

Report Name:	Preventing and Responding to Violence against Women and Girls & Domestic Abuse (VAWG & DA) - Annual Report (Jan 2021)
Meeting:	Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board
Meeting Date:	January 2021
Enclosures:	n/a
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Outcome Required:	Information Only
Restricted	No

Summary

This report provides the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board with an update on the delivery and implementation of the Barnet Violence Against Women and Girls 2017-2020 Strategy.

The Barnet Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2017-2020 sets out how the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership (BSCP) works to prevent and respond Domestic Abuse, and underlines the partnership's commitment to working together to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG).

This report reviews delivery and data across the 2019/20 performance year (April 2019-March 2020) although in some places refers to more recent data and trends, including matters relating to service delivery and continuity during the Covid-19 pandemic.

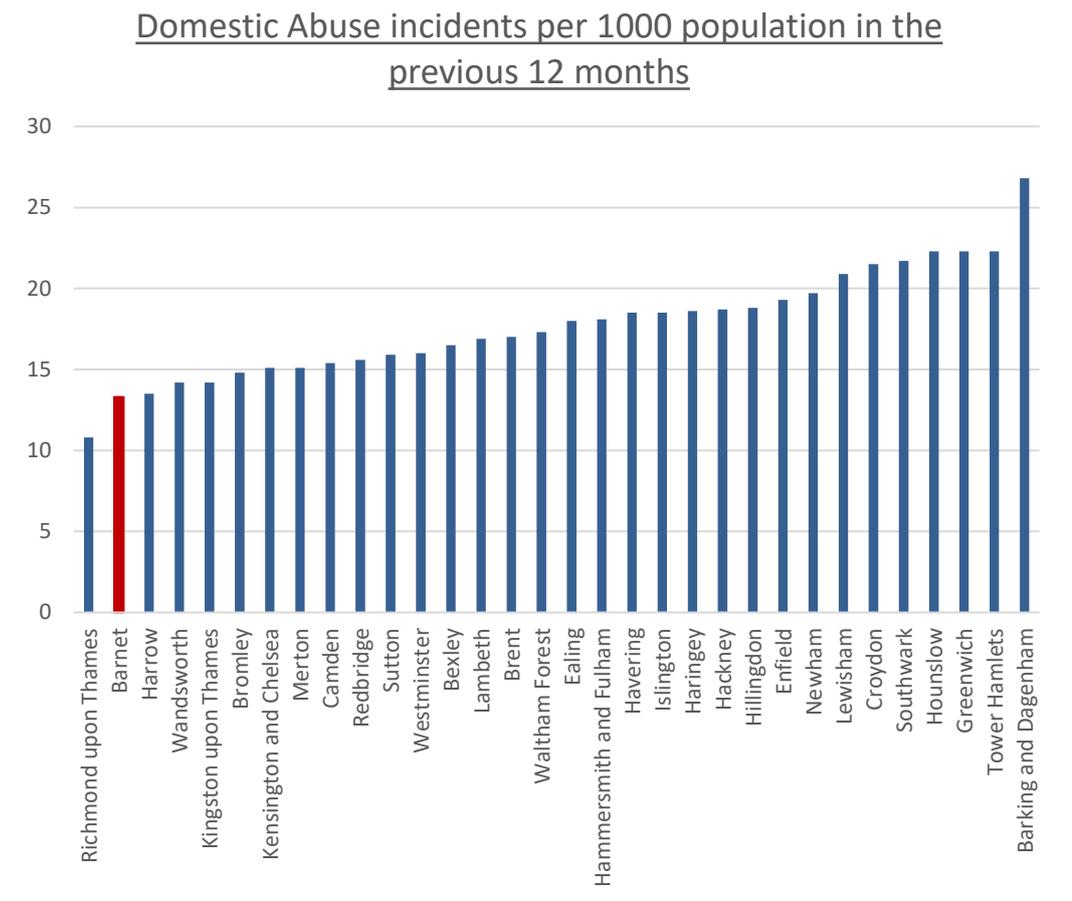
Why this report is needed

- 1.1 The Barnet Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy sets out how the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership works to prevent and respond Domestic Abuse and underlines the partnership's commitment to working together to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG).
- 1.2 The Community and Leadership Committee (CLC) endorsed the *Barnet VAWG strategy 2017-2020* on the 21st June 2017.
- 1.3 The delivery of the Barnet VAWG strategy is overseen by the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board ('BSCP'). This is in line with the responsibility of the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership ('BSCP' or 'the Partnership') for producing and implementing an overall partnership strategy for reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 1.4 Within the overall Barnet Community Safety Strategy, one of the seven priority objectives is that: *"The Safer Communities Partnership prevents violence against women and girls, improves outcomes for victims and their children and holds perpetrators to account."*
- 1.5 The Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership Delivery Group (a sub group of the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board) brings together partner organisations in the borough so that they can work together to respond to VAWG with the aim of preventing it and reducing the harm it causes to victims, their families and the wider community. This group agrees an annual VAWG delivery plan setting out the key partnership activities required, in order to deliver against the four partnership priorities within the Barnet VAWG strategy.
- 1.6 The four partnership priorities within the Barnet VAWG strategy are:
 - Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls
 - Improving outcomes for victims and their children
 - Holding perpetrators to account
 - Enhancing joint working practices between agencies

Background context

1.7 Performance

- The rate of DA incidents in Barnet is 13.3 per 1000 population (12 months to September 2020). This is the 2nd lowest rate of all 32 London boroughs.

