

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Thursday, 3 February 2011

at 3.00 pm

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

Councillors Barclay, Cook, Cranney, Gibbon, James, A Lilley, London, Rogan and Wells

Resident Representatives:

Ted Jackson, John Maxwell and Angie Wilcox

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

- 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 20 January 2011 (*to follow*)

4. RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM

No items.

5. **CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

No items.

6. **CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS**

No items.

7. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Scrutiny Investigation into Services Available to Male Victims of Domestic Violence

7.1 Setting the Scene

(a) Covering Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

(b) Presentation – *Community Safety Manager*

7.2 Evidence from Key Stakeholders

(a) Covering Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

(b) Evidence from Domestic Violence Service Providers

7.3 Durham County Council Scrutiny Investigation into Domestic Abuse - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

7.4 Information from Regional and National Organisations - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

8. **ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN**

9. **ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT**

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 31 March 2011 at 3.00 pm in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

20 January 2011

The meeting commenced at 3.00pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Kevin Cranney (In the Chair)

Councillors: Allan Barclay, Rob Cook, Kevin Cranney, Steve Gibbon, Marjorie James, Alison Lilley, Frances London and Ray Wells.

Resident Representatives:

Ted Jackson and John Maxwell

Officers:

Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration & Planning)
Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources)
Alison Mawson, Assistant Director (Community Safety and Protection)
Denise Ogden, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)
John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services)
Michelle Daurat, Events & Visitor Service Manager
Patrick Wilson, Employment Development Officer
Elaine Hind, Scrutiny Support Officer
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

49. Apologies for Absence

None.

50. Declarations of interest by Members

Councillors Allan Barclay, Rob Cook, Kevin Cranney and Marjorie James declared personal interests in minute 54. A further declaration was made during the meeting, see minute 55.

51. Minutes of the following meetings

- (i) Joint meeting of Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum, Children's Services Scrutiny Forum and Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum held on 27 September 2010 – confirmed.
- (ii) Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum held on 25 November 2010 – confirmed.

52. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Final Reports of this Forum

None.

53. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

None.

54. Scrutiny Investigation into ‘Working Neighbourhoods Fund’ – Draft Final Report (*Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum*)

The Chair presented the draft final report following the Forum’s investigation into the ‘Working Neighbourhoods Fund’ (WNF) highlighting the conclusions and recommendations contained within the report.

The report included terms of reference and methods of investigation. A brief summary of the methods of investigation were detailed below and the evidence provided was set out in the report:-

- (a) Detailed officer presentation and reports supplemented by verbal evidence;
- (b) Evidence from the Authority’s Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development;
- (c) Presentation and verbal evidence from a representative from the Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency; and
- (d) Verbal and written evidence received from representatives of jobs and the economy themed WNF programmes.

Details of the key findings were set out in the report in terms of the overall aim of the services the WNF providers and what positive outcomes look like, how the WNF services were currently provided in Hartlepool and their effectiveness and the impact of the reduction and potential withdrawal of the WNF. The Forum also examined the current and future budget pressures and options for the continuation of services currently funded by WNF.

The Forum had gathered evidence from a wide range of sources to assist in the formulation of a balanced range of recommendations. The Forum’s key recommendations to Cabinet were as outlined below:-

- (a) That where organisations can independently apply for funding that Hartlepool Borough Council should provide assistance with this process;
- (b) That promotion of support and assistance available for local businesses is

undertaken including;

- (i) Increasing the awareness of hardship assistance available to businesses from Hartlepool Borough Council, for example through the prominent inclusion of information with business rates demands;
 - (ii) Ensuring Hartlepool Borough Council staff who deal with local businesses can signpost people to appropriate sources of information and advice at the first point of contact;
- (c) That to encourage and support local businesses in Hartlepool:-
- (i) The use of local providers to supply goods and services to Hartlepool Borough Council, where economically sensible, is explored; and
 - (ii) The e-quotations system is prominently highlighted to all relevant local businesses.
- (d) That the development of a 10 year jobs and the economy strategy for Hartlepool be explored and that at the outset of this, a working group of voluntary and private sector organisations is established;
- (e) That work is undertaken to establish a jobs and the economy themed social enterprise building on the work of Hartlepool Works, encompassing a partnership between the local authority, private enterprises and the voluntary sector, to bid for and commission services to support people into employment.

The Forum and members of the public in attendance discussed the conclusions and recommendations during which the following issues were raised:-

- (i) A Member commented that reference should be included within the report to the fact that WNF organisations and the Council's internal support mechanisms had all faced in-year cuts as well as having deal with the termination of all WNF funding from 31 March 2011.
- (ii) Several members of the public gave examples of the outstanding work undertaken by organisations currently supported through WNF and the devastating effect the termination of this funding was going to have on the local community.
- (iii) The importance of building on partnership working and sharing good practice was highlighted as a way of exploring alternative avenues for funding and more innovative ways of working.

The Employment Development Officer updated the Forum on the progress with the Work Programme prime providers and what the current process was. At the present time, there are nine organisations who were bidding to the Department for Work and Pensions to become a Work Programme prime provider in the North East. By the end of February 2011, two prime providers would be chosen to deliver the programme which was due to commence in

the summer. Although there was significant funding available through the Work Programme contracts and subcontracting opportunities may be available, it was noted that organisations would be funded differently to how WNF funding was made available. Instead, the prime provider would only pay the subcontractor on outputs/outcomes and this may be challenging for some organisations. The Employment Development Officer advised that there were limited funds available when a client started on the programme and the majority of funding was paid out when a client entered into work (and was sustained in this employment for a specific period of time). Potential subcontractors were advised that they would need to review whether this funding regime would offer a sustainable financial model for their organisation.

Recommended

That the draft final report be agreed for submission to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee and Cabinet as appropriate.

55. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents - – Proposals for inclusion in Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan 2011/12 *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

The Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) gave a detailed and comprehensive presentation on the proposals for inclusion within the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan for 2011/12. The Assistant Director asked Members to note that the outcomes were based on the first three quarters of the financial year and that the last quarters figures would be included after 31 March 2011.

The presentation examined in detail the:

- Achievements; and
- Areas to target;
- Challenges; and,
- Proposals.

A discussion ensued during which the following issues were raised:

- (i) It was noted that one of the best achievements during 2010/11 had been the success of the Future Jobs Fund with over £4m worth of funding secured to create jobs for young people and this should be highlighted in the report.
- (ii) Members were pleased to note that jobs and the economy had been highlighted as a priority as without jobs and spending generated through earned money the local economy would decline. In addition, it was suggested that consideration be given to an impact assessment being undertaken against one of the Council's main aims which was to work towards removing children from poverty as there was concerns that the

- decline in the local economy would impact on this issue significantly.
- (iii) The Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) commented that the promotion of Hartlepool as an area associated with expansion and enterprise should be a priority to ensure new and local businesses were given the appropriate level of support to continue and expand.
 - (iv) A resident representative questioned the level of funding provided for shopping parade improvements in the King Oswy Area. The Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) indicated he would forward that information to the resident representative direct.
 - (v) A Member questioned whether the Council would explore any opportunities to encourage private sector employers into Hartlepool possibly through the use of subsidised arrangements. The Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) indicated that the Council had an open door policy to encourage major investors to locate and develop in the town and the use of subsidised arrangements may form part of that policy. The importance of a joined up approach with the port, sub-regional partners, land-owners and the business community was emphasised.
 - (vi) The Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) confirmed that the second round of bids to the Regional Growth Fund were aimed at programmes supporting social enterprises and the community and voluntary sector. It was noted that the minimum bid for funding was £1m but collectively it was hoped that this could be achieved.

Councillor Ray Wells declared a personal interest at this point in the meeting.

- (vii) It was noted that there were a number of empty industrial units in the town and the Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) indicated that through working with specific end users to identify their property requirements, it may be possible to match up future investment in the area with existing empty properties.
- (viii) A resident representative referred to the current road infrastructure in place within industrial areas of the town in particular around the nuclear power station, and how this should be utilised for future investment. The Assistant Director commented that land in the region was at a low value and confirmed that the Section 106 funding available for infrastructure was targeted towards the south of the country due to the higher land value.
- (ix) A Member commented that there may be opportunities for social enterprise not for profit organisations to become landlords of premises and apply for discretionary rate relief which could be repaid in the future. The Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) indicated that was an option that could be explored.
- (x) The Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning) informed Members that one Government initiative allowed Councils to borrow against anticipated revenue from new developments in advance.

Recommended

The proposed outcome templates for inclusion in the 2011/12 Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan were approved with the inclusion of reference to the following:

It was noted that one of the best achievements during 2010/11 had been the success of the Future Jobs Fund with over £4m worth of funding secured to create jobs for young people.

56. Scrutiny Investigation into Domestic Violence Services for Male Victims – Scoping Report (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer presented a scoping report for the Forum's investigation into Domestic Violence Services for Male Victims.

Aim of the Investigation

To assess the availability, ease of access and effectiveness of services provided to male victims of domestic violence in Hartlepool.

Proposed Terms of Reference

- (a) To gain an understanding of the overall aim of services provided to male victims of domestic violence and what positive outcomes look like;
- (b) To examine how domestic violence services for male victims are currently provided in Hartlepool, including the input of partner organisations;
- (c) To assess the effectiveness of the delivery of services provided to male victims of domestic violence in Hartlepool in comparison to local and national baselines;
- (d) To gain an understanding of the impact of current and future budget pressures on the way in which male domestic violence services are provided in Hartlepool;
- (e) To explore how male domestic violence services could be provided in the future, giving due regard to:
 - (i) Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the way in which the service is currently provided; and
 - (ii) If / how the service could be provided at a reduced financial cost (within the resources available in the current economic climate).

Potential Areas of Enquiry/Sources of Evidence

- (a) Member of Parliament for Hartlepool;
- (b) Elected Mayor;
- (c) Director and / or appropriate officers of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department and Child and Adult Services Department;
- (d) Appropriate national/regional organisations and partner agencies;

(i.e. Cleveland Police, Probation Service, Youth Offending, A&E, Harbour, Housing Hartlepool, Hart Gables, Mankind, Broken Rainbow)
- (e) Another Local Authority as an example of good practice;
- (f) Local residents and people who use services;
- (g) Representatives of minority communities of interest or heritage; and
- (h) Ward Councillors.

Key suggestions of documentary/internet sources were included in the report together with community engagement issues and details of the proposed timetable.

During the discussions that followed a Member questioned whether any actual evidence from male victims of domestic violence would be available for Members consideration. It was noted that there may be an opportunity for some anonymised case studies to be considered.

It was suggested that the terms of reference paragraph (a) be extended to include reference to the pressure of society of stopping male victims coming forward to report abuse.

Recommended

The proposed remit for the investigation, terms of reference and potential areas of enquiry/sources of evidence were agreed as detailed above subject to the following additions/amendments:

- (i) That the Forum be given the opportunity to consider some anonymised case studies of male victims who have suffered abuse and sought help.
- (ii) The within the terms of reference, paragraph (a) be expanded to include reference to the pressure that society to stopping male victims coming forward to report abuse.

57. The Tall Ships Race 2010 – Independent Evaluation and Economic Impact Assessment (*Scrutiny Support Officer/Director of Child and Adult Services*)

The Assistant Director (Community Services) and Events and Visitor Services Manager were in attendance to present the Economic Impact Assessment and Evaluation of the Tall Ships Event. The Assistant Director (Community Services) confirmed that the completion of an independent evaluation exercise was a requirement of the funding offer letter from One NorthEast who contributed to £775,000 to the project. The Council commissioned Proportion Marketing in conjunction with Spirul Ltd to undertake the research to evaluate and provide insight into the economic impact of the Tall Ships Race – Hartlepool 2010. The full evaluation report was attached at Appendix 1. The key findings and conclusions were detailed in the report.

