

**Quarter Four – End of Year - Progress Against Priority Two of the Safer Bromley Partnership Strategy:  
Priority Two – Violence Against Women and Girls**

**Partner – VAWG, Police, Community Safety**

Priority Two - This priority looks at protecting women and girls from violence. We support Mayor’s Office for Policing & Crime in their stance of taking a zero-tolerance approach wherever this violence and abuse takes place, with meaningful support for victims and survivors, and significant consequences for perpetrators. The services commissioned by Bromley will support victims and survivors whatever their gender. The Metropolitan Police Service has made tackling domestic abuse a high priority and has a dedicated unit within the Borough Command Unit. They will investigate all instances of domestic abuse, even in cases where a victim has not reported it themselves. There are key interrelationships between this priority and our other priorities.

**Objectives :**

To reduce violence against women and girls, change the culture that allows this to happen, and empower them to take control, in doing so we will:

- Better protect women and girls
- Improve support for those affected
- Target offenders

**Commitments within the SBPS**

**Rag Status**

**1. Provide strategic direction**

**Refreshing the Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) 2016- 2019 Strategy;**

- The DVA VAWG Strategic Lead officer sitting within Early Intervention and Family Support in Children’s Social Care has led on the development and production of a new Strategy to replace 2016-9 strategy.
- Contributions were sought from all partners in the drafting of this new strategy and this maintained the ‘Golden Thread’.
- The draft was circulated for comment to relevant partners via the members of the DVA VAWG Operational Forum, DVA VAWG Strategic Board, Safer Bromley Partnership, BSCP, BSAB, and the Health and Wellbeing Board. Partners were invited to demonstrate their commitment to prioritise and support the drive to make DVA everyone’s responsibility (p.58).
- The final strategy, renamed as “An intergenerational Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy for 2021-2024 Making Domestic Abuse Everyone’s Business” was signed off by the DVA & VAWG Strategic Board, endorsed by the Children Education and Families PDS in January 2021, and approved by the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families in January 2021.
- Please see accompanying paper with copy of the Strategy appended. A version of this paper has been / will be presented to the BSCP and BSAB in March 2021, and the HWB in April 2021.

**GREEN**

NB:  
Partners remain able to add their Agency to p.58

- Partners are still able to sign up to the commitment on p.58 by providing an electronic signature to be added to the Strategy before the 30 April 2021. Please contact [Jamie.O'Malley@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Jamie.O'Malley@bromley.gov.uk).
- The BSAB and BSCP have added the Strategy to their websites and it will be added to the LBBromley website shortly.



**Click on image to access strategy.**

- The Strategy has been well received with some partners advising that they have embedded this within their Service Induction for new staff and tabled it across their existing workforce as a mandatory learning and development tool.
- Please see accompanying paper – **Appendix 1**

### Update the Domestic Homicide Review protocol.

**GREEN**

#### DHR protocol

- Completed by Rob Vale (Public Protection) and circulated to relevant parties.
- It is now an operational document.

### 2. Communicate

#### Develop a communication plan to increase awareness of the services Violence Against Women & Girls provide.

- DVA VAWG Strategic Coordinator publishes a regular newsletter which is shared across the wider workforce... with thanks to colleagues who manage the SBP, HWB, BSCP, and BSCB meetings and membership. Three have been published, and the fourth will be published shortly, delayed by maternity leave and recruitment of someone to cover this period.
- Credit-card sized information cards have been developed, printed (10,000) and 9,300 distributed to partner agencies across the wider Bromley workforce. The cards include contact details for both local and national organisations who offer support in relation to domestic abuse. These are designed to be given to individuals at risk of becoming or already victims or survivors of DVA. Additional cards will, if required, be produced in 2021/22. We currently have 700 available. Contact [Jamie.O'Malley@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Jamie.O'Malley@bromley.gov.uk).

**Green**  
Good progress  
And on schedule  
but more to do  
moving into 2021-22



- DVA VAWG Strategic developed and circulated a directory of support interventions for DVA VAWG victims, survivors, and perpetrators. This was shared via BSCP, BSAB, SBP, and HBW in order to reach the wider workforce. This document was due to be reviewed in January 2021 but due to maternity leave and recruitment of someone to cover this period, the update was deferred and will be completed by May 2021.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BCWA social media presence has grown and EIFS has been promoting BCWA (Bromley's provider) via their Social Media feeds too.</li> <li>• Bromley Local Authority have updated their DVA information on the council's corporate site (thanks to Susie Clark)</li> <li>• DVA VAWG Strategic Coordinator is delivering awareness presentations and training to partner agencies requesting this service. To date; Bromley Healthcare Children's services. Booked in for this quarter; Oxleas Adults Services, Oxleas CAMHS, Bromley Healthcare Adults services, and GP network.</li> <li>• Strategic Board and Operational Forum are now both active with good level of representation across partner agencies.</li> <li>• Developing a wider DVA VAWG communications strategy is part of our work plan and good progress has been made in the development of a website which will encompass DVA information alongside methods and support to tackle conflict before DVA becomes entrenched within behaviours.</li> </ul>  |  |
| <p><b>Tackle under-reporting through media engagement, partnership and information sharing between professionals (particularly health), and engaging the third sector including campaign groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DA/VAWG Forums have increased communication and awareness amongst agencies.</li> <li>• Regular meetings are taking place between the DA/VAWG Lead, partner agencies and community and voluntary sector organisations.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Green</b></p> <p>Good progress<br/>And on schedule<br/>but more to do<br/>moving into 2021-22</p>                                  |
| <p><b>3. Take an Intelligence Led Approach<br/>Improving the response to victims by developing mechanisms to capture data in addition to that provided by the Police;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVA VAWG Strategic Lead meets regularly with colleagues in the MET BCU; Stuart Hart and Dan O'Sullivan. BCU are sharing timely data with comparisons across our BCU.</li> <li>• During COVID we have been asking partners to share their DVA data. Several services e.g. EIFS, Housing, CSC, CCG and BCWA are now sharing data in relation to domestic abuse in their respective service areas. We are now in the process of developing a data sheet.</li> <li>• Work has started to develop a monthly datasheet which all partners' data will feed into. Our EIFS Intelligence and Operations Lead is developing this with a view to making it as automated as possible.</li> <li>• Requesting data from partners on the prevalence of DVA within families they are supporting has identified a gap and lack of consistency in way that data is captured and reported. Our ambition is to explore this further as more partners agree to provide regular data submissions and develop a recommended consistent approach to DVA data capture for all partners, a shared language at the very least.</li> <li>• Partners who are not currently sharing their data in relation to DVA are encouraged to do so. Whatever data you are able to share would be welcome. All that is asked is that it comes with an explanation, permission to incorporate and publish, and that regular, ideally monthly (but quarterly broken down by month would also be extremely valuable) updates can be sustained. This will add value and improve our understanding of issues, prevalence, mapping of victims and perpetrators across all levels including where they</li> </ul> | <p><b>Green</b></p> <p>Good progress<br/>And on schedule<br/>but more to do in 2021-22 to persuade more partners to share their data</p> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>have not yet engaged with the police/judicial process. If you wish to share your data please contact <a href="mailto:Jamie.O'Malley@bromley.gov.uk">Jamie.O'Malley@bromley.gov.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once developed the datasheet will be shared at the DVA VAWG Strategic Board, the DVA VAWG Operational Forum and other relevant Boards e.g. SBP</li> </ul>  |  |
| <p><b>Enable accurate mapping of the prevalence of Violence Against Women &amp; Girls and implement appropriate responses and services where needed.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A data sheet is being compiled which will enable us to map gaps in service provision but the ability to map the prevalence of DVA &amp; VAWG is reliant on partners sharing data and sharing sufficient data that allows us to map this horrific crime and the impact on victims across the borough. With this level of data, we are unable to map and therefore target our resources.</li> <li>MARAC data will be used to add intelligence to the data that is held and this will link to the new DAPP data (Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Panel delivered under the new DRIVE programme) once it is live in Bromley. The challenge in relation to actively using the MARAC data is that there is no current MARAC coordinator post. A growth paper will be submitted seeking permission to create and fund a MARAC Coordinator post.</li> </ul> | <p><b>AMBER</b></p> <p>Good progress<br/>Requires partners to share their data</p> |
| <p><b>4. Protect High Risk Victims<br/>Support victims through an effective and robust Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC),</b></p> <p><b>MARAC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A MARAC Steering Group has been set up and is operational.</li> <li>SafeLives MARAC Review requested by DVA VAWG Strategic Coordinator in February 2020. The MARAC Review was undertaken by SafeLives in September 2020 which they included an observation of the MARAC as part of their review. Feedback from the Review was received in late October 2020.</li> <li>SafeLives Review was initially shared with the MARAC Leads (MET) and the wider MARAC membership, as well as the DVA VAWG Strategic Board. The DA/VAWG Lead compiled an Action Plan to address all the recommendations in the Review report. This is being monitored and implemented by the MARAC Steering Group.</li> <li>This will be shared with SBP membership once the DVA VAWG Strategic Board have approved the Action Plan.</li> </ul>                     | <p><b>Green</b></p> <p>Progress Made but more to do moving into 2021-22</p>        |
| <p><b>Implementing any learning points from Domestic Homicide Reviews,</b></p> <p><b>DHR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are currently three DHRs in progress. Of these three, two are now at the Action Plan stage. The Action Plans have been submitted to the Home Office. One of the Action Plans is live and one is now completed. For the completed one, Agencies are reporting that they have implemented required changes to their procedures.</li> <li>Once the Home Office has ratified the DHR and approved the level of information that can be shared, this will be shared via BSCB, BSCP, SBP, and HWB in order to reach the wider workforce in line with Bromley's DHR Protocol.</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Green</b></p> <p>Progress Made but more to do moving into 2021-22</p>        |
| <p><b>Ensure that all local domestic violence services are aware of the relevant support services that are available, including: The One Stop Shop, Outreach Support and the Domestic Violence Intervention Programme (DVIP).</b></p> <p><b>Bromley Croydon Women's Aid</b></p>  |  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the Covid-19 pandemic, work has been undertaken to increase awareness of the locally commissioned service that is provided by BCWA.</li> <li>• The DVA/VAWG Lead has also increased engagement with agencies and has delivered several presentations in relation to domestic abuse and the services available in the borough.</li> </ul> <p><b>Perpetrators' Intervention</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The contract with DVIP is due to come to an end on the 31.03.2021.</li> <li>• A new perpetrator programme called DRIVE is being implemented across the South BCU and is due to go live in Bromley in March 2021. The programme will work with high harm, high risk perpetrators and offers a holistic, whole family approach to tackling domestic abuse, with the aim of changing the behaviour of perpetrators whilst increasing the safety of victims/survivors.</li> <li>• Referral route into the DAPP is via MARAC.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sanctuary Scheme</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with colleagues in Housing, Sara Bowrey has identified a funding stream to reintroduce the Sanctuary Scheme to Bromley.</li> <li>• Calvin Pearson and Philip Dodd are leading on this project on behalf of Lynnette Chamielec.</li> <li>• The Service is live. Contact <a href="mailto:calvin.pearson@bromley.gov.uk">calvin.pearson@bromley.gov.uk</a></li> </ul> | <p><b>Green</b></p> <p>Good progress made but more to do moving into 2021-2022</p>                         |
| <p><b>5. Make use of Legislation</b><br/> <b>Ensure that perpetrators of violence against women and girls are held accountable according to the law and are provided with assistance to change their abusive behaviour in order to prevent them from causing harm or violence to their current, past or future partners.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bromley currently commissions the DVIP programme; this will cease on 31 March 2021.</li> <li>• Our ambition remains to improve the engagement of perpetrators with intervention programmes. This has been a key focus of discussions between DVA VAWG Strategic Coordinator and colleagues in the MET BCU which has resulted in the implementation of the DRIVE Programme aims to work with agencies such as the Police and probation to address and change the behaviour of perpetrators.</li> <li>• DRIVE goes live in Bromley in March 2021. During January and February there have been both strategic and operational launches as well as a Task and Finish Group designed to develop the Terms of Reference and process documentation.</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Green</b></p> <p>Exciting but early days, more to achieve moving into 2021-22</p>                    |
| <p><b>6. Work in Partnership</b><br/> <b>With Children's Social Care and Children's Early Intervention Teams to provide support, advocacy and deliver age appropriate work in a range of educational, youth and community settings.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EIFS sits with Children's Social Care. EIFS is providing child focused support sessions for children who have witnessed DVA against their primary female carer, an evidence based licenced programme overseen by the charitable organisation 'AVA' (Against Violence and Abuse). This programme has been renamed 'CODA' which stands for Children Overcoming Domestic Abuse.</li> <li>• The CODA programme has been running for over 5 years. Schools work in partnership to enable the children to attend these sessions. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the CODA has not been able to run because it is not licensed to be delivered virtually.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>AMBER</b></p> <p>There is a lot going on but always more to do and this will be the case 2021-22</p> |

- Other agencies are also working with our children and young people in schools and other settings. We have not yet managed to persuade those agencies to share their data and success stories. This is a continuing piece of work for the DVA VAWG Strategic Lead.
- Under the existing contract with BCWA, the IDVAs are co-located within the BCU and the local authority; one in the BCU custody suite, one in LBB EIFS, one in LBB CSC/ASC. Co-location has not been possible during the pandemic but is written into the delivery contract and will resume when restrictions are lifted.
- In addition to the IDVAs within BCWA, there is an IDVA based at the PRUH employed through Victim Support pan-London MOPAC funding, and an addition resource via the IRIS programme (CCG) which supports health professionals through access to the IDVA-E.
- Bromley Youth Council is a representative forum organised and supported by Targeted Youth Support Service in Children's Social Care. There are 58 youth councillors elected or co-opted from Bromley secondary schools, colleges and youth projects and enables young residents of the Borough to have a voice in local decision making and encourages young people to take part in campaigns and projects to address the issues that affect them. The 2020 - 21 Youth Manifesto was launched in July 2020. Primary campaign Area: Youth Mental Health, and the Subsidiary/Secondary Campaign Area: Youth Domestic Abuse. Please see extract of the BYC Campaign Progress 2020 – 2021 contained within the 2020-21 Bromley Youth Council End of Year Report – **Appendix 2**
- Tony Baldock Head of Service for Community Safety, Environmental and Domestic Regulation is chairman of the operational DV forum

### **Work in Partnership**

#### **SEL CCG Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) Update.**

- Domestic Abuse Health Forum introduced. The primary aim is to form part of a wider system approach and response from health to DVA in Bromley. This forum is very much in its infancy and will provide an update to the VAWG Operational Forum.
- SEL CCG (Bromley) has recommissioned Victim Support to deliver the IRIS ("Identification and Referral to Improve Safety) programme increasing the number of GP practices who are IRIS accredited. There are currently 38 IRIS accredited GP Practices across the borough.
- Ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately) codeword scheme to enable victims of DVA to access immediate help from the police, or other support services, from the safety of their local pharmacy. Currently there are 12 pharmacies signed up to the scheme, covering a wide proportion of the borough. In addition, some pharmacies will also be running the 'Safe Spaces' scheme which enables victims of DVA to use the pharmacy consultation room to access information on domestic abuse support services.
- There has been a targeted DVA Awareness campaign across CCG during Covid-19 sharing the BSAB poster and the National Domestic Abuse Helpline poster across vaccine hubs. Stickers with the domestic abuse helpline information have also been issued to the vaccine sites for clinicians to wear when delivering the vaccine to patients (see Appendix 3). Additionally training has been co-delivered by the Named GP's for safeguarding adults and children and the local authority Domestic Abuse Strategic Lead for GP safeguarding practice leads on domestic abuse. This was attended by more than 100 Bromley GPs.
- For the full report please see - **Appendix 3.**

**AMBER**

There is a lot going on but always more to do and this will be progressed 2021-22

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>7. How we will know we are on track</b></p> <p><b>This theme will be included as a substantive discussion item at the Safer Bromley Partnership Board in quarter 2, whereby Violence Against Women &amp; Girls, Police and associated Partners will provide an update.</b></p> <p>An update was produced for Quarter 2 and quarter 4 in line with the agreed programme</p>   | <p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>Reports submitted</p>           |
| <p><b>The Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women &amp; Girls subgroup will lead on the effective monitoring and scrutiny of partner agencies in their service delivery, present findings within that setting, and report exceptions to the Safer Bromley Partnership Board if they occur.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DVA/VAWG Strategic Board and Operational Forums are now taking place three times a year.</li> <li>• A regular agenda item has been introduced at the DA/VAWG Operational Forum where agencies are required to respond to a set topic/issue. This improves communication between agencies and provides an overview of what is happening in relation to domestic abuse, at a local level.</li> <li>• Partners are again asked to provide their DVA related data to be included in the DVA Data Sheet as described above.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>Data from partners required</p> |
| <p><b>Update the Violence Against Women &amp; Girls Strategy and the Domestic Homicide Review Protocol by August 2020.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVA VAWG Strategy - Completed</li> <li>• DHR Protocol – Completed</li> </ul>   | <p><b>GREEN</b></p>                                    |
| <p><b>8. Impact of COVID 19 on Business as Usual</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All services have continued but most are running virtually via telephone and zoom calls e.g. One Stop Shop and access to Freedom and DVIP.</li> <li>• IDVAs are able to meet with victims/survivors e.g. to support in Court, but the majority of their support has been virtual e.g. Zoom, Whats'App...</li> <li>• Support Programme – women are being offered Pat Craven's on-line 'Freedom Programme' as an alternative to face to face sessions along with telephone support.</li> <li>• Data during COVID now shows a noticeable increase following the slow initial rise.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <p><b>9. General Annual Update of achievements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publication of the new DA/VAWG Strategy covering 2021 – 2024.</li> <li>• DVA/VAWG Strategic Board and Operational Forums successfully set up and running three times a year.</li> <li>• Increased awareness and commitment from partner agencies in relation to domestic abuse.</li> <li>• Review of Bromley's MARAC undertaken, Action Plan developed</li> <li>• Introduction and implementation of the DRIVE Programme in Bromley for March 2021.</li> </ul>   |  |
|  |  |

**Briefing for Safer Bromley Partnership Board  
25 March 2021**

**AN INTERGENERATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE STRATEGY 2021-2024  
'MAKING DOMESTIC ABUSE EVERYONE'S BUSINESS'**

Contact Officer: Rachel Dunley, Head of Service, Early Intervention and Family Support, Children's Social Care  
Tel: 020 8461 7261 E-mail: [Rachel.dunley@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.dunley@bromley.gov.uk)

Chief Officer: Janet Bailey, Director Children's Services.

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Brief Summary of Subject</b>  |
| 1.1.     | This report introduces the new intergenerational Domestic Violence and Abuse strategy for 2021-2024 'Making Domestic Abuse Everyone's Business'.   |
| 1.2.     | The previous strategy, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2016-19 has expired and a new wider and more comprehensive strategy has now been developed and designed to encompass the full remit of domestic violence and abuse.  |
| 1.3.     | Domestic abuse crosses the whole borough, all communities, all ages, and all socio-economic groups. The new strategy has been developed to address this and challenges all partners to work together to tackle this.   |
| 1.4.     | The new strategy, An Intergenerational Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy For 2021-2024 'Making Domestic Abuse Everyone's Business' demonstrates Bromley's commitment to tackling perpetrators and supporting both victims and survivors of domestic abuse in its widest sense and invites partners to join our public demonstration of this commitment. |
| <b>2</b> | <b>What has been achieved to date?</b>   |
| 2.1.     | The new intergenerational Domestic Violence and Abuse strategy for 2021-2024 'Making Domestic Abuse Everyone's Business' has been endorsed and approved by the Children Education and Families PDS and Portfolio Holder (January 2021).  |
| 2.2.     | To date, three agencies have signed the partnership commitment to tackle domestic abuse as detailed on p.58; the Local Authority, the MPS South BCU, and NHS South East London Clinical Commissioning Group.   |
| 2.3.     | The strategy will also be shared at the Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership, the Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board, and the Health and Wellbeing Board.  |
| <b>3</b> | <b>What more needs to be done?</b>   |
| 4        | Partners are asked to promote the strategy and encourage partner agencies to sign up to the partnership commitment on p.58.  |

## 5 Any other information

Reproduced below is an edited version of the paper that went before the Children, Education and Families PDS and Portfolio Holder. This paper will also be presented to the Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership, Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board, and Health and Wellbeing Board.

### 5.1. COMMENTARY

- 5.2. Responding to domestic violence and abuse is a complex and multi-faceted issue that touches many people's lives in many different ways. Domestic violence is like no other crime insofar as the perpetrator has intimate and constant access to the victim. Domestic violence and abuse are experienced by adults and children from all backgrounds, and many domestic incidents remain unreported and often result in devastating consequences for long term mental and physical health.
- 5.3. Domestic abuse costs society an estimated £15.7bn per year. Domestic abuse has a significant impact on a wide range of services including housing, criminal justice and social service provision. Nationally, violent crime figures show that despite a long downward trend in violent crime, domestic abuse remains a widespread problem which affects more than 8.5% of women and 4.5% of men every year, two women are killed every week in England and Wales by a current or former partner. The Home Office's 'The Economic and Social Costs of Domestic Abuse' Research Report dated January 2019 suggests (p.6) that the total cost of domestic abuse in England and Wales for 2016/17 including economic and social costs, reached a staggering £66bn with a unit cost of £34,015. The report further suggests that whilst the £66bn cost appears large, it is most likely an under-estimate.
- 5.4. The Metropolitan Police recorded a total of 1,316,800 domestic abuse related incidents and crimes in the year ending March 2019. 746,219 of these were recorded as domestic abuse related crimes which is an increase of 24% from the previous year. During the first Covid-19 lockdown, the Metropolitan Police reported that its officers were arresting around 100 people a day for domestic abuse offences. Overall domestic abuse incidents are reported to increase by 3% year by year. Between June 2019 and May 2020 there were 4,776 domestic abuse incidents in Bromley and 3037 domestic abuse offences. There has been an increasing prevalence of incidents in Bromley over the last three years.
- 5.5. Domestic abuse sits within an increasing body of legislation, policy and guidance that is applicable to victims, perpetrators and children. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ('CDA') places a statutory duty on local authorities and the police to work together with other agencies to tackle crime at a local level through the provision of a Community Safety Strategy that should include domestic abuse (Bromley Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2020-2023). The CDA also places a statutory requirement on local authorities to monitor the level of domestic abuse in their communities and establish partnerships, in order to reduce the problem as well as work together with other agencies to highlight the issue and coordinate a response. In Bromley we have therefore produced a specific domestic violence and abuse strategy that expands upon the Bromley Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2020-2023 (Priority 2), as well as reintroducing both a multi-agency DVA VAWG Strategic Board and multi-agency DVA VAWG Operational Forum.