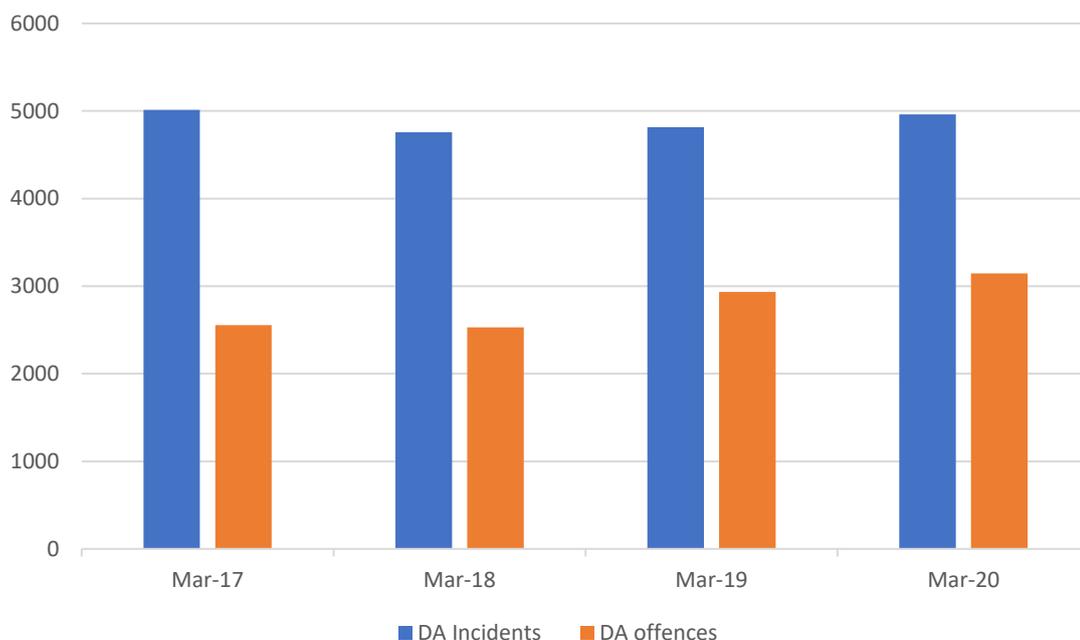


¹ Data to September 2020

- The table below shows the number of DA incidents and offences in Barnet. Over the last three years there has been an upward trend in the proportion of incidents which result in being classified as offences.

Rolling 12 months	March 2017	March 2018	March 2019	March 2020
DA Incidents	5013	4757	4815	4960
DA offences	2556	2528	2933	3146
% of incidents that become offences	51%	53%	61%	63%

Police data recorded for Rolling 12 months DA incidents and DA offences in Barnet



- Barnet's rate of DA incidents in Barnet is **13.3** per 1000 population (12 months to March 2020). This is the 2nd lowest rate of all 32 London boroughs.
- There were 807 Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury offences recorded by the police in Barnet in 2019/20 (an increase of **0.5%** compared to the previous year).
- In the 12 months between April 2019 and March 2020, for Violence with Injury Domestic Abuse offences, **110** suspects were identified and proceeded against by police. This equates

to a Sanction Detection Rate of **13.6%**, down from **17%** a year ago.

- 1.8 Over the last 12 months² (2019/2020) the Domestic Abuse MARAC has received **363** referrals of high-risk cases of domestic abuse with **238** children in the households. The number of families with children were **154**.
- 1.9 An assessment of the DA MARAC referrals over a 12-month period³ from April 2019 to March 2020 showed that:
- In Barnet the peak age range for both victims (33%) and perpetrators (27%) for cases heard at DA MARAC between 31-40 years old. At national level, women aged 20 to 24 years were more likely to be victims of any domestic abuse in the last year than women aged 25 years and over.
 - 95% of victims referred to Domestic Abuse MARAC are female
 - 95% of perpetrators at the Domestic Abuse MARAC are male
 - 24% of perpetrators had a mental health issue (up from 16% a year ago), 8% had an alcohol misuse issue, and 16% had a drugs misuse issue (up from 12% from previous year)
 - 41% of victims in the cohort had a mental health issue (up from 21% a year ago), 6% had an alcohol misuse issue, and 5% had a drugs misuse issue (up from 2% the previous year)
 - There were 42 (11%) cases involved child to parent violence (compared to 7.5% a year ago)
 - There were 17 requests (5% of DA MARAC cases) for Clare's Law at the DA MARAC in 2019/20

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² 12 months up to March 2020

³ 12 months to March 2020

From April 2019 to March 2020, the profile of service users at our DA support services in Barnet are:

Organisation	Female	Age range	Other factors
Solace Advocacy and Support Service	98% female victims 2% male victims	31% of service users between 31-40 21 % between 41-50	7% of SUs with mental health disability 3% -SUs with problematic drug use 4% -SUs with problematic alcohol use 31% -SUs with mental health issues
DA MARAC victims	95% female victims 5% male victims	21 % of Service Users between 41-50 33% of service users between 31-40	5% -SUs with problematic drug use 6% -SUs with problematic alcohol use 41% -SUs with mental health issues 3% -SUs with problematic alcohol and drug use
DA MARAC perpetrators	95% alleged male perpetrators of abuse (APOA) 5% alleged female perpetrators of abuse	17% of APOA between 41-50 28% of APOA between 31-40	16% - APOA with drug misuse 8% - APOA with alcohol misuse 24% - APOA with mental health issues 5% -APOA with problematic alcohol and drug use

