

## **LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD**

**18 JUNE 2015**

### **DOMESTIC ABUSE – DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEWS**

#### **Introduction**

1. The purpose of this report is to outline progress on current Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), action plans from previous DHRs and outline proposed developments of the process for carrying out DHRs in Leicestershire.

#### **Background**

2. A joint procedure for DHRs in Leicestershire & Rutland was agreed through the Board in 2012. Through the Board CSPs jointly commission the Business Office of the Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Boards to co-ordinate the process on their behalf alongside the processes for Serious Case Reviews.
3. The joint procedure is funded by annual contributions from District Councils, the County Council and the Police to provide for the infrequent nature of domestic homicides in the County.

#### **Progress of DHRs**

4. Two DHRs are in progress and a learning event regarding a homicide earlier in 2014 that did not meet the criteria for a domestic homicide review, but had domestic abuse links is awaiting confirmation of the approach for information sharing.
5. The current number of DHRs does not require partner contributions to be drawn down as outlined in the report to the last Board meeting. This will be revisited for the next Board meeting.

#### **DHR Action Plans**

6. At the end of the year almost all single agency actions were completed, though some updates are still awaited:
  - Police to confirm all actions relating to 'Mary' DHR are complete and that learning from 'FN' DHR has been disseminated.
  - Swanswell to confirm whether all relevant staff have received DASH training.
  - Leicestershire County Children's Social Care to complete case audit to check compliance with supervision policy with regard to case closure.

7. At the end of the year all multi-agency actions for the domestic abuse partnership were completed apart from the following.
8. **Dissemination of a multi-agency practitioner guide to domestic abuse.** This has now been finalised and published on the Safeguarding Boards' website [www.lrsb.org.uk/domestic-abuse](http://www.lrsb.org.uk/domestic-abuse). Some agencies have used this as a basis for internal practice guidelines.
9. **A review of how domestic abuse is covered within multi-agency case management processes.** This has not been carried out due to capacity in the Leicestershire County Community Safety Team. This has now been scoped to be completed this year in line with work on pathway development
10. **Finalising a framework of pathways for domestic abuse support.** Work on this is underway linked to the commissioning of Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland joint services for those affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence
11. **Determining an approach to working with businesses to develop employment policies regarding domestic abuse.** This has not been carried out due to capacity in the Leicestershire County Community Safety Team. An approach will be determined by the end of this calendar year

### **Updated DHR process**

12. A number of lessons have been learned through the recent DHRs regarding the process itself, and consideration of alignment with the City process has been taken. The draft revised process is attached at Appendix 1.
13. The annual contribution levels are retained as follows as previously agreed at the Board, to be reviewed for the 2017-18 financial year:
  - Leicestershire County Council           £30,000
  - Leicestershire Police                   £16,000
  - Rutland County Council               £2,500
  - District Councils x 7 @ £2,500       £17,500

### **Recommendations**

14. That:
  - (a) The Board notes progress of DHRs and the resultant action plans.
  - (b) Board members comment on the revised DHR process.

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