

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO HEALTH AND  
WELLBEING BOARD**

**October 2022**

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Domestic Abuse update**

**SUMMARY**

This report updates the board on progress with the Domestic Abuse Strategy overseen by the Domestic Abuse Steering Group which is a subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**RECOMMENDATION**

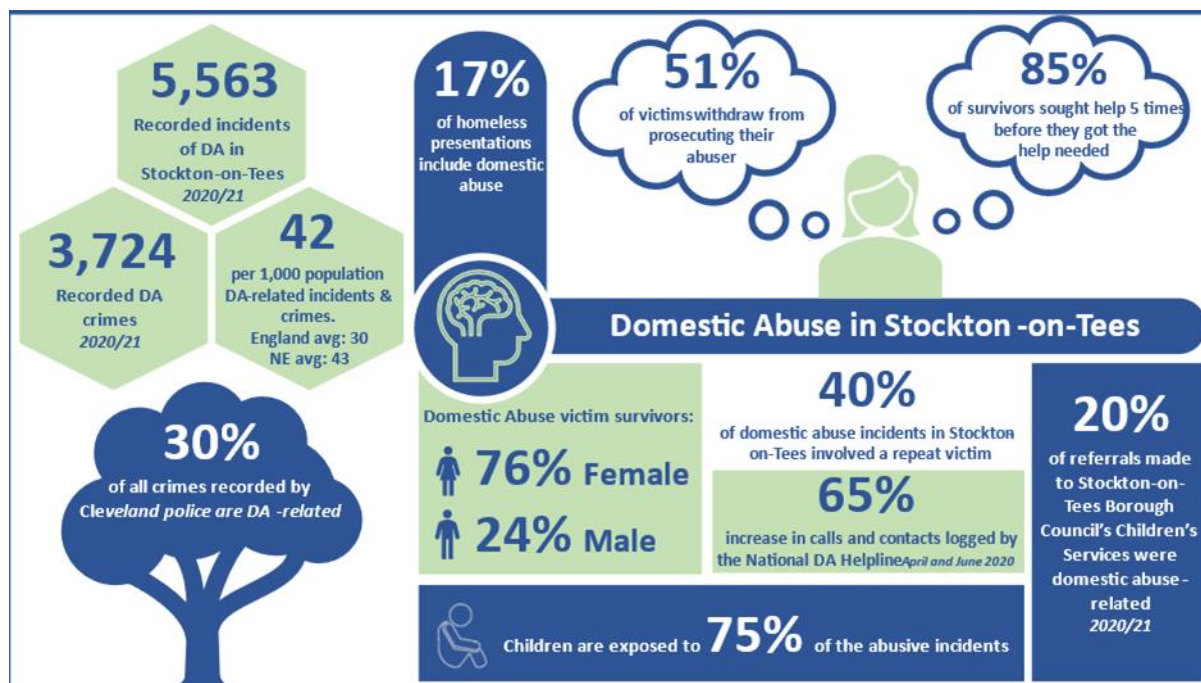
The report recommends for the Board to:

1. Note the implementation of a multiagency domestic abuse strategy working group.
2. Receive an update on the development of a revised domestic abuse strategy for 2022-27.
3. Receive and approve the forward plan for the approval of the domestic abuse strategy

**DETAIL**

1. The Domestic Abuse Strategy for Stockton-on-Tees (2017-22) ends in 2022. The Domestic Abuse Steering Group (DASG) has delegated the task to develop an updated strategy to a working group.
2. The purpose of the working group was to
  - provide expertise and contribute actively to the development of the strategy
  - identify local needs and priorities and engage with stakeholders
  - pay regard to statutory requirements such as the Domestic Abuse Act including the representation of the voice of victims and survivors of domestic abuse
  - comply with statutory requirement for a local safer accommodation strategy
  - follow national policy and guidance
  - produce a draft strategy for consideration of the Domestic Abuse Steering Group by August 2022

3. Membership of the working group includes PCC, safeguarding leads for children and adults from local authority and NHS, Children’s services, Housing, Community Safety, domestic abuse service and public health. The working group met monthly between March and October 2022.
4. The development of the strategy was informed by
  - Review of the previous strategy
  - In depth needs assessment with a particular focus on children and young people and housing.
  - Review of national guidance and statutory requirements
  - Local need
  - Victim survivor voice
5. Local data shows that a high level of Domestic Abuse related incidents and crimes in Stockton- on- Tees with 5563 incidents recorded in 2020/21.



6. A draft strategy is in development with the vision:

*Our vision is for Stockton-on-Tees to be a place where*

*Everyone - children, young people and adults - at risk of, experiencing or affected by domestic abuse are listened to, supported, and protected to live their lives free from abuse.*

*All victims of domestic abuse have access to inclusive, quality, affordable and appropriate safe accommodation and support.*

*Perpetrators of domestic abuse are held to account and supported to change their behaviour.*

7. Priority areas of focus for the strategy are proposed as:
  - Prevent domestic abuse
  - Intervene early
  - Support and protect victim-survivors
  - Hold perpetrators to account
  - Share data and intelligence
8. A consultation plan is in place for the strategy and the draft strategy will be shared with the board and other groups (community safety partnership, Tees adult safeguarding board, Children's safeguarding board) in November for consultation with a view to approve a final strategy in December 2022.
9. An action plan and outcomes framework to measure progress are also in development and will sit alongside the strategy to describe how the strategic intent will be delivered and monitored.

**Name of Contact Officer:** Tanja Braun / Mandy MacKinnon  
**Post Title:** Consultant in Public Health / Strategic Health and Wellbeing Manager  
**Email address:** [Tanja.Braun@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:Tanja.Braun@stockton.gov.uk) / [Mandy.mackinnon@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:Mandy.mackinnon@stockton.gov.uk)