A discussion ensued which included the following issues:

- (i) The report indicated that on average each individual who attended the event spent £26 and this amount was questioned. The Events and Visitor Services Manager confirmed that the sample size was statistically balanced and the amount did include travel and accommodation costs. As it was an average spend, it was noted that some individuals would have spent a lot more and some considerably less.
- (ii) In response to a question from a resident representative, the Assistant Director (Community Services) confirmed that visitor numbers were calculated by assessment based on a number of factors from the police, the event management company, the Council and Sail Training International.
- (iii) A resident representative questioned the cost of undertaking the evaluation and compiling this report. The Events and Visitor Services Manager indicated that information was not to hand but it would be sent to the resident representative direct.
- (iv) Members felt disenfranchised from the event as they had not been invited as Members of the Council to take part in any of the event other than a hospitality event.
- (v) There were a number of concerns about disabled access to and around the site and the Assistant Director (Community Services) confirmed that this issue was included in a number of lessons to be learned from holding such a huge event for the first time.
- (vi) It was noted that there had been some issues with accessibility to the Tall Ships website but the Events and Visitor Services Manager had been aware of this and it had been dealt with.
- (vii) Members were concerned that the report made a number of generalisations and it was suggested that in future when companies were commissioned to produce a report, a representative from that company be in attendance to present the report and answer Members' questions.

- (viii) In response to a question from a Member the Events and Visitor Services Manager commented that it was difficult to compare issue with other towns and cities that had held the event previously as the figures were compiled differently and based on differing issues.
- (ix) One of the key issues affecting the event in Hartlepool was the transport infrastructure and it was recognised that a lot of effort and resources had to be put into creating an appropriate traffic infrastructure.
- (x) A Member sought clarification on whether any businesses outside of the town centre area had been included in the survey. The Assistant Director (Community Services) confirmed that businesses outside of the town centre area had not been included and he was aware of some businesses who reportedly suffered a decrease in business over that weekend. However, Members were asked to be mindful that due to the number of warning issued by the Highways Agency in relation to traffic jams during the event, a lot of effort had been put into minimising this. For example, residents were encouraged to do their main shopping for that week prior to the weekend. A significant number of residents had chosen not to visit local businesses over the weekend due to the warnings given about possible traffic flow issues. However, it was noted that the traffic flow system implemented across the town was very effective.
- (xi) Prior to the event and during discussions Members had commented that the event should be affordable for local people. However, Members were disappointed to note the high cost of food at the event in an area with such high unemployment and deprivation.

There were a number of other issues discussed and Members were informed that a questionnaire would be circulated to all Members for their comments/views on the whole event.

Recommended

The report was noted.

58. Issues Identified from Forward Plan

None.

59. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

Meeting concluded at 5.15 pm.

CHAIR

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

3 February 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION IN TO SERVICES
AVAILABLE TO MALE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE – SETTING THE SCENE - COVERING
REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that the Community Safety Manager and the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator have been invited to attend this meeting to provide evidence in relation to the investigation into 'Services Available to Male Victims of Domestic Violence' and that written evidence from the Child and Adult Services Department has been received.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 20 January 2011, the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry / Sources of Evidence for this scrutiny investigation were approved by the Forum.
- 2.2 Consequently the Community Safety Manager and the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator from Hartlepool Borough Council have agreed to attend this meeting to provide a presentation giving an overview of partnership working arrangements in place to tackle domestic violence, the responsibilities agencies have towards male victims of domestic violence and how services are currently provided. In addition written evidence has been received from the Child and Adult Services department as follows:-
- 2.3 Social Services
Should male victims of domestic violence present themselves to the Child and Adult Services Department (or a referral be made to the first point of contact which is the Duty Team), an assessment of need will be undertaken which will determine the most effective intervention for the individual according to their situation / circumstances, mental capacity and their wishes and preferences.

The outcome of the assessment process could be that the individual is referred on to organisations such as the Police and Harbour, or under community care legislation other services could be arranged to provide specific support to the person. Where there is evidence of significant harm, it is likely that the matter will be dealt with within the adult safeguarding procedures in partnership with the Police.

2.4 Youth Offending Service

In terms of an identified need specifically relating to domestic violence the YOS would be in the first instance looking at provision of services from Harbour. However the young people the YOS work with have such extensive needs that often other services are more appropriate such as Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), HYPED (young people's substance misuse service), Acorn team for therapeutic work or young carers for example. The young people usually have more than one presenting need, e.g. domestic violence alongside substance misuse issues, mental health, literacy issues etc and it would be inappropriate to refer them to three or four different services that met individual and separate needs. Therefore unless domestic abuse is a presenting need outside of other issues we hope that those providing individual work to young people would have the skills to be able to address multiple needs.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is recommended that the Members of the Forum:-

- (i) Note the content of this report; and
- (ii) Consider the evidence of the Community Safety Manager and the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator from Hartlepool Borough Council in attendance at this meeting and seek clarification on any relevant issues where required.

Contact Officer:- Elaine Hind – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523647
e-mail: elaine.hind@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into Domestic Violence Services for Male Victims – Scoping Report' Presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 20 January 2011.

Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Panel 3rd February 2011

Male Victims of
Domestic Violence

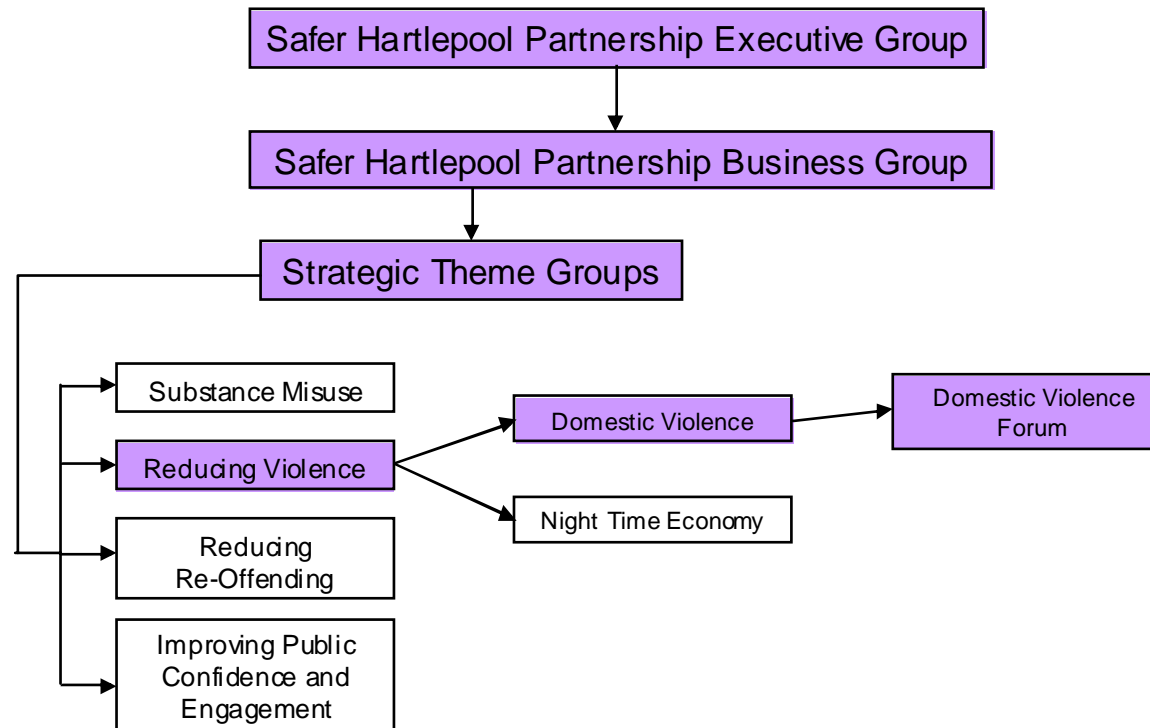


Brian Neale
Community Safety Manager

Introduction

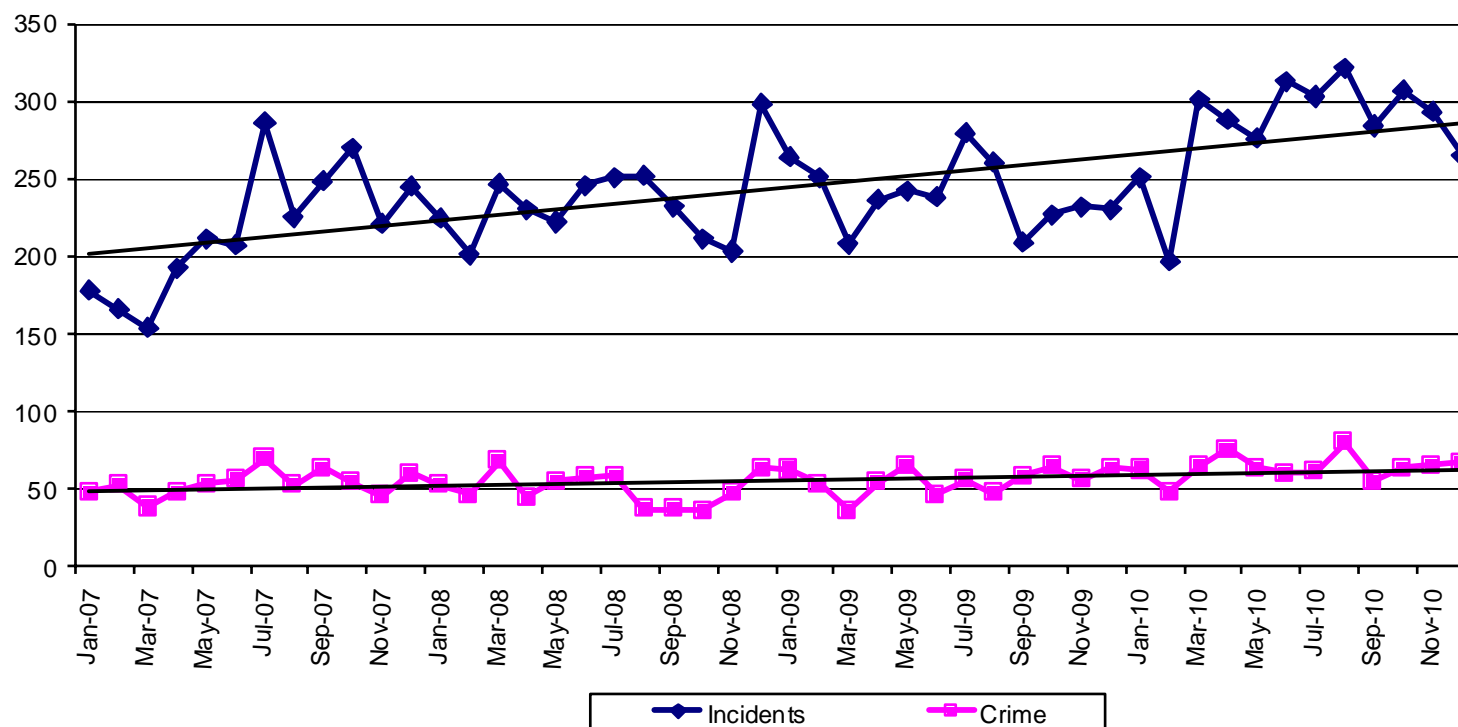
- Safer Hartlepool Partnership
- Services provided:
 - North Tees Domestic Violence Coordinator
 - Specialist Domestic Violence Court
 - Independent Domestic Violence Adviser
 - Harbour
 - Links to Criminal Justice Agencies

