

# **Domestic Abuse JSNA Technical Report 3**

## **Service Mapping**

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## Introduction - A Map of Provision

Survivors of domestic abuse may require a range of interventions such as emotional support, advocacy, health, housing, criminal, civil or family law remedies, welfare and financial advice, training and employment.

The following section provides an overview of the support and interventions in place across Lancashire.

The majority of the specialist service provision for domestic abuse is provided by well established voluntary sector organisations. There are currently 10 voluntary sector providers delivering specialist services across the 12 districts of Lancashire. A breakdown of provider by district is detailed in the table below.

Districts	Specialist Provider Name
<b>Lancaster</b>	Lancaster District Women's Aid
	East Lancashire Women's Refuge Association
<b>Wyre</b>	Fylde Coast Women's Aid
<b>Fylde</b>	Fylde Coast Women's Aid
<b>Preston</b>	Preston Domestic Violence Services
<b>Chorley</b>	Citizens Advice Bureau
	Preston Domestic Violence Services
<b>South Ribble</b>	Citizens Advice Bureau
	Clare House (Progress Care Housing Association)
<b>West Lancs</b>	Domestic Violence Services (W.L.)
<b>Burnley</b>	East Lancashire Women's Refuge Association
<b>Pendle</b>	Borough of Pendle/ Pendle Action for the Community
<b>Rosendale</b>	The Star Centre
<b>Ribble Valley</b>	HARV
<b>Hyndburn</b>	HARV

Getting a comprehensive picture across Lancashire remains a challenge, as the types of services available vary across the districts as with the exception of IDVAs (more recently) and supported accommodation, services have been developed as a result of successful grant applications.

The service offer for those at risk of or experiencing domestic abuse, children and young people affected by domestic abuse and perpetrators has been mapped against levels of need.

Mapping information has been provided through consultation with service providers and stakeholders.

## Provision for Adult Victims

The majority of specialist provision for domestic abuse victims are provided by voluntary, community, faith sector (VCFS) organisations, but often their funding is not long-term or secure.

Services are mainly open during regular office hours Monday – Friday, with the exceptions being some Lancashire organisations providing 24 hour helplines. Additionally, there are the National Domestic Violence helpline, and the Woman’s Trust emergency line, along with shelters from Eaves Women’s Aid and Women’s Refuge.

Two thirds are women only services, with providers giving a good balance of services such as counselling, advocacy and outreach. A few providers offer their services in a variety of community languages, with translators with relevant training also available. Specialist services are available in some areas of the county to those from specific black and minority ethnic (BME) backgrounds, as well as a specialist advice service for male victims of domestic abuse.

Current demand for services over the past three years is increasing, and demand is likely to continue to grow as services are more effectively promoted. With the female population expected to grow by 2% over the next 5 years, maintaining the current services is a bare minimum.

## **Tier 4 - Not Coping**

### ***Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA)***

IDVAs are trained specialists who provide a service to victims who are at high risk of harm from intimate partners, ex-partners or family members, with the aim of securing their safety and the safety of their children. Serving as a victim’s primary point of contact, IDVAs normally work with their clients from the point of crisis.

IDVAs represent their clients at the multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC), taking a lead role in coordinating activity and ensuring actions are completed. A third of cases referred to MARAC were identified by IDVA's and they are a required component of the specialist domestic violence court (SDVC) model. The IDVAs are located in and hosted by 10 VCFS organisations across Lancashire, nine of which are exclusively specialist organisations in domestic abuse. In Chorley and South Ribble the IDVA is hosted by the Citizens Advice Bureau and is integrated into a one-stop-shop model.

Lancashire needs approximately 15 IDVA posts to provide a minimum level of service (excluding the unitary authorities). This estimate is based on an average case load of 100 which exceeds the national recommendation of 75 case load per year but is not unrealistic. A joint commissioning arrangement was put in place in 2012 to fund the IDVAs for a year.

From April 2012 to December 2012 there were 3,838 referrals to IDVA services. The majority of these came from the police (71%). The next highest at 9% were self referrals. Children and young people's services accounted for 4.8% while referrals from health account for less than 2% and referrals from housing were less than that.

