

**APPENDIX 1**  
**ACTION PLAN: Review of Children affected by Domestic Abuse**

No.	Recommendation	Proposed Actions / Progress	Success Measures	Responsibility	Date
1	The Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSSCP) undertake a communications campaign (reflecting the 'keeping your child in mind' principle) around the impact of domestic abuse on children.	<p>a) HSSCP's annual comms plan is shared with and supported by comms teams of partners within the Domestic Abuse Steering Group.</p> <p>b) The HSSCP Executive committee will plan a communications campaign.</p>	Communication campaign launched successfully.	Leanne Stockton (HSSCP) / Vanessa Housley (SBC)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2027
2	In collaboration with local schools, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) and Harbour introduce a school staff training programme on domestic abuse, its impact on children, and the support services available (including a plan to increase the uptake of domestic abuse training in primary schools).	<p>a) Harbour to promote the Workforce Development offer to schools, in particular primary schools.</p> <p>b) Harbour to seek opportunities to promote courses through Education Improvement / school networks.</p> <p>c) Harbour to collaborate with primary school Heads on tailoring courses to be accessible.</p>	Increase in number of primary schools represented on courses provided by Harbour in 2026/27.	Danielle Chadwick (Harbour)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2027
3	Options be explored in order to secure funding for the continuation / enhancement of Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) services within local health settings (hospitals and primary care).	Collaborate with partners to explore options for funding.	Funding for the role at NTHFT is secured for 2026.	Danielle Chadwick (Harbour)	31 <sup>st</sup> March <u>2026</u>
4	All organisations improve their recording of details (including a child's age) of domestic abuse-related referrals made to the Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub (CHUB) ( <i>note: to be known as the 'Family Help Point' from 1 April 2026</i> ) and local support service, Harbour (even	<p>a) Children's referrals sent either via the FHP portal or via the safer referral process must contain full details of the child.</p> <p>b) All partners should ensure their own record keeping includes the child's age.</p>	Audits and data will demonstrate improved recording of child's details.	Louise Hollick (SBC)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2027

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	when domestic abuse is only one of several reasons for a referral being submitted).				
5	<p>In terms of domestic abuse-related training:</p> <p>a) SBC introduces a mandatory course for all staff (and Elected Members) which includes content on identifying this form of abuse and how / where to report it.</p> <p>b) Relevant partnerships with oversight of domestic abuse / safeguarding matters encourage organisations represented within these multi-agency arrangements to introduce mandatory courses for all staff, the content of which should reflect a tiered approach based on individual roles / responsibilities.</p> <p>c) The Stockton-on-Tees Domestic Abuse Steering Group (DASG) seek greater assurance around the uptake of such training within individual organisations (including early years providers) and how this is impacting upon practice.</p>	<p>a) SBC:</p> <p>i. Identify the routes for approval of mandatory training for staff and elected members.</p> <p>ii. Make training available on My Development.</p> <p>b) The Domestic Abuse Steering Group will map what training is in place in member organisations.</p> <p>c) The DASG will seek assurance of the reach of the training mapped in (b).</p>	<p>Training is mandatory 80% staff complete training.</p> <p>Training is accessible on My Development.</p> <p>The DASG is assured that training provision and uptake is appropriate in member organisations.</p>	Mandy MacKinnon (SBC)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2027

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6	Harbour strengthens the promotion of its existing offer within local primary care services (across all Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and the individual practices themselves).	Harbour seek opportunities to promote courses through Practice manager Networks and through PCN Clinical Leads.	Primary Care is a key target within Harbour's marketing plan.	Danielle Chadwick (Harbour)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2027
7	Where appropriate, the Stockton-on-Tees DASG oversee a drive to increase awareness and utilisation of Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPOs) by frontline professionals across the local 'system' when domestic abuse is identified within a household.	DASG; the Safer Stockton Partnership and the Tees Tackling DA Perpetration Strategic Board seek a common approach to promoting and applying for DAPOs.	Appropriate DAPO applications are received from across the system.	Mandy MacKinnon (SBC)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2027
8	SBC provides assurance to key partners and all Elected Members around the changes to its 'front door' to services for children and their families ( <i>note: to be known as the 'Family Help Point' from 1 April 2026</i> ), including how existing partnership arrangements will be maintained / enhanced.	<p>Briefing on the Family Help Point (FHP) to elected members took place on 24/03/2026.</p> <p>Family Help Point established on 01/04/2026 and multiple briefings and communications have been made to partners.</p> <p>Strategic partners attend the Families First Partnership board where FHP updates are shared.</p>	Elected members and partners are aware of the new arrangements and how to make a referral into FHP.	Louise Hollick (SBC)	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2026
9	The Stockton-on-Tees DASG seek assurance that key local partners have 'voice of the child' strategies / mechanisms in place and that best practice principles in relation to capturing the child's voice are shared and continually reinforced (particularly	<p>The DASG shares Harbour's good practice with partner organisations.</p> <p>Work with partners to ensure strategies to incorporate the Voice of the Child into working practice are embedded in safeguarding and domestic abuse training.</p>	Strategies to incorporate the Voice of the Child are embedded in safeguarding and domestic abuse training.	Danielle Chadwick (Harbour) / Leanne Stockton (HSSCP)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2027

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	with frontline officers attending households).				
10	The Stockton-on-Tees DASG provide updates on the progress of actions associated with the local Domestic Abuse Strategy, highlighting any areas which are proving challenging and the reasons for this.	An annual summary of progress will be provided.	Annual summary received.	Mandy MacKinnon (SBC)	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
11	Suggested areas of future focus identified by contributors to this review be shared with, and subsequently considered by, the Stockton-on-Tees DASG and the HSSCP.	Area of future focus collated and circulated to DASG and HSSCP leads for consideration.	Areas of focus evident in future plans.	Gary Woods (SBC)	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
12	The findings and recommendations from the recently published thematic joint targeted area inspection (JTAI) report on <i>'the multi-agency response to children who are victims of domestic abuse'</i> be shared with all relevant local organisations.	<p>a) A request will be made in the HSSCP executive meeting to circulate the JTAI report and include links to it on their website.</p> <p>b) Report to be circulated to members of the DASG so partners can circulate to their organisations.</p>	Report is successfully circulated.	Louise Hollick (SBC)	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2026