Partnership activity highlights

1.9 Partnership work delivered under the Barnet VAWG Strategy has included:

- Barnet Council's continued funding of specialist services for victims of DA and VAWG; this includes refuge provision, IDVA Services, the Domestic Abuse MARAC and the perpetrator programme
- Between April 2019 and March 2020 Solace Women's Aid received **1169** referrals to Barnet's IDVA service, up from **1144** in the previous year; 100 women and children supported in the Barnet refuge service; and our DA MARAC, delivered by Hestia, received **363** referrals with **238** children within these households
- Barnet council commission RISE Mutual CLC to deliver an adult and young people's perpetrator service to support perpetrators in changing their behaviour. Between April 2019 and March 2020, **61** adult perpetrators received interventions under the Perpetrator Behaviour Change programs
- Barnet's One Stop Shop (OSS) is a drop-in service for early intervention and advice for victims of Domestic Abuse. The OSS which is delivered by Barnet Homes (with partners including Barnet council, Solace Women's Aid, Asian Women's Resource Centre, private solicitor firms, Barnet Magistrate and Cyber Care) has provided advice and support to **443** victims of Domestic Abuse in the 12 months to March 2020.

Delivering the VAWG Strategy in 2019/2020

2.1 The following section provides an update on the partnership activities delivered under the 2018/19 VAWG delivery plan, taking each of the four Barnet VAWG Strategy priorities in turn:

- Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls
- Improving outcomes for victims and their children
- Holding perpetrators to account
- Enhancing joint working practices between agencies

Priority: Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls

- 2.2 This priority aims to prevent violence against women and girls by focusing on changing attitudes and behaviour that foster violence against women and girls, and by intervening earlier.
- 2.3 What's available in the Borough of Barnet? For a detailed list of the range of Domestic Abuse services available in Barnet please see *Appendix 1*.
- 2.3 Some of the key partnership activities that have been delivered or have taken place during 2019/20 to make this happen have been:
- VAWG Training
 - Awareness raising campaigns
 - A Healthy relationships education programme
 - Women's refuge provision
 - Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) service provision
 - Domestic Abuse Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
 - Barnet Sanctuary Scheme

VAWG Training

- 2.4 A *Partnership VAWG Skills and Training Needs* analysis was conducted and an annual VAWG Partnership Training Plan was developed for 2018/20. The training plan sought to foster an approach across the partnership whereby every encounter with a service user experiencing or perpetrating domestic abuse would be made to count, and be seen as an opportunity for an intervention.

Table 1: Training participation (12 months to March 2020)

Training Course	Attendance numbers
MARAC	51
Online domestic abuse & sexual awareness	68
Total	119

The Online domestic abuse & sexual awareness take up has increased since April 2020.

- 2.5 The 119 attendees came from different service areas and partner agencies, including Family Services, Adult Social care and Barnet Homes as well as other statutory and non-statutory partnership agencies.
- 2.6 Barnet homes have made the Online Domestic Abuse and sexual awareness training compulsory for front line professionals. As a result, the uptake of this course has increased considerably.

Awareness raising campaigns

- 2.7 The partnership VAWG Communications plan has overseen the delivery of a publicity campaign focused on raising awareness about Domestic Abuse, the unacceptability of abusive behaviour, and encouraging people to report domestic abuse.
- 2.8 In addition, the Children Workforce Development team has secured funding (in March 2019) for a one-day awareness campaign in Barnet focused on 'Supporting victims of modern day slavery, human trafficking and prostitution'. The campaign took place on 05 March 2019 at Hendon town Hall where 110 participants from the communities, voluntary and statutory sectors attended. The recommendations will be developed into an action plan lead by Public Health Strategist and Chair of Adult Safeguarding Board.
- 2.9 Sadly, death as a result of domestic abuse is an all too frequent and tragic reality. When this happens, the law says that professionals involved in the case must conduct a multi-agency Domestic Homicide Review(DHR) to identify what changes can be made to reduce the risk of similar incidents happening in the future. The purpose of Domestic Homicide Reviews is not to assign blame or responsibility but to understand what lessons there are to be learned and make recommendations based on those lessons as to how we can better work together to prevent future homicides. During 2020 Barnet Safer Communities Partnership published the learning from a Domestic Homicide Review and organised a Webinar on 26 November 2020 on 'Identifying and Mitigating Risk in Adult Family Abuse Cases: Learning from a Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)' to discuss and raise awareness around the learning from the review (including in relation the factors to consider when assessing risk in families where the complexities of mental illness, substance misuse, and elders with vulnerabilities exist, and, importantly, how best to mitigate those risks to reduce serious harm).

Healthy relationships education programme

- 2.10 A Healthy Relationships training programme has been developed for schools in Barnet. The training focuses on educating young people about healthy relationships and about abuse (including online-abuse) and reinforces the importance of respect and consent in relationships.
- 2.11 From April 2019 onwards the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO) Charity has completed extensive work in Archer Academy, providing training for all students on healthy relationships and also their teachers. Along with this they have provided 2-day training on healthy relationships to Hendon School and Pavilion PRU.
- 2.13 This priority aims to improve outcomes for victims and their children by focusing on intervening in the right way, at the right time, with the right services.