In contrast to the provision in the 12 Lancashire districts, Blackburn jointly commission a three tiered system of IDVA provision, supporting people with low, medium and high risk needs. Stakeholders identified the following issues for IDVA provision:

- Short-term funding arrangements make it difficult to plan; they need commitment to more longer-term funding.

- That there was a gap in IDVA provision for low and medium level risk.
- Education for agencies on the role of IDVA was needed.
- There was evidence of a delay in Police referring pre-MARAC cases.

### **Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)**

The aim of the MARAC is to:

- Share information to increase the safety and health of victims – adults and children.
- To determine whether the perpetrator poses a significant risk to any particular individual or the community.
- To jointly construct and implement a risk management plan that provides professional support to those at risk and reduces the harm.
- To reduce repeat victimisation.
- To improve agency accountability and improve support for staff involved in high risk domestic abuse cases.

There are eight MARACs covering the 12 districts of Lancashire which are coterminous with the SDVCs (See below). The role of the MARAC is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing across agencies to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase the safety of victims. All cases assessed as high-risk are referred to the MARAC.

Coordination of MARACs is currently undertaken by two full time equivalent MARAC administrators employed by Lancashire Constabulary. This involves the recording of minutes and actions but does not involve following up progress on actions.

From April 2012 to December 2012, 1,102 high risk cases have been assessed by MARACs for the Lancashire 12 area. Lancashire has seen a year on year increase in the numbers of cases assessed by MARACs and conversely the proportion of those which are repeat cases has reduced year on year. Current figures indicate that 22% of cases are repeat, compared to 36% in 2008/09.

The Police provide the highest proportion of MARAC referrals in all areas (Blackpool data not available) followed by IDVA's referrals. Referrals from health are mainly low level with the exception of Chorley and South Ribble who have had 32 referrals from primary care trusts since 2009 and Burnley Pendle and Rossendale who had 30 referrals from secondary care during 2011 and 2012.

Referrals from Probation, substance misuse services and adult social care have been minimal since 2009 and referrals from children's social care are also low with all areas, except Blackburn with Darwen, reporting eight or less.

All areas receive MARAC referrals from the voluntary sector, this is more noticeable in Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale (120 since 2009, although decrease evident in 2012) and Preston (101).

Stakeholders identified the following issues for MARACs:

- The focus around MARAC may delay early support by only dealing with high risk cases.
- Not enough emphasis is placed on reviewing cases and updating against actions.
- The current levels of administration are insufficient.
- MARAC should be statutory, as there is inconsistent attendance at MARAC by agencies.

- High standard of proof required – if it's down to the word of victim/perpetrator it won't go further.
- NHS East Lancashire provide training for GPs - liaison provide information and receive inclusion in MARAC information.
- Schools and education how we bring them in at MARAC level.
- The system for alerting schools where there have been incidents of domestic abuse – e.g. multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) team is inconsistent. The low numbers of school nurses in Chorley was also raised as resulting in the information flow to head teachers being ineffective.
- Across all areas the boundaries of partners don't overlap.

### **Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVC)**

There are eight Specialist Domestic Violence Courts covering the 12 districts of Lancashire:

- Hyndburn Court Area-Hyndburn and Ribble Valley.
- Burnley Court Area - Burley Pendle and Rossendale.
- Lancaster Court Area – Lancaster.
- Blackpool Court Area – Fylde.
- Preston Court Area – Preston.
- Leyland Court Area - Chorley/ South Ribble.
- Ormskirk Court Area - West Lancashire.
- Fleetwood Court Area – Wyre.

There is an SDVC Board, and three local operational groups in Lancashire which are multi- agency and focus on victims, perpetrator programmes, and the components of the SDVC. Additionally they also ensure compliance to the Lancashire SDVC protocol.

From April 2010 to January 2012 there were 2,572 offenders sentenced, of which 40% received a community order, 5% received a community order including a perpetrator programme, 13% received a restraining order and 6% received a custodial sentence.

The percentage of successful prosecutions for domestic violence between April 12 and Dec 12 was 77%, which is higher than in the previous year and the national average of 73%.

Identified issues:

- Prompt notification of result (eg if any bail conditions) to victim.
- Lack of training for justices, legal advisers, prosecutors.
- IDVAs being aware in advance of cases in SDVCs.
- Correct plea entered (tactical not guilty pleas to see if victim attends or retracts etc).
- Delays in listing domestic violence trials.
- Courthouse facilities.
- Support for victim (from plea to trial) is crucial – does Witness Care Unit and the IDVA provide sufficient support/are there adequate resources?
- Special measure directions, for example video links and screens – are these fully utilised?
- Hearsay evidence – could victim's statement be adduced in evidence?
- Are domestic violence trials listed appropriately?

