

Belfast Area Domestic Violence Partnership Action Plan 2009- 2010

Strand 1 Prevention			
Regional Action	Belfast Area Partnership Action	Responsibility	Target / Timescale
<p>1. All agencies and departments involved in Partnerships introduce a workplace policy</p>	<p>Map agencies that have existing policies. Share existing models with partner agencies. Disseminate information and share impact of policies on workplace. Encourage agencies to adopt workplace policies.</p>	<p>Prevention working group DV Co- Ordinator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scoping completed May 09. - Workplace policy template and poster developed Nov 09. - Focus Group Sept 09 with women in employment who have experienced D.Violence/ Abuse - Business in the Community (Feb 10) and NIPSA Seminars (May 10) to encourage agencies to adopt workplace policies attended by partnership members, HR reps, and staff from public, voluntary and statutory sector.
<p>2. Information, Resources and Best practice.</p>	<p>Capture what exists in Belfast area. Include intervention tools e.g. routine enquiry, risk assessment, early signs and symptoms. Share Best Practice across agencies. Review /Update Directory of Services consider potential for inclusion on website and hyperlinks. Broaden accessibility, consider translation.</p>	<p>Development and Training working group. D.V.Co-Ordinator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Scoping completed May 09. -Directory of Services revised and printed Dec 09 supported by small grant from Belfast Community Safety Partnership. Evaluation of Directory ongoing. -Information, best practice, research shared with partnership members routinely at all partnership meetings. -Partnership website under

<p>3.Education/Schools To encourage schools to address Domestic Violence through the curriculum. To develop a strategic approach to deliver the Helping Hands/No Fear package across schools.</p>	<p>Capture school programmes which exist in Belfast area. Consider partnerships which can assist in developing/ extending school programmes.</p>	<p>Partnership Prevention Working Group D.V.Co-Ordinator</p>	<p>development -Partnership newsletters produced twice yearly - ongoing</p> <p>-Scoping Complete May 09 -Distribution of Domestic Violence information packs to schools planned autumn 2010 -Ongoing information shared re Womens Aid schools and teacher training programmes.</p>
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Strand 2 Protection and Justice			
Regional Action	Belfast Area Partnership Action	Responsibility	Target Date
1. Improving services for all victims	<p>Raise awareness re Non Molestation Order process. Review DVD "Domestic Violence and the Law. Promote across Belfast area.</p> <p>Continue to Monitor the impact of the secondment of a Women's Aid worker to Public Protection Unit.</p> <p>Seek funding to extend the service. Share information and developments.</p>	<p>Protection and Justice Working Group DV.Co-ordinator Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid</p>	<p>-DVD widely distributed to partnership members, March 09, ongoing.</p> <p>-Secondment of Womens Aid worker to PSNI. extended to include additional worker in South/ East Sector.</p> <p>Evaluation completed by CM Works</p> <p>-Integrated Courts, information sharing/ discussion</p>
2 To explore and consider solutions to reduce the financial burden of legal costs which may have an adverse impact on victims.	<p>Highlight issues and consequences for victims who are not eligible for Legal Aid and the cost of Non Molestation orders. Consider how we gather evidence and influence a process for change.</p>	<p>Protection and Justice Working Group. DV Coordinator to review previous research completed in 2007 by N/W Protection and Justice Subgroup on impact of cost of Non Molestation Orders.</p>	<p>- Previous questionnaires collated March 09.</p> <p>- Response completed on proposals to N.I Funding Code</p> <p>-Information sharing re legal aid entitlement eligibility and benefits passport</p> <p>- Information sharing / discussion and data reports from N.I.Court Service and Legal Services Commission re Non Mol orders granted</p>

<p>1. To examine the position of victims who have limited or no access to public funds.</p>	<p>Highlight issues and consequences for victims with no access to public funds Need to monitor current situation and consider how to influence a process for change research by WAFNII and Scottish W. Aid.)</p>	<p>Protection and Justice Working Group D.V.Co-ordinator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questionnaires reviewed collated and shared with working group Feb/ March 09 - Information sharing re N.I.Trafficked Women's pilot project, Sojourner and Eaves projects -Research and information sharing ongoing
<p>2.To work to ensure availability of a full range of perpetrator programmes which are standardised, quality assured and with built in support systems for victims</p>	<p>Monitor developments in this area and share across agencies. Regional Domestic Violence Steering Group proposing research on outcome of Perpetrator Programmes.</p>	<p>Protection and Justice Working Group. Probation Service Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IDAP Programme commenced Dec 09, lead service Probation, information sharing ongoing
<p>3. To work to ensure mainstream funding for the roll out of MARAC across N.Ireland to best protect high risk victims of Domestic Violence.</p>	<p>Implementation of MARAC planned across Belfast area from April 09. Ensure appropriate resources from relevant departments are made available. Share progress and collate information. Ensure commitment from member agencies.</p>	<p>Strategic Advisory Group Protection and Justice Working Group. D.V.Co-ordinator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Training for the Implementation of MARAC commenced -Links developed with MARAC Co-ordinator. - Paper re current MARAC issues forwarded to Community Safety Dept of Justice May 2010 -Ongoing agenda item.

