



Meeting: Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board

Date/Time: Friday, 17 June 2022 at 9.00 am

Location: Microsoft Teams video conferencing.

Contact: Euan Walters (0116 3052583)

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AGENDA

<u>Item</u>	<u>Report by</u>
1. Appointment of Chairman. <i>To note that Mrs. D. Taylor CC remains the Cabinet Lead Member for Community Safety at Leicestershire County Council and therefore according to the Terms of Reference she is appointed Chair of the Leicestershire Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board for the 2022/23 year.</i>	
2. Election of Vice Chairman. <i>The Terms of Reference of the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board state that the Vice Chair of the Board will be appointed at the first meeting of every municipal year. Nominations will be sought at the meeting.</i>	
3. Welcome, introductions and apologies.	
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2022.	(Pages 3 - 8)
5. Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance. <i>A presentation will be given by Lillie Green, Healthy Homes Officer, Public Health, Leicestershire County Council.</i>	(Pages 9 - 14)
6. Spend plan/status of contracts <i>Gurjit Samra-Raj, Service Manager (Safer Communities), Leicestershire County Council will present this report.</i>	(Pages 15 - 18)



7. Any other business.
8. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled to take place on Friday 23 September 2022 at 9.00am.



Minutes of a meeting of the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board held via Microsoft Teams video conferencing on Friday, 18 March 2022.

PRESENT

Mrs. D. Taylor CC (in the Chair)	Leicestershire County Council - Cabinet Lead Member for Community Safety
Cllr. L. Phillimore	Community Safety Partnership Strategy Group Chair - Blaby District Council
Cllr. M. Graham	Community Safety Partnership Strategy Group Chair – Melton Borough Council
Cllr. Simon Whelband	Community Safety Partnership Strategy Group Chair – Harborough District Council
Cllr. M. Mullaney	Community Safety Partnership Strategy Group Chair – Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
Chief Superintendent Johnny Starbuck David Peet	Leicestershire Police Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire
Mr. N. Bannister CC Mick Grewcock Joshna Mavji	Combined Fire Authority Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Public Health, Leicestershire County Council
Lillie Green	Public Health, Leicestershire County Council
Gurjit Samra-Rai	Leicestershire County Council
Rik Basra	Leicestershire County Council
Anita Chavda	Leicestershire County Council
Sabrina Hussain	Leicestershire County Council
Bob Bearne	Probation Service
Suki Kaur	Freeva
Debbie Hughes	Living Without Abuse
Jackie Duffy	GATE
Jackie Earl	LGBT Centre
Zinthyia Ganeshpanchan	Zinthyia Trust
Rachel Burgess	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
Thomas Day	Harborough District Council
Alison Simmonds	Charnwood Borough Council
Mark Smith	Oadby and Wigston Borough Council
Rachel Parkin	Melton Borough Council
Euan Walters	Leicestershire County Council

Apologies

Cllr. A. Woodman	North West Leicestershire District Council
Cllr. L. Harper-Davies	Charnwood Borough Council
Cllr. K. Loydall	Oadby and Wigston Borough Council
Rupert Matthews	Police and Crime Commissioner
Chris Thomas	Leicestershire County Council
Sharon Cooke	Leicestershire County Council
Rachel Garton	Clinical Commissioning Groups

Pamela Richardson
Julie Robinson

WALL
Charnwood Borough Council

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies.

Mrs. D. Taylor CC welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Board and the list of apologies was noted.

2. Approving Terms of Reference for the Board.

Gurjit Samra-Rai, Head of Service (Safer Communities), Leicestershire County Council presented proposed Terms of Reference for the Leicestershire Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board. A copy of the Terms of Reference, marked 'Agenda Item 2', is filed with these minutes.

It was explained that the Terms of Reference had been based on model Terms of Reference drafted by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

It was noted that the Board membership as set out in the proposed Terms of Reference did not include representatives from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service and the Combined Fire Authority and suggested that they should be included as they would add value to the Board.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed Terms of Reference for the Leicestershire Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board be approved subject to representatives from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service and the Combined Fire Authority being added to the Board membership list.

3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman.

RESOLVED:

That Mr. N. Bannister CC (Combined Fire Authority) be appointed Vice Chairman until the first meeting of the Board in the 2023/24 municipal year.

4. Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy and Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment.

The Board considered the Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy and the Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment, copies of which, marked 'Agenda Item 4', are filed with these minutes.