Partnership Structure



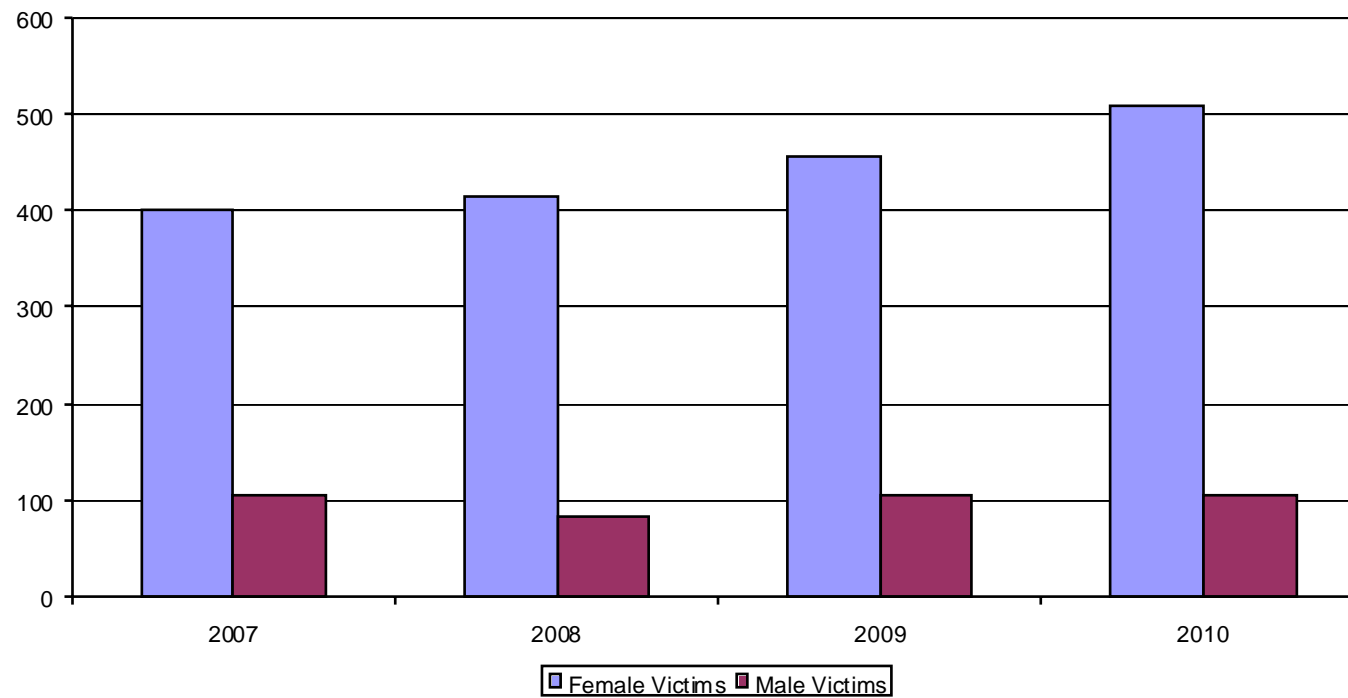
Incidents and Crimes

**DOMESTIC RELATED INCIDENTS AND CRIMES REPORTED TO CLEVELAND POLICE
IN HARTLEPOOL
JANUARY 2007 - DECEMBER 2010**



Gender

GENDER OF DOMESTIC RELATED CRIME VICTIMS IN HARTLEPOOL
JANUARY 2007 - DECEMBER 2010



Victim Profile

- Over the past four years nearly 2 in 10 victims of domestic related crime were male.
- The majority of male victims were aged between 17-24 years and 38-45 years.
- Domestic abuse is a factor in 49% of YOS clients' lives.
- Over the last four years there have been 455 individuals subject to two or more domestic related crimes. Of this total 44 (9.6%) were male.

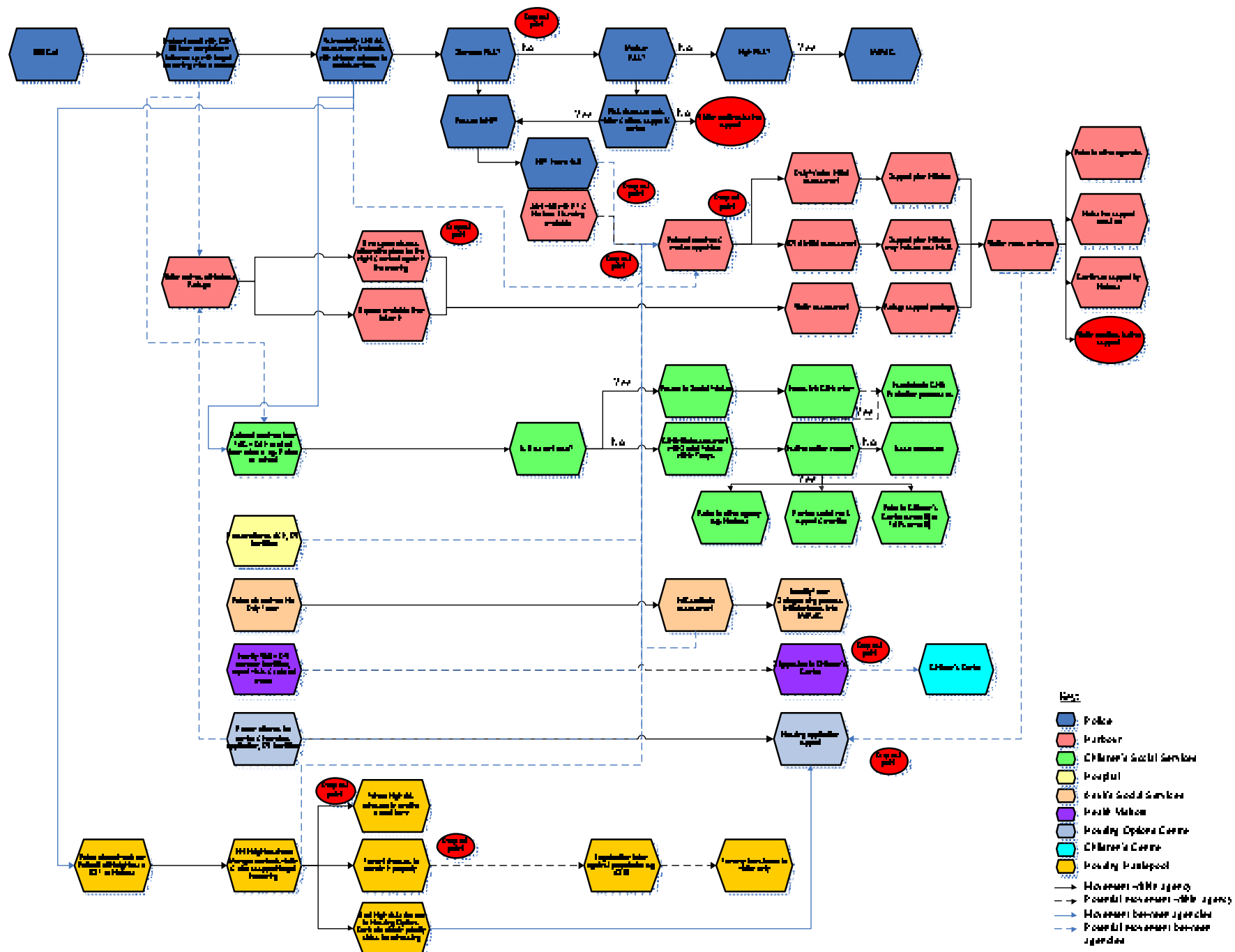
	YEAR				
VICTIM GENDER	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Female Victims	401	415	456	507	1779
Male Victims	105	83	106	105	399
Victim Total	506	498	562	612	2178
% Proportion Male Victims	21%	17%	19%	17%	18%

Relationship

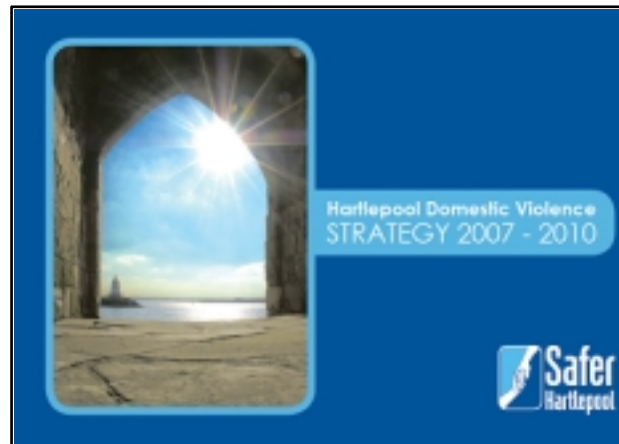
Relationship to Perpetrator	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total	% Total
Acquaintance	13	17	21	16	67	22%
Spouse/co-habitee	12	5	17	11	45	15%
Other family member	7	9	7	12	35	12%
Ex Partner	8	5	8	13	34	11%
Parent of offender	8	3	8	10	29	10%
Boyfriend/girlfriend	8	3	5	12	28	9%
Sibling of offender	3	5	5	8	21	7%
Child of offender	2	4	9	5	20	7%

Victim – Offender Analysis

- 20% of male victims are also domestic violence/abuse perpetrators.
- 5% of female victims are also domestic violence/abuse perpetrators.



Strategy Development



- Domestic Violence Development Group
- 2011-12 Strategy Development
- Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Priority area as per Strategic Assessment

Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Panel 3rd February 2011

Questions?



Brian Neale
Community Safety Manager

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

3 February 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO SERVICES
AVAILABLE TO MALE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE – EVIDENCE FROM KEY
STAKEHOLDERS - COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that key stakeholders have been invited to attend this meeting to provide evidence in relation to the investigation into the 'Services Available to Male Victims of Domestic Violence'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 20 January 2011, the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry / Sources of Evidence for this scrutiny investigation were approved by the Forum.
- 2.2 Consequently representatives from the following organisations have been invited to attend today's meeting to discuss the services they provide to male victims of domestic violence, any signposting to other agencies which may take place and the numbers of males accessing services:-

- (a) Cleveland Police;
- (b) Harbour;
- (c) Housing Hartlepool;
- (d) Hart Gables; and
- (e) Probation Service.

- 2.3 In relation to 2.2 (e), the Probation Service has indicated it will provide written evidence. In accordance with the Authority's Access to Information Rules, it has not been possible to include this evidence within the statutory requirements for the dispatch of the agenda and papers for this meeting, the written evidence received from the Probation Service in advance of the meeting will be circulated under separate cover as **Appendix A**.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum consider the evidence of the key stakeholders in attendance at this meeting and the written evidence of the Probation Service.

Contact Officer:- Elaine Hind – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523647
e-mail: elaine.hind@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into Domestic Violence Services for Male Victims – Scoping Report' Presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 20 January 2011.

**SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO SERVICES AVAILABLE TO MALE
VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – RESPONSE BY THE PROBATION
SERVICE**

The Probation Service supports offenders convicted of sentences greater than 12 months once released from prison on licence; it also supports offenders in the community on community sentences ordered by the court. The service works to reduce re-offending and challenge offender behaviour.

Hartlepool Probation Service is not currently working with any offenders convicted of domestic abuse against men.

Prior to working with each offender an assessment process is completed, this includes questions exploring the offender's relationships. Should domestic violence issues be raised during this process (which offenders indicate may have had an impact on their own behaviour) offenders are signposted to Harbour or Hart Gables.

When men have been convicted of a serious domestic violence crime against women there are group programmes in place aimed at reducing the cycle of abuse e.g. the Community Domestic Violence Programme this is an accredited national programme which lasts for 26 weeks. It would not be appropriate to place a woman perpetrator or a male on male perpetrator in the same programme as males convicted of serious domestic violence against women. The success of these programmes is monitored by re-offending rates within a 2 year period.

Although there are no specific accredited national programmes to deal with female and male on male perpetrators, the Probation Service would work with the individual on a one to one basis. Depending on the nature of the conviction it may be appropriate to use other offender programmes such as the CALM anger management programme.

It is likely that there is an issue around the awareness of males becoming victims of domestic violence and the Probation Service would support greater awareness raising in this area, though in the current economic climate the response to this would need to be assessed in proportion to the number of incidents.

