

Stockton CAVIC/LAAA activity in Stockton



Summary of CAVIC/LAAA activity in Stockton

Current situation

Cleveland Against Violence in Communities, or CAVIC is Cleveland Police's strategic operation in relation to violence in Cleveland

Cleveland Police undertake a quarterly Violence meeting as part of a wider CAVIC strategy.

Violence meeting has multi agency representations and covers Hate Crime, Domestic Violence, Repeat Streets and Locations and Repeat Offenders and Victims.

In addition to Violence meetings, alcohol related violence is also covered as Stockton's Local Alcohol Action Area (LAAA).

The LAAA is also a multi-agency group and seeks to address irresponsible alcohol sales, maximise licensing powers to reduce alcohol harm, promote life skills and resilience in our children and young people and endeavour to implement good practice.

The LAAA meet every two months, the group are importing the good practice identified through the establishment of LAAA in Middlesbrough.

Both groups have action plans in order to monitor progress and measure activity undertaken. The activity is measured at each meeting with any actions recorded.

Ch Insp 1165 Harrison

IRT North

Perpetrators are also flagged, Claire's Law considered and we are actively engaged in pushing the perpetrator programmes offered but there is a nationally recognised gap in terms of a successful evidence based approach to tackling perpetration. IOM is now going to look at our repeat perpetrators as a more focussed way of tackling the issue. (Ongoing).

- Risk assessment during the course of the investigation. Initial risk assessments are done in all DA incidents and there is now quality assurance around this. However, there is limited provision in place to collect and respond to new information during the course of an investigation that may alter the risk assessment. It is down to individual officers as to what further risk assessment takes place at key points of the journey. EG, offender released from bail, offender re-bailed or charged. A process needs to be developed with our support providers to better manage this current gap.

Opportunities

- To develop our focus on children in domestic abuse incidents and households subject to DA. We are looking to adopt an initiative currently used in Durham branded 'Through the Eyes of a child' to ensure that children as well as victims are considered in all DA situations. The aim being to improve safeguarding, support and reduce the likelihood of future perpetration or victimisation. (Target date Dec 2016)
- Detective Sergeants are going to provide 6 monthly update briefings to operational staff as part of their parade. This will keep staff updated whilst providing visibility of the unit and improve mutual understanding.

Strengths

- Timetable for all frontline Sergeants and Inspectors to spend two weeks across the PVP to understand how we address issues of vulnerability and the areas of focus to take back to frontline activities.
- Relationships with IDVA's from the 3 providers remains strong and this has allowed us to negotiate the co-location of two IDVA's in the police station at no cost to the force, this should assist with early intervention, victim engagement and the ongoing risk assessment work highlighted as a risk above.
- Domestic Abuse Quality assurance audits
- Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panel

- We are now able to flag serial perpetrators within IRIS which assists in safeguarding and identifying opportunities for Claire's Law disclosures which have increased 5 fold since April 2016
- DA on all LPA TCG documents
- MARAC meetings are well attended and a recent review praised the way the meetings are run and the contribution of the chair, co-ordinator and other contributors but highlighted some areas for development. A review of the process is on-going as there is an issue of the appropriateness of some referrals which in turn is diluting the effectiveness of the process. The new PVP HUB has also highlighted the need for a dedicated MARAC co-ordinator.

Key areas for support from the management board;

- Body worn video usage - #1 priority as it has the potential to address so many issues
- Build in a regular training cycle for Comms / Front desk staff / PCSO's for vulnerability issues similar that which has been done for officers.
- Eyes of the Child – this initiative has the potential to reinvigorate operational staff in their approach to DA as addressing issues of harm to children resonates with almost everyone. It is also key to the long term approach to tackling the repeat victimisation/perpetration cycle.
- Leadership across all areas of business to help ensure that tackling domestic abuse is and is seen to be, a priority across the force.

How we are ensuring actions are embedded;

- Surveying of victims to commence Nov 2016
- Auditing of DASH forms with themes and learning identified and feedback
- Domestic abuse checklist for investigations
- Domestic Abuse scrutiny panel to look at the end to end process and capture learning and best practice
- Building links with frontline staff through supervisory attachments and visibility of DA supervisors at operational briefings