Arising from discussions the following points were noted;

- (i) The five priorities in the Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy had arisen from the Leicestershire Needs Assessment undertaken by SafeLives in 2021. One of the key points identified in the Needs Assessment was that male victims were not seeking assistance from the authorities and there was also a lack of data relating to the LGBT+ community. The Needs Assessment would be reviewed annually and following on from that annual reviews of the Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy would also take place.

- (ii) The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 placed a duty on Tier One local authorities to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children within refuges and safe accommodation. In Leicestershire there was a shortage of safe accommodation for victims of Domestic Abuse. There were refuges in Leicester City, Hinckley and Loughborough but a greater range of accommodation types was required as some victims did not feel comfortable in refuges. New properties needed to be built to meet the demand but local authorities also needed to make sure existing accommodation was being made best use of and that landlords and tenants were encouraged to make sure properties were being lived in. Registered housing providers were not bound by the duty in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 nevertheless they were being liaised with to see if they could help with accommodation for domestic abuse victims. It was noted that registered providers did have a duty to help the homeless therefore this could be used to influence the providers to help Domestic Abuse victims.
- (iii) Consideration was being given by the County Council to whether Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 could be used to require housing developers to provide accommodation for domestic abuse victims.
- (iv) The Department of Levelling Up Communities and Housing (DLUCH - formerly MHCLG) had allocated Leicestershire County Council £1.126 million to support the victims of Domestic Abuse with each district receiving £33k. The funding was only for residents of Leicestershire so if a victim moved from Leicestershire to another County they could not continue to benefit from Leicestershire funding however the victim would be referred to the relevant partners in that County and it would be ensured support was still in place. It was intended that accommodation providers would receive Housing Benefit for those residing at the accommodation and those residents would receive wrap around support funded by the DLUCH monies.

RESOLVED:

That the Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy and the Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment be noted.

5. Theory of Change.

The Board received a presentation from Sabrina Hussain, Domestic Abuse and Housing Officer, Leicestershire County Council, regarding the Theory of Change which set out why action relating to Domestic Abuse was required and what interventions and outcomes were required. A copy of the presentation slides is filed with these minutes.

The Chairman emphasised that Key Performance Indicators were needed to measure whether the funding and interventions were leading to positive results and suggested benchmarking exercises should take place. In response it was explained that the commissioning arrangements and contracts with each provider would include Key Performance Indicators. This data was required to be reported to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and could also be reported to future meetings of the Board.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the presentation be noted.

6. DLUHC Domestic Abuse Act Spend Plan.

The Board considered a report of Gurjit Samra-Rai, Service Manager (Safer Communities), which presented the Domestic Abuse Act Funding Plan 2021/22 and outlined how the County Council funding would be allocated to the specific requirements of the new duties. A copy of the report, marked 'Agenda Item 6', is filed with these minutes.

Arising from discussions the following points were noted:

- (i) Leicestershire County Council had been allocated £1,127,205 for 2021/22 and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities had indicated that a similar amount would be allocated to Leicestershire for 2022/23. The funding was for the area covered by Leicestershire County Council but not Leicester City. As the Leicester LGBT centre was based in the City it could not receive any funding from Leicestershire County Council.
- (ii) The Domestic Abuse Coordinator role had already been recruited to and Sabrina Hussain had been appointed. The Commissioning Officer would be appointed in April 2022.
- (iii) The Domestic Abuse Act funding could not be used to engage with the perpetrators of Domestic Abuse. However, the Covid-19 recovery funds which had been allocated to the Public Health Department at Leicestershire County Council could be used for perpetrators of Domestic Abuse. There was also a scheme already in place in Leicester City delivered by Freeva that worked with perpetrators and this scheme had funding in place until September 2022. Suki Kaur, Chief Executive, Freeva gave reassurance that this scheme did have an evidence base and the performance data, which was reported to the OPCC, indicated the scheme was having an impact. Consideration was given to whether this data should be brought to a future meeting of the Board however it was concluded that it did not fit within the Board's remit and timescales and it would be a more appropriate agenda item for the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board.
- (iv) It was also noted that in cases where the victim was willing to make a complaint to the police, the police had the power to remove the perpetrator from the home, remand them in custody or impose bail conditions that would protect the victim.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) That the Domestic Abuse Act Funding Plan 2021/22 be approved.

