

Safer Solihull Partnership VAWG project plan 2021/23

The plan covers the period 23rd June 2021 to 31st March 2023

Strategic governance and oversight of the plan sits with the Safer Solihull Community Safety Partnership.

Background

Safer Solihull Partnership believes that Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in any form is a safeguarding priority for Solihull, with a vision in which people can live without fear of abuse or violence. The term VAWG covers a range of crimes, with the common theme that they disproportionately affect women and girls. The most recent statistics show that 1 in 5 women are victims of sexual assault (or attempted assault) in their lifetime.

While we know that violence against women and girls is a problem, it is difficult to get detailed information on how many women and girls this affects each year. It is widely acknowledged that all strands of violence against women and girls are underreported, and many survivors do not come to the attention of services. This, coupled with lack of awareness of professionals around individual strands, means that we do not have robust data, a major part of the work over the next 3 years is to boost reporting across each priority area and work with partner agencies to gather this information.

No single agency can be responsible for our priority of ending violence against women and girls. Working in partnership across all agencies and the community will ensure that we can obtain the best possible outcomes for victim/survivors in Solihull

Progress	
Progress is tracked using a RAG rating system to enable an at-a-glance indication of progress towards each agreed action in the plan. Ratings are agreed by the delivery board and are defined as follows	
GREEN	The action has been complete and/or a process or programme is in place to address the issue
AMBER	Action towards the target has begun but is not yet complete OR the originally agreed action is complete but the nature of the threat has changed, an further action is required OR this action is scheduled for later in the year (dates to be specified)
RED	No action taken or not on target or progress is unknown

Status Summary			
Objective	Ref	Action	RAG
1. To understand the context of VAWG in Solihull and the views of our communities to inform action	1a	Mapping existing activity to the national strategy – identifying objectives for action and quick wins	GREEN
	1b	Data capture to inform picture of VAWG across Solihull	GREEN
	1c	Community engagement – Explore how to increase reporting and creating a culture of zero tolerance	AMBER
	1d	Develop scorecard with metrics to demonstrate progress against outcomes	GREEN
2. To build stronger and cohesive communities through awareness raising and education	2a	Create a statement that outlines Solihull's commitment to VAWG and share across all partnerships - Link to the statement the positive behaviours expected to see if taking a pro-active approach	GREEN
	2b	Education programmes/ campaigns for schools	GREEN
	2c	Raise awareness across public	GREEN
	2d	Raise awareness across all professionals	AMBER
	2e	Health economy to identify and support/sign post victims	GREEN
3. To support victims and communities affected by VAWG	3a	Safer Streets	AMBER
	3b	Safer Transport	AMBER
	3c	Safer Public Transport	GREEN
	3d	Safer Work Spaces	AMBER
	3e	Safer Online Spaces	AMBER
4. To link with other work streams with in the VAWG agenda	4a	Domestic Abuse Board	GREEN
	4b	Exploitation Board	GREEN
	4c	To link with Probation with regards to working with perpetrators	AMBER

Objective 1: To understand the context of VAWG in Solihull and the views of our communities to inform action						
ref	Action	Owner	Timescale/ end date	RAG status	Challenges – ease of delivery	Progress
1a	Mapping existing activity to the national strategy – identifying objectives for action and quick wins	VAWG lead	Complete		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping has been completed, meeting being arranged to prioritise actions and add to the list of actions under the key actions in Objective 3
1b	Data capture to inform picture of VAWG across Solihull	VAWG working Group / Violence reduction	<p>Medium term – although data continues to be collected and refined.</p> <p>1st data Dec 2021</p> <p>Refining Jan 2022</p> <p>April 2022</p> <p>BAU – presented to Safer Solihull</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is dependent now on the Police data although a data working group for Solihull is planned. Police data is only those crimes that have been reported – it is known that VAWG is under reported. This will be an ongoing piece of work as the data is refined and definitions become clear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Partnership Intelligence Liaison Team (PILT) are currently creating ‘hot grids’ to allow for a focus of partnership efforts in tackling VAWG issues through identifying hotspots. Police data has identified the top 3 areas of reported crimes (Chelmsley Wood, Smiths wood and Kingshurst and Fordbridge) a deep dive into the category of VAWG is now being reviewed Age of 27yrs highest reporting of VAWG. This data will enable targeted communications. JSNA – information being collated from the agreed JSNA
1c	Community engagement – Explore how to increase reporting and creating a culture of zero tolerance	VAWG	Long-term and continuous		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing as the project grows and measures are implemented then community engagement will continue to identify if the measures are making women and girls feel safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact made with Urban heard regarding engagement with young people Contact made with Solihull Youth Commissioners World Café day held by the Police on December 4th. 47 attendees with questionnaires and feedback forms completed. World café day July 19th – feedback from those that attended positive especially regarding signposting to