Women's refuge provision

- 2.14 Solace Women's Aid are commissioned by the Barnet Council to provide two women's refuges for Barnet. A third women's refuge (Minerva House) is run by Barnet homes. Barnet Homes has been successful in securing for the fourth time £100,000 of funding from the MHCLG to support the continuation the Minerva House provision in 2019/20.
- 2.15 Minerva House supports women who approach Barnet Homes fleeing domestic abuse. It provides victims with supported refuge accommodation and thereby can sometimes help avoid victims being isolated in temporary accommodation far away from their support networks.

Table 3: Refuge provision in Barnet for 2019/2020

Refuge	Bed space	Support provided in 2018/19
Minerva House	6 bed spaces	Supported 16 women and 13 children
Hannah House and Arlene House	18 bed spaces	Supported 39 women and 32 children fleeing domestic abuse

IDVA service provision

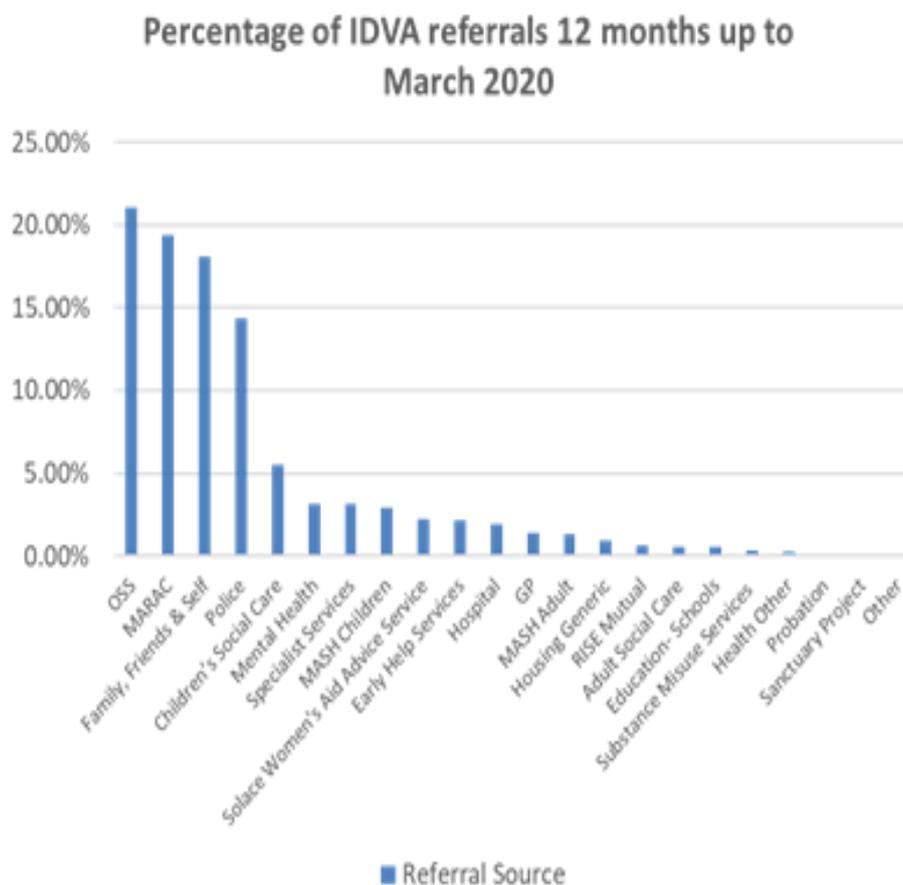
2.16 During 2019/20 the Solace Women's Aid IDVA service in Barnet supported 1346 new service users, up from 1169 in 2018/19- a 15% increase.

Table 4: DV referrals to Barnet Solace Advocacy and Support Service

Number of Solace Referrals	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Financial Year 2019-2020
New Service Users	330	355	347	331	1346
DASH Risk assessments & Safety advice given	160	177	158	209	704
High risk cases receiving IDVA service	37	47	40	42	166
Total Service Users Leaving the Service	79	115	100	116	395

2.17 The top five sources of referrals into the Advocacy service during this period (by volume) were: the One Stop Shop (21%) and Family Services (9%). the Domestic Abuse MARAC (19%), Self-referrals, Family and Friends (18%), the Police (14%),

Barnet Solace Advocacy and Support Service :Referral sources 12 months to March 2020



2.18 A review of the IDVA services was conducted in March 2019. The aim of the review was to ensure our IDVA services are accessible and delivered at the right place and right time to meet local demand as well as identifying areas where increased IDVA support was required for victims. As a result of the findings of this review a number of steps were taken, including to increase the links between IDVA services and Mental Health Services – see section 2.20 for further details.

2.19 In addition to the locally commissioned IDVA service, MOPAC commission Victim Support to provide an uplift in IDVAs across London. This provision is called the *Integrated Victims and Witnesses Service*. MOPAC have recently completed a review and re-organisation of the allocation of the Victim Support IDVAs to align the provision with the Police BCUs (Basic Command Units).