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

3 February 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION IN TO SERVICES
AVAILABLE TO MALE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE - DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL
SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO DOMESTIC
ABUSE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the Forum of the recommendations and action plan resulting from Durham County Council's 2007 scrutiny investigation 'A Hidden Truth....? A Scrutiny Report about Domestic Abuse in County Durham'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 20 January 2011, the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry / Sources of Evidence for this Scrutiny investigation were approved by the Forum.
- 2.2 Consequently recommendations and action plan extracts taken from Durham County Council Scrutiny Sub Committee for Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities 2007 investigation into domestic abuse have been circulated to Members at today's meeting as **Appendix A**.
- 2.3 Members are asked to note that the terms of reference for the Durham County Council investigation encompassed many aspects of domestic abuse and as such those recommendations and actions relevant to male victims have been extracted for circulation. The Chair of the Durham County Council working group, Councillor Dorothy Bowman, noted in her forward to the report "that the data and understanding in relation to domestic violence against men in heterosexual relationships and between those in same sex relationships is extremely limited and merits greater attention". A link to the full report has been included below.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum note the content of this report and the written evidence attached in **Appendix A.**

Contact Officer:- Elaine Hind – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523647
Email: elaine.hind@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into Domestic Violence Services for Male Victims – Scoping Report' Presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 20 January 2011.
- (ii) A Hidden Truth...? A Scrutiny Report about Domestic Abuse in County Durham. Durham County Council Scrutiny Sub-Committee for Strong, Healthy and Safe Communities 21 May 2007
<http://www.cfps.org.uk/scrutiny-exchange/library/housing/?id=1978>

Recommendation and Action Extracts Relevant to Male Victims

Greater Awareness about Domestic Violence

The Council should consider how greater awareness about domestic violence issues can be promoted, both amongst members; officers; in our local communities; and amongst specific communities of interest. This should also include development opportunities specifically linked to LGBT issues for members and officers. The Working Group recommends that the Council/Cabinet should:

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE FROM EXECUTIVE/CHIEF OFFICER/PARTNER ORGANISATIONS	PROPOSED ACTION	COMMENT/OS REVIEW PERIOD
Consider how member awareness about domestic violence issues can be raised through seminars and briefings. This should also specifically include domestic violence in the BME and LGBT communities and in the wider context (i.e. elder abuse and the impact of domestic violence on young people).	<p>Budget proposal to be made to recommend funding to action.</p> <p>Paper to Tees, Esk and Wear Valley's (TEWV) Clinical Governance Committee.</p> <p>Durham Constabulary agrees with such a proposal.</p> <p>PCT – Agree.</p>	<p>Budget proposal to be made to Cabinet and be subject of the consultation process.</p> <p>DPH Annual Report – make available to members. This includes DV as an issue.</p>	<p>11.2.08 Proposal did form part of the public consultation document in respect of DCC budget. Fomal decision awaited.</p> <p>1.9.08 Cabinet agreed to provide £100,000 for training initiatives on a non recurring basis for 2008/09. A delivery plan has been developed. Once approved a series of training courses and the development of e-learning programmes will be implemented.</p> <p>21.12.09 A training programme was delivered for Elected members and staff. As well as basic awareness raising, there were courses specifically related to BME and LGBT issues and for managers. The annual conference included issues related to disability and domestic abuse.</p>

A Hidden Truth...? A Scrutiny Report about Domestic Abuse in County Durham

7.3 Appendix A

			<p>As a consequence Adults Well being and Health have now included domestic abuse as a standard course offered to staff. The cost of the whole programme of events was £31,813.30.</p> <p>Ongoing awareness raising events for Elected members will be required.</p> <p>31.8.10</p> <p>Report updating on progress circulated to Elected Members July 2010.</p>
<p>Initiate a review of training provision for Council staff working in the field of domestic violence and identify any gaps in provision within this area. The development of training opportunities for professional staff working in this field should be considered with the Council's partners, with a view (wherever possible) to providing joint training in multi-agency settings. This training should also specifically address LGBT and BME issues.</p>	<p>Budget proposal to be made to recommend funding to action.</p> <p>TEWV to consider joint training initiatives.</p> <p>Durham constabulary agree with proposal.</p>	<p>Budget proposal to be made to Cabinet and be subject of the consultation process.</p> <p>Discuss in Domestic Abuse Executive Forum.</p> <p>Suggest capitalise on expertise in the DV Forum.</p>	<p>11.2.08</p> <p>Proposal did form part of the public consultation document in respect of DCC budget. Fomal decision awaited.</p> <p>1.9.08</p> <p>Cabinet agreed to provide £100,000 for training initiatives on a non recurring basis for 2008.09. A delivery plan has been developed. Once approved a series of training courses and the development of e-learning programmes will be implemented.</p> <p>Training opportunities are also provided by the Domestic Abuse Forums which DCC staff can access.</p> <p>21.12.09</p> <p>Achieved. A training programme was delivered for staff during 2008/09. As well as basic awareness raising, there were courses specifically related to BME</p>

A Hidden Truth...? A Scrutiny Report about Domestic Abuse in County Durham

7.3 Appendix A

			and LGBT issues and for managers. The annual conference included issues related to disability and domestic abuse. As a consequence Adults Well being and Health have now included domestic abuse as a standard course offered to staff. CYPS have also made funding available to train staff in Social Care Direct and the Emergency duty team in 2009/10.
Ask officers to review and update existing web pages on the County Council website. The pages should include information about domestic violence in the LGBT and BME communities and that perpetrated upon young people and by women against men. Web pages should signpost victims of domestic violence to appropriate support organisations and to relevant policy documents. We would further suggest that Durham Constabulary make its domestic violence policy document more readily accessible (in electronic form).	DCC web pages to be updated. Consider web linked to TEWW website. Durham Constabulary d/v policy is available to the public already.	DCC Community Safety Team to update web pages. TEWW to provide information. No further action required.	11.2.08 Content of DCC web pages reviewed and additional information to be included identified. Update will be completed by March 08. 1.9.08 Achieved 21.1.09 Following the move to unitary status. The DCC website has been update and includes all relevant in respect of domestic abuse. The website will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure it remains up to date. No further action is required.
In relation to existing educational material for use in schools: (i) Review (with its partners where appropriate) the roll-out and use of existing material about domestic violence (including the "Victims of Silence" video	Materials are available for schools to utilise. TEWW agree with such a proposal.	Schools to be encouraged to make use of existing resources	11.2.08 The focus of the County Domestic Abuse Conference is to be on forced marriage and 'honour based violence'. 1.9.08 The focus of the County Domestic Abuse

A Hidden Truth...? A Scrutiny Report about Domestic Abuse in County Durham

7.3 Appendix A

<p>and supporting material)</p> <p>(ii) Ensure that the educational material also addresses issues such as forced marriage; domestic violence in same sex relationships; and domestic violence between young adults.</p> <p>(iii) Encourage greater take up by schools of domestic violence information by highlighting their duty under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to make arrangements with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.</p>	<p>Durham Constabulary would ask the Council to support and assist in making sure the existing d/a resources are utilised within our secondary schools. Training will be needed for Education staff around the issue of forced marriage, as this was not covered in the initial training.</p>		<p>Conference held on 14.3.08 was forced marriage and 'honour based violence.'</p> <p>The use of the educational materials is being promoted with head teachers.</p> <p>21.12.09 Schools will have a duty to deliver programmes related to violence against women and girls as part of the curriculum from 2011. No further action required.</p>
<p>With its partners, seek to review the effectiveness of any future publicity material about domestic violence and, in planning any future campaigns, seek to put in place appropriate measures to do this. Any review should consider the need for publicity material targeted at:</p> <p>(i) Those victims for whom English is not a first language (ii) The LGBT community (iii) Young adults</p>	<p>Whilst this is agreed to in principle, given the funding implications and the existing priorities for funding relating to providing core services, this is not a priority at this time.</p> <p>TEWW agree with such a proposal.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p> <p>Communication Plan</p>	<p>11.2.08 No further action required at this stage.</p>

Better Data about Domestic Violence

Without adequate information about the extent and nature of domestic violence, it is impossible to target resources effectively. The Working Group recommends that the Council/Cabinet should:

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE FROM EXECUTIVE/CHIEF OFFICER/PARTNER ORGANISATIONS	PROPOSED ACTION	COMMENT/OS REVIEW PERIOD
Consider (with partners) whether existing local data about domestic violence is sufficient; the recently introduced research provision to analyse the information is adequate; and whether opportunities exist for data collection mechanisms to better capture information about domestic violence in the LGBT and BME communities and about young people and men (in heterosexual relationships) as victims.	<p>It is agreed that data from agencies other than the police is required.</p> <p>TEWV agree there is a need to share data.</p> <p>Durham constabulary agree with such a proposal.</p> <p>PCT to explore</p> <p>National Probation Service will share information on crimeogenic factors around d/v cases under supervision.</p>	Data issues to be considered as part of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment.	<p>11.2.08 A data improvement plan is to be a priority.</p> <p>1.9.08 A performance management framework has developed. A research and information officer has been allocated to work on improving data collection from across a range of partner agencies. This will inform the strategic assessments of the Community Safety Board and issues relating to service delivery and development.</p> <p>21.12.09 Information is provided and presented to DAFEG (Domestic Abuse Forum Executive Group), the thematic group of the Community Safety Partnership on a quarterly basis. The framework will be reviewed and improved on an ongoing basis.</p>

A Hidden Truth...? A Scrutiny Report about Domestic Abuse in County Durham

7.3 Appendix A

			<p>The data collected is also used to inform the Safe Durham Partnership strategic assessment which is produced on an annual basis and informs the priorities for the partnership. Domestic has consistently been identified as a priority.</p> <p>No further action is required.</p>
<p>With its partners, consider whether there is a need to gather information locally about domestic violence in the LGBT and BME communities; by women against men; and between adult siblings or adult siblings upon their parents/carers. The provision of funding (preferably partial, with partners) to commission studies into these areas, about which little is currently known, should form part of this consideration.</p>	<p>The possibility of collecting such data to be considered as part of the data improvement plan.</p> <p>TEWV agree to the need for an agreed data collection process.</p> <p>Durham Constabulary would support such data collection if possible.</p>	<p>Discuss in D A Forum Executive group</p>	<p>11.2.08 Data improvement plan agreed as a priority by the County Durham Community Safety Board.</p> <p>1.9.08 Data collection mechanisms are being developed and the possibility of gathering information in respect of LGBT and BME communities is being explored.</p> <p>21.12.09 Information is collected by partner agencies in respect of the relationship between victims and perpetrators. However, IT systems are not able to separate this information out for reporting purposes. Funding to commission studies is not a priority for the Safe Durham Partnership, the priority is securing specialist service delivery. No further action is required at this stage.</p>

Enhanced Partnership Working

Tackling domestic violence and supporting victims demands a cross-cutting, multi-agency approach. Domestic Violence Forums and refuges provide a more local focus. The main support from the County Council to local Forums to date has been “in kind” and a view was expressed in evidence that the Council has not been sufficiently engaged in some Forums to the extent which the Working Group believes is necessary. The Working Group recommends that the Council/Cabinet should:

OVERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE FROM EXECUTIVE/CHIEF OFFICER/PARTNER ORGANISATIONS	PROPOSED ACTION	COMMENT/OS REVIEW PERIOD
With its partners, seek to encourage minority community representation (i.e. LGBT and BME communities) on the Core Strategy Group.	REC attends the Core Group when resources allow. Traveller's liaison has been invited to attend. TEWV agree. Durham Constabulary comments that the group is already open to any practitioner in the field.	Partners to be encouraged to participate in the Forum Core Group	11.2.08 Traveller's liaison are to attend from Jan 08. 1.9.08 Traveller's liaison are to attend from Jan 08. 21.12.09 The County Durham Domestic Abuse Forum Core Group is open to any professional working in the field or with an interest in domestic abuse issues. Partners from a range of statutory and voluntary organisations participate, including gay Advice Darlington and Durham. No further action is required.
Seek, via the Supporting People Partnership, to encourage: (i) The development (either within the	No such proposal has been put forward by any agency. TEWV agree.	No further action required.	11.2.08 No action required at this stage.

County or regionally), of refuge provision for victims from the BME or LGBT communities and for men fleeing violence from women (ii) The provision of a refuge or similar for those with older male children fleeing violence	Durham Constabulary comment that no needs have been identified, however should such a proposal be put forward the constabulary would be happy to consider.		
--	--	--	--

Improved Support for Victims and Perpetrators

A key aspect of service development and delivery is engagement and consultation with users of services to allow them a greater role in shaping and evaluating services. The Council/Cabinet should:

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE FROM EXECUTIVE/CHIEF OFFICER/PARTNER ORGANISATIONS	PROPOSED ACTION	COMMENT/OS REVIEW PERIOD
Consult with its partners to determine whether there is a need to develop perpetrator programmes in relation to: (i) LGBT perpetrators (ii) Women who are perpetrators (against men) (iii) Young adults who are perpetrators	At present there is no evidence to highlight a need to develop programmes in these areas, therefore this not a priority area for funding. Durham Constabulary comment that no such need has been identified either locally or nationally to support the funding involved in doing this.	No further action required.	11.2.08 No further action required.