- Court's approach to trials when victim fails to attend without explanation.
- Witness summons/warrant application.
- Sufficient number of same day reports for probation, in appropriate cases.
- Correct application of Sentencing Council sentencing guidelines.
- Communication of sentencing decisions/outcomes/ to victims and victim personal statement.
- Appropriate conditions in restraining orders.
- Feedback for sentencers from Probation regarding community domestic violence programmes.
- Accurate sentencing data.

### ***Refuge Provision***

There are 77 refuge places available to women and children fleeing domestic abuse within Lancashire as part of the supporting people commissioning strategy. These are provided as follows:

- **North Lancashire:** Fylde Cost Women's Aid provides three units in Fylde and four in Wyre. East Lancashire Women's refuge provides five units in Lancaster.
- **Central Lancashire:** Preston Domestic Violence services provide three units in Chorley and 16 units in Preston; Progress Care Housing Association provide eight units in South Ribble and West Lancashire Domestic Violence Support Services provide nine units in West Lancashire.
- **East Lancashire:** East Lancashire Women's Refuge provides 20 units and Pendle Borough Council provides nine units.

The Supporting People Commissioning Plan for Domestic Violence identifies that there is currently no specialist supported accommodation provision for men experiencing domestic violence and states that further research into levels of need is required; however, men can access supported accommodation for people who are homeless. Similarly, the plan identifies that there is no specialist provision for women with complex needs and a task group has been established to look into the level of need and most appropriate models of service delivery.

Specialist refuge providers provide data around referrals and the ability to accommodate. This data indicates that from April 2012 to Dec 2012 they were unable to accommodate 1,251 women and 833 children. Further analysis is required to understand the reasons behind this.

The stakeholder event indicated that Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Domestic Violence Service (HARV) provide two safe houses. There is no safe house provision funded from the Supporting People budget, although the floating support service will support people living in dispersed temporary accommodation.

Stakeholders identified the following issues in relation to refuge provision:

- No provision for women with no recourse to public schemes.
- Should have choice in whether they stay in the area or not. Not follow services direction- Inconsistencies in practice.
- Good working relationships with local health teams and refuges.
- Refuge facilities for women with significant drug or alcohol misuse problems, mental health problems or who are offenders.

### **Tier 3 - Struggling to Cope – Medium level support**

Adults and children whose lives are seriously disrupted by domestic abuse.

#### ***Resettlement and Floating Support Services***

Generic floating support services are commissioned by Supporting People; the actual number of hours of support delivered to people fleeing domestic violence in 2011/12 were: north - 6,374, central - 12,629, east 6,154. Support is commissioned from Calico for provision in the east, and DISC for provision in north and central areas, which has subcontracting arrangements with a number of domestic violence service providers. A snapshot of service delivery in October 2012 showed that the following number of household was receiving support: 99 households in central, 35 households in east and 47 households in north. Both men and women can receive a service from the floating support providers.

#### ***Sanctuary Schemes***

Sanctuary schemes aim to offer target-hardening measures/security and support to victims remaining in their homes either with or without the perpetrator. Schemes require IDVAs to carry out risk assessments on clients to identify the level of safety interventions, which may in turn influence the decision on whether to move or remain in the family home. Staying in the family home causes less disruption. Working with IDVAs, the schemes, in turn, can reduce the number of intentionally and repeat homeless and so reduce the demand on emergency accommodation for borough councils and social landlords.

Sanctuary schemes are provided by specialist services across Lancashire, although it was identified at the stakeholder event that there is inconsistent coverage. Data pertaining to usage is currently not collated at a county level.

Stakeholders also reported that the use of sky guards, which need the use of a mobile phone, could be effective but there are currently not enough of them. The fact that they require a mobile phone was also raised as an issue.

