation and over 24,000 girls are estimated to be at risk	Mutilation in England and Wales' – Forward 2007
Self harm	One-third of women attending emergency departments for self-harm were domestic violence survivors;	Stark and Flitcraft, 1996; Mullender, 1996
Suicide attempts	Abused women are five times more likely to attempt suicide; one third of all female suicide attempts can be attributed to current or past experience of domestic violence	Stark and Flitcraft, 1996; Mullender, 1996.

#### 4.4. Health Needs of those affected by domestic abuse:

- Access to treatment services (Mental Health, Substance Misuse, Physical Health)
- Dealing with trauma (counselling)
- Health services understanding and identification of DA and effective appropriate information sharing and response within all services.

### **Domestic Abuse and Children & Young People**

- 5.1. Children witnessing domestic abuse is recognised as 'significant harm' in the Adoption and Children Act 2002 which amended the definition of 'harm' in England and Wales to include 'impairment suffered from seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another'.
- 5.2. A recent study by the Early Intervention Foundation (2014) noted that children witnessing violence and abuse between parents/carers without physical harm to the child has a similar effect on the child as physical abuse towards the child itself where domestic abuse isn't present.
- 5.3. Children suffer multiple physical and mental health consequences as a result of exposure to domestic abuse. (CAADA, In Plain Sight, 2014)
- 5.4. Research evidence from the Wave Trust (2013)<sup>5</sup> focuses on the “age of opportunity from conception to the age of 2” as a key time when early identification of need can have a bigger impact on promoting future life chances, this includes with regard to domestic abuse.
- 5.5. **25%** of children exposed to domestic abuse exhibited abusive behaviour (CAADA, In Plain Sight, 2014)

<sup>5</sup> Conception to age 2 – the age of opportunity Framework for local area service commissioners. Wave Trust <http://www.wavetrust.org/our-work/publications/reports/conception-age-2-age-opportunity>

- 5.6. Domestic abuse has inter-generational consequences in terms of the repetition of abusive and violent behaviours. (2014. EIF)
- 5.7. It is estimated that the cost of domestic abuse to Social Services in Leicestershire is £3.2m a year (The Walby Cost of Domestic Abuse Report, 2009).<sup>6</sup>

**Table 5 - Domestic abuse and children in Leicestershire**

<b>What</b>	<b>How much</b>	<b>Date and Source</b>
Young people that have witnessed at least one episode of domestic abuse.	<b>25%</b> of by the age of 18 up to 33,500 children in Leicestershire	2014, Estimate based upon EIF report
Children exposed to severe domestic abuse between adults.	<b>6%</b> of all children at some point in their childhood. This equates to <b>8,064</b> children in Leicestershire	2014, Estimate based upon CAADA In Plain Sight report
Domestic Abuse identified at initial assessments by First response	831, 23% of all initial assessments	April – Dec 2013, Leics County Council First Response
Domestic Abuse identified at core assessments by First response	545, 29% of all core assessments	April – Dec 2013, Leics County Council First Response
Supporting Leicestershire Family (SLF) Service reporting historic and/or current Domestic abuse	239 (64% of all families supported)	April - December 2013, Leicestershire SLF
Children of SLF supported families reporting historic and/or current Domestic abuse	Estimated 401 children	April - December 2013, Leicestershire SLF
Child on Parent Abuse Cases identified by YOS	14.5% to 30% of caseload	2013/14, Leicestershire Youth Offending Service
Children at Child Protection Conferences where Domestic abuse was identified as a significant factor in their lives	330 (53.5% of children)	2012/13, Leicestershire Child Protection Conferences
Children of parents supported by Outreach services	616 children	2012-13, Outreach services in Leicestershire
Children of parents supported by IDVA services	530 children	Estimate for 2013-14 based upon April – December 2013, WALL IDVA Service
Children of parents considered at MARAC	317	2013-14, Leicestershire Police

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/media/60461/costs%20of%20dv%20by%20local%20authority.pdf>

- 5.8. Anecdotal evidence compiled from frontline professionals at a recent Child on Parent Domestic Abuse Conference suggest that child on parent domestic abuse is a growing phenomenon in Leicestershire
- 5.9. Needs of Children & Young People regarding Domestic Abuse
  - Specific DA support for children (as per adults)
  - Therapeutic/trauma support for children
  - Practical and general development support
  - Positive relationships education and modelling

**Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Adults**

- 6.1. Adults and children with disabilities are at increased risk of violence. One in four adults with mental illness reported being a victim of violence within the last year.
- 6.2. Being disabled strongly affects the nature, extent and impact of abuse. Research has shown that people’s impairments are frequently used in the abuse. Humiliation and belittling were an integral part of this and were particularly prevalent.
- 6.3. Many abusers deliberately emphasise and reinforce dependency as a way of asserting and maintaining control.
- 6.4. Sexual abuse appears to be proportionately more common for disabled than for non-disabled women, perhaps reflecting particular vulnerabilities.
- 6.5. The impact of domestic abuse is often especially acute where the abusive partner is also the carer, the carer has considerable power and control and the victim relies on them.
- 6.6. Perpetrators often use forms of abuse that exploit, or contribute to, the abused person’s impairment.