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

3 February 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION IN TO SERVICES
AVAILABLE TO MALE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE – INFORMATION FROM REGIONAL
AND NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that information from regional and national organisations has been circulated for consideration in relation to the investigation into the 'Services Available to Male Victims of Domestic Violence'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 20 January 2011, the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry / Sources of Evidence for this scrutiny investigation were approved by the Forum.
- 2.2 Consequently information from the following organisations has been circulated at today's meeting to highlight national statistics on male victims of domestic violence and the strategies being developed in other regions:-

(i) Mankind Initiative

Statistics Compendium on Male Victims of Domestic and Partner Abuse (April 2010 update) **(Appendix A)**

Partner abuse in England Wales and Scotland (long term trends) **(Appendix B)**

Domestic violence – victim evidence **(Appendix C)**

(ii) The Men's Network

Extracts from Brighton and Hove's Citywide Strategy for Men and Boys 2011-14 **(Appendix D)**

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum note the content of this report and the written evidence attached in the Appendices.

Contact Officer:- Elaine Hind – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523647
e-mail: elaine.hind@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into Domestic Violence Services for Male Victims – Scoping Report' Presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 20 January 2011.

Male Victims - Domestic and Partner Abuse Statistics

April 2010 – Produced by the ManKind Initiative

(A) BACKGROUND

The most authoritative source of statistics on partner abuse can be found from the crime statistics produced by the Home Office (England & Wales) and the Scottish Government. Some other organisations choose to use other statistics and their views should be discounted because those statistics used by the Home Office are based on anonymous large scale surveys, free from ideological bias and free from the under-reporting that is a particular problem when viewing statistics for male victims in comparison to those of female victims.

The most up-to-date and comprehensive statistics are available via the following sources.

- (1) British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf>
- (2) Scottish Crime Survey (2008/09) – Partner Abuse <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/296149/0092065.pdf>

The statistics in the following pack are based on the British Crime Survey (not Scotland) plus other reliable sources.

Trend data is provided in a supplementary document on the ManKind Initiative web-site.

The Home Office definition of domestic abuse is correctly the one commonly used:-

Any incident or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or are family members, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Partner abuse statistics are a subset where the domestic abuse can be clearly defined as being perpetrated by a partner or ex-partner.

The most commonly used statistic today stemming from the British Crime Survey (2004/05) remains valid - 1 in 6 (16%) men (aged between 16 and 59) will suffer domestic abuse in their lifetime. The figure for women is 1 in 4 (28%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 36% male: 64% female, equating to 2.6 million men and 4.5 million women.

In common vernacular it means:

For every three victims of domestic abuse: two will be female and one will be male.

Source - British Crime Survey - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs06/rdsolr1206.pdf> (Table 1.1. page 4)

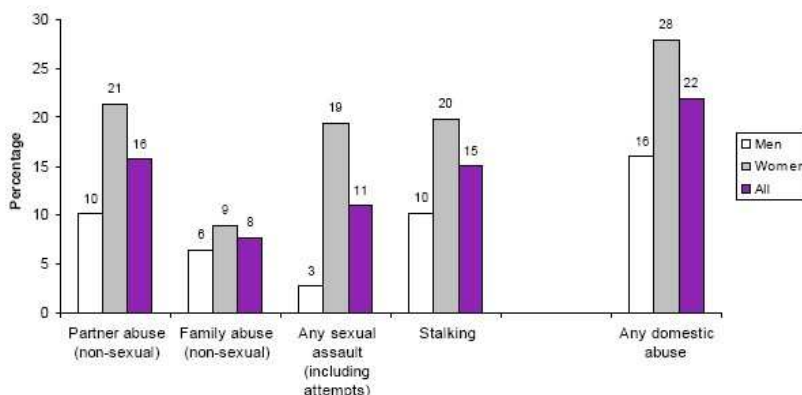
(B) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY STATISTICS

- (1) 1 in 6 (16%) men (aged 16 or over) will suffer domestic abuse in their lifetime. The figure for women is 1 in 4 (28%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 36% male: 64% female. This equates to 2.6 million men and 4.5 million women.
- (2) 1 in 10 men (10.1%) report that they have been a victim of partner abuse since the age of 16. The figure for women is 1 in 5 (21.4%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 32% male – 68% female. Again, for every three victims of partner abuse: two will be female and one will be male.
- (3) 1 in 17 men (5.7%) and 1 in 8 women (12.8%) report that they have been a victim of severe force at the hands of their partner since the age of 16. The gender-victim ratio is 31% male: 69% female
- (4) 1 in 10 men (10.2%) and 1 in 5 women (19.9%) aged 16 or over have been victims of stalking in their lifetime. This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 34% male: 66% female; or 1 in 3 victims of stalking are male.
- (5) In 2008/09, 31 men and 101 were murdered by a partner/ex-partner (classified as the key suspect), a gender-victim ratio of 24% male. This equates to one man every 12 days.
- (6) The percentage of gay or bi-sexual men who suffer domestic abuse (8.9%) is double that of heterosexual/straight men (4.1%).
- (7) 20% of men who have suffered partner abuse have done so for more than one year (97,000 men) while 40% of women have done (496,000).
- (8) 9% of men who had suffered partner abuse in 2008/09 had taken time off of work. 11% of women had also
- (9) 10% of men who were victims of partner abuse in 2008/09 were abused six times or more, 15% of women suffered in the same way
- (10) Only 59% of male victims had told someone they were suffering from partner abuse in 2008/09 whilst 81% of women had.
- (11) The number of women convicted of perpetrating domestic abuse has trebled in the past five years: 2004/05 (806 Cases) and 2008/09 (2,968 Cases)
- (12) 20% of victims of forced marriage are men.
- (13) The average male victim is 43, is 5ft 9” tall and weighs 13st. The average female perpetrator is 40, is 5ft 4” tall and weighs 10st 7”
- (14) There are c80 bed spaces available to male victims in the UK (in 11 locations) and there are over 400 organisations with 500 refuges (with 7,500 spaces) in the UK specifically for women.

(C) ENGLAND & WALES (BRITISH CRIME SURVEY) 2008/09

The most comprehensive statistics show:-

Figure 3.1 Prevalence of intimate violence since age 16, by sex, 2008/09 BCS



Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Figure 3.1 page 61)

(1) Domestic Abuse

- (i) 1 in 6 (16%) men (aged 16 or over) will suffer domestic abuse in their lifetime. The figure for women is 1 in 4 (28%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 36% male: 64% female. This equates to 2.6 million men and 4.5 million women.

In common vernacular it means:

For every three victims of domestic abuse: two will be female and one will be male.

- (ii) 6.3% of women and 3.9% of men experienced domestic abuse in 2008/09. The equivalent of 1.15 million women and 629,000 men. This equates to a gender-victim ratio of 38% male: 62% female.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

(2) Partner Abuse

- (i) 1 in 10 men (10.1%) report that they have been a victim of partner abuse since the age of 16. The figure for women is 1 in 5 (21.4%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 32% male – 68% female. Again, for every three victims of partner abuse: two will be female and one will be male.

- (ii) 2.9% of men and 4.8% of women experienced partner abuse in 2008/09, a gender-victim ratio of 38% male: 62% female. This equates to 430,000 men and 708,000 women.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

- (iii) There are many types of partner abuse and the table below sets out the differing form of partner abuse that men and women suffered in 2008/09.

As set out the overall figure shows that 38% of men suffer as opposed to 62% of women. The areas where men suffer above norm (that is 38%) are:-

- Stopped from seeing friends and relatives: 54%
- Kicked, bit or hit you, or threw something at you: 44%
- Used a weapon against you, for example, a stick or knife: 50%

Table 3.02 Detailed prevalence of intimate violence elements among adults aged 16 to 59

Percentages	2008/09 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence					
	Since the age of 16			In the last year		
	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All
	% victims once or more					
Partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) - non-sexual ¹	10.1	21.4	15.8	2.7	4.4	3.5
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	7.6	15.7	11.7	1.8	2.8	2.3
Prevented you from having your fair share of household money	1.9	5.8	3.9	0.3	0.8	0.6
Stopped you from seeing friends and relatives	5.3	8.5	6.9	1.4	1.2	1.3
Repeatedly belittled you so that you felt worthless	2.9	11.5	7.3	0.5	1.8	1.1
Threats ²	1.0	10.1	5.6	0.1	1.2	0.7
Force	8.9	16.6	11.8	1.2	2.2	1.7
- Minor ³	3.1	13.7	8.5	0.5	1.6	1.1
- Severe	5.7	12.8	9.3	0.9	1.5	1.2
Kicked, bit or hit you, or threw something at you	4.8	9.7	7.2	0.8	1.0	0.9
Choked or tried to strangle you	0.5	5.3	2.9	0.1	0.4	0.3
Threatened you with a weapon (e.g. a stick or knife)	1.1	2.7	1.9	0.1	0.2	0.1
Threatened to kill you	0.6	3.6	2.1	0.1	0.4	0.2
Used a weapon against you, for example a stick or knife	0.6	1.4	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Used some other kind of force against you	1.0	4.9	2.9	0.1	0.5	0.3

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.02 page 71)

(3) Severe Force

- (i) 1 in 17 men (5.7%) and 1 in 8 women (12.8%) report that they have been a victim of severe force at the hands of their partner since the age of 16. The gender-victim ratio is 31% male: 69% female
- (ii) 0.9% men and 1.5% women were victims of severe force at the hands of their partner in 2008/09. The gender-victim ratio is 38% male: 62% female; or nearly 2 in 5 victims of severe force will be male. This equates to 120,000 men and 221,000 women.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

(4) Stalking

- (i) 1 in 10 men (10.2%) and 1 in 5 women (19.9%) aged 16 or over have been victims of stalking in their lifetime. This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 34% male: 66% female; or 1 in 3 victims of stalking are male.

- (ii) 2.8% of men and 4.4% of women were victims of stalking in 2008/09. A gender-victim ratio of 39% male: 61% female; or 2 in every 5 victims of stalking are male. This equates to 415,000 men and 649,000 women.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

- (iii) The different types of stalking offences suffered by men and women in 2008/09 are shown in the table below.

As set out in (i), the overall figure shows that 39% of men suffer as opposed to 61% of women. The areas where men suffer above norm (that is 39%) are:-

- 61% of men stated that their property had been deliberately interfered with or damaged.

	Men	Wom	All	Men	Wom	All
Stalking	10.2	19.9	15.1	2.8	4.4	3.6
Sent you unwanted letters that were obscene/threatening	4.3	8.3	6.3	1.4	2.2	1.8
Made a number of obscene/threatening phone calls to you	4.7	10.4	7.6	0.9	1.6	1.2
Waited or loitered outside your home or workplace	1.7	5.7	3.7	0.3	0.7	0.5
Followed you around and watched you	1.2	6.0	3.6	0.2	0.8	0.5
Deliberately interfered with or damaged your property	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.8	0.5	0.7

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> Table 3.02 page 71)

(5) Sexual Orientation

- (i) The percentage of gay or bi-sexual men who suffer domestic abuse (8.9%) is double that of heterosexual/straight men (4.1%).
- (ii) 6.2% gay or bi-sexual men suffer partner abuse whilst 3.3% of heterosexual men do.
- (iii) The percentage of lesbian or bisexual women who suffer domestic abuse (17.3%) is nearly treble that of heterosexual/straight women (5.9%)
- (iv) 12.4% of lesbian or bi-sexual women suffer partner abuse whilst 4.3% of heterosexual women do.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.07 page 76)

(6) Duration of Abuse

- (i) 20% of men who have suffered partner abuse have done so for more than one year (97,000 men) while 40% of women have done (496,000).
- (ii) 10% of men who were victims of partner abuse in 2008/09 were abused six times or more, 15% of women suffered in the same way. This equates to 36,000 men and 122,000 women (this means that of those victims abused more than six times 23% were men and 77% women which is different to the often quoted 89% female figure used by the Government/Women's Aid and others).

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.11 page 78)

(7) Injuries and Emotional Effects

- (i) 45% of male and 59% of female victims suffered from emotional effects of their abuse in 2008/09, a gender-victim ratio of 43% male: 57% female.

The areas where men suffer above the norm (that is 43%) are:-

- Minor bruising or black eye (45%)
- Scratches (55%)
- Tried to commit suicide (60%)
- Internal bruising or broken bones/teeth (60%)

Table 3.13 Injuries and emotional effects experienced by victims of partner abuse aged 16 to 59 as a result of partner abuse in the last year, by sex

Percentages	2008/09 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence		
	Men	Women	All
Some injuries/ emotional effects	45	59	54
Mental or emotional problems (e.g. difficulty sleeping, depression)	15	33	26
Minor bruising or black eye	17	21	20
Scratches	16	13	14
Stopped trusting people/difficulty in other relationships	11	15	14
Severe bruising or bleeding from cuts	4	6	5
Tried to commit suicide	3	2	3
Internal bruising or broken bones/teeth	3	2	2
Other physical injuries	1	2	2
Becoming pregnant	N/A	1	1
Other	3	5	4
No injuries/ emotional effects	46	34	38
Don't know/don't want to answer	9	7	8
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>362</i>	<i>814</i>	<i>1,176</i>

1. Partner abuse includes non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault and stalking.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.13 page 79)

(8) Time off work

- (i) 9% of men who had suffered partner abuse in 2008/09 had taken time off of work. 11% of women had also

(9) Under-reporting

Under-reporting is far more prevalent in men than in women.

- (i) Only 59% of male victims had told someone they were suffering from partner abuse in 2008/09 whilst 81% of women had. 47% of men had told friends, family or neighbours compared to 66% of women.
- (ii) 1 in 3 callers to the ManKind Initiative help-line (2009) are from women (predominantly mothers and sisters) who want to seek help/information for their son or brother, who does not want to call or seek help himself.
- (ii) Only 10% of men had told the police compared to 20% of women

Table 3.18 Who victims of partner abuse in the last year aged 16 to 59 had told about the abuse, by sex

Percentages	2008/09 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence		
	Men	Women	All
Victim told someone	59	81	74
Friends, relatives or neighbours	47	66	59
Police	10	20	16
Someone at work	10	13	12
Health professional (e.g. doctor or nurse)	4	10	8
Counsellor/ therapist	5	7	6
Legal professional	4	6	5
Government agency (social services, housing department, benefit agency)	2	3	3
Victim support	0	3	2
Helpline (e.g. national domestic violence helpline, rape crisis line, men's helpline)	1	3	2
Women's refuge/group/centre	0	3	2
Someone else	5	4	4
Victim told no one	41	19	26
<i>Unweighted base</i>	269	666	935

1. Partner abuse includes non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault and stalking.

2. Figures add to more than 100 as more than one response possible.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.18 page 81)

(10) Murder

- (i) In 2008/09, 31 men and 101 were murdered by a partner/ex-partner (where the main suspect is a partner/ex-partner), a gender-victim ratio of 24% male: 76% women. For every four murder victims, 1 will be a male and 3 will be female. Over man per fortnight is murdered.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 1.05 page 25)

- (ii) Over a 10-year period (1999/00 to 2008/09) – 290 men have been murdered by their partner/ex-partner as have 1,261 women. The average proportion of male victims over period - 23.0% (where the main suspect is a partner/ex-partner).

(D) OTHER STATISTICS

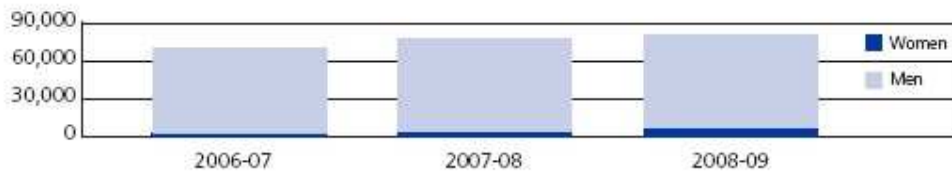
(1) Criminal Justice System - Convictions

- (i) The number of women convicted of perpetrating domestic abuse has trebled in the past five years:

- 2004/05 = 806 Cases
- 2008/09 = 2,968 Cases

Source: Liberal Democrats (Ministry of Justice figures)
http://www.libdems.org.uk/press_releases_detail.aspx?title=Domestic_violence_up_a_third_in_four_years_-_Huhne&pPK=1689459c-44f1-4df7-8a23-271eab8d049f

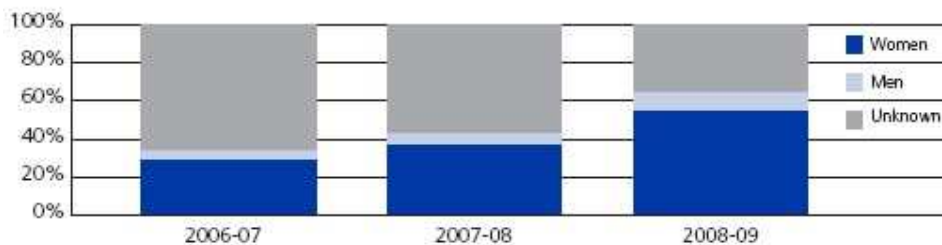
- (ii) According to Crown Prosecution Service statistics for England and Wales, 4,688 women were convicted of domestic violence offences in 2008/09, ie. 6% of the total convictions for such offences.



	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%
Women	3,339	4.8%	4,176	5.5%	4,668	5.9%
Men	65,580	95.1%	71,263	94.4%	73,827	94.0%
Unknown	11	0.0%	13	0.0%	28	0.0%
Total	68,930		75,452		78,523	

Source: Crown Prosecution Service: Violence Against Women Report (2008/09) - http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/CPS_VAW_report_2009.pdf (page 17)

- (iii) The CPS' figures show that 9.5% of victims were men and 54.5% were women. The large number of unknowns means the statistics need a health warning.



	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%
Women	7,892	29.3%	19,514	37.3%	34,705	54.5%
Men	1,405	5.2%	3,239	6.2%	6,064	9.5%
Unknown	17,682	65.5%	29,524	56.5%	22,914	36.0%
Total	26,979		52,277		63,683	

Source: Crown Prosecution Service: Violence Against Women Report (2008/09) - http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/CPS_VAW_report_2009.pdf (page 17)

(2) Forced Marriage

- (i) 20% of victims of forced marriage are men (Home Office)

Source: Department of Children, Society and the Family <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR128.pdf> (page 26)

(3) Height, Weight and Age of Male Victims and Female Perpetrators

- (i) Male Victim
- Age: 43
 - Height: 5ft 9"
 - Weight: 13st

(ii) Female Perpetrator

- Age: 40
- Height: 5ft 4"
- Weight: 10st 7"

Source: ManKind Initiative help-line survey (2009)

(4) Female Violence

- (i) The number of women being arrested for violence increased from 31,000 in 2000 to 88,000 in 2007.

Sources: http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/violent_crime_0708.xls and <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/politics/lawandorder/5251042/Rise-of-ladette-culture-as-241-women-arrested-each-day-for-violence.html>

(E) REFUGES AND SUPPORT FOR MALE VICTIMS

The ManKind Initiative believes that, although support is improving, services for male victims are decades behind those for women victims.

(1) Refuges

- (i) There are only a few organisations in England and Wales (none in Scotland or Northern Ireland) which provide refuge houses and safe rooms specifically for men.
- There are four organisations running four male refuges (with 23 spaces) in the UK and seven organisations providing safe houses for men (with 60 spaces though most are not dedicated for men, but are just available for men)

Source: The ManKind Initiative

- There are over 400 organisations with 500 refuges (with 7,500 spaces) in the UK specifically for women.

Source: Women's Aid/Refuge

(2) Funding

(i) Supporting People Programme

The Home Office, through its Supporting People Programme, has provided local authorities with £60 million per year since 2003 (£66 million in 2008/09) in financial support under the Supporting People housing initiative for Women at Risk of Domestic Violence. This funding is available to support male victims as well (even though the name of the fund is Women at Risk of Domestic Violence) but the vast vast majority of local authorities do not bid to use this money for male victims.

(3) Organisations

There are five charitable organisations/helplines that provide support for male victims at a national level:

The ManKind Initiative
The Dyn Project (*Wales*)
Male Advice Line (*part of Respect charity*)
Broken Rainbow (*LGBT charity*)
The Men's Project (*Northern Ireland*)

Produced by The ManKind Initiative April 2010

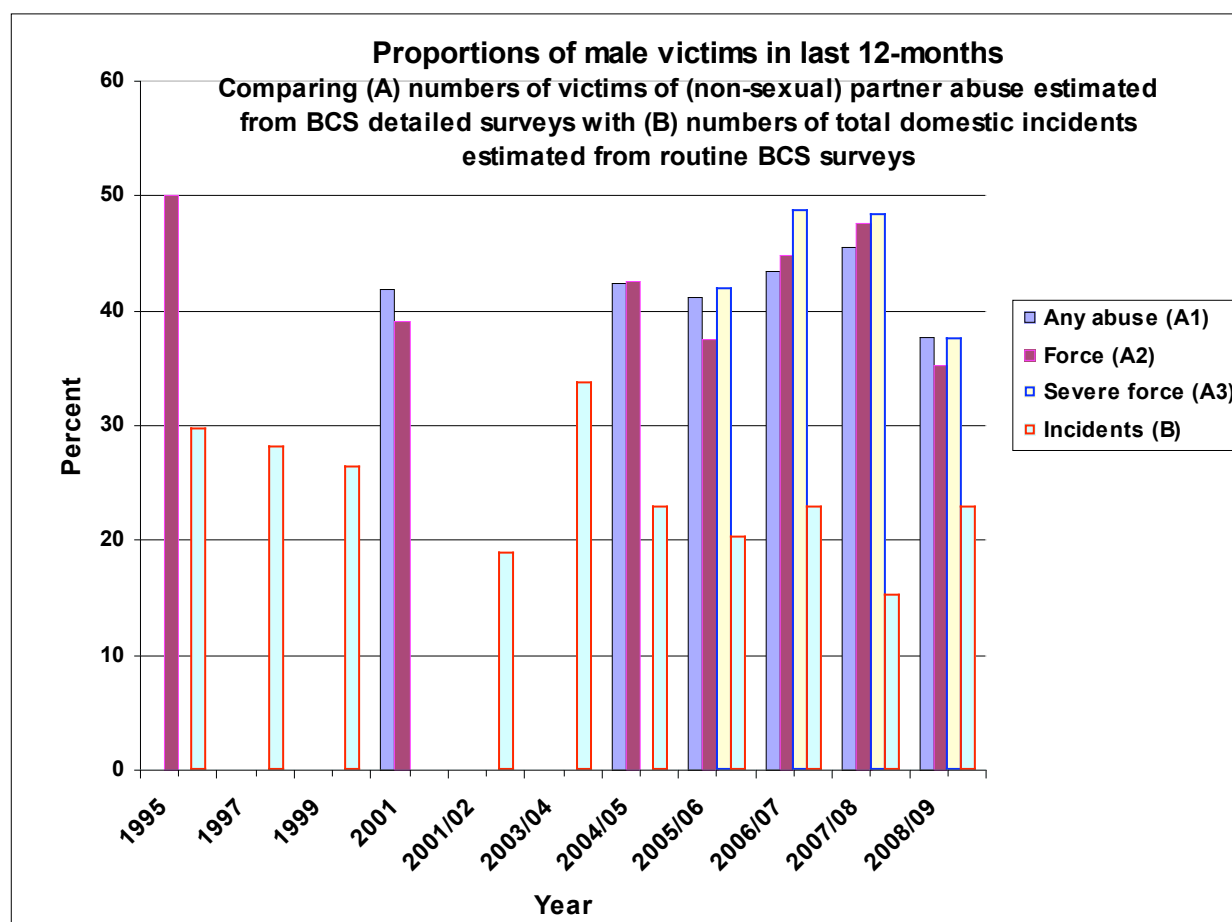
Partner abuse in England, Wales and Scotland

England and Wales 1995 to 2008/09

Estimated numbers of incidents and of victims

Government surveys, conducted by the Home Office, estimate the extent of domestic violence in two main ways, by the numbers of incidents against victims and by the numbers of victims. The first measure, mainly provided by routine British Crime Surveys (BCSs), gives much higher totals of domestic incidents against women than against men, the proportions of total male victims based on these totals ranging from about 15% to 34% during the period 1995 to 2008/09. The second measure of interpersonal violence, mainly provided by detailed computerised self-completion questionnaires supplementary to the BCSs, gives significantly higher proportions of male victims of non-sexual partner abuse, particularly for the more severe forms of assault, ranging from about 38% to almost 50%. These surveys also give separate estimates for family abuse, sexual abuse, and stalking.

Key results showing the estimated proportions of male victims in the last 12-months from both the routine BCSs and the detailed supplementary surveys over the years 1995 to 2008/09 are given in the table below. Sources are given at the end of this briefing.



Before 2001, the routine BCSs were carried out generally every two years. Since 2001, estimated numbers of domestic incidents have been given in the Home Office *Crime in England and Wales* annual publications. The estimates are based on people reporting experiences against them perceived by them as crimes. Since not all people regard domestic abuse against

them, even if serious, as a crime, particularly young men, and therefore may not report it (or wish to admit it) to crime surveys, these routine Home Office crime estimates are likely to significantly under-estimate the actual extent of domestic abuse incidents, particularly against younger men. The totals for domestic incidents also include all family member incidents and not just those between partners.

In 1995, the Home Office introduced a detailed computerised self-completion questionnaire specifically on domestic violence as a supplement to the routine BCS. This asked people whether they had been abused or assaulted by a partner or family member either in the previous 12 months or since the age of 16. This resulted in the publication in January 1999 under Home Office Research Study 191 of the first detailed Government study of the prevalence and outcomes of domestic violence in England and Wales. The results showed much higher proportions of male victims of non-sexual partner abuse than implied by the routine BCSs.

A second detailed study was carried out in 2001 as a supplement to the BCS that year, with results published in March 2004 under Home Office Research Study 276. A third similar study of interpersonal violence was carried out in 2004/05, and detailed studies have since been carried out on annual basis as supplements to the routine BCSs.

The higher proportions of male victims of non-sexual partner abuse estimated by the detailed surveys, are consistent with the results of academic studies of aggression between dating and live-in couples, with now over 250 such studies published world-wide. These all show a substantial level of female aggression in such relationships, with women admitting initiating aggression in about one quarter of cases, men similarly in a quarter, and with mutual aggression admitted in the rest. Although women tend to be more harmed or frightened by domestic violence and more tend to be injured, men can also suffer similarly physically and emotionally, and about one third of those injured are men.

Government policy

Since domestic violence became a political issue in the late 60s and early 70s, Government policy and funding has tended to focus mainly on women as the victims. This is still largely the case, despite the Government's own detailed studies published since 1999 showing a substantial level of male victimisation, and despite the wealth of academic research now available on the issue also showing almost equal culpability between the sexes. Even in August 2008, a consultation document published by the Crown Prosecution Service, on the prosecution of domestic violence cases, contained the assertion that "the overwhelming majority of victims are female".

This polarisation of the issue into female victims and male perpetrators has resulted in the plight and needs of male victims being largely ignored in public policy, as exemplified by the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) campaign initiated by the Government in autumn 2009. Although there are some signs that this neglect is starting to be addressed, there is still a widespread lack of meaningful support services for male victims, and a lack of information about those services that do exist. DV forums tend to publicise information mainly directed at women victims. Police initiatives on the issue, with some exceptions, are usually targeted only at male perpetrators.

Particular plight of male victims

Although the experiences of male and female victims have much in common, and both sexes can suffer physical and emotional harm, the plight of male victims of partner abuse is compounded by:

- A greater reluctance to report, even when injured or suffering chronic abuse
- More likelihood of being disbelieved or even ridiculed if they do
- A greater likelihood of being themselves arrested

- A dearth of effective support services including emergency accommodation - male victims being often directed to bed and breakfasts or hostels unsuitable for fathers with children
- A greater likelihood of being themselves removed from the family home with a high risk of subsequent loss of meaningful, or any, contact with their children, and risk of an adverse effect on their career prospects
- A greater difficulty in obtaining court orders against violent female partners
- The institutionalised effects of official policies and practice still negatively influenced against them by entrenched and hostile perspectives based on women as victims and men as perpetrators, so that a holistic and more equitable approach is ignored, and little government funding made available for male victims.

The 2008 Report⁽¹⁾ published by the House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee, following its Inquiry into Domestic Violence in England and Wales, largely ignored the plight of male victims, although it did recommend the provision of more emergency accommodation for them but, unlike for women victims, subject to 'means-testing'.

Detailed study of male victims

Experiences reported to a 2001 detailed study⁽²⁾ of the experiences of 100 male victims of domestic violence suggested that in many instances male victims of female violence in couple relationships suffered no less physical and emotional consequences than female victims. Over half had been threatened with a weapon and a significant proportion reported serious forms of injury. One third had been kicked in the genitals, and others burnt or scalded, stabbed, or hit with heavy objects. Male victims were also less likely than female victims to report the violence or abuse against them, and when they did report, were often faced with what appeared to be widespread prejudice or discrimination against them by the police, social agencies and courts. About one fifth of male victims were themselves arrested. Little action was taken by the police against female assailants unless the men had a visible and significant injury.

Nearly half of male victims who reported abuse against them were subsequently excluded from the family home, and a significant proportion lost meaningful or any contact with their children, who usually remained with the violent mother. Father victims who reported abuse against them by the mother were particularly vulnerable to the consequences of parental separation and the continuing hostility and obstruction of the mother. Only a small proportion of father victims subsequently had regular unimpeded contact with their children. Over three quarters of the 203 children involved witnessed the violence by the mother against the father.

Zero tolerance and pro-arrest policies appeared to be directed mainly at men and offered little protection to genuine male victims and their children. The responses to the survey suggested that in a substantial number of emergency attendances, the police did not act either impartially or fairly.

A male victim appeared to be over twice as likely as a female assailant of being arrested when the police responded to an emergency call. There appeared to be a marked reluctance on the part of the police to arrest a violent female partner in a domestic incident. Few violent female partners were arrested, fewer still charged, and fewer still ever convicted.

Bias against male victims appeared to extend to the courts. Male victims had limited success in obtaining non-molestation and exclusion orders against violent female partners. None of the male victims responding to the survey who had applied for an exclusion order had been granted one, compared to a high success rate by female partners against them.

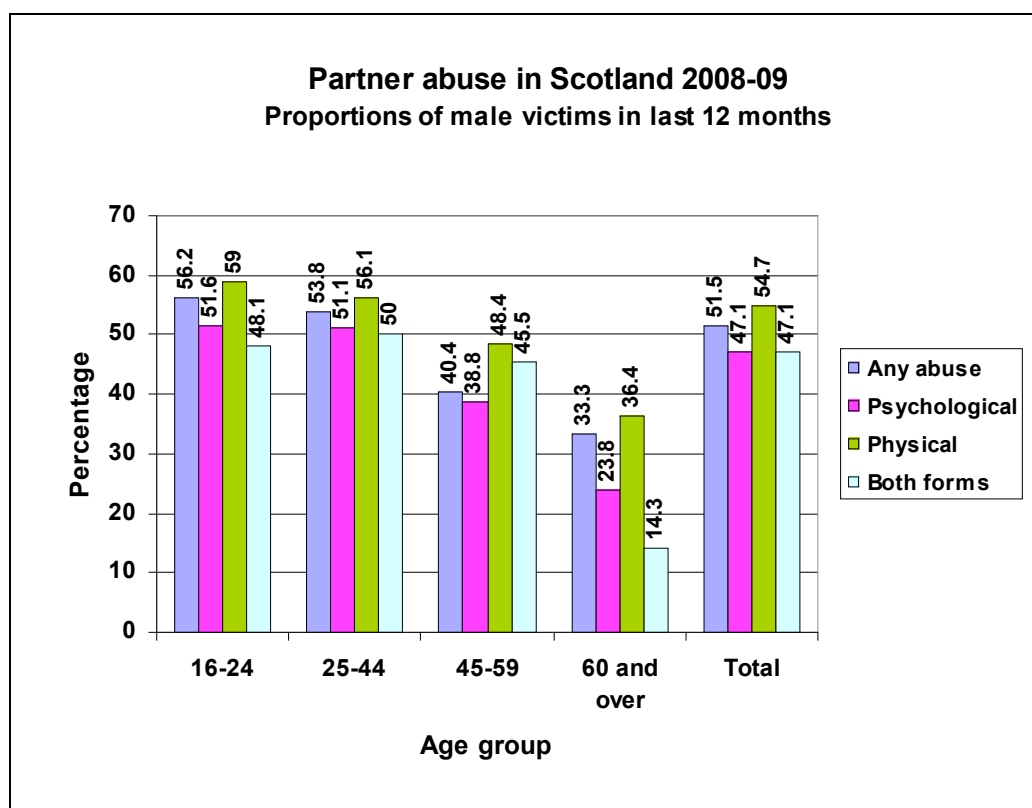
The results of the study followed a similar pattern to those of other surveys and academic studies, and were consistent with the results of the 1998 *Dispatches* survey which used virtually the same survey instrument and also reported on 100 male victims (for details, see Dewar Research website at www.dewar4research.org). Although there has been some change in attitude in England and Wales since 2001 with wider public recognition of the existence and plight of male

victims, there appears to be still widespread bias against male victims on the part of the police and social agencies. There are still no accredited treatment programmes for female perpetrators, and few violent women are arrested or charged in domestic incidents. Public funding to support male victims and their children is still an exception, and only a handful of emergency refuge places are available for them.

Scotland 2008-09

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) is a large scale continuous survey measuring people's experiences and perceptions of crime in Scotland, based on 16,000 in-home face-to-face interviews conducted annually with adults aged 16 and over living in private households in Scotland. The SCJS 2008-09 focused specifically on abuse carried out by a partner or ex-partner. Partner abuse as defined in the SCJS 2008-09 included psychological and physical forms of abuse. The definition of psychological abuse included emotional, financial and other forms of psychological abuse. The definition of physical abuse included sexual and other forms of physical abuse. The survey identified the extent of partner abuse, both in the last 12 months and since the age of 16.

The results showed a high similarity with those of the detailed surveys of intimate abuse carried out annually in England and Wales, including a substantial level of male victimisation. [See chart below]. Of particular interest, are the higher proportions of male victims than of female victims in the two younger age groups (16 to 44) for both psychological and physical abuse.