7. Any other Business.

It was suggested that the Domestic Abuse Act work should cover safeguarding issues which arose as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and identify children at risk. Lillie Green, Public Health, agreed to give this consideration.

8. Date of next meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting of the Board take place on Friday 17 June 2022 at 9.00am.

9.00 - 9.55 am
18 March 2022

CHAIRMAN

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Healthy Homes Officer

Lillie Green

Introduction

**DAHA
accreditation**

**Reciprocal
model**

Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Accreditation (DAHA)

Launched in September of 2014,

DAHA embeds the best practice learned and implemented by its 3 founding partners.

Established set of standards and an accreditation process.

DAHA is a partnership between three organisations - Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse, Peabody and Gentoo.

DAHA will prevent a “post code lottery” and help to implement positive change to provide a better quality of service to all victims.

8 priority areas: Policy and Procedures, Staff development and support, partnerships and collaboration, safety led case management, Victim/survivor led support, intersectional and anti racist practice, perpetrator accountability and publicity and awareness raising.



daha

Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance

DAHA Aims

Improve	Improve confidence in identifying & dealing with domestic abuse
Standardise	Standardise process so people experiencing domestic abuse get right response from housing every time
Increase	Increase skills & interaction with local services and mechanisms including specialist domestic abuse services and MARAC
Reduce	Reduce costs to housing providers from DA related repairs, turnover of stock & rent arrears
Reduce	Reduce cost to public purse via earlier interventions by housing providers

The housing Reciprocal

The Pan-London Housing Reciprocal is a unique and innovative scheme that offers long-term and affordable housing for social tenants fleeing domestic abuse and other forms of violence.

Housing Reciprocal would be a housing pathway for people with a social housing tenancy in LLR who are at high risk of harm where they live.

People with social tenancies who are at serious risk of harm, can access another social tenancy in a different borough in LLR and remain safe.

Allow survivors of violence, abuse or exploitation to move to safety without sacrificing their social tenancies.

Works as a 'central pot' rather than a direct swap between two applicants. If a family is successfully rehoused, their landlord will owe a property to the scheme and the landlord who rehoused them will be owed a property.



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**LEICESTERSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE LOCAL PARTNERSHIP
BOARD**

17th JUNE 2022

**DEPARTMENT FOR LEVELLING UP, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES
DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT FUNDING SPEND PLAN**

Introduction

1. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places a number of statutory duties on the County Council primarily to provide accommodation based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children.
2. This will be achieved through the requirement to undertake a needs assessment, publish a Domestic Abuse Strategy and establish a Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has allocated funding to each local authority to assist in discharging the duties.

Background

3. The Domestic Abuse Act received royal assent in April 2021. The Act places a duty on Tier one local authorities (the County Council) to provide accommodation-based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation and provides clarity over governance and accountability, requiring tier two councils (district councils), to co-operate with the lead local authority.
4. In line with the Domestic Abuse Act, the County Council is also required to produce a Domestic Abuse Reduction Strategy which sets out a partnership approach to tackling Domestic Abuse (DA).
5. The duty on the County Council is to prepare, give effect to and monitor a strategy based on an assessment of the need for accommodation-based support for victims of domestic abuse in the Council's area.
6. To help deliver the Strategy, a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board must also be established, consisting of key partners with an interest in tackling domestic abuse and supporting victims and their children.
7. With the additional responsibilities handed to local authorities by the DA Act, there is funding available for 2yrs. The County Council has received £1,127,205, in year one. The County Council funding is within the Children and Family Services directorate budget overseen by the Director of Children and Family Services and the DA Locality Partnership Board who will continue to monitor outcomes against the use of these funds. Tier one authorities have now been informed as to the amount of grant funding

to be received for year two; Leicestershire County Council has been allocated £1,130,326.

Year 1 spend plan

8. A spend plan has been developed and will outline how the County Council funding will be allocated to the specific requirements of the new duties.