**Table 6 – Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Adults**

<b>What</b>	<b>How much</b>	<b>Date and Source</b>
Prevalence of domestic abuse among disabled women	Disabled women are twice as likely to experience domestic violence than non-disabled women	1995 British Crime Survey, also confirmed by data from other countries
Mental health	39% of victims experiencing abuse in the last year had experienced emotional or mental health issues Around one in 20 of these victims had attempted suicide	Hughes K, Bellis MA, Jones L et al – Prevalence of risk of violence against adults with disabilities, 2012
Self harm	One-third of women attending emergency departments for self-harm were domestic	Stark and Flitcraft, 1996; Mullender, 1996

	violence survivors;	
Suicide attempts	Abused women are five times more likely to attempt suicide; one third of all female suicide attempts can be attributed to current or past experience of domestic violence	Stark and Flitcraft, 1996; Mullender, 1996.

6.7. Further research and data collection is required regarding domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

### **Sexual Violence**

7.1. Sexual violence

7.2. 1 in 5 women (aged 16 - 59) had experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of 16.

7.3. The effects of being subjected to sexual violence can be devastating and often continue for many years. Sexual violence can have a significant impact on mental health, which can manifest in a variety of ways in individuals affected. Sexual violence can also have significant impact on friends and family members.

7.4. Leicestershire police data suggests that approximately half of all sexual violence in the sub-region is linked to domestic abuse.

**Table 7 – Sexual Violence and Leicestershire**

<b>What</b>	<b>How much</b>	<b>Date and Source</b>
Sexual assault (any assault including attempts) partner or family	536,000 nationally	Crime Survey for England and Wales, Office for National Statistics (2011-12)
Sexual Violence in Leicestershire	175 rape offences per year	2013-14, Leicestershire Constabulary CIS
Sexual Violence in Leicestershire	382 other sexual offences per year	2013-14 Leicestershire Constabulary CIS
Rape Convictions	34 convictions out of 58 prosecutions (58.6%)	2012-13, CPS
Other Sexual offence convictions	76 convictions out of 103 prosecutions (73.8%)	2012-13, CPS

7.5. Needs of people affected by sexual violence include:

- To be listened to and believed without being judged
- To live without constant fear, panic and terror
- To stop self-blame, guilt and feeling responsible for the sexual violence



- To be able to talk to someone in a safe environment who understands
- To understand what happened to them and make sense of everything
- To start to rebuild their life after the sexual violence
- To learn to cope with the longer term effects of sexual violence (emotional, psychological and physical effects)
- To develop self-confidence and self believe and be able to cope with daily life with greater confidence
- To be able to take part in activities within their local community, to volunteer, to study and to work again.

### **Equalities considerations**

#### **7.6. Other specific needs of specific groups:**

- Males – don't want to admit being bullied - be able to deal with 'masculinity'
- Transgender – issues regarding female only services, service understanding of transgender, societal stereotypes, link to hate (latter also for LGB individuals)
- Parental victims – detachment from decision re: child perpetrators
- Foreign Nationals – Needs re: immigration/visa issues
- People with Mental Health issues – issues of capacity
- Children where English is not first language
- Young teenagers – intensive support

### **Further Work**

- 8.1.** Further engagement with male victims and victims of Child on Parent abuse is recommended to understand needs and issues.
- 8.2.** Research has identified three perpetrator typologies, which impact the behaviour and potential for change:
- Antisocial perpetrators are often violent outside the relationship and have high levels of psychopathic personality traits
  - Dysphoric perpetrators may have high levels of anxiety, depression and other forms of mental illness
  - Low Pathology perpetrators have generally normal personalities and are rarely violent outside of intimate relationships
- 8.3.** Further research into perpetrator typologies, for example prevalence and implications is recommended.

<https://www.google.co.uk/search?hl=en&q=Peretrator+typologies+in+intimate+relationships&meta=&safe=active>