						<p>different services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National campaign has commenced
1d	Develop scorecard with metrics to demonstrate progress against outcomes	VAWG	Long-term December 2022		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to increase the number of reports to the police may look as if the measures being put in place are not working. Need to be clear that an increase in reporting is positive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be developed alongside the ongoing exploration of how data can be captured to inform the picture of VAWG across Solihull To be consistent with the JSNA Data provided by Police analyst to be used.
Objective 2: To build stronger and cohesive communities through awareness raising and education						
ref	Action	Owner	Timescale/ end date	RAG status	Challenges – ease of delivery	Progress
2a	Create a statement that outlines Solihull's commitment to VAWG and share across all partnerships - Link to the statement the positive behaviours expected to see if taking a pro-active approach	VAWG lead	March 2022 Complete and agreed – to be shared across partnerships Sept 2022			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete. Communications plan being delivered to share the statement across our communities and partnerships.
2b	Education programmes/ campaigns for schools	VAWG	Ongoing Long-term June 2022 BAU		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The education will not stop at the end of March 2023. This will become part of education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link to education programmes already in place, discussions with the Health Safeguarding groups Loud Mouth – to be launched in April (delayed from Feb due to COVID) Identified increase in reporting to schools and MASH following 'Everyone's invited' campaign Sexual abuse and inappropriate behaviour incorporated into L3 training for schools Health related behaviour questionnaires in school identifying risk and concern

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary School has Jigsaw – healthy relationships • Brooke Traffic Light tool introduced across schools - helps professionals to identify, understand and respond appropriately to sexual behaviours in young people • VRU have a place based mentoring programme in schools • Developed an offer re harmful sexual behaviours via Safer Together for boys exhibiting sexual behaviours • VRU – contacted regarding education programme • Solihull school did not take part in the pilot – waiting to hear if more education from the VRP will take place. • Education ask as part of Safer Streets bid. • Men at work success bid across secondary schools • Data can be sourced from Health Related Behaviour questionnaire for updates • Loud mouth questionnaire to be circulated September 2022
2c	Raise awareness across public	VAWG Working Group	Ongoing – long term BAU		<p>Campaigns have already begun and will continue.</p> <p>national campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be a national communication campaign • WMP promoting <i>Ask Angela</i> - All Licensees are aware and may direct a referral to the police, they are aware of the spiking issue and most premises put out a welfare officer, which looks after the patrons and ensures that they are looked after • WMP have arranged safe space locations to support <i>Ask Angela</i> • Safer street campaign – posters across

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solihull train station and bus stops • National campaign is on-going. • Ongoing campaigns of ask Angela and Ask ANI being supported by Domestic Abuse Partnership Board (DAPB) • Communication is part of the DAPB delivery plan
2d	Raise awareness across all professionals				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female rough sleepers training package working with SMBC • DAPB is working alongside the LSCP on an audit of training particularly across DA and key themes including coercion and control. • Domestic abuse policies across all partners. • Training from the Adult Safeguarding Board 4th November 2022
2e	Health economy to identify and support/sign post victims	VAWG Working Group	Medium term June 2022 Ongoing BAU		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic abuse training currently for GPs – IRIS project being reviewed • Sexual Violence training commissioned for GPs • Health will be part of training audit