#### ***Outreach***

Outreach support is a generic term that includes emotional support, practical support and drop-in support, ranging across one to one sessions, group work, advocacy and information. This helps reduce the levels of risk to individuals and their families. Outreach support is provided by specialist domestic abuse services in Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Fylde, Wyre, Lancaster, Preston, Burnley and Rossendale, but not in West Lancashire, Chorley and South Ribble. With the exception of Burnley and Pendle, who receive funding from Supporting People monies, funding for this provision comes from provider sourced monies and as a result the types of services available and models of delivery vary across Lancashire. Activity data is currently not collated at Lancashire level.

Parenting support is also provided by children's centres across Lancashire, who estimate that domestic abuse features on average in 50% of families they support. Children's centres also provide the following:

- Referring - to local domestic abuse services, refuge, MARAC, legal aid, common assessment framework (CAF)/children's social care referrals

- Programmes delivered by children's centres - Freedom Programme, counselling, relationship support, drop-in sessions
- Support for parents in recognising the effects of domestic abuse on young children and supporting parents and children through Best Start.
- A number of children's centres are venues for local women's aid services to deliver services to the community.

Drop-in provision for support and advice is also provided within Lancashire by a number of specialist providers in various venues. These include providers own centres, children's centres, women's Centres and in Preston, the specialist provider delivers a drop-in within Royal Preston Hospital Accident and Emergency Department. Chorley and South Ribble also offer drop-in provision as part of their one-stop-shop model. As with other services the exact picture of drop in provision varies across county and there is no county level data available measuring service usage.

### ***Recovery Programmes/Group Work***

There are a number of recovery type programmes and toolkits being delivered to victims of domestic abuse across Lancashire with the specific aim of empowering them to take back their lives after suffering domestic abuse. Recovery programmes are delivered to groups in centre settings and on a one-to-one basis through outreach.

The Freedom Programme (which is a 12 week programme) is delivered across many areas of Lancashire. In the main it is delivered by specialist providers although 25 children centre staff and two children and family support services (CAFSS) workers have also recently been trained to deliver the programme at a very basic level. The delivery of the programme is well established in the Burnley children centre and includes supporting parents in understanding the effects of domestic abuse on children.

In Wyre 'Breaking the cycle of abuse' classes are provided and in West Lancashire recovery toolkits using cognitive behavioural therapy have been used. However, these rely on additional funding as delivery requires refuge staff to be taken out of the refuge.

Stakeholders identified the following in relation to recovery programmes/ group work provision:

- Sporadic provision.
- Group work (with victims) has also proved popular and effective in the past though these are not always available due to funding shortages.
- Psychological services for the victim are needed to help cognitive changes.
- The 'What about me programme' (support for children and parents) is currently unavailable, again due to funding shortages, and the children and parenting support service (CAPSS) has been unable to access training in this programme to enable them to deliver.

### ***Bespoke support***

A number of interventions/projects were identified that appear to be specific to certain areas and providers, these included:

- HARV employ a sports worker who provides therapeutic interventions (two year project),

- In central Lancashire Mouth Piece social enterprise helps people to rebuild their lives through the use of arts.
- Preston Domestic Violence Service offers specialist immigration advice to women with no recourse to public funds
- Preston Domestic Violence Service has UMEED a specialist BME Service .The Star Centre and HARV provide BME interpreters.
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) 'drop in' in Preston.
- Preston and West Lancashire also provide specific support to male victims.
- West Lancashire has a specialist substance misuse worker.

Stakeholders identified a number of issues relating to medium level support. These include:

- Provision is a post code lottery, infrequent and consistent across Lancashire.
- Semi-rural and rural communities don't have the same support available – inconsistent approach.
- Victims may not know what support is available.
- Most services open 9 to 5 Mon to Fri, but most incidents occur after 5 pm and at weekends.
- Gap in specialist DV support for LGBT community.
- A need for funding for interpreters – Language line is very expensive.
- The Supporting People Commissioning Plan has identified that commissioning of outreach provision should be reviewed.
- Floating support should be specialist not generic.
- There is a lack of knowledge of what services are available and although Lancashire Domestic Violence Forum share information on what's going on, this is still new and wouldn't be available to all agencies.

## **Tier 2 - Coping**

Adults who are vulnerable as a result of violence occurring.

### ***Counselling***

Counselling services are provided by specialist providers in all districts except Wyre and Fylde, but again models are likely to vary across the patch and no Lancashire level data is available.

