

Children & Young People PSC	<b>CYP/04/13</b>
7 February 2013	

### Reducing Domestic Abuse – Community Budgets Business Case – Community Safety

#### **1. Purpose of this Paper**

To provide a brief background and update on the business case to Reduce Domestic Abuse.

#### **2. Background**

The business case was developed to build a whole systems approach to multi agency working to reduce domestic abuse. It specifically looked to tackle known issues, and also build the case for future activity based on evidenced based commissioning.

The Project is sponsored by Essex County Council, Essex Police and the Safer Essex Partnership.

According to a national model, there is an estimated 44,000 victims across Essex, costing the public sector an estimated £86 million annually. The Police respond to around 32000 incidents each year.

#### **3. The Business Case**

The Business Case, through multi agency working, proposes to develop and deliver on :

- An Essex Strategy and Integrated Commissioning Plan
- Early intervention and prevention plans specifically for Young People.
- Early intervention and prevention work with the Health Sector to improve the number for police non referrals
- A strategy for the management of the Perpetrator
- A simple and accessible pathway into services
- A multi agency hub to develop appropriate responses for all victims
- Engagement with the Criminal Justice system to consider the approach which will improve outcomes and savings
- An approach for families suffering domestic abuse who need accommodation support
- The provision of outreach support
- And in the longer term support for victims to gain emotional and financial independence

The Business Case is also working with the Family Solutions team to ensure that the multi agency systems approach will support their outcomes

Note - A Report to provide an update on each of the strands is attached at Appendix 1 for information.

#### **4. Funding Model**

The Business Cases has developed a bespoke Funding Model which details upfront investment costs, other resources, potential savings and future cost benefit analysis for each partner involved in the multi agency approach

A copy of the funding model will be tabled at the meeting

#### **5. Current notable activity to support the business case.**

##### 5.1 Researching of Good Practice

- The team has visited Strathclyde Police to learn from their multi agency approach to managing perpetrators and share good practice on research and analysis.
- A visit was made to Hertfordshire Police to get an insight into how they support victims
- Desk research and telephone meetings have taken place on the various multi agency safeguarding hubs around the country
- The team has benefited from Home Office intelligence, and subject matter experts
- A visit has been made to the dedicated Domestic Violence Court to establish practice and outcomes

##### 5.2 Managing the Perpetrator

In partnership with Essex Police we are looking at an academic research project on perpetrators

##### 5.3 Multi Agency Hub

Essex Police are developing their Central Referral Unit specialising in Domestic Abuse. The intention is to build from this unit into a multi agency hub. It is very early days in this work, but some design work is being undertaken, and solutions still need to be developed to respond to the high level of referrals through to Childrens' Social Care

##### 5.4 Testing the Model

It is proposed to offer the opportunity to one district (or more than one - subject to funding) to test a new systems model to reduce domestic abuse. The funding will come from a multi agency pot including ECC, Essex Police, the District/Local Council/City and potentially from the Health Sector

##### 5.5 Commissioning

By securing a multi agency approach to funding and commissioning we will achieve a longer term and integrated services to reduce domestic abuse. We are starting the work in 2013/14 by for example

- SCF have set aside funding to support Refuges. Strategic Services have a small budget for Domestic Abuse
- The Police and Crime Commissioner has pledged his support to community budgets, and specifically to Domestic Abuse, and the continuation of services.
- Work is underway with Health colleagues to articulate in cash term the benefits of the multi agency working on reducing health spend into the future.
- Other Community Budget resources may be identified against specific activities in the business cases

The long term ambition is to secure a multi agency funding stream to support evidenced based strategic commissioning across partners.

## **6. In summary**

The Business case has now been developed fully. The next stage is to take the proposal from theory into action. We have secured enough funding to take forward some pilot/model testing in one district. We are developing more expertise and becoming more sophisticated in developing the funding model and benefits profile which will enable partners/potential investors to make informed decisions on future commissioning.

The delivery of all the ambitions and in the scale proposed will be dependent on all partners understanding and buying into the model and the vision to see the long term benefits.

## Whole Essex Community Budgets Programme

### Reducing Domestic Abuse Business

#### Progress statement January 2013

##### **Action: Integrated Commissioning**

###### **One -Essex Strategy and one Essex Commissioning Plan**

A strategy is being drafted and will be distributed to partners for discussion.

##### **Action: Early Intervention and Prevention – Young People**

###### **Programmes to influence the views of young people on healthy relationships**

The campaign in one district aimed at friends and family, giving a phone number and web address for information on support took place in November 2012 and an evaluation report has been received.

The Home Office have indicated that they are interested in supporting a longitudinal study on the impact of programmes to influence the views of young people in schools, but only if the DfE also agree to engage in dialogue. No response has been received from the DfE to date.

We have completed an analysis of young offenders from police incident data. Young victims are most likely to be abused by victims with a similar age, whereas young offenders are more likely to abuse survivors significantly older than them. These findings appear contradictory but are the result of having more offenders under 19 than victims in the same age group. For the other age groups in our sample the numbers of offenders and victims are roughly equal.

We found 7.3% of all offenders are aged 18 or younger and they are involved in 7.4% of all incidents. The proportion of female offenders in the 18 and under age group is 36% compared to 25% of over 18 offenders. 33% of their victims are aged 24 and under, 60% are aged 35 or over. 5.1% of all victims are 18 years old or younger and were involved in 4.8% of all incidents. 82% of these victims are female and 18% males, which is a variance from the over 18 age group where males make up 26% of victims. 74% of the offenders linked to these victims are aged 24 and below, and 14% of offenders are aged 35 and over.

These findings again emphasise the importance of addressing domestic abuse in young people.

A programme, 'SAIFF' has been identified that works with young offenders. No funding has been found to reactivate this programme.

##### **Action: Early Intervention and Prevention – Health Sector**

###### **Our key strategic approach in Essex must be to improve the number of non-police referrals to support services.**

Partners are currently working with CAADA to evaluate the existing approach to Marac and improve the number of non-police referrals.

###### **Improved screening in other NHS services**

A pilot project is in place at Princess Alexandra hospital to improve screening in maternity services and to provide onsite support to survivors who disclose abuse.

Screening is already in place at Southend Hospital A&E department.

We know of no other screening programmes in NHS settings in Essex.

Resources are being sought for a post to work full time with CCGs to develop this business case further so that proposals can be included into CCG budgets for 2014/15.

**The IRIS model is introduced in 50 of the 243 GP practices in Essex.**

No funding has currently been found to implement a pilot of the IRIS model. Work with CCGs over the next few months to identify this funding is essential.

#### **Action: Access to services**

**A simple and accessible pathway into services known to all front line staff and improved engagement of identified victims with services – specialist advice and guidance contact for all disclosing victims.**

ECC has funded a project manager to work with Essex Police. The first stage of this work is to simplify pathways for DV victims into existing services.

**A Multi-Agency Hub that will develop an appropriate response to all victims of domestic abuse.**

The second stage in the work being led by the project manager is to take forward the development of the multi-agency HUB. Key issues to be resolved include funding for the existing IDVA service after 31 March 2013 and the interface between the IDVA service and the hub.

Important next steps would be the engagement of school nursing services and health visitors with the development of the multi-agency hub.

To deliver the full potential of the hub will require funding from partners to be identified, and work with CCGs over the next few months is essential to achieve this.

#### **Action: Perpetrator Strategy**

**A structured plan within the Strategy to focus on the perpetrator**

A perpetrator strategy is being drafted and will be distributed to partners for discussion.

**We are proposing that an additional 500 places on programmes to address perpetrators behaviour are provided in Essex each year, bringing the total for 640.**

A pilot perpetrator programme has been commissioned from Relate for 50 perpetrators. Partners should contact Essex Relate if they wish to make referrals onto the programme.

In order to deliver our aim of increased referrals to perpetrator programmes it will be necessary to engage magistrates in the evaluation of perpetrator programmes as a sentencing option. The Crown Prosecution Service have agreed to assist in a study on the impact of sentencing, this also requires the agreement of the Magistrate's Courts Service where discussions are on-going.

#### **Action: Criminal justice approach to domestic abuse**

There are a number of possible changes to the criminal justice approach to domestic abuse which are likely to deliver improved outcomes and savings.

[See comments above.](#)

### **Action: Safe Accommodation**

#### **Improvement in Refuge Services**

**Improve the speed with which women who were ready to leave refuge were able to find suitable safe accommodation.**

[In order to address this issue it is essential that resources are found to support housing authorities and registered providers of social housing to develop and improve the systems they have in place to assist survivors of domestic abuse.](#)

**Move to a framework where the work done by refuges to help women and children rebuild their lives with their long-term wellbeing in mind is fully reflected in their funding.**

[Proposals are being developed to change the how refuge services are commissioned by Essex County Council when existing contracts expire. A key issue to be resolved is the provision of support to refuges when resident women or children have behavioural problems that require high levels of support.](#)

#### **Housing, increased sanctuary provision**

[In order to address this issue it is essential that resources are found to support housing authorities and registered providers of social housing to develop and improve the systems they have in place to assist survivors of domestic abuse.](#)

### **Action: Outreach**

#### **Outreach programmes**

**We propose the development of a standard countywide contract that can be used to commission outreach services and the commissioning of outreach services which meet the level of need from survivors.**

[This contract should be developed in partnership with support housing authorities and registered providers of social housing so is dependent upon resources being found to support these partners.](#)

### **Action: Moving on from Abuse**

**We recommend that 1,600 places are provided on programmes to assist victims of domestic abuse overcome and make sense of their experiences, improve their self-confidence and self-esteem, give themselves new beliefs and skills, tackle powerlessness, and passivity, and achieve change in their currently abuse relationship or to help them make positive healthy relationships in the future.**

[Further progress towards the establishment of the 1,600 places is dependent on identification of funding.](#)

[A pilot proposal is being developed to explore the creation of independent peer support groups of domestic abuse survivors. The groups will be self-sustaining. Statutory agencies will be able to make referral to the groups. The groups will determine their own aims.](#)

### **Action: Co-ordination with Family Solutions**

There is close co-ordination with the Family Solutions strand of the community budgets programme.