

North Wales Vulnerability & Exploitation Board – Delivery Plan 2022 – 2023

March 2023 update

Vulnerability & Exploitation Strategy: Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)						
No.	Strategic Objectives <i>(What do we aim to do?)</i>	Underpinning Activity <i>(How will we do it?)</i>	Lead / Owner <i>(Who will do it?)</i>	Timescales <i>(When will we do it?)</i>	Outcomes/Outputs/ Measures <i>(What does success look like?)</i>	Status/Update
VAWDASV 1	Challenge the public attitude to VAWDASV across North Wales through awareness raising, and space for public discussion with aim to decrease its occurrence	Share Welsh Government campaigns and Live Fear Free marketing materials with key partner agencies (regional VAWDASV Team) then local partner agencies to promote materials via their social media, websites etc.	VAWDASV Regional Team / All partners	Ongoing	- Promotional material is shared and distributed locally.	This work is part of the Regional Team's remit, working with WG to promote all national campaigns. The Regional Advisor sits on All Wales Communication Group and disseminates all relevant information to the V and E Board. Family support programmes and specific workers for children and young people have been commissioned across the specialist sector, ensuring full coverage of CYP
		Commission family support and parenting programmes to ensure that safe, healthy relationships are modelled and any inappropriate attitudes towards gender inequality are challenged and addressed appropriately.	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	By March 2023	- There is a provision of family support programmes across the region	

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		Challenge cultural attitudes and change practice which can underpin Forced Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honour Based Violence and forced marriage.	Honour Based Abuse (HBA) and harmful practices work stream	Ongoing	- Increased reporting of HBA	NW HBA workstream established but on hold while links to national workstream is developed.
		Integrate VAWDASV into mainstream contracts to embed support for victims and their families in generic services e.g. substance misuse, homelessness and mental health	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	By March 2023	- Integrated services for victims with complex needs	Regional Team working with APB and Local Authority commissioners (HSG) to ensure that VAWDASV is considered when supporting vulnerable families. Specific disbursed units for those with complex needs have been commissioned 21/22 and 22/23.
VAWDASV 2	Increase awareness in children, young people and adults of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships, and empowering them to make positive personal choices	Provision of children's support workers in specialist agencies, to work with children who have/are experiencing VAWDASV as well awareness raising work with local schools and youth groups,	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group / Children & Young People work stream	By March 2023	- CYP workers available in every local area	Additional CYP workers commissioned during 22/23 with Needs-based funding from WG and these posts have been continued into 23/24.

		Schools and colleges to implement a trauma-informed ethos, enabling young people to feel safe to disclose abuse.	Children & Young People work stream	Ongoing	- Increased reporting within schools	CYP workstream has been established but on hold while cross-cutting themes with Safeguarding Board and Regional Partnership board are unpicked. This work likely to be picked up under the RPB Children's subgroup.
		Schools and colleges develop an approach to working with young people as bystanders to promote VAWDASV prevention and further social change.	Children & Young People work stream	By March 2023	- Delivery of bystander training within schools	Bystander training due to be commissioned and rolled out centrally, so work on hold to develop training pack until this is established.
VAWDASV 3	Increase focus on holding those who commit abuse to account and supporting those who may carry out abusive or violent behaviour to change their behaviour and avoid offending.	Commission evidence-based perpetrator programmes and whole-family interventions with a focus on encouraging and creating behaviour change at the same time as protecting their victims/ families from further abuse	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	By March 2023	- There is a provision of appropriate perpetrator interventions across the region	Community-based Perpetrator (Behaviour Change) provision commissioned. (Choose2Change) This involves partner and child support, in line with WG standards. Caring Dads is also commissioned as a parenting

						programme aimed at perpetrators.
		Provide appropriate training to professionals to ensure they recognise perpetration of abuse and the effect it has on whole family engagement with services.	Perpetrators work stream	By March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professionals recognise the signs and effects of working with a perpetrator within a vulnerable family 	Six cohorts of 25 professionals have undergone training with Safe Lives, focused on working with perpetrators within a vulnerable family (Engaging with those who harm).
		Put Custody to community support in place for perpetrators and their families.	TBC – may sit with Criminal Justice Board	By March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Robust pathway from assessment to programme within prison and then continuation in the community following release. 	This area of work sits with the Local Criminal Justice Board. A pathway for communication needs to be established to ensure the Vulnerability and Exploitation Board are informed of progress.
		Successfully identify and prosecute perpetrators of Sexual Violence	Sexual Violence Group / Perpetrators group	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced attrition rates - Increased prosecutions 	This area of work sits with the Local Criminal Justice Board, although there is some cross over with the Sexual Violence workstream. The workstream are

						focused on dip sampling NFA cases to see where the specialist sector could have been involved to support the victim during the criminal justice process.
VAWDASV 4	Make early intervention and prevention a priority.	Roll out the IRIS programme across North Wales	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	By March 2023	- Increased reporting to GP surgeries across NW	Successful OPCC funded pilot within South Denbighshire cluster completed, but continuation and roll out funding still at risk. BCUHB have committed to continuing the pilot for two quarters into 23/24, but nothing confirmed following the extension.
		<p>Increased support for women and girls during night-time economy –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of street marshals • Increase in police presence • Safer environments through street lighting • Training for licensees 	Safer North Wales Board - Safer Streets funding	By March 2023	- Reduction in VAWDASV related street crime	Safer Streets funding secured for Wrexham, Flintshire and Anglesey to provide safer street environments for women and girls. This includes street lighting, CCTV as well as street marshals and

						increased police presence.
		Training programme developed for businesses and Trade Unions to address workplace harassment	Regional Commissioning group to work with National Partnership Board	By March 2024	- Training rolled out to public and private sector	Regional Advisor liaising with WG training team to ensure national training package is developed and rolled out to local businesses
VAWDASV 5	Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors	Implement National Training Framework to ensure that all professionals working in public facing roles are fully equipped to support victims and survivors of VAWDASV	Regional Workforce Development Group	Ongoing	- All professional trained to group 2 / 3 level	NTF Groups 1, 2 and 3 now embedded within LAs, BCUHB and NWFERS annual training plans. Completion rates for Group 1 (Awareness of VAWDASV) are and for Ask and Act (Groups 2 and 3)
		Work with criminal justice partners, to ensure that adequate training is provided in supporting victims of VAWDASV through the use of civil remedies.	Local Criminal Justice Board	Ongoing	- All victims to be advised of their rights regarding civil remedies	Updates required from LCJB
		Work with Criminal and Family courts to ensure that appropriate training is offered in coercive and controlling behaviours and the links with stalking and escalation	Local Criminal Justice Board	Ongoing	- All court staff to be trained in the effects of CCB, stalking and escalation of risk relating to DV	Updates required from LCJB

VAWDASV 6	Provide all victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strength based, intersectional and responsive services across North Wales.	Provide specialist support for victims based on their individual needs	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	Ongoing	- Support packages available based on individual need.	Specialist sector commissioned to provide a wide range of interventions, including peer support, group programmes and individual therapeutic interventions delivered by highly skilled and qualified staff.
		Provide consistent IDVA/ISVA provision across North Wales, offering the same service to victims of VAWDASV, regardless of where in North Wales they are based.	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	Contract in place until 2023/24	- All high risk victims access IDVA/ISVA support	Regional IDVA contract going into 5 th year in 2023/24 and contract to be fully evaluated during this financial year.
		Provide standardised MARAC / ADAPT process across North Wales	MARAC / ADAPT Steering Group	By March 2023	- All high risk victims heard at local MARACs	Regional MARAC Operating Protocol been developed and adopted and ADAPT been fully embedded across the region.
		Provide evidence based recovery programmes, to support victims in building resilience and strengthening their family/friend support network.	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	By March 2023	- Increase numbers of individuals accessing recovery programmes	A range of recovery programmes provided by domestic abuse and sexual violence

						providers across the region.
		Commit to forward planning regarding the funding for any future contracts in the VAWDASV arena, to ensure sustainability	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	Ongoing	- Joint Commissioning Plan for 23/24 in place	Future planning meetings been held with Regional VAWDASV team, OPCC, APB, HSG, BCUHB and LA commissioners. These will continue throughout 23/24 to ensure Needs Assessment is updated and commissioning responds to regional needs.