

Safer Bromley Partnership

Strategic Group Report

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Operational Update: DVA/VAWG

The DVA VAWG services contract:

- Contract monitoring/review meetings are now taking place with BCWA. We are continuing to look at data reporting options for 2020/21 as well as outcomes for service users/survivors.

Best practice models, MOPAC and other DVA/VAWG related services:

- Rachel has been liaising with DVA/VAWG leads in other boroughs in order to adopt a model of good practice of service delivery and holistic outcomes for survivors in Bromley. This includes colleagues in the BCU (Croydon and Sutton) in order to try and promote consistency across all three boroughs and identify opportunities where resources could be shared within the tri-borough. Rachel has also been regularly attending MOPAC's quarterly VAWG Coordinator's Meeting at City Hall which has allowed for networking opportunities and shared learning.
- There are plans for the current MARAC process in Bromley to be reviewed to bring it in line with what other boroughs are doing, particularly those in the South BCU.
- Rachel continues to review existing services/gaps and has been working with other colleagues and partner agencies to establish how matters can be progressed – i.e. liaising with colleagues in Housing in regard to setting up a Sanctuary Scheme for Bromley residents and working with the Head of Service for Trading Standards and Community Safety in relation to the on-going Domestic Homicide Reviews.

DVA VAWG Strategy:

- The DVA/VAWG Strategy event took place on the 16 December 2019 in the Central Library. In total 13 people attended the session which aimed to obtain input from colleagues and partners, in regard to content for the new

DVA/VAWG Strategy, which Rachel is currently working on. Rachel has reviewed some of the feedback captured as a result of the event and will consider this when writing the strategy.

Publicity:

- The first edition of the DVA Newsletter was disseminated in February. The next edition is due to go out at the end of March and will be published monthly thereafter.
- The pocket sized, fold out information pack, which was produced in 2015 has been given a refresh. The new design is aimed to slip in to a wallet or card holder and is more reader friendly than the previous design. Once it has been approved, we plan to get these printed on to a two sided card, in a material that can sustain being put through one washing machine cycle.

Strategic Group Update:

DVA Forums:

- Rachel has drafted a Terms of Reference for these meetings. The inaugural strategic forum is due to take place on the 22.04.2020 and invites to strategic partners have been sent via email. This meeting will be Chaired by the Assistant Director for Children's Services, David Dare. Topics on the first agenda will include a discussion on the Terms of Reference, and group membership, along with other key issues, i.e. MARAC.
- The strategic forum will meet three times a year, and the meetings will be held in the Civic Centre for ease of access. The meetings will be capped at 2 hours and be focused on developing and driving forward a cohesive and effective multi-agency approach to dealing with, and supporting the victims of, DVA / VAWG. The concepts of working together, avoiding duplication and shared development and learning are essential. The strategic forum will be fed by a larger operational forum that will normally meet before the strategic forum (after this round of inaugural meetings), in order to highlight issues that the strategic group can tackle, champion and support.
- The strategic forum is a key element of our new emerging DVA VAWG Strategy and will provide the governance for the operational forum. It is therefore extremely important that we get the membership of the strategic forum right. It needs to be people with both an interest and passion for tackling DVA / VAWG and the wider ripples / impact this has on families, as well as being people with the power and influence to enforce change within

their agencies to enable recommendations to be developed, tested and adopted. Members of the strategic forum will be asked to nominate the appropriate staff within their own organisations, and any commissioned organisations working on or related to the DVA / VAWG agenda. It is anticipated that the operational forum will be a much larger group.

Action Plan Update:

Action for Safer Bromley Partnership: