The North Yorkshire and City Of York
Domestic Abuse Overview Strategy
2014 - 2018
Foreword

It is my privilege to introduce the refreshed North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Overview Strategy on behalf of the multi-agency partnership who work consistently to improve protection and support for victims of Domestic Abuse and their children.

Domestic abuse (DA) is an issue that cuts across local authorities, policing and health, and to tackle it properly we need a true multi-agency approach. Abuse often has a devastating and long term effect on the lives of victims and their children, as well as the communities in which they live.

- In 2010/2011, an average of 2 women a week were killed by a male and/or former partner: this constituted around one-third of all female homicide victims (Smith, Osborne, Lau, & Britton, 2012).

- Approximately 100,000 individuals are currently (2011/2012) at high risk of serious harm or murder as a result of DA (CAADA, 2012).

- In 2010/2011, domestic violence accounted for 18% of all violent incidents reported in England and Wales (Chaplin, Flatley, & Smith, 2011).

- 7% of women and 5% of men reported DA in 2010/2011. This is equivalent to approximately 1.2 million female and 800,000 male victims of DA (Smith, Osborne, Lau, & Britton, 2011).

- In 2010/2011, repeat victimisation accounted for 73% of all incidents of domestic violence, 44% were victimised more than once and 24% of victims had been victimised three times or more (Chaplin et al., 2011).

- Approximately 130,000 children are currently (2011/2012) living with DA (CAADA, 2012).

- On average, the police receive a DA related call every 30 seconds (HMIC, 2014).

The HMIC 2014 report on ‘Improving the Police Response to Domestic Abuse’ made the following findings about the degree of DA in North Yorkshire:

- DA accounts for 4% of all calls for assistance and 8% of recorded crime

- 30% of all assaults of injury are DA related

- As of October 2013, North Yorkshire Police had 11,619 active DA cases

- For every 100 DA crimes recorded, there are 72 arrests

As the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire, protecting victims and their families, whilst diverting the perpetrators away from domestic abuse, is an absolute priority. Early key performance indicators for the first quarter of this year show convictions for domestic violence against women are up to 84.9%, ranking North Yorkshire 4th in the country for DV convictions (Criminal Prosecution Outcome Data, 2014). It is very welcome to see that the dedicated work and improvements made in our response to these distressing crimes appears to be making a tangible difference.

However, there are always ways to improve and we won’t shy away from those challenges. There are a number of areas where the service could be improved, and we are already taking steps to implement these changes.
For instance, we have invested heavily in the Protecting Vulnerable People Units, and 2013 saw the opening of a Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub and Central Referral Unit to improve the management and oversight of domestic abuse. These departments bring together responsible agencies under one roof in order to provide a co-ordinated and appropriate response to safeguarding victims.

We have also recruited and trained a number of specialist staff over the past year which is a clear demonstration of commitment to improving services for victims, managing risks and keeping people as safe as possible.

The award-winning Making Safe Scheme is a multi-agency initiative to support the victims and children of domestic abuse, enabling them to remain in their home while re-housing perpetrators and offering them support to manage their behaviour. This involves the police working together with all domestic abuse services in North Yorkshire, the probation service, integrated offender management teams, social care and housing providers. The IDVA & ISVA Service provision provided by IDAS has recently increased to enable more high and medium risk victims to be supported.

I acknowledge the excellent partnership working of which the Making Safe Scheme is just one example. It also emphasises the high priority which North Yorkshire Police, the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, and wider partners, place on domestic abuse.

However, we know that domestic abuse is under-reported. I hope that by demonstrating how seriously we take it, more victims will have the confidence to come forward and report crimes committed against them.

One area we know we can better tackle through our newly commissioned victims’ services is our approach to risk assessment. In order to provide the right services at the right time, we need to ensure our risk assessments are constituent.

There is still much to be done. We know the police service cannot do it alone, which is why we have built up excellent working relationships with our partner agencies and domestic abuse charities to ensure we provide the best service we can to support victims and their families.

The DA Overview Strategy is testament to these developments.

**Julia Mulligan**
North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner
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Appendix 6 Domestic Abuse Local Needs Analysis
Appendix 7 Information Sharing
Glossary of Terms

**DAJCG**  Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group

**CAADA**  Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse

**FIT**  Family Intervention Team, Children’s Social Care, Children and Young People’s Service, North Yorkshire County Council. The primary goal of FIT is to prevent the unnecessary placement of children into Care. The team will serve only those families whose case is reaching a point of escalation within the Children’s Social Care system. It will also consider work specifically designed to return young people to a family placement from being Looked After

**IDVA/ISVA**  Independent Domestic Violence Advisor / Independent Sexual Violence Advisor

**JSNA**  Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

**MARAC**  Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

**North Yorkshire and York Children’s Trust**  The Children’s Trust has strategic responsibility for the development and implementation of integrated children’s services across North Yorkshire and York

**Specialist Service**  Any service referred to within this document as a ‘specialist service’ is specialist in terms of the sole purpose being to address the issue of Domestic Abuse

**IDAS**  Independent Domestic Abuse Services (Specialist Service for North Yorkshire and York)

**Foundation DAS**  Domestic Abuse Service within Foundation (Specialist Service covering Scarborough and Ryedale)
1.0 Executive Summary

This Strategy outlines North Yorkshire’s and York’s commitment to supporting all those affected by domestic abuse.