<p>4. One Stop Shop To consider the setting up of a pilot one stop shop to improve rates of prosecution of domestic violence through improved victim safety, support and information.</p>	<p>One Stop shop established in Belfast area in Partnership with PSNI, NIHE, Community advice workers and solicitors. Need to highlight developments, share information, maintain and encourage agency participation. Consider the interface with Regional proposal for One Stop Shop.</p>	<p>Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid Protection and Justice Working Group</p>	<p>-Information re Belfast and Lisburn Womens Aid One Stop Shop shared across Partnership</p>
<p>5. To monitor ongoing developments in relation to child contact services.</p>	<p>Raise awareness of developments in relation to child contact service. Highlight issues regarding contact orders; consider systems for information gathering and how to influence a process for change.</p>	<p>Protection and Justice Working Group D.V.Co-ordinator</p>	<p>-Ongoing agenda item, working group considering ways of encouraging interagency communication in this area. Links with QUB re possible research. LDVP supporting a QUB Student completing her dissertation on child contact and communication issues.</p>

Strand 3 Support			
Regional Action	Belfast Area Partnership Action	Responsibility	Target / Timescale
<p>1. Support for Children and Young people affected by Domestic Violence. Establish effectiveness of current models of service delivery(NSPCC, Barnardos, Womens Aid) Evaluate NSPCC pilot services. Development and roll out of “You and Me, Mum” programme</p>	<p>Scope available services and ensure all member agencies information is included. Consider relationship between Children’s Services Plans and Partnership.</p>	<p>Support Working Group. D.V Co-ordinator to Include in scoping exercise.</p>	<p>-Scoping completed May 09. Information re LDVP DV Services for children shared with RSG. -Working Group considering ways of improving communication across agencies working with children, -Shadowing/ Cross Sectoral placements commenced and terms of reference agreed Aug 09. - Workshop planned by Respect’s Young People’s Service - hosted by QUB and supported by Belfast and SET Partnerships autumn 2010</p>

<p>2. To take account of the needs of all minority ethnic groups in relation to access to information and services.</p>	<p>Scope available information and resources to assist working with ethnic minority groups. Identify gaps, areas for development and or training needs</p>	<p>Support Working Group DV Coordinator to include in scoping exercise. ? Support from Regional Training Co -Ordinator.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Scoping completed May 09. - Highlighting services resources, leaflets ongoing -Seminar for Partnership staff working with Ethnic Minority Groups Nov 09. - Cultural Awareness seminar for staff working with migrant and ethnic minority groups across the statutory and voluntary sectors June 10 supported by the District Policing Partnership. -Links established with groups working with migrant and minority ethnic groups, MCRC, Chinese Welfare and N.I.Polish Association - D.V. Awareness training for interpreters ongoing
<p>3. To work with community and voluntary organisations to raise awareness, improve information and promote available domestic violence services.</p>	<p>Consider D.V. Training and Capacity Building in Community sector. Consider models or ways of promoting domestic violence services and sharing information across the community and voluntary sector in the Belfast area.</p>	<p>Partnership Support Working Group</p> <p>D.V.CO-Coordinator to investigate existing training models for Community Groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Links with Womens Information group ongoing Aug 09. -Links established as above with minority groups ongoing - D.V. Awareness raising with Women's Centres,Falls,Ballybeen, Windsor, Shankill completed

Strand 4 Other Priorities			
Regional Action	Belfast Area Partnership Action	Responsibility	Target Date
1. Training Strategy To coordinate the implementation of the training strategy.	Need to respond to Regional Training Strategy and link with Regional Training Co-ordinator. Develop a local training strategy and training plan. Scope available training resources. Review Partnership Training Needs.	Development and Training Working Group Strategic Advisory Group. . ? DV Coordinator to review by means of questionnaire partnership training needs	-Routine Enquiry implemented in Maternity units -Partnership Training completed 2007 -Domestic Violence Awareness training ongoing -CD Rom Pilot and evaluation completed Jan 10, currently negotiating roll out for nursing staff target Aug 2010
2. Data Collection	Contribute to data collection at local level. Consider recommendations of the data research project.	Strategic Advisory Group All agencies	

<p>3. Structure, role and operation of Partnerships. Membership, commitment and attendance at meetings. Ensure compliance with guidelines for Local Partnerships.</p>	<p>Develop Operational Policy to include structures, roles and terms of reference. Ensure commitment and ownership at high level across all member agencies. Lobby for funding for Partnership Co-Coordinator to facilitate effective operation of Partnership. Highlight need for Belfast Area representation on RSGroup.</p>	<p>Development and Training Working group</p>	<p>-Operational policy, structures roles and terms of reference completed Sept 2008 and revised March 2010 -Partnership launch Jan 10. -Partnership leaflet and poster developed Jan 10 -Links being developed with RSG. Chair to sit on RSG -Funding issues highlighted to RSG - links with working group chairs and RSG working groups ongoing, minutes now shared</p>
<p>4. Annual Action plans and review of previous years Action plans</p>	<p>Produce a local action plan. Highlight actions and relevant priorities. Share with Regional Steering Group for consideration and inclusion in the Regional Action Plan.</p>	<p>Belfast Area Domestic Violence Partnership. D.V. Co-Ordinator</p>	<p>-Action plan developed April 2009 -Planning / Review Day March 10, priorities reviewed and agreed for 2010. -Operational policy revised, and partnership membership reviewed.</p>

<p>5. Inter-Agency Collaboration including written protocols, to ensure an efficient and effective service is provided To victims.</p>	<p>Review operational policy Share good practice across Partnerships, consider annual event with all partnerships.</p>	<p>Development and Training Working group</p>	<p>-Coordinator meets with Northern/ Western Coordinator and SET Coordinator- sharing good practice ongoing. N.I. Partnership event to be considered. -Belfast LDVP Planning a conference in partnership with District Policing Partnership January 2011</p>
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