### 5.6. SUMMARY OF THE BUSINESS CASE

- 5.7. The new strategy, An Intergenerational Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy For 2021-2024 'Making Domestic Abuse Everyone's Business' has been developed to address domestic abuse in its widest sense across the whole borough, all communities, all ages, and all socio-economic groups.
- 5.8. The new strategy has been developed in consultation with partners from across the wider workforce from the initial consultation workshops in December 2019 through to commentary on the final draft during November/December 2020.

- 5.9. Comments have been formally sought via the membership of the multi-agency DVA VAWG Strategic Board, multi-agency DVA VAWG Operational Forum and the multi-agency Safer Bromley Partnership.
- 5.10. This strategy fulfills the local authority's duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 but equally importantly will raise the profile of this hideous crime and encourage a joint multiagency approach to tackling perpetrators and supporting victims and survivors of domestic violence and abuse.
- 5.11. **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**
- 5.12. Due to the nature of this strategy reach across all departments within the Local Authority, the Chief Executive, The Director of Children's Services, The Assistance Director of Children's Services in their capacity as the Chair of the DVA VAWG Strategic Forum, and Children Education and Families Senior Leadership Team have been consulted with as part of drafting this report.
- 5.13. In addition to those mentioned in 5.12, key partners across the wider workforce through the membership of the Safer Bromley Partnership, Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board, Bromley Safeguarding Children's Partnership, DVA VAWG Strategic Board and DVA VAWG Operational Forum were invited to contribute via the initial consultation in December 2019.
- 5.14. The final draft document has been shared with the membership the Safer Bromley Partnership, DVA VAWG Strategic Board and DVA VAWG Operational Forum for comment. All feedback received has been reviewed and used to shape the finished document.
- 5.15. Following the approval and endorsement of the Portfolio Holder and PDS for Children, Education and Families, this new strategy is now being tabled formally at the following:-
- The Safer Bromley Partnership
  - Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership
  - Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board
  - Health and Wellbeing Board
- 5.16. Partner Agencies will be invited to sign up to the 'commitment' on p.58; where this commitment has been made, their signatures already appear. However, it is anticipated that through the wider promotion of this strategy an updated version will be required to capture other agencies prepared to publicly demonstrate their commitment. It is proposed to complete this by April 2021.
- 5.17. **PROJECT TIMESCALES AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**
- 5.18. Responsibility for the provision of this strategy sits with the DVA VAWG Strategy Board and this has been delegated to the DVA VAWG Strategic Lead who sits within Children's Social Care – Early Intervention and Family Support Services.
- 5.19. The new strategy, 'An Intergenerational Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy For 2021-2024 'Making Domestic Abuse Everyone's Business'', is proposed to cover the period 2021 – 2024.
- 5.20. The ambition is for this to be noted and endorsed in January 2021 to allow this to be tabled across the various Partnership/Board meetings, as listed in 5.15 above, as early as possible during 2021.

## **6 Recommendations to Safer Bromley Partnership Board**

- 6.1. To endorse, support and promote the new intergenerational Domestic Violence and Abuse strategy for 2021-2024 'Making Domestic Abuse Everyone's Business'
- 6.2. To consider whether your organisation / agency is able sign up to the partnership commitment on p.58 and if so, to provide an electronic signature for insertion by 30 April 2021.