Definition

On 31st March 2013, the Government changed the definition of domestic violence and abuse to:

"Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse: Psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional"

Coercive behaviour includes an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used by perpetrators to harm, punish, or frighten their victim. This includes issues of concern to black and minority ethnic (BME) communities such as so-called honour based violence, forced or early marriage and female genital mutilation.

All forms of domestic abuse involve perpetrators seeking to exert power and control over their partners or family member and often incorporate a range or variety of abusive behaviours.

Controlling behaviour includes a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

This strategy recognises the importance of distinguishing between the different types of domestic abuse including intimate violence1, ‘child to parent violence’ and ‘peer on peer violence’ each which have different causes, patterns of development, consequences and require different forms of intervention.

1Four types of intimate violence:

- **Coercive controlling violence** is a pattern of emotionally abusive intimidation, coercion and control coupled with physical violence against partners.

- **Violent resistance** (to a violent, coercively controlling, partner) is seen as a violent reaction in an attempt to stop or to stand up to coercive controlling violence.

- **Situational couple violence** is used to identify the type of partner violence that does not have its basis in the dynamic of power and control.

- **Separation-instigated violence** describes the violence which first occurs on separation.
Our Vision

In accordance with the Home Office definition this document sets out a vision for how domestic abuse should be addressed across York and North Yorkshire with implementation plans designed to achieve the aims of this strategy.

Vision Statement

Partner agencies across York and North Yorkshire recognise the negative impact that Domestic Abuse has on families, children and communities, and are committed to providing effective and consistent support and interventions to meet the needs of those affected.

Our vision directly supports the vision of the Police and Crime Commissioner Plan for North Yorkshire and York:

“Be safe, feel safe - protected by the most responsive service in England”

Key Principles

- Understanding the needs and expectations of adults, children and young people affected by domestic abuse and using this knowledge to shape the objectives of this strategy.
- Working in partnership in a planned and coordinated way that will drive activities and deliver real outcomes.
- Communicating and educating our community on the causes and effects of domestic abuse.

Objectives

1. To coordinate services committed to early intervention and prevention of domestic abuse for adults, children and young people.
2. To improve and deliver support to children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse.
3. To improve the safety of victims who experience domestic abuse and support them in rebuilding their lives.
4. To coordinate and deliver interventions for perpetrators to reduce offending.
5. To work together to improve the equity and consistency of services with committed funding through effective partnership working.
2.0 The North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Partnership (Monitoring and Implementation)

The North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Partnership is coordinated through the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group (DAJCG) and the York Domestic Abuse Board. The DAJCG includes representation from key agencies and sectors (Appendix 1) who through this group deliver their commitment to continuing to reduce the impact of domestic abuse and the effects on families across the sub-region. In order to do this we need to ensure that services are improving people’s lives, with an emphasis on early-intervention and providing secure provision and consistent services across the county.

The DAJCG meets quarterly to develop a multi-agency strategic overview of domestic violence and related topics within the sub-region. This includes delivering specific strategic projects and obtaining an overview of delivery and barriers in achieving against the Local Domestic Abuse Forum Action Plans.

Progress of the group and the associated action plan forms part of the North Yorkshire Community Safety Agreement and quarterly update reports to the Community Safety Forum summarised in an annual report.

City of York Council recognises the need to work across the area defined in this strategy with specific priorities that York wishes to achieve. As a result a York Domestic Abuse Strategy and action plan will be developed that will be led by the York Domestic Abuse Board. Any aspects of the North Yorkshire and City of York Strategy action plan will be signed up for by the specified sectors.

The DAJCG or the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Partnership was reviewed by ‘Standing Together Against Domestic Violence’ on behalf on the Home Office in 2012 and received a benchmark score of ‘Good’.

The Standing Together report summarises the excellent work and the momentum of progress the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Partnership is delivering through focussing on our solid foundation and recognition of need, the good joint working between North Yorkshire and York and with specialist services, an efficient and coordinated approach to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs), the positive role and level of engagement of Children’s Services within the partnership and the agenda and the innovative move towards a community budget.