Objective 3: To support victims and communities affected by VAWG						
ref	Action	Owner	Timescale/ end date	RAG status	Challenges – ease of delivery	Progress
3a	Safer Streets	VAWG Working Group	September 2022			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has secured funding from round 3 of the Safer Streets bidding process. We are working the PCC office to realise activity across Solihull around communication campaigns • WMP are making sure that when women are out with men we are approaching them to ensure they are ok • If someone is incoherent, WMP are doing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Switch on your Body Worn Video • Record on New Log: • Name, Address and Telephone Number. • Where they have been. • Manager or DPS detail. • How you have safeguarded the subject. (Hospital, Taken Home, Left With friends, etc.). • Link the log to the NTE Log. • Flag log for earlies to do make contact with subject. • WMP have supported the night time economy with overtime from the guardian funding from the Home Office • WMP are deploying servator in the town centre as a deterrent • Safer street posters out across Solihull Train Station and bus shelters

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRU are looking for other locations across the region as safe spaces • Information being sourced from the Safe Street app with the Police – trying to pinpoint exact locations where concerns are being raised • To discuss use of Locality Panels with the local authority • Data has been shared from the police – further discussions with the Local Authority to ascertain how / if this data can be used.
3b	Safer Transport	VAWG / VRB	Dec 2022		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding being considered for Taxi Marshalls in Solihull Town Centre • Female taxi driver project
3c	Safer Public Transport	VAWG / VRB	Dec 2022 Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link being made with LA transport lead • Link being made with Transport Police • Transport champions for tackling violence against women and girls (13 recommendations) • Safer Travel are working with schools/organisations to educate people on what unwanted sexual behaviour is, how to report, possible barriers to reporting and breaking myths, how the police deal with incidents, how we protect people on the transport network, share real life experience from beginning to end, go through scenarios and practical information on where to go for help, safest place to sit etc • Officers dedicated to public transport, excellent CCTV and encouraging reporting and we also

						work with boys/men regarding upstanding, how they can support vulnerable people and to look at their own behaviour and actions. We visit schools/business to raise awareness
3d	Safer Work Spaces	VAWG / VRB				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link with DA board with regards to DA policies for staff • Statement to be shared with all agencies – discussions with the communications department within the Local Authority
3e	Safer Online Spaces	VAWG/ DAPB			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty in obtaining police data - when searching for offences which relate to 'revenge porn' or 'sexting'; searching for keywords within the incident summary brought back no results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low numbers of reporting to the police this relates to both the under reporting as well as difficulty recording this type of offence • DA delivery plan links to communications regarding stalking and Harassment • Will form part of the 16day plan of action
Objective 4: To link with other work streams with in the VAWG agenda						
Ref	Action	Owner	Timescale/ end date	RAG status	Challenges – ease of delivery	Progress
4a	Domestic Abuse Board	Director of Public Health				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead for the VAWG at the ICB is vice chair of group. Communication link • DA delivery plan actions throughout this workplan
4b	Exploitation Board	Supt. West Midlands Police				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead from VAWG from ICB sits on exploitation Board so a communication link
4c	To link with Probation with regards to working with perpetrators	Head of Probation services				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Better Relationships (BBR) – an accredited programme comprising 24 group and 6 1to1

						<p>sessions for men who will have been violent in their relationships. Can be delivered in custody or the community</p> <p>Stepwise Relationships – 1 x 1to1 and 9 x group sessions, available in the community to support desistance from Intimate Partner Violence. Only open to men at the moment but a version for female perps will be available by the end of the year. More likely to be delivered to those who don't meet the BBR targeting criteria (potentially lower risk on our tools – OASys Offender Assessment System and SARA spousal assault risk assessment)</p> <p>Skills for Relationships – a practitioner toolkit, delivered 1to1 for those who would meet the BBR threshold but for whatever reason are unsuitable or unable to attend a groupwork programme.</p> <p>The aim should be for the majority of men with an identified issue as perpetrators of intimate partner abuse to participate in one of the three... though Stepwise Relationships has only been available since this April.</p> <p>The other factor is that we have developed a 'Free' cohort in Integrated Offender Management focussing on DA perps. Primarily be convicted individuals and they will be jointly managed between probation and police, ideally with an enhanced level of restriction and</p>
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