### **EXTRACT from 2020-21 Bromley Youth Council End of Year Report BYC Campaign Progress 2020 – 2021**

**4.2.** Young people also identified **Youth Domestic Abuse** as a campaign area; this will now form one of the campaigns for the year. This is the second time Domestic Abuse has been voted in as a campaign. Particular areas of concern raised by young people included:

- Young people expressed that they would like more information on services available to them, their families, friends and education in their schools around domestic abuse and consequences.
- There was significant discussion about how abuse can be by family members and/or within a relationship and can be violent. Often young people are oblivious to understanding what is happening to them and feel disempowered to put an end to it.
- Young people feel there is not many campaigns aimed at young people as the victim of domestic abuser aware of local services that can help them. Young people feel domestic abuse is on the increase.

#### **4.2.1 To address the issues the Youth Council proposed to:**

- Research available resources about Domestic Abuse and educate BYC members on the actions that are considered domestic abuse.
- Identify potential resources which are available that would be useful for Schools and Youth Groups in the borough to use to inform and educate other young people on the issue.
- Identify local and online sources of information, help and support for young people who are affected by Domestic Abuse.
- To provide direct education around the consequences of domestic abuse to young people.
- To develop a 6 month long social media campaign – providing weekly information posts every Friday about elements of Domestic abuse, which will build an informative information source for young people, using an “Instagram highlight”
- Research sponsoring Instagram posts to reach all young people in our age demographic in the Bromley borough.
- Our social media campaign will include viewing domestic abuse from the perspective of an abuser, a victim/survivor and that of a bystander.
- Offer local young people – via Schools and via social media – the opportunity to produce their own social media content to be featured in the social media weekly post campaign.

#### **4.2.2 Outputs achieved to date:**

- 40 youth councillors have worked on this campaign to date.
- 10 youth councillors researched how local boroughs offer information, advice and guidance to young people via local websites and social media and national schemes for DA.
- 18 youth councillors engaged in online training from Bromley and Croydon’s Women’s Aid on DA.
- 3 youth councillors designed a DA awareness t-shirt to be worn by youth councillors during the month of October to raise awareness within schools.

- 2 Youth Councillors developed a presentation on the DA campaign to use in school form time or PHSE lessons.
- 45 youth councillors all wore their purple t-shirts on 8<sup>th</sup> October to officially launch the DA campaign.
- 1 youth councillor researched local, national and global hash tags and selected the most used and appropriate hash tag along with our BYC hash tag to use for the social media DA campaign.
- 8 youth councillors worked on a DA poster/post to launch the DA campaign 'Scars'.
- 6 youth councillors worked on a themed timetable to deliver weekly social media post under the DA umbrella affecting young people.
- 26 youth councillors met with Portfolio Holder Cllr Peter Fortune, Janet Bailey Director for Children's Services and David Dare Assistant Director to discuss their DA campaign.
- 4 youth councillors reviewed LBB's page on DA and gave feedback.
- 15 youth councillors researched key resources and emailed to schools encouraging awareness and schools to actively engage with BYC social media campaign.
- 6 youth councillors had developed and posted over 34 posts and 20+ tweets, reaching over 10,500 young people in Bromley.

| Details:  | Likes | People reached | Impressions<br>(The number of times the post was on screen) |
|---|-------|----------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Instagram Post 11/09/20<br>(Launch DA Campaign) | 30    | 203            | 258   |
| September posts x 6   | 165   | 1,240          | 1,473   |
| October post x 10   | 589   | 5,512          | 7,343   |
| November post x 6   | 264   | 10,767         | 15,424  |
| December post x 2   | 27    | 232            | 264   |
| January post x 4  | 44    | 553            | 628   |
| February post x 6   | Tbc   | Tbc            | tbc   |

October was national Domestic Abuse awareness month and BYC paid for key post to be promoted on the screens of young people 11-19years old living within the borough of Bromley. Some posts were very successful and increased the 'likes' and number of people reached by 97%. It also increased followers on the BYC Instagram to 1,199 followers.

BYC members have been working hard to promote all campaigns and youth council work through social media platforms in a positive, responsible way. We have undertaken the promotion of posts as a trial to identify the difference this makes in young people's engagement.

Many of the DA posts were rejected by the social media companies at this time as they were deemed the following:- *'mention politicians or sensitive social issues that could influence public opinion, how people vote and may effect the outcome of an election'*. This was during the run up to the USA Presidential elections. This had a direct impact on BYC social media campaign on DA.

#### 4.2.3 Outcomes achieved to date:

- Youth councillors have increased their knowledge of the pressures that young people in Bromley are facing around youth Domestic Abuse.

