

By: D/Supt Susie Harper, Kent Police
To: Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 10 October 2018
Classification: For Information
Subject: Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group Update

Summary This report provides an update on the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy.

1.0 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group

- 1.1 The domestic abuse strategy has been prepared and accompanies this paper (see Appendix 1). This has been circulated to the executive group. The members have been asked to highlight what their main objectives are for their agency and this will form part of a wider action plan.
- 1.2 This consultation ended on the 28th September and the results are being collated. The strategy still needs to be finalised. To assist with this the role of Domestic Abuse Manager is in the process of being created. The purpose of this role is to support the executive group in particular regarding the strategy and objectives set.
- 1.3 Kent Police have highlighted the following:

- **Pursue perpetrators and reduce re-offending**

We will do this by ensuring swifter sanctions against perpetrators and intervention opportunities through perpetrator programmes

- **Work to prevent domestic abuse**

To develop a bespoke process for the management of women and girls, both new initiatives and within existing structures. The aim will be to work in a holistic and multi-agency way to divert women and girls from custody

Work collaboratively with partners to ensure children are kept safe and receive support at the earliest opportunity (Operation Encompass)

Op Encompass will be rolled out in Medway after Autumn half term. Kent Police will be holding briefing sessions on Op Encompass and the roll out will be staged. There is on-going discussion with KCC Education on how this could be achieved across Kent which has significantly more schools.

Kent Police are working with HeadStart and have arrangements with them regarding notifications to schools who they are working with across Kent.

2. Domestic Abuse Best Frame Work

- 2.1 This is a national project that is being governed and implemented via the National Criminal Justice Board. A National Delivery board has been set up which includes the DA national Police lead and partners including CPS, HMCTS and third sector.
- 2.2 The framework has been produced as a result of a pilot run in three low performing magistrate court areas, these included Nottingham, Highbury and Bradford. They were selected because the DA outcomes were poor i.e. high volume DA cases going to court, but low outcome and conviction rate. As a result of the pilot they saw an increase in performance outcomes.
- 2.3 The key components of the framework are:
 1. Clear Multi agency approach
 2. IDVA support
 3. Trained and consistently employed staff across all services
 4. In court services appropriate use of special measures; appropriate support at court.
- 2.4 The official launch date was the 26th September. All areas have until January to have an action plan in place, and then monitoring will take effect from January 2019. It has been agreed that this will be through the Criminal Justice Board

3. Medway joint targeted area inspection (JTAI)

- 3.1 As a consequence of the JTAI there is an action plan on the matters that have been identified and also a formal response to Ofsted on their findings. Any changes identified as affecting Kent Police will be dealt with across the county and not just for Medway.

4. Kent Police DA risk assessment algorithm

- 4.1 This is in early development and there is on-going work to identify if there are any gaps in the service for the low risk cases. Some 58% victims and 56% of suspects identified in the algorithm (15 yrs worth of data) have never returned to Kent Police requiring an intervention, but other services may need to be working with them. The work continues on this tool, which has support from NPCC and CoP¹. It is now essential that as partner agencies we all assist in providing Kent Police with what the service delivery looks like for those families who are low risk and what support there is in place for them to be signposted to. If there are identified gaps, then this will need to be considered moving forward in commissioning of services.

¹ National Police Chief Council, College of Policing.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 The KCSP is asked to note the progress and actions undertaken by the DA and Sexual Violence Executive Group.

Attachments:

Appendix 1: Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy

For Further Information:

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