Stakeholders identified that there was also an inconsistent approach to NHS provided counselling and that GP surgery counselling was limited to 6 weeks. Concerns for victim's safety were also raised with regard to counselling provided by people without specialist domestic abuse knowledge, although this would need further unpicking.

### ***Total Family Services/Family Support***

HARV Domestic Violence team is delivering a Total Family Service in partnership with Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Children and Young Peoples Trust. The Total Family Service is able to support the whole family and offers a range of interventions. This includes one-to-one support for children, victim and perpetrator as well as recovery programmes for victims, a voluntary perpetrator programme and group intervention for children and young people.

Within Hyndburn and Ribble Valley there is also a Family Intervention Project commissioned as part of the early support offer which supports families around domestic abuse.

## **Parenting Programmes**

There are a number of evidence-based parenting programmes being offered across Lancashire. These are focussed around different age groups and to meet varying levels of needs. Lancashire's menu also includes the following specifically focused programmes for domestic abuse:

- One plus One parent relationship course "My Mum and Dad Argue A Lot" – parent relationship conflict resolution focused.
- Freedom Project for victims of domestic abuse.

It is currently unclear how many courses have been run and how many parents have accessed the support.

## **Helplines**

Local helplines are provided by specialist providers in all districts except Lancaster. From April 2012 - December 2012 there were 12,807 calls to helplines in Lancashire (Data collated centrally from nine helplines including Blackburn with Darwen). Local helplines are in addition to the national helpline.

Stakeholders identified that local helplines were important as there have been issues with people in need getting an immediate response. The feasibility of developing a helpline for across Lancashire was identified as something which could be explored.

## **Identification and Referral Training**

Feedback from the stakeholder events identified that health visitors and school Nurses incorporate the identification of domestic abuse within their routine enquiry.

In West Lancashire area it was also reported that GPs are starting to ask women if they are victims of domestic abuse. Whether this is replicated across other areas of Lancashire is currently unclear. As mentioned previously health referrals into specialist provision are currently low, so further exploration around this agenda would be beneficial.

## **Tier 1 - Thriving**

All adults.

### **Campaigns**

In 2012 Safer Lancashire ran a 'Handled with Care' campaign which aimed to:

- Raise awareness of what constitutes domestic abuse.
- Encourage women and anyone else affected by domestic abuse to seek help by contacting the National Domestic Violence Helpline - 0808 2000 247 and where required, local services.

The campaign used a number of media and achieved the following outcomes:

- 12% increase in calls to the Police in Lancashire in June 2012 compared with June 2011.
- 100% increase in reporting to Preston Domestic Violence Services between April and June 2012 compared with 2011.

- Our campaign reached a TV audience of 3 million people and social media audience of 43,000 people.
- Our campaign reached a Rock FM advertising audience of 333,969 and bus shelter advertising audience of 1.1 million people.
- Our campaign cost under £12,000 but generated an advertising value equivalent of over £50,000.

In 2008 a 'You don't have to suffer in silence campaign' was funded from local area agreements monies and many children's centres across Lancashire continue to display the posters and materials produced.

## **Training**

All specialist providers offer and deliver training to professionals around domestic abuse. The majority of this is provided on request and the types and frequency of courses available vary across the area. Lancashire Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) also coordinates a course which looks at the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people. This is available for LSCB agency member staff and a number of other staff working with children and their families in Lancashire and is delivered by a pool of trainers from specialist services. For 2011/12 three courses were organised, one in east, central and north. 24 professionals were trained in the east and 34 in the north. The course that was due to be delivered in central was for 24 delegates, but was cancelled owing to a lack of trainer support.

Stakeholder consultation identified the following issues in relation to training:

- Training should be delivered by professionals with a high level of expertise in this field.
- Training is often delivered as a good will offer and for consistency it should be included in future service commissions as part of awareness raising.
- In some areas there isn't the capacity to meet the requests for training. Examples given included requests for social work students in colleges and universities.
- Concerns were raised that if there was an increase in awareness training then there needed to be sufficient services in place to meet any subsequent increase in referrals. This is paramount to reducing further harm caused by domestic abuse.

## **Children and Young People**

Services specifically to support children and young people experiencing domestic abuse vary considerably across Lancashire, even more so than for services for victims. In some areas support is non-existent. This inconsistency is seen at all tiers and across all service areas.