“It is reassuring to encounter the level of consistency and effort that is being devoted to the issue of Domestic Abuse”

“An indicator of the success and maturity of the partnership is the mutual support to the partnership approach between York and the county”
Partnership Structure:

Police and Crime Commissioner Forum

North Yorkshire Community Safety Safer York Partnership

Health and Wellbeing Boards York and North Yorkshire

North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group

York Domestic Abuse Board

Healthy Relationship Group

York Risk and Resilience Group

Local Groups 6 Domestic Abuse Forums

Safeguarding Boards North Yorkshire Safeguarding Boards City of York

Commissioning Steering Group

Countywide Making Safe Steering Group

2.1 Partnership Communication

Through signing up to this strategy we are committed to communicating effectively not only with other agencies but also with members of the community.

This includes:

- Delivering coordinated awareness raising with all members of the community.
- Delivering targeted training to identified partner agencies.
- Facilitating coordinated communication within and between partnership agencies.
- Assessing awareness raising/ training to ensure its effectiveness and appropriate service delivery. Through signing up to this strategy we are committed to communicating effectively not only with each other but with members of the community.
3.0 Equality Statement

This strategy recognises that domestic abuse can affect people regardless of age; ethnicity; religion or belief; disability; sexual orientation; gender. An Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix 2) has been undertaken to inform the development of this plan and determine the impact on different groups.

The North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Partnership recognises that domestic abuse:

- Is predominantly *but not exclusively* the abuse of women by their male partner or ex-partner
- Causes significant harm to children in the household
- Also occurs between other family members
- Requires specific procedures and practices if it is to be tackled effectively

Whilst women are predominantly the victims of domestic abuse, it is important to note that domestic abuse can also be perpetrated against men. Abuse can occur in any personal or family relationship including straight, gay and transgender relationships, with a number of published studies suggesting that domestic abuse occurs at a similar rate in both mixed and same sex relationships.
4.0 Objective Details

4.1 Objective 1 - Early intervention and Prevention

This strategy recognises that early intervention through increased awareness is a priority in the prevention of domestic abuse.

Outcomes

• Increased confidence in reporting and understanding of domestic abuse across all agencies

• Increased understanding of healthy relationships and forms of domestic abuse amongst different agencies and the public

• Delivery of our Domestic Abuse Training Plan (Appendix 3) including staff training on the early signs of domestic abuse and healthy relationships

• Improved understanding of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme across North Yorkshire

• Increased awareness and understanding of healthy relationships through educational settings

4.2 Children and Young People

This strategy recognises that children and young people are affected by domestic abuse as; witnesses, experiencing abuse and/or living within an abusive household.

The strategy will ensure that we:

Recognise the needs of and provide support for children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse and provide preventative approaches through early interventions and awareness raising.

Outcomes

• Delivery of effective community education to increase awareness and understanding of Healthy Relationships and domestic abuse

• Support for Children and Young People to access specialist and non-specialist support including response to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

• Increased awareness and understanding of the signs and impacts of domestic abuse, and the support services available amongst staff working with children, young people and families

• Improved understanding of ‘Young People using abuse’ to inform effective response and intervention

• Expanded support services for young people who have experienced domestic abuse including those who may be at risk of becoming perpetrators
4.3 Victims
This strategy recognises that adults of all ages (male and female) and children and young people can be affected by domestic abuse; either directly or indirectly.

The strategy will ensure that we:

Take a victim focused approach, in order to increase confidence in reporting domestic abuse and to protect victims from experiencing further harm.

Outcomes

- Support for all victims to access specialist and non-specialist support services
- Improved local services and information to enable victims to remain in their own homes where safe and appropriate to do so
- Provision of safe supported accommodation for those who need to leave their homes
- Victims to receive personalised support through the special domestic violence court process (SDVC’s) and Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA’s).
- Improved multi-agency responses to prevent and reduce domestic abuse, including the delivery of training and the Champions Scheme
- Development of opportunities to work with young people affected by domestic abuse
- Increased awareness and understanding of the signs and impacts of domestic abuse, and the support services available amongst staff working with adults
- An improved response to and understanding of the domestic abuse of vulnerable adults.

4.4 Perpetrators
This strategy recognises that in addition to adult perpetrators of domestic abuse, young people may be identified as having or developing abusive behaviours.

Outcomes

- Improve our understanding of patterns of abuse and recognising own behaviour.
- Deliver and continue to develop Making Safe (Appendix 4).
- Investigate and improve our knowledge of specialist programmes for working with female perpetrators
- Develop knowledge and guidance on working with serial perpetrators
- Improve services abilities to identify perpetrators.
- Identify perpetrators not in the criminal justice system.
4.5 Partnership Commitment
This strategy recognises the need to continue to work in partnership between councils and with agencies to deliver Joint Commissioning and effective and coordinated services.

Outcomes
• Deliver the North Yorkshire and York Joint Commissioning Plan
• Continued provision of effective Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) to mitigate further risk of harm (Appendix 5).
• Effective partnership working through Local Domestic Abuse Forums
• Effective and consistent monitoring and data analysis (Appendix 6)
• Effective multi-agency sharing of lessons learnt from local and national Domestic Homicide Reviews

4.6 The Cost of Domestic Abuse
In 2013/14, there were 10,111