

KEY ACTION POINTS FROM 'TOGETHER WE CAN END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS: A STRATEGY'

Glossary

ACPO – Association of Chief Police Officers
 CESC – Children, Education & Social Care
 CDRP – Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (e.g. Safer Stockton Partnership)
 CPS – Crown Prosecution Service
 DASH – Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment
 DCSF – Department for Children, Schools and Families
 DNS - Development & Neighbourhood Services
 IDVA – Independent Domestic Violence Adviser
 ISVA – Independent Sexual Violence Adviser
 GP – General (medical) Practitioner ('family doctor')
 HMIC – Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary
 HMCPSI – Her Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate
 LSP – Local Strategic Partnership (e.g. Stockton Renaissance)
 MAPPA – Multi Agency Public Protection {Arrangements}
 MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
 NHS – National Health Service
 NSPCC – National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children
 PCT – Primary Care Trust
 SARC – Sexual Abuse / Assault & Rape Centre
 SBC – Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
 VAWG – Violence Against Woman and Girls
 YCAP – Youth Action Plan

	Prevention	
	Awareness raising, the media and communications	
1	Developing a national communications strategy designed to challenge attitudes towards VAWG among all members of the public, and to raise awareness of existing support services which support women and children affected by violence.	For national action
2	Launching this activity in early 2010 with a campaign targeting violence within teenagers' relationships run by the Home Office with support from the Department of Health and the NSPCC.	For national action
3	Working with the National Union of Journalists to draw up guidance for their members to ensure responsible reporting of violence against women and girls.	For national action
4	Publicising new offences aimed at reducing demand for prostitution (including paying for sex with someone subject to exploitative conduct, kerb-crawling and brothel closures).	For national action
5	Publication of Dr Linda Papadopoulos' review of Sexualisation of Young People.	For national action
6	Develop a series of short films on sexual violence which will be made available to patients via NHS Choices.	For national action
	A whole school response to children and young people	
7	Every school should make clear that all forms of VAWG are a safeguarding issue and ensure that all staff know how to deal with girls they identify as being affected, including when to refer to the school's designated senior person for child protection.	SBC - CESC

8	Key messages about VAWG and what schools can do to prevent and tackle it will be included in a range of existing and planned guidance to help mainstream it into school policies and roles.	SBC - CESC
9	Gender equality and violence against women and girls to be included in the school curriculum for PSHE and SRE.	SBC - CESC
10	DCSF will remit the Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA) to include gender awareness and VAWG in the list of topics when the Agency reviews the Qualified Teacher Status Standards and associated guidance in 2010.	For national action
11	Ofsted to engage with students and staff in inspecting how a school undertakes its equality duties, works to prevent violence against girls and supports girls who are experiencing violence.	For national action / SBC - CESC
12	Continuing provision of £30 million to support Childline.	For national action
13	Revised guidance to be published on Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) following a public consultation.	For national action
14	Schools will be encouraged to work with outside organisations including those from the voluntary sector to offer advice and resources to support teaching about this issue.	For national action / SBC – CESC / Harbour
15	DCSF together with the Anti-bullying Alliance to publish guidance on tackling sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying.	For national action
16	Governors will be supported and trained to address gender equality and VAWG issues.	<i>The School Governor Support Manager in CESC has tasked a member of his staff to progress this item, in liaison with Harbour (as at January 2010)</i>

	Early identification, early intervention	
17	National Safeguarding Delivery Unit (NDSU) to develop guidance as part of a larger piece of work on referral and assessment systems for children affected by domestic violence.	For national action
18	Jobcentre Plus to enhance training to improve responses to victims of VAWG.	For national action / JCP / Harbour?
19	DCSF with the support of the Home Office, the Department of Health and Ministry of Justice, to increase investment in Family Intervention Projects, leading to an increase in the number of families supported from 2,700 to 10,000 families per year by 2010/11.	For national action / Stockton YCAP Steering Group
20	DCSF to consult on the implementation of a framework for early intervention and support within schools.	For national action
21	The Home Office to fund an investigation into the feasibility of a national roll out of the 'Ugly Mugs' Scheme which will promote increased reporting of sexual assaults on sex workers through information sharing with the police and local projects. It will also facilitate rapid identification of offenders and improve early identification of repeat and mobile offenders across regions of the UK.	For national action
22	The Home Office to fund research and development of a film on forced marriages to be shown to women and girls from communities which are affected by forced marriage.	For national action
23	Connexions and other services working with schools to be further developed to ensure that they help and support victims.	SBC - CESC

24	Department of Health to take forward the recommendations outlined in 'Towards a Violence and Abuse Prevention Framework' launched in November 2008 to include working with stakeholders and delivery partners to assist preventing violence and abuse, raising awareness of its health, social and economic impacts as well as benefits in preventing violence.	For national action / Health & Wellbeing Management Team (HWBMT)
	Employer best practice	
25	Ministry of Defence to publish an updated strategy on domestic and sexual violence by June 2010.	For national action
26	The Home Office, the CPS and the Cabinet Office will develop best practice for addressing VAWG in the workplace and will ensure that this is shared across all other government departments and non-departmental public bodies.	For national action Note – this work is already well underway in Stockton – SBC, Police and Probation all have robust policies on Domestic Violence in relation to their own workforces
	Women's Safety (Publication of a review of Women's Safety in January 2010 including new measures to increase women's safety in public spaces)	(For national action in first instance – to be reviewed when published)
27	Development of accreditation criteria and systems for bus stations similar to the Secure Rail Stations Scheme.	For national action
28	Establishing a dedicated stalking / harassment helpline.	For national action
29	A named single point of contact in each police Basic Command Unit (BCU) for all matters relating to stalking and harassment.	Cleveland Police

	Provision	
	Victims of VAWG have access to services	
30	Piloting a project to assist victims of domestic violence who have entered the UK on a spousal / partner visa, and have no recourse to public funds.	For national action
31	Develop a new 24-hour sexual violence phone helpline. This will draw on the experience of existing helplines and good practice, including the Rape Abuse Incest National Network model in the USA.	For national action
32	Developing a new online directory of VAWG services.	For national action
33	Developing an online resource centre bringing together government guidance and other VAWG-related material.	For national action
34	Identify a locality willing to pilot a Total Place-style approach to VAWG.	For national action (Domestic Violence Strategy Group to consider Stockton position)
35	We will continue to invest in specialist VAWG services (MARACs, IDVAs, ISVAs, help lines, SARCs) in 2010/11 and prioritise investment in VAWG thereafter.	For national action
36	Seeking to honour the Government's Compact with the voluntary sector by moving to three-year funding arrangements with specialist third sector organisations working in this field where appropriate.	For national action

37	Developing a standard local VAWG-data set and data tool to enable every local area to undertake an accurate needs assessment.	For national action in first instance, local application by SBC – DNS (DV Co-ordinator)
38	Develop a 'ready reckoner' tool to enable commissioners to estimate need for local services in their area and ensure VAWG is included in the JSNA process to establish current and future needs of the population.	For national action in first instance, then HWBMT
39	Publish a recommended framework for local commissioners to bring together areas such as health, crime and children's services.	Stockton DV Strategy Group and HWBMT to consider when published.
40	Publish new guidance for PCTs on how best to commission services for victims of violence in line with the World Class Commissioning framework.	Stockton-on-Tees PCT / HWBMT
41	Explore the development of a wide-ranging VAWG indicator in the national indicator set and look to mainstream VAWG into other national indicators.	For national action
42	Improving the way VAWG is included in existing audit and inspection arrangements and in the Comprehensive Area Assessment process.	For national action Note - Domestic Violence already identified as a focus of CAA in Stockton for 2010/11
43	Encouraging every local authority to have a co-ordinated VAWG strategy with a director-level champion working across partnership structures in the area (e.g. including LSPs, Children's Trust and CDRPs) to encourage areas to make arrangements that best suit local circumstances to drive this forward.	<i>Agreed by SBC Corporate Management Team on 18 January 2010 that the champion will be Jane Humphreys, Corporate Director for Children, Education and Social Care (who will also draw on the LSCB).</i>

44	Encouraging NHS Trusts to give attention to VAWG, the Department of Health will include tackling VAWG in the NHS Operating Framework.	Stockton-on-Tees PCT, Hartlepool and North Tees Foundation Trust, Tees, Esk and Wear Valley Mental Health trust
45	Department of Health and Home Office will fast-track examination by the NHS and police, of the feasibility of transferring budget and commissioning responsibility for forensic sexual offences examination work to the NHS at the earliest opportunity.	For national action
46	We will continue to invest in developing a network of IDVAs to work with victims of domestic violence. Over £5 million will be invested in 2010/11 in IDVAs and the further roll-out of MARACs.	For national action
Quality services in every area		
47	Working with a wide range of professional bodies and others to explore how VAWG could be included in initial training for all frontline staff or in continuing professional development. For healthcare staff this will be considered by the Health Taskforce on VAWG.	For national action in first instance. Possible delivery role for Harbour, depending on what procurement arrangements are made.
48	We will support local partners to improve quality of services, starting with the key elements published in the Resource for Developing Sexual Assault Referral Centres in October 2009.	Teesside SARC already in place
49	An Awards Scheme to be launched to celebrate the achievements of local areas delivering excellence in VAWG and to recognise best practice.	For national action
50	Home Office and Department of Business, Innovation and Skills to run a pilot scheme providing advice for victims on employability and training.	For national action in first instance – any learning to be applied locally thereafter

	Protection	
	Support victims from 'report to court'	
51	Continue the roll out of MARACs to cover all geographical areas and reach at least 50,000 new victims a year by 2011.	MARAC arrangements already in place in Stockton
52	Consult on putting MARACs on a statutory basis.	All agencies with an interest in MARACs to consider their response when consultation takes place
53	Continue to invest in local non-statutory support services for rape victims with £2.25 million central funding available in 2010/11 including from a surcharge on offenders.	For national action / possible funding opportunity for Harbour
54	Work with Rights of Women to ensure their handbook Report to Court is made available to all victims of rape reporting to the police.	For national action initially, then Cleveland Police
55	Improve the way in which the CPS notifies victims if their case does not proceed to court.	CPS
56	Ensure that a victim's property seized as evidence is returned promptly and delays explained.	Cleveland Police
57	Train all IDVAs and ISVAs to be able to take victim personal statements.	For national action initially, then Harbour to take up supplementary training for IDVA-trained members of staff
58	Ensure appropriate information about the CJS is distributed in places where victims may seek help e.g. GP's surgeries.	PCT, SBC Housing / Tristar Homes / Registered Local Landlords/ Victim Support / Harbour
59	All police officers to be trained in the DASH risk assessment tool.	Cleveland Police

60	Implement statutory, multi-agency reviews of all domestic homicides by the end of 2010 to ensure that we learn how better to protect future potential victims.	Depends on model implemented. Likely to involve all agencies participating in Stockton DV Group, depending on the levels of individual costs NB recent analysis work shows that of 49 Domestic homicides across Teesside in the period 1999 – 2009, 29 presented with no recorded history of domestic violence, from the point of view of Cleveland Police.
61	Explore how to enable third parties like IDVAs or other third sector organisations to apply for civil injunctions with the leave of the court on behalf of victims by enacting section 60 of the Family Law Act.	For national action
62	Introduce new Domestic Violence Protection Orders giving police and courts the power to exclude perpetrators from victims' homes for up to 28 days to give victims a breathing space to apply for longer term protection.	For national action, in first instance, then Cleveland Police and HMCS
	Bringing more offenders to justice	
63	Ask all Chief Constables to report on the adequacy of their training on rape and to ensure they are adequately trained to provide leadership to their areas on this issue.	Cleveland Police
64	CPS to ensure that all rape specialist prosecutors complete the revised Rape and Serious Sexual Offences training course.	CPS
65	All Chief Crown Prosecutors to receive specialist training in prosecuting and managing rape cases by January 2010.	CPS
66	Ensure all force areas are following new ACPO/CPS guidance on rape investigation and prosecution with a joint ACPO/CPS support team visiting every area by March 2010.	Cleveland Police / CPS

67	A Rape Monitoring Group to scrutinise local performance indicators for the police and CPS in investigating and prosecuting sexual offences, particularly rape.	For national action
68	Explore the feasibility of setting up and/or extending scrutiny panels, similar to those currently operated by the CPS in relation to hate crime and domestic violence.	CPS
	Rehabilitate and better manage offenders	
69	Continue to invest in evidence based perpetrator programmes in custody and the community for offenders in both the criminal and justice system with plans to provide additional places in 2010/11.	For national action in first instance, then Durham / Tees Valley Probation Service in partnership with Harbour (and other agencies)
70	Publish new national offender strategies for domestic violence and sexual assault perpetrators in 2010.	For national action
71	Work to improve multi-agency information sharing on risky perpetrators through statutory and non-statutory partnerships like MARACs and MAPPAs.	For national action
72	Ensure IDVAs are involved in MAPPAs in appropriate cases.	Probation, Police, SBC - CESC
73	A joint inspection of police and CPS areas by HMIC and HMCPSI, planned for Autumn 2010.	For national action
74	We will provide support to MARACs and Local Safeguarding Children's Boards to agree joint working arrangements for identifying, protecting and supporting children affected by domestic violence.	For national action, in first instance, then Cleveland Police and SBC - CESC
75	Exploring how to enable third parties such as IDVAs or other third sector organisations to apply for civil injunctions with the leave of court, on behalf of victims under Section 60 of the Family Law Act.	For national action, in first instance; depending on outcome, Harbour, maybe Victim Support