2.20 As a result of this review exercise the following IDVAs have been collocated at various services in the Borough of Barnet to improve on referral pathways:

- Victim Support provides 1 IDVA (MOPAC funded) based at the **Barnet hospital**
- One Solace IDVA based at **Springwell, Mental Health department, Barnet Hospital**
- One Solace IDVA supports **Children and Adult MASH**. The IDVA to access both MASH data systems to speed up referral pathways (4 days per week plus one day at Solace Office)
- One Solace IDVA at **Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop** (one day per week- afternoon to work at Barnet Homes) to work jointly with the One Stop Shop Coordinator for complex cases
- One Solace IDVA co-located at **Colindale Police station 3 days a week**
- Victim Support IDVA covers **2 days at Colindale Police Station**
- One Solace Case worker is the **young person's lead**
- One IDVA-3 days a week at **Jewish Women's Aid**
- One Solace Case worker covers **duty and admin work** to relieve IDVAs of the duty work so that they can carry more specialised work
- 3 volunteers recruited to support the Solace office in admin work
- **Solace Senior IDVA** – to deliver the role of **LGBT/Male victim lead in addition to MARAC lead and supervision**

Domestic Abuse MARAC

2.23 Over the last 12 months (2019/20) the Domestic Abuse MARAC has received 363 referrals of high risk cases of domestic abuse. There were 238 children within those households. The percentage of repeat MARAC referrals is 13.2% as compared to the national figure of 31% of repeat cases seen at the MARACs. The main sources of referrals to the Domestic Abuse MARAC are the Met Police, Barnet Solace Advocacy and support Service (SASS) and Victim Support.

Number of Service Users (12 months to March 2020)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Financial Year 2019-2020
Number of MARAC Referrals	107	90	96	70	363
Number of Children in the Household	80	61	52	45	238
No. of families with children	50	44	31	29	154
Number of repeat MARAC Referrals	16	14	8	10	48
% of Repeat MARAC Referrals	33.3%	29.2%	16.7%	20.8%	13.2%

2.24 COVID-19 and Business Continuity

DA MARAC – We have implemented a fourfold increase in the frequency of the Domestic Abuse MARAC meetings – a change from monthly to weekly MARAC meetings. As a result, there is now a faster turnaround between referral of complex DA cases and multi-agency risk review and actions at the MARAC. The MARAC assessed risk and put in place risk reduction plans for complex/high risk DV cases – at the moment approximately 4 – 10 cases are being referred into the DV MARAC each week.

All the DV services commissioned by the local authority (including the IDVA service, Refuges service, Perpetrator and Perpetrator Programme) have made adjustments to their operating models so that they can continue to operate effectively under the coronavirus restrictions – all are accepting referrals and delivering their interventions and support services. Details of how to access these services as well as other DA related services delivered by the VCFS can be found here: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/community/community-safety/help-and-support-domestic-or-sexual-abuse>

As part of the Recovery process the Barnet DA and VAWG Delivery Board and weekly Practitioners leads meeting will continue monitor and adjust the delivery model as required in response to and anticipation of the changing circumstances.

We have also launched a public communications campaign including a new Domestic Abuse poster, updated Website (information for residents and practitioners):

- The new Domestic Abuse poster asks: "Are you worried about domestic or sexual abuse?" and emphasises that "If you are at home due to Coronavirus, then remember you can still get the support that you need. You are NOT alone." The campaign also provides contact details on how to report Domestic Abuse and get support. Please see poster attached which can be shared and freely.
- We have been in contact with a number of supermarket chains in the borough and a number of them have agreed to display the poster inside / outside their stores
- Updated Domestic Abuse web-page:
<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/community/community-safety/help-and-support-domestic-or-sexual-abuse>
- Domestic Abuse – guidance for practitioners
<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/working-children-barnet/practitioner-guidance/violence-against-women-and-girls>

Domestic Abuse / VAWG related statistics since Apr 2020 (including the lockdown periods) are provided in the table below.

Barnet Homes Sanctuary Scheme

2.25 The Barnet Homes Sanctuary Scheme helps victims of domestic abuse, who live in Barnet, to remain in their own home, if it is safe to do so, by increasing the security at their home. In the last year, **65** homes received crime prevention security measures under the Barnet Homes Sanctuary scheme.

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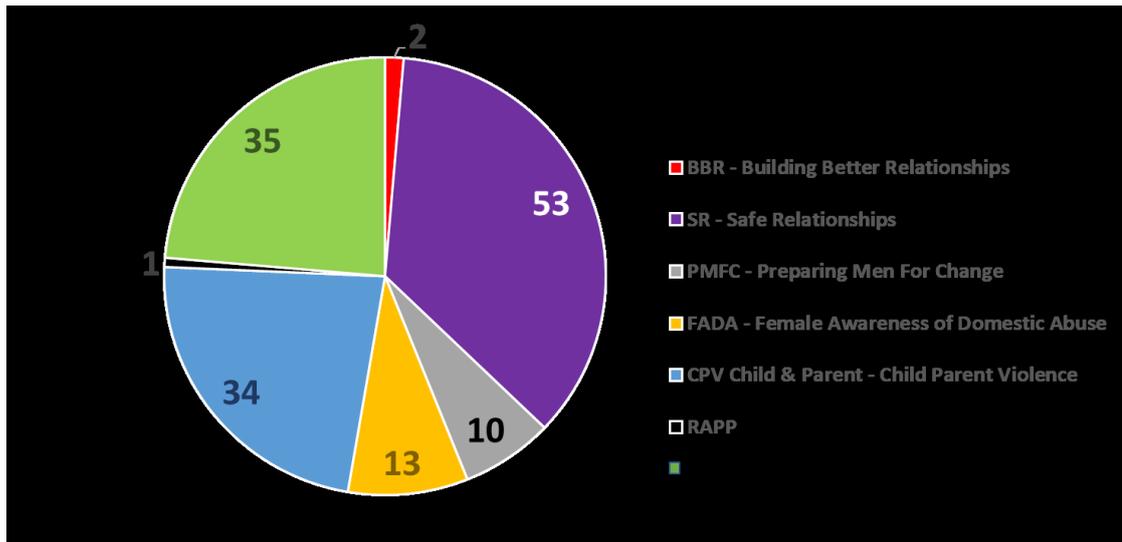
Priority: Holding perpetrators to account