Children experience domestic abuse in different ways depending on a number of different factors including age, maturity and the strength of their support network. Even if a child is not caught in the crossfire of the violence between the adults, he or she is likely to suffer serious anxiety or distress from it causing potentially long-term harm to their emotional health. The distress and anxiety will manifest itself in different ways and it is important that professionals working with families are aware of these signs. Domestic abuse may also affect the way a child or young person forms future relationships and friendships.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists (2004)<sup>1</sup> have identified the following effects: anxiety or depression, trouble sleeping, nightmares or flashbacks, physical symptoms such as tummy aches, wetting the bed, temper tantrums, problems at school including truanting, internalising distress and becoming withdrawn, lowered sense of self worth, older children may start using drugs and alcohol, self-harm or develop eating disorders.

#### **Tier 4 - Not Coping**

Between April 2012 and December 2012, 2,140 children were living in households where a MARAC took place.

Children's independent domestic violence advocates provide intensive support to children and young people experiencing domestic abuse in only four districts of Lancashire, these being Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Wyre and Fylde. The service provided in Hyndburn and Ribble Valley has been independently evaluated by the University of Central Lancashire<sup>2</sup> and is shown to be effective in improving outcomes for children and young people.

Stakeholders identified the following issues in relation to support for children and young people:

- Provision is inconsistent across Lancashire and across all 4 levels of need.
- In all areas there is a gap in provision for older teenagers, both as victims and perpetrators.
- There is a need for specialist support for children and young people who have been affected by domestic abuse as well as for young people who are perpetrator.
- Further work is needed with children on the issues of Hidden Harm

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<sup>1</sup> Royal College of Psychiatrists (2004) 'Mental health and growing up, 3rd edition: Domestic violence: Its effects on children' (available from <http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/info/young.htm>).

<sup>2</sup> Westwood, Joanne Louise, Larkins, Cath, Vart, Angela and Stanley, Nicky (2012) *An evaluation of the HARV Children and Young People's Independence Domestic Violence Advocate (KIDVA) Service - Year 1*. Project Report. University of Central Lancashire, Preston, Lancashire (available from <http://clock.uclan.ac.uk/6557/>)

### **Tier 3 – Struggling to cope**

From April 2012- December 2012 there have been 9,248 referrals to Children's Social Care for domestic abuse. This is much higher than the number for the previous year for the same time period (6809).

In December 2012, 35.2% (801) of all referrals to children social care were due to domestic abuse and of those just under 20% (158) lead onto an initial assessment.

#### ***Child and Parenting Support Services (CAPSS)***

Child and Parenting Support Services are provided across Lancashire to children in need and children with child protection plans and their families. The services estimate that across Lancashire domestic abuse features in approximately 75% of families receiving interventions. This ranges from 50% in Pendle to 90% in Lancaster, Wyre and Fylde.

Examples of interventions the CAPSS provide varied across centres, but many commented that they worked with children and young people to raise self-esteem, explore the impact domestic abuse has had on their lives and to support them with issues around keeping themselves safe.

The service also provides a number of interventions to parents, with the aim of enabling them to understand the impact domestic abuse has on their ability to parent and on their children.

Specialist providers also provide a mixture of one-to-one, therapeutic play and group work support to children and young people with a medium/ higher risk of emotional harm. Services are currently provided within Hyndburn and Ribble Valley, Wyre and Fylde, Preston and Burnley, but interventions vary across district. Specific group work programmes such as the 'What about me' course were cited by stakeholders as a good programme, but a lack of funding had prevented further delivery.

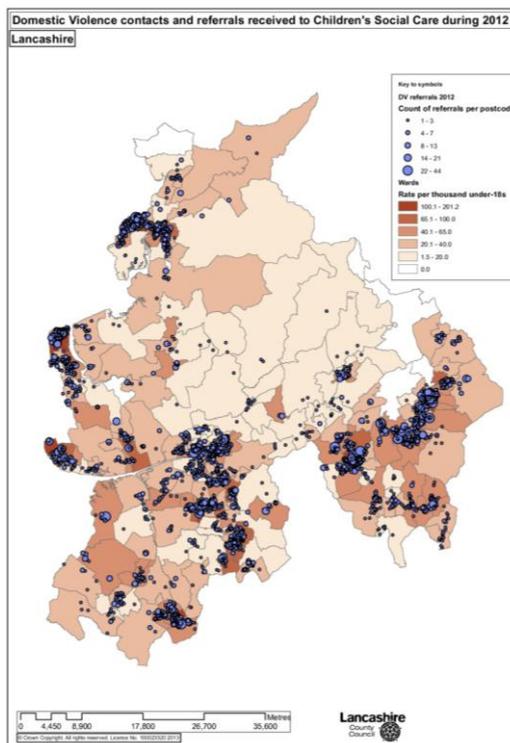
There is currently no service data available at a Lancashire level of young people accessing services.