<u>Support service</u>	<u>Service provider</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Time period</u>	<u>Status</u>
Domestic Abuse Act Coordinator	Leicestershire County Council	£95,062	2 years fixed term	In post
Commissioning officer	Leicestershire County Council	£88,234	2 years fixed term	In post
Substance misuse specialist	Turning Point	£80,000	2 years	Service start date: 13.06.2022
Gypsy Roma and Traveller specialist	Leicestershire Gate	£60,000	2 years	Service start date: 01/08/2022
Specialist DA Support LGBT+ Victims	Leicester LGBT service	£56,000	2 years	Service start date: 01/07/2022
Community based support for male victims	Women's Aid Leicestershire	£97,054	2 years	Commissioning team drawing up contracts
Helpline support for male victims	Freeva	£76,544	2 years	Commissioning team drawing up contracts
BAME advisor	Freeva	£76,544	2 years	Commissioning team drawing up contracts
Counselling service for adults	Freeva	£42,982	1 year	Commissioning team drawing up contracts
Children's support service	JADA+ via Women's Aid	£123,550	1 year	Service start date: 31/05/2022
x2 Outreach workers	Living without Abuse	£148,000	2 years	PID and exceptions report completed: 01/06/2022
County Family service: x2 family workers	Living without Abuse	£148,000	2 years	PID and exceptions report completed: 01/06/2022
1 part time young person's IDVA	Living without Abuse	£54,000	2 years	PID and exceptions report completed: 01/06/2022
Contribution to MARAC manager and Administrator costs	MARAC	£18,000	2 years	Year 1 money sent: 09/03/2022

Year 2 spend plan

9. An estimated £830,000 of the DA Act funding from year 2 will go towards a Leicestershire County Council Domestic Abuse team. The aim of this team is to provide specialist, support, and assistance to victims of domestic abuse. Some of the posts within this team will include:
- Support and Intervention workers to provide practical immediate support to families to implement safety plans, coordinate relevant services, to include making sure children are in school, health involved as necessary.
 - Liaison Officers based within the Children and Family service (CFS) to work closely with schools to develop their knowledge, skills, and capacity to support children who are living with DA.
 - A team of Engagement workers who will work with the perpetrators of domestic abuse in Child Protection and Child in Need cases.
 - MARAC Coordinator who will be attending MARAC daily and who will encourage referrals into the service.
 - Personal Advisor who will work with young care leavers who are involved in intimate partner relationships which are abusive
Plans are being developed further by the Children and Families team. Full details of this project will be brought to the next meeting.
10. Safe accommodation is expected to come out of year 2 funding also. Plans are underway with the commissioning team.

Monitoring and evaluation

11. Robust Monitoring and evaluation processes have been established within all commissioning arrangements to inform future decision making across the system. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) have requested information which has been incorporated to contracts.

The following monitoring information has been included in all contracts.

12. The provider will complete a performance monitoring framework provided by the commissioner and submit returns on a quarterly basis. This data should also be used to internally monitor the reach and success of the project and to support continuous improvement. The performance monitoring framework will capture, at a minimum, the following data:
- Date and source of referral;
 - Whether individual engaged;
 - Key demographics (e.g. age, gender, ethnicity and residency) and indicators of risk/vulnerability (e.g. repeat victim of DV, child victim of DV);
 - Self-identified needs and goals;

- Number and type of sessions attended;
 - Number of sanctuary referrals made;
 - Onward referrals made;
 - Date case closed and reason for closure (e.g. completed or disengaged).
13. The service is underpinned by a Theory of Change and as such, it is expected to make a tangible contribution to ensuring that victims of domestic abuse are safer and securing access to safe accommodation. Through the activities listed above, we expect this service to achieve the following outcomes:
- Increase in the number of individuals and families accessing domestic abuse support;
 - Increase in feelings of safety;
 - Increase in confidence, self-esteem and wellbeing;
 - Increase in individuals and families accessing support from partner agencies (e.g. for housing, financial issues, substance misuse);
 - Reduction in the risk factors associated with being a victim of DV.

DLUHC monitoring portal

14. Tier 1 local authorities are required to submit a report to the department setting out how they have met their duty. The data monitoring form has gone live on Delta, the deadline for this is the 30th June 2022.
15. The LGA recently held virtual workshop sessions for local authorities, focusing on the delivery and implementation of the Part 4 statutory duty to deliver accommodation-based support and services. Each workshop included a presentation from the Department from Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, as well as wider presentations from specialist services.
16. DLUHC understand there will be gaps in data as local authorities are at different stages of commissioning services. Where Domestic abuse services have not yet been commissioned, it is important to make clear any commitments that have been made to these services.
17. At present, there is no formal agreement for future funding however, it was inferred at one of the latest LGA Workshops that there would be additional funding.

Officer to Contact:

Gurjit Samra-Rai

Service Manager (Safer Communities)

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