25 youth councillors gained information on the services provided by the London Borough of Bromley LBB.

- 25 youth councillors are informed around different apps and Instagram pages raising awareness on DA for young people.
- Youth council have met with and discussed their DA campaign with schools, colleges, Bromley & Croydon Women's Aid, Bromley Children's project, Bromley Police Youth Engagement Team, the Encouraging Her Project (a small charity doing small scale workshops/events for young people experiencing DV) and Public Health.
- 6 schools to date have engaged in BYC DA campaign and BYC have re social media post have been reposted or tweeted.
- Many Councillors and other services have reposted or re tweeted raising awareness.
- Bromley and Croydon women's Aid have provided excellent resources to use for social media post.
- BYC social media following has increased in the month of October to nearly 100 between Instagram and twitter.
- BYC met with Chief Inspector Craig Knight (Police) to discuss DA.
- BYC used social media to post over a 6-month period on DA.
- Instagram have blocked any promotion of DA post to a wider audience citing it may influence elections.
- Youth Councillors researched excellent examples of DA Guidance for schools produced by Public health. BYC are in discussion with Public health to produce a Bromley version of this.
- BYC are developing a draft guidance for all LBB secondary schools, colleges and youth projects in partnership with healthy schools around Domestic Abuse.
- BYC reviewed LBB DVA strategy and had access to the head of early intervention and team working on the strategy.
- The Mayor of Bromley Cllr Gray attended a BYC Meeting to discuss DA.
- BYC emailed schools and other key establishments key resources around DA and promoted LBB web page.
- 25 youth councillors collated the results and reviewed the impact of the social media campaign.
- 3 out of 10 posts were paid promotions reaching over 15,500 young people and 19,561 impressions.

**SEL CCG Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) Update****Domestic Abuse Health Forum**

Following a successful series of Health meetings SEL CCG (Bromley) safeguarding team have initiated the formation of a Bromley DVA Health Forum where the primary aim will be to form part of a wider system approach and response from health to DVA in Bromley. The introduction of the forum has received enthusiastic support from health partners and the London Borough of Bromley (LBB) DVA strategic Lead. This forum is very much in its infancy and will provide an update to the VAWG Operational Forum.

**The Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) programme**

SEL CCG (Bromley) has recommissioned Victim Support to deliver the IRIS programme, increasing the number of GP practices who are IRIS accredited.

IRIS is a general practice based DVA training, support, and referral programme. The initiative is based on a collaboration between primary care and third sector organisations specialising in DVA. Core areas of the programme include ongoing training and support for the practice clinical team and administrative staff, including an enhanced referral pathway to specialist domestic violence services for patients experiencing DVA. There are currently 38 IRIS accredited GP Practices across the borough.

The IRIS service consists of 2.5 IRIS Independent Domestic Violence Advocate Educators (IDVA-Es) and an IRIS GP Clinical Lead whose role also involves attending the Bromley Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), providing primary care input, to the MARAC process where information is shared between different statutory and voluntary sector agencies relating to high-risk cases of DVA.

**Ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately) scheme**

In January 2021 the Home Office, supported by The Mayor's office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) launched the Ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately) codeword scheme to enable victims of DVA to access immediate help from the police, or other support services, from the safety of their local pharmacy.

The Bromley safeguarding team is actively supporting the scheme across SEL through the distribution of promotional materials, information, and resources via our Health networks. Currently there are 12 pharmacies signed up to the scheme, covering a wide proportion of the borough.

Some pharmacies will also be running the 'Safe Spaces' scheme which enables victims of DVA to use the pharmacy consultation room to access information on domestic abuse support services.

**DVA Awareness during Covid-19**

The safeguarding team have issued the BSAB poster, along with the National Domestic Abuse Helpline poster to the Covid-19 vaccine hub sites across the borough. Stickers with the domestic abuse helpline information have also been issued to the vaccine sites for clinicians to wear when delivering the vaccine to patients.

The Named GP's for safeguarding adults and children coordinated a training event for GP safeguarding practice leads on domestic abuse. This was delivered by the local authority Domestic Abuse strategic lead. This session was attended by more than 100 Bromley GPs.

Please see below photo showing one of the GPs working at one of the Vaccine hubs, wearing a DV sticker which the Safeguarding team distributed to all the primary care vaccine hubs across the borough.



**Domestic Abuse**  
can happen to anyone.  
**It is not OK.**  
Speak to me or call  
the Domestic Abuse helpline.  
Freephone  
**0808 2000 247**