#### ***Emotional Health and Wellbeing Services***

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provide help and treatment for children, young people and their families, who are experiencing emotional and behavioural difficulties, including mental health problems or disorders. The specialist multi-disciplinary service involves a range of professionals, usually based within a health setting and with clinical leads from consultant psychiatrists and psychologists.

Stakeholders identified a number of issues about accessing specialist emotional health and wellbeing services. These included the following:

- Across all areas stakeholders commented that there was a long waiting list for CAMHS.



- The waiting time of 18 months for access to a child psychologist was cited a number of times as an issue.
- Specialist providers commented that CAMHS referrals are often referred back into specialist services as children and young people need holistic therapeutic work from specialist domestic abuse service.

## **Tier 2 - Coping**

From April 2012 - December 2012, 11,994 children and young people lived in households where the police were called to a domestic abuse incident. This is higher than for the same period the previous year (10,330).

Services to support children and young people experiencing domestic abuse vary considerably across Lancashire, even more so than for services for victims. One-to-one and group work interventions are provided to young people with a low/ medium level of risk of emotional harm in West Lancashire, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley, Pendle, Wyre, Preston and Burnley. Services provided include the following:

- In Burnley ELWRA provide SafeNet a Children's Domestic Abuse Community Outreach Support Service for children and young people up to the age of 16.
- In Pendle the 'Look out' project provides one-to-one, therapeutic interventions, outreach and positive activities for children and young people aged 5-25.
- In Blackpool, Wyre & Fylde the specialist provide delivers a children and young people outreach service.
- In Hyndburn and Ribble Valley HARV provide play schemes for under 11's, weekly positive activities, a two-weekly drop in and also a drop in homework session.
- Children's centres also report providing outreach support to children and young people.

## **Tier one - Thriving**

### ***Education/Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)***

The Centre for Social Justice (2012) recommends that to prevent domestic abuse before it even begins a core skills based module focused on helping young people to develop equal and non-abusive relationships is essential.

Throughout the consultation, stakeholders identified a number of examples of education delivered to children and young people within education settings. Specialist providers report delivery in West Lancashire, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley, Fylde and Wyre, Preston and Rossendale. The content and duration of the interventions varies, but the following provides some examples of the current offer available in the districts:

- In West Lancashire funding from the local Children and Young Peoples Trust funds a 12 Week programme in schools to educate year 11 in preparation for change in age limit to 16 years.
- In Preston the specialist provider's Schools Service provides Healthy relationships education in schools in five target wards.

- In Fylde and Wyre the specialist provider employs a schools intervention worker to deliver a schools service, this includes delivery of an eight week programme. The service is currently focusing on web safety and has a social media worker.
- In Pendle the Look Out project, funded by Comic Relief provides awareness raising education in schools and colleges for two sessions a week.
- In Hyndburn and Ribble Valley, HARV's education and early intervention worker provides a six week programme including one lesson per week and school assemblies in primary and secondary schools.
- In east Lancashire the NSPCC programme is delivered in schools although it is unclear who delivers this and the extent to which it is provided across east Lancashire.

Stakeholders identified that the provision of education in schools was intermittent, inconsistent and completely dependent on the locality of the school. Concerns were also raised as to the effectiveness of school staff delivering as they may not have the right level of specialist knowledge and expertise. Previous studies and pilots in Lancashire have identified that children and young people will not disclose to school staff readily, and school staff have stated they are not equipped to handle the specialism required from disclosures.