- 2.26 This priority aims to hold perpetrators to account through enforcement, and placing the onus on perpetrators to change their behaviour.
- 2.27 Some of the key partnership activities that have been delivered or have taken place during 2019/20 to make this happen have been:
- Perpetrator programme for Behaviour change
 - Young Person Perpetrators programme
 - Investigation and Enforcement action
 - Tackling online offending

Perpetrator programme for Behaviour change

- 2.28 Barnet Council commissions Rise Mutual to deliver a domestic abuse perpetrator programme in Barnet aimed at reducing re-offending and repeat victimisation. The programme uses proven evidence-based models for behaviour change. They help perpetrators to take positive and tangible steps to prevent re-offending.
- 2.29 In 2019/20 RISE Mutual received a total of 148 referrals. Of these 100 were for the adult male perpetrator interventions, 13 were for female perpetrator programme and 34 were for the child to parent violence intervention.
- 2.30 Due to the Covid 19 lock down period at the start of March 2020 there was a slight decrease in the referral volume, and this trend continued into April and May. Referrals increased in the months that followed as the frequency of incidents are reported to rise and greater risk to victims have been identified.
- 2.31 Most referrals were received from children's services and early help teams. However, they are promoting referrals via MARAC and other professional services.
- 2.32 RISE Mutual is a support service and therefore relies on service users consenting to engage and attend appointments and sessions.
- 2.33 However, given it is a voluntary attendance service, engagement rates are very positive. Out of the 148-people referred, 99 attended for an initial suitability assessment.

- 2.34 RISE completion rate is also very strong at with 61 service users starting an intervention and 36 completing. There were 23 service users still engaging with an intervention at the end of 2019/20 Q4.
- 2.35 Despite the challenges presented by Covid-19, RISE perpetrator programme attrition rate in 2019/20 has remained low, and they are continually reviewing this and looking at ways to reduce this further.

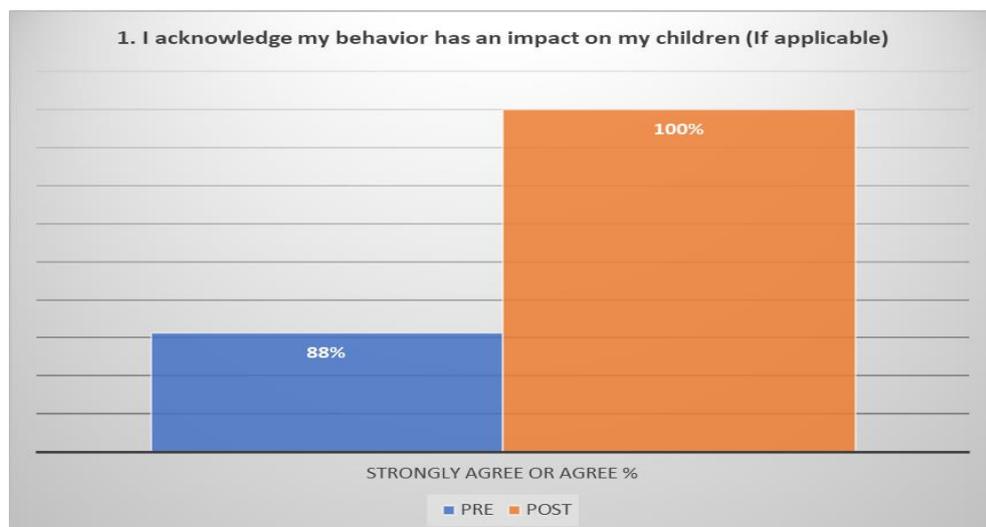
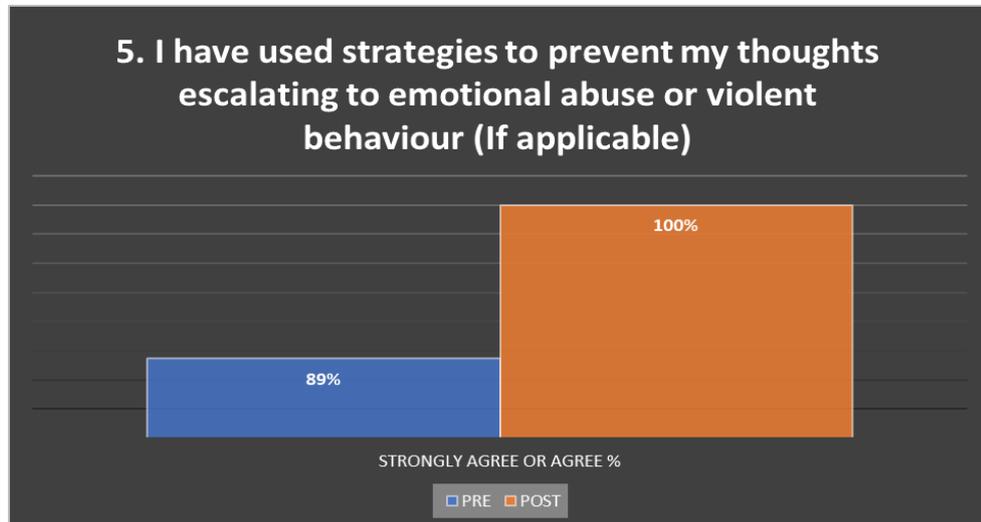


