

Our priority

Domestic abuse can happen to anyone; it can be sexual, psychological, financial, emotional, or physical. It is defined as any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are family members, or have been intimate partners. West Yorkshire Police deal with four incidents of domestic abuse every hour. Not all incidents are reported to the police, so even these figures do not reflect the full scale of the problem. A quarter of respondents to our 'Your Priorities, Your Plan' survey said that domestic abuse was a priority for them.

How we are going to deliver

Our main objective is to develop a strategic approach between the OPCC, West Yorkshire Police and key partners, which overcomes some of the challenges to services which are delivered, funded and managed at a local level. The Domestic Abuse Board was set up in 2015 to bring key stakeholders together and a Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy published in February 2017. The Domestic Abuse Board and Strategy provides the framework to enable the delivery of our intentions including that we will:

- Engage with and respond to the needs of victims and survivors by ensuring they are at the heart of any planning, risk management and provision of victim services. **Listening to people.**
- Work with and listen to the needs of communities to provide appropriate support to all victims/survivors of domestic abuse – regardless of their gender, ethnicity, age, sexuality, or locality. **Understanding our communities.**
- Encourage closer working between services and where appropriate encourage service integration to enable a consistent and effective service across West Yorkshire to victims or those at risk of harm. The Domestic Abuse Board remit will be broadened to reflect the wider agenda and deliver the commitments made in the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy **Working together.**
- Encourage evidenced based practice whilst also having an openness to innovation. Joining with partner organisations to work with families and perpetrators to devise preventative approaches, and challenge the myths and stereotypes about the victims and survivors of domestic abuse. **Preventing and intervening earlier.**
- Increase capacity and flexibility, to support more people, to respond when and where people need help, and to accommodate people's diverse needs. This includes a need for gender and age specific services, and services targeted at vulnerable communities. **Improving our services.**
- Make the most of the available resources by continuing to provide funding alongside partners, according to the needs that are identified. **Providing resources.**

How we will know whether we've delivered

We will measure our progress against this priority (and our objectives set out in the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy), through the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Board, and quarterly contract meetings with service providers and grant recipients. In addition to this, we will monitor performance around a number of relevant indicators through our Community Outcome Meetings and through the Delivery Quarterly process, carrying out more detailed analysis where necessary. Some of the key indicators of progress include:

- The repeat victimisation rate of domestic abuse will reduce.
- The reoffending rate of those on the domestic abuse perpetrator programme will reduce.
- West Yorkshire Police will make schools aware of domestic incidents where their pupils have been present.