## **Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse**

While it is a goal to change the attitudes of those who abuse, the ultimate goal of the domestic abuse approach has always been to ensure that victims are safer by intervening to stop the violence. Changing offenders' attitudes about domestic violence is extremely difficult. Perpetrator work is based on assisting those who use violence and abuse in their intimate relationships to take responsibility for, as well as change, their behaviour and underlying attitude towards women. Perpetrator programmes, at whatever level, work best when provided alongside specialist pro-active supportive programmes for the victim and children.

### **Tier 4 - Not Coping**

Committed serious harm

#### ***Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)***

MAPPA is a statutory, multi-agency response to very high-risk violent offenders.

#### ***Perpetrator programmes: Building Better Relationships (BBR)***

BBR is accredited by National Offender Management's Correctional Services Accreditation Panel and delivered in Lancashire by the Probation Trust. BBR is an asset-based approach addressing 'expressive' violence within the general aggression model incorporating emotionally linked behaviour and instrumental violence. Essentially the course enables the perpetrator to focus on good behaviour, how to put things right and to learn positive skills for the future.

BBR has replaced Community Domestic Violence Programmes which, in contrast, was more focussed on power and control exerted through instrumental violence.

The course is provided to perpetrators of domestic abuse through a court order.

From April 2012 - December 2012 there were 44 orders made with this programme, 71 offenders started the programme and 28 have completed. This activity is lower than that reported in the previous financial year 11/12 where the number starting programmes was 141 and 98 completed. Lancashire Probation Trust also provide a one to one programme for perpetrators who are unsuitable for group work.

### ***Work in Prisons***

Stakeholders identified that there were a number of programmes run in prisons, for example perpetrator courses and healthy relationship courses, although the levels of consistency are currently unclear. Equally stakeholders identified that these programmes were not open to all prisoners; short-sentence prisoners being the least eligible.

### ***Trading Standards***

Trading Standards have a role in prosecuting perpetrators for financial abuse.

### **Tier 3 - Struggling To cope**

Those charged or convicted of domestic abuse.

### ***Perpetrator Programmes (Community)***

Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) commission Lancashire Probation Trust to provide approximately two places on each BBR course for perpetrators involved in family court proceedings. Referrals are either made at sentencing, or via the family court worker, and an assessment is made to ensure that the perpetrator can be held to account and has motivation to change. There is currently capacity for approximately 25 CAFCASS referrals each year. CAFCASS clients can be more compliant than the criminal justice cohort, with a greater tendency to blame the victim. CAFCASS referrals are increasing.

Two women's safety workers across Lancashire are linked to the BBR programme in order to support victims and partners of perpetrators. The victim is kept aware of the impact of the programme and available support. Victim engagement with the workers is voluntary. The women's safety workers link into specialist provision including IDVA and MARAC. They have access to perpetrator case work information, have knowledge of probation programmes and can challenge behaviour. This differs to IDVAs who are unable to access perpetrator information.

A voluntary perpetrator programme is also provided/commissioned by specialist providers in Hyndburn and Ribble Valley and Burnley.

### ***Specified Activity Requirements (SAR)***

Probation services also provide specified activity requirements which are developed on the Anderson-Bushman model and are appropriate for low to medium risk perpetrators. They last for six weeks with 12 sessions and are less intense by focussing on the skills necessary to reduce their behaviour and looking at elements of a relationship as a whole. Women's safety workers also support the victims and partners of perpetrators on SAR programmes. The aspiration is to provide SAR for 50 perpetrators during 2013-14.

### **Other Support**

The CAPSS centre reported working jointly with HARV to provide sessions with the perpetrator on the effect of domestic abuse on children jointly with the social worker. Burnley CAPSS also reported that they work with young people who are the perpetrators of domestic abuse.

### **Tier 2 - Coping**

Those who are perpetrating non-high risk domestic abuse or susceptible to increasing the harm caused.

No provision recorded

### **Tier 1 - Thriving**

All adults and children

No provision recorded

Stakeholders identified the following issues about support for perpetrators:

- Voluntary perpetrator courses have proved extremely successful in the past though these have now been stopped due to funding issues.
- There is a need for and a current lack of support for perpetrators across the continuum of need, specifically for those not coping and struggling to cope. This was reiterated many times.
- All Lancashire Probation Trust programmes are for perpetrators aged 18+. It is unclear what provision is available for perpetrators under 18.
- Adolescent to parent abuse, also known as teen violence against parents is an emerging and worrying concern for staff who work around families within this complex victim/offender dynamic.

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