- 2.36 Of the 148 cases received, Safe Relationships was the highest intake at 53 cases and made up 35% of the case load. Child Parent Violence was the second highest at 34 and made up 23% of the case load

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2.30 Social impact

- The feedback from pre/post questionnaires carried out by RISE to look at the apparent the impact that different programmes are having on service users.



Young Person Perpetrators programme

2.31 There has been an increase in the number of referrals to the Domestic Abuse MARAC which relate to cases of child to parent violence. During 2019/20 – 42 cases or 11% of the Domestic Abuse MARAC cases related to abuse perpetrated by a son or daughter towards their parent as compared to 7.5% of the DA MARAC cases in 2018/19 related to abuse by a son or daughter towards their parent

- 2.32 Rise Mutual delivers a Young Person Perpetrator programme in Barnet. This programme provides one-to-one and group interventions for young people who have been involved in abusive relationships of child to parent violence.
- 2.33 The Child to Parent Violence one -to-one programme is for 11 to 18-year olds. The Respect and Principles (RAP) Programme is for 13 to 18-year-old males who have been involved in adolescent intimate relationship abuse.

Investigation and Enforcement

- 2.34 There were **807** Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury offences recorded by the police in Barnet in 2019/20 (an increase of 0.5% compared to the previous year).

In the 12 months between April 2019 and March 2020 in Barnet for Violence with Injury Domestic Abuse offences, **110** suspects were identified and proceeded against by police. This equates to a Sanction Detection Rate of **13.6** % (down from **17%** a year ago).

- 2.35 The Domestic Abuse Sanction Detection rate has fallen across London, not only in Barnet. Police have a number of actions in place aimed at increasing the Domestic Abuse Sanction Detection rate. These include a plan for the improved use of Body Worn Cameras to secure evidence.
- 2.36 The Body worn cameras being used by Barnet Police to gather evidence at a domestic abuse incident, record the behaviour of the offender, the response of adult and child victims, and the scene itself. This evidence can then support witnesses by providing evidence-led prosecutions to help ensure perpetrators are brought to justice.

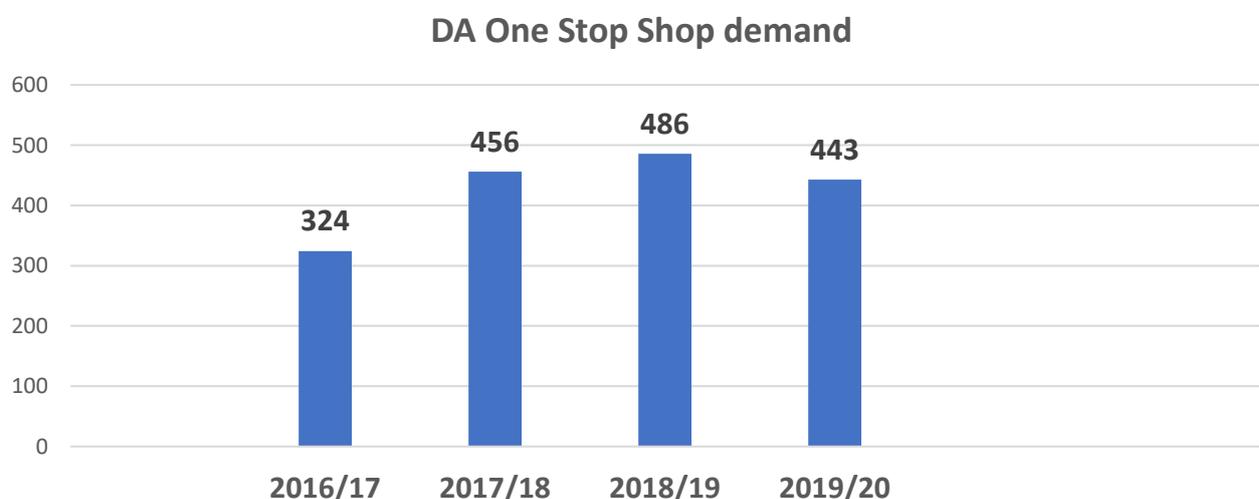
Priority: Enhancing joint working practices between agencies

- 2.37 This priority aims to prevent violence against women and girls by developing joint working practices to provide a consistent, co-ordinated response to victims and their children
- 2.38 Some of the key partnership activities that have been delivered or have taken place during 2019/20 to make this happen have been:
- The Barnet Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop
 - Delivery of the Barnet IRIS project
 - Safeguarding Children in Barnet through Operation Encompass
 - Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)
 - Governance arrangements for the delivery of the VAWG Strategy

The Barnet Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop

- 2.39 Barnet's One Stop Shop (OSS) is a drop-in service for early intervention and advice for victims of DA and VAWG. The OSS which is delivered by Barnet Homes (with partners including Barnet council, Solace Women's Aid, private solicitor firms, Barnet Magistrate, Asian Women Resource Centre and Cyber Care) has provided advice and support to **443** victims of Domestic Abuse in the 12 months to March 2020. The demand has been constant from **486** in 2018/19, **456** in 2017/18 and **324** in 2016/17.