ManKind Initiative
December 2009

References

England and Wales

- (1) **Domestic Violence, Forced marriage and “Honour” – Based Violence.** Sixth Report of Session 2007-08, House of Commons Home Affairs Committee. HC263-1, 13 June 2008
- (2) **Male Domestic Violence Victims Survey 2001.** Malcolm J George and David J Yarwood. MAIN FINDINGS, October 2004. Dewar Research, Ascot

Sources for information given on chart:

Detailed BC Surveys:

Year 1995: Home Office Research Study 191, January 1999. Table A.3.1	% male (m): A2 50.0
Year 2001: Home Office Research Study 276, March 2004. Table 2.3	% m: A1 41.9, A2 39.0
Year 2004/05: Home Office On-line Report 12/06, 2006. Table A.1	% m: A1 42.3, A2 42.6
Year 2005/06: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 02/07, 25 January 2007. Table 3.1	% m: A1 41.2, A2 37.5, A3 41.9
Year 2006/07: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 03/08, 31 January 2008. Table 3.01	% m: A1 43.4, A2 44.9, A3 48.6
Year 2007/08: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 02/09, 22 January 2009, Table 3.01	%m: A1 45.5, A2 47.6, A3 48.3
Year 2008/09: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 11/09, Vol 1, July 2009, Table 3.11	%m: A1 37.7, A2 35.3, A3 37.5

Routine BC Surveys:

Year 1995: 1996 British Crime Survey. HOSB 19/96. Table A4.4	% m: 29.6
Year 1997: 1998 British Crime Survey. HOSB 21/98. Table A2.3	% m: 28.0
Year 1999: 2000 British Crime Survey. HOSB 18/00. Table A6.6	% m: 26.3
Year 2001/02: Crime in England and Wales 2001/02. HOSB 07/02. Table 6.01	% m: 18.8
Year 2003/04: Crime in England and Wales 2003/04. HOSB 10/04. Table 5.01	% m: 33.6
Year 2004/05: Crime in England and Wales 2004/05. Table 5.01	% m: 22.9
Year 2005/06: Crime in England and Wales 2005/06. HOSB 12/06. Table 5.01	% m: 20.2
Year 2006/07: Crime in England and Wales 2006/07. Table 3.03	% m: 22.9
Year 2007/08: Crime in England and Wales 2007/08, Table 3.03	%m: 15.2
Year 2008/09: Crime in England and Wales 2008/09, Table 3.01	%m: 22.9

Scotland

Source for information given on chart:

Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2008-09, Partner Abuse, December 2009. Annex 1, Table A1.2

George's story

George's wife is a carer for people and is very good at her job but she has a drink problem and is very controlling at home.

When she is drunk she is verbally abusive. She calls George 'queer' and 'a poof'. She also refuses to let him speak to friends and family, has hidden his medication and damaged his property. Once she even used a key to scratch his car from one end to the other.

George is afraid to leave as he is worried what his wife might do to herself if left alone

Sharon's story

Sharon has been concerned about her son Joe for over a year. He had met a girl at university and says she noticed some strange behaviour in the girl but at the time said nothing.

This has all come to a head when Joe decided it was best they split up, his girlfriend lost control and started to lash out at him hitting and scratching him. Joe defended himself by pushing the girl away after receiving bruising, scratches to his face and a bleeding eye, all later documented by his GP.

Joe escaped and called the police, and then accompanied them back to the halls of residence, whereupon they found that friends had called an ambulance and the girlfriend was falsely saying that he had attacked her. He was arrested by the police and was released on bail, having been charged with ABH.

The girlfriend, meanwhile, has taken matters further by making false allegations to the university and consequently Joe, as part of his bail conditions, must have no contact with her.

David's story

David's wife would not let him out of her sight. In his late forties and living in Essex, he could not speak to anyone without her being present including via the telephone where all his calls had to be put on speaker phone.

His wife became increasingly violent, breaking his fingers, hiding his medicine and preventing him from calling the police, an ambulance or getting to a hospital.

Eventually David was discovered by the police and ambulance staff and his wife was arrested. He did not want to leave his wife, he just wanted her to get help so that she would stop assaulting and controlling him.

Fiona's Story

Fiona is very worried about her son Grieg who is being abused by his wife. The couple, in their late twenties, have been together for seven years and have two young children.

Grieg's wife does not allow him to work any more because she says he would spend all day looking at other women. He had worked previously but gave up due to the stress his wife was putting him under. His work colleagues had been so worried about him coming to work with bruises that they contacted Fiona.

He is no longer allowed to use a mobile and has to secretly use a phone box if he wants to speak to his mother. When he had a mobile, his wife would take it and pretending to be Grieg send Fiona abusive text messages saying how much he hated her.

Recently, Grieg's wife told him to take their children out and when he was out of the house, she locked him and the children out and called the police, falsely alleging that Grieg had been abusive.

His wife has made other false allegations during their relationship, telling the children's nursery that he hits the children; on one occasion he turned up to collect them but the nursery refused to allow him to take them.

His wife is also physically abusive, on various occasions dragging keys down his face, blacking both eyes, breaking his front tooth and hitting him with a curtain pole. She has even attacked him when he has had their children on his lap. Both his parents have witnessed many of his injuries and have taken photographs of them.

Whilst he has tried to leave on a number of occasions he always returns, worried that in his absence his wife may harm their children and prevent him from having access to them.

The Men's Network in Brighton & Hove is a charitable organisation committed to creating 'A City That Works for Everyone – Men and Boys Included'. A strategy is currently being developed with the hope of achieving this aim.

At the heart of our strategy is a commitment to develop the city as a World Centre of Excellence For Men and Boys and it is worth noting that the strategic approach we are taking in Brighton & Hove is groundbreaking and not only amplifies some of the excellent work that already exists, but also creates an environment that promotes innovation and inspires new approaches to working with men and boys that can have a global impact.

It is important to note that whilst this strategy has not been through a process of formal adoption by the city it has been designed in service of the city and will help the Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership to focus on the specific needs of men and boys in way that makes it easier to deliver on the objectives of The Sustainable Communities Strategy.

To help us create 'A City That Works for Everyone – Men and Boys Included' – we are committed to developing a nationwide network that gives us access to the very best knowledge, expertise and ideas in the country.

Citywide Strategy for Men and Boys

A Quick Summary of the Strategy

Brighton & Hove's 'Citywide Strategy For Men And Boys' outlines how The Men's Network intends to work with its partners to create A City That Works For Everyone – Men And Boys Included.

Our strategy to create 'A City That Works for Everyone – Men and Boys Included' - marks a new approach to equality not just locally and at grassroots level but also nationally and worldwide.

7 Strategic Objectives

The overarching objective of this strategy is transform the way the world works for men and boys by Creating A Centre of Excellence For Men and Boys in Brighton & Hove that improves men and boys' access to and outcomes from the fullest possible range public services. To help us work towards this visionary objective we have identified 7 strategic objectives that will help us to include men and boys in the city. These are:

- Developing a culture of public service that is both pro-male and pro-female
- Building local groups and communities that involve and support men and boys

- Helping men and boys to access whatever support and help they need in life
- Helping men and boys live longer, happier, healthier lives
- Helping boys do better at school
- **Keeping men and boys safe by reducing crime, violence and anti-social behaviour**
- Supporting dads to be involved in their children's lives

Keeping Men and Boys Safe

Taking action to keep every man and boy in our city safe will make the city a safer place for everyone.

To help us do this we will create a Keeping Men and Boys Safe Taskforce with a focus on understanding and addressing the experience of men and boys who are the victims of crime, anti-social behaviour and risky behaviour.

One of the broader strategic objectives is to build the male social capital that occurs at an individual, cultural and community level and can be measured by an individual man or boy's capacity to seek help and support AND in a community's capacity to give help to men and boys. We also want to understand why individuals and communities with low male social capital are more likely to experience crime, violence and abuse, anti-social behaviour and risky behaviour.

We'd like the Safety Taskforce to consider how we can help boost make social capital at a societal level by seeking to challenge collective attitudes that make us more tolerant of violence and abuse against men and boys, result in lower expectations of men and boys and normalize negative behaviour both towards and by men and boys.

The overriding objectives of this Taskforce would be to:

- Identify the types of crime, violence and abuse, anti-social behaviour and risky behaviour that most impact on men as victims and take action
- Identify the types of crime, violence and abuse, anti-social behaviour and risky behaviour that most impact on men as perpetrators and take action
- Identify and support ways to involve more men and fathers as role models, mentors and champions in this work
- Identify the barriers that prevent more men and boys living a life free from offending and support more boys/men at risk of offending to overcome these barriers and make positive life choices
- Identify the social and cultural norms that make men and boys more likely to be involved in crime, violence and abuse, anti-social behaviour and risky behaviour and challenge these norms wherever appropriate

One vehicle for this work could be an annual event will called The Goodwill Project that we aim to pilot in December 2011.

We'd also like this Taskforce to work with other stakeholders to help improve provision of positive activities during school holidays and out of school time, which could become a year round initiative.

Most importantly, we want the Safety Taskforce to help us to boost the role of male mentoring with an Every Man a Mentor campaign that draws upon and builds on a wide range of existing examples of mentoring such as the Fire & Rescue Services LIFE Project (Local Intervention Fire Education) and abandombrothers Beyond the Hero training for male mentors.

The ten safety objectives we'd like the Keeping Men and Boys Safe Network to consider delivering are:

Promote and develop men to men and men to boy mentoring in the city
Develop an initiative on prevention of violence against men and boys
Help develop existing initiatives to improve safety of men and boys on the road
Develop services for male victims of domestic violence and abuse
Support and develop existing services for male and female perpetrators of domestic violence
Review the provision of services for couples in mutually violent relationships and identify how the way this issue is handled impacts on men, women and children
Develop services to support men in prison, prison leavers and support initiatives supporting dads in prison to stay in contact with their families
Develop and support services for male victims of sexual abuse
Support and develop positive activities for young people
Support and develop initiatives working with homeless men

Our intention is to work with a broad range of partners to deliver on these objectives using the strategic framework.

The Strategy also details how we will work to:

- Include Men and Boys In Local Strategies And Policies
- Connect Men and Boys To Supportive Groups And Communities
- Help Men and Boys To Give Help And Get Help

Finally, we detail how we will build the taskforce to deliver The Strategy and outline:

- Our Key Objectives For Year 1
- Our Key Objectives For Year 2
- Our Key Objectives For Year 3
- Our Timetable Of Action For 2011-2012

The key objectives of our national work in the next three years are:

Year One (2011-2012):

- To build our national network and develop a networking strategy to empower men and men's groups to engage with each other and key local and national decision makers.
- To host a National Conference for Men and Boys and help expand participation in International Men's Day through our role as the UK's national co-ordinator for the event.
- To be open to opportunities arising from the 2012 Olympics.

Year Two (2012-2013):

- Engage our national network in a year-long programmed of activity with nationwide challenges to help us identify innovation and capacity and begin to create national partnerships around key themes.
- To co-ordinate work around the 2012 Olympics in July and August 2012 and host a second National Conference for Men and Boys.

Year Three (2013-14):

- Explore the feasibility of rolling out our Citywide model to other UK town's and cities.
- Host a Global Conference For Men And Boys in Brighton & Hove.

Further details of the work of the Men's Network and the Brighton and Hove 'Citywide Strategy for Men and Boys' can be found at:

<http://brightonmanplan.wordpress.com/>

Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum Investigation in to Services Available to Male Victims of Domestic Violence

Case Study Received as a Result of Press Coverage

As a result of a press article in the Northern Echo regarding the investigation a call was received from the mother of a victim of domestic abuse. The lady in question does not have access to the internet and does not know who to approach for assistance.

Her son is married with three children under 14, two are step children from his wife's previous relationship. He is classed as the guardian of the step children.

His mother is very concerned about him and the children due to his wife's behaviour, she has encouraged him to contact a solicitor but he feels he must accept this situation as it is, for the sake of the children.

His wife is mentally and verbally abusive and violent towards her husband. She attempts to get him to hit her (which he has not done) by screaming in his face and goading him, she also monitors his phone calls.

The man in question must get up at 3 am to go to work and therefore goes to bed very early. His wife then goes out for the evening drinking and brings males home with her, often all are drunk. Her son often finds these people still at the house drunk in the morning.

The majority of the family's money is spent on the wife's drinking habit and the man's mother thinks the children are only getting a minimal amount of food.

The female threatened to leave the family home at one point but was persuaded not to by her own mother for fear of losing the house. The man does not want to leave as he fears for the children.

The lady in question would like assistance for her son and does not know who to turn to.

Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum Investigation in to Services Available to Male Victims of Domestic Violence

Case Study Received as a Result of Press Coverage

As a result of press coverage received on the BBC Tees website a call was received from a male who would like to Forum to hear his experience.

The male was a victim of domestic abuse a number of years ago at the hand of his former partner. He suffered physical and mental abuse for approximately 6 years, which once took place in front of his children.

The male believes a friend told the Police about the abuse on his behalf, he did not approach any agencies himself and no action was taken.

Following the breakdown in his relationship the children stayed with his wife, he once encountered them in the street and his children expressed their surprise as they had been told that he was dead.

The man in question would have liked to attend to today's meeting but unfortunately cannot, however he would like to thank the Forum for looking into the issue and expressed his gratitude that male victims of domestic violence were being considered.