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Subject:	Domestic Abuse and Violence against Women and Girls Report
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Approval/Information:	Information

1.0 Overview

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information to strategic partners on key Domestic Abuse (DA) and Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) performance in the London Borough of Bromley.

2.0 Performance and Data – Domestic Violence and VAWG Services

The VAWG Service delivered by Bromley and Croydon Women's Aid continues to respond and grow to the needs of the local community. The IDSVAs service is delivered under the colocation model. The colocation model ensures that services in Bromley work across boundaries in strong partnership to ensure essential services can work with primary victims/survivors, young people and perpetrators and intervene early.

The collocated IDSVAs take referrals directly from the teams and engage in discussions with professionals to provide support and advice for individual cases. The IDSVAs also attend team meetings and deliver bite size training and awareness sessions to ensure there is an awareness of services available to victims/survivors and the referral pathways into those services. Bromley and Croydon Women's Aid in partnership with DVIP deliver all strands of the LBB DV/VAWG Service to provide seamless delivery and continuity for victims/survivors. All services are accessed by one telephone number/email address.

The services under this contract will add to those already offered to victims and survivors of domestic abuse and VAWG in the London Borough of Bromley, which include refuge, Young People's Outreach Support, Training & Awareness, Child support in refuge, as well as prevention work in local schools to address healthy and safe relationships.

Quarter 3 has seen a continued focus on streamlining referrals into the service and working to ensure that service users are directed to the appropriate service at the earliest opportunity.

Below are some performance indicators as agreed by MOPAC and LBB for:

- The IDSVVA Service
- The Community Domestic Abuse Projects
- The Perpetrator Programme

2.1 IDSVA Service:

Throughout Q3 there has been a continued focus on co-locations and steps have been taken to try and enhance this provision and work with partners to address any barriers there may be in referring into BCWA services. As highlighted in previous reports, this work is ongoing to maximise the opportunity and benefits that co-locations can generate. There continues to be a gap in the number of anticipated referrals from Bromley CSU as they were the primary referral sources prior to the new contract. BCWA have met representatives from Bromley CSU and a co-location agreement/referral pathway agreement has been signed.

Total referrals into service	122
Number of referrals directed to IDSVVA Service	66
Number of cases presenting as FGM, HBV or Forced Marriage	0 (current abuse) 0 (historic abuse)
Number of MARAC referrals	13 (referred to MARAC) 33 (representation at MARAC)
Number of client supported in accessing civil remedies	9 *does not include clients signposted to solicitors/OSS/NDVC for support in obtaining civil remedies*
Number of clients support through the CJS	19

2.2 Community and Domestic Abuse Projects:

The One Stop Shop is a well-established and well utilised service in the borough. Throughout quarter 3 BCWA has undertaken work to widen the range of support available to attendees to include specialist immigration solicitors, discussions are ongoing with various other agencies including attendance from LGBT organisations to attend the OSS. The OSS has reached capacity with attendance numbers. The service is currently only delivered on one afternoon per week.

Number attending the One Stop Shop	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3
	330	102	113	102

The Community Support Groups has a waiting list due to the recommissioning process. Following the contract award BCWA appointed a support group coordinator and those placed on the waiting list have been contacted and prioritised for allocation to the support groups that started in September 2017 and January 2018. Quarter 3 has seen an increase

in referrals to the group and as such the waiting list remains in operation due to referrals exceeding group capacity.

Number of referrals to the Support Group	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3
	260 (300 Pro Rata)	76	60	83

2.3 The Perpetrator Programme:

The Perpetrator programme provides long term structured group sessions designed to help men to understand why they have used abusive behaviour, how they can change this and how they can work towards constructing respectful non abusive personal relationships.

	Target	Q1 – (June Only)	Q2	Q3
Number of referrals and assessments completed	55 (45 Pro Rata)	8 referrals – 2 assessments	15 referrals – 11 assessments	11 referrals – 4 assessments
Number completing programme		0	2	1

3.0 **VAWG Meetings and Groups**

3.1 The VAWG Strategic Group met on the 12th March 2018, Det Supt Warnett chaired the meeting. The purpose of the initial meeting was to agree a meaningful action plan and performance framework that reflects the strategic ambitions of the VAWG Strategy and the Safer Bromley Partnership Strategy. As a result of discussions at the meeting the action plan and performance framework will be re-drafted and circulated prior to the next meeting on the 21st June 2018. Attendance was poor, of the 24 people invited 6 attended and Supt Warnett received 10 apologies. Det Supt Warnett sent an email on the 13th March 2018 to all those invited expressing his disappointment and reiterating the importance of all those invited attending the meeting or sending a suitable deputy.

3.2 The next VAWG forum meeting will be on the 20th June. The forum currently has over 40 members and is in general a well attended meeting. The agenda for the meeting is still at the planning stage but presentations will be delivered by BDAS (Bromley Drug and Alcohol Service) and possibly Bromley Children Project (TBC).

4.0 **Young Persons Support Group**

4.1 The Young Person's IDSVA has designed and delivered a support group for young women aged 16-25 that have experienced domestic abuse. The group was established in response to consultation/feedback from young service users that felt that the Community Support Group did not always reflect their experiences of abuse or fully meet the needs. The programme provides crèche space to remove barriers for young women with children being unable to attend due to child care issues.

The support group takes place over 6 weeks and focuses upon the following:

- Recognising warning signs of an abusive relationship
- Understanding the impact of abuse
- Develop coping mechanisms that young women can use to increase self-esteem
- Help young people to move on with their lives.

The programme has received a very positive response from the service users that attended.

Service user feedback included the following comment:

"It has made me feel less fearful of the future and future relationships. I feel more confident in myself and my strength because of this group. I feel less alone meeting people who have been in a similar situation. Lucy and Lorraine made me feel so at ease and comfortable. I felt able to share and know I am supported".

4.2 Feedback from a Service Users Survey conducted after delivering the first young person's support group told us that:

- 100% of the young women who attended said they felt the programme had increased their understanding of healthy relationships
- 100% of the young women who attended said that they felt more able to recognise some of the warning signs of an abusive relationship
- 100% of the young women who attended said they felt safer
- 100% of the young women who attended said they felt they had increased their understanding of some of the impacts of abuse
- 100% of the young women who attended said they felt their self-esteem had improved
- 100% of the young women who attended said they had developed strategies to help them to cope with difficult emotions

4.3 The young person's support groups will continue to run in conjunction with the adult support groups. Since delivery of the pilot group Bromley and Croydon Women's Aid has facilitated another two groups and will be adding more in term time.