Table 5: One Stop Shop demand



2.40 In addition to bringing together a breadth of partnership expertise to support victims of Domestic Abuse the OSS receives referrals from a wide range of agencies across the partnership as well as self-referrals.

Delivery of the IRIS⁴ project- Overview of Q4 2019-2020

2.41 The project started in February 2018, 26 GP Surgeries have received training, of which 15 are now fully trained.

2.42 Feedback about the impact of the IRIS project, from the GP practices has been positive and this has been reflected in a marked change in the rate of Domestic Abuse referrals from those surgeries. Of the GP surgeries to have receive training the number of Domestic Abuse referrals has increased from **4** per year prior to the IRIS training to **110** referrals from 1st April 2019 –26 June 2020. Joint partnership funding was agreed to continue to deliver this project in 2019/2020 where a further 25 GP surgeries will be targeted. Funding has been provided by Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS England, Barnet Community Safety Team(LBB) and Public Health.

Partnership action for Domestic Homicides Reviews (DHR)

2.43 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis in 2011 under section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004).⁵

- Barnet Council has recently published the summary of learning from a DHR and expects the learning from another three DHRs which are underway to be published during 2021.

Governance arrangements for the delivery of the VAWG Strategy

2.44 The delivery of the Barnet VAWG strategy is managed by Barnet's VAWG Delivery Group (a sub group of Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership Board). The VAWG Delivery Group meets on a quarterly.

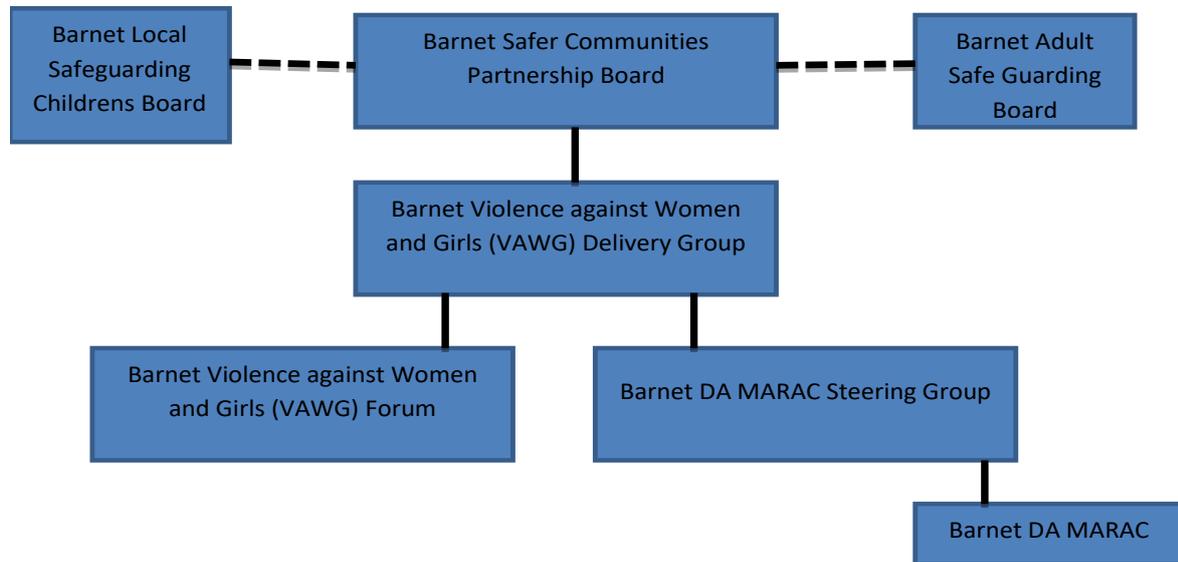
⁴ IRIS stands for: 'Identification and Referral to Improve Safety'. Its aim is to improve awareness among GP practices around domestic abuse and thereby to increase the early identification (and appropriate referral) of victims of domestic abuse by primary care practitioners.

⁵ Under the Act "domestic homicide review" means a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by a person to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or a member of the same household as himself, held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death.

2.45 Alongside the VAWG delivery group there is a VAWG Forum which is comprised of agencies from the statutory and voluntary sector that work or have an interest in supporting the delivery of the VAWG strategy in Barnet. The forum seeks to monitor performance of multi-agency delivery of the VAWG action plan, share good practice, identify gaps, recognise emerging needs and issues.

2.46 Updates on progress of delivering on the VAWG strategy are provided quarterly to the VAWG Delivery Group and annually to the Safer Communities Partnership Board.

Diagram 1: Barnet VAWG governance chart



Key	
_____	Reports to
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Report Ends