

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WORKSHOPS**

### **14 January 2011**

#### **Housing**

##### **Group A**

254. Challenge focus on reaching group of people owner/occupier moving into private rental when in financial difficulty
255. Interim housing will stop bed blocking in Refuge and help in terms of diversity, to help men or teenage boys who cannot go to women's refuge.
256. Discussions on funding – secure for Tristar for future years, may have scope for additional resources in addition to ideas for future (from present)
257. Need to have other options other than refuge for people with different needs, making sure people are using the appropriate services
258. Current situation of emerging trend of people who may become homeless. Can we prevent these people from entering criminal justice system? CW advised worrying that the areas are some of the more affluent areas. Tenants must go to court to save property – problem is that they are not turning up to prevent re-possession
259. Opportunity to advertise services and telephone numbers via booklets being posted through doors – Ted Allen. Stockton News and radio already being used
260. Consequence of above would be extra work and do we have capacity to cope with additional workload following advertising services
261. Develop relationship between social housing and private sector

##### **Group B**

262. Stats from Harbour around occupancy in Refuge, detailed in prior meeting. Surprising how many people were being refused due to lack of availability. This is a big issue bedblocking situation which hampers and reduces services to people who need it because of housing issues. This needs to move up the Strategy Group agenda
263. Barnardo's have provided a service to enable independent stable living. However, this is limited due to funding bids and may only last on yearly basis
264. Is the above a priority compared to family support?
265. Need to look at best outcomes and what we can achieve with the money we have available
266. Discussions on being part of the Vela Group and how some things are dealt with in different ways
  - (a) anti-social behaviour
  - (b) financial contributions
  - (c) cultural differences and systems
267. Query on intelligence sharing with other agencies on new customers – yes via CW team – to give support from earliest stages
268. What is in contract around DV to stipulate perpetrators must go on support programme? – this is breach of tenancy
269. Opportunity to do preventative work through Team around Child – this assessment is undertaken by CW team, needs to be bespoke.

### **Group C**

- 270. Queried why not accessing housing services when in financial difficulty – despite publications / promotions people still do not know what support / services are available
- 271. Need to look at the way we are delivering services – however there will not be any money available next year
- 272. Services need to be modernised to meet with current client group
- 273. Discussions around why housing officers are not employed to be dedicated to voluntary areas such as Harbour – more funding is available for voluntary.

### **Group D**

- 274. At least 50% coming back (revolving door) – what do we want to commission / provide to address this?
- 275. Have to look at ways of getting people to access services quicker to initiate interventions sooner
- 276. Harbour would like to do work in more affluent areas and access residents associations to promote services and start preventative work
- 277. All services have the same families that are linking into services / agencies – how do we break the cycle of generational abuse?
- 278. We also now have a completely new group of people who are facing financial difficulties. Discussions around duty of care for employers around redundancies / sickness – DV. This may not have hit yet, but will happen eventually.
- 279. Over the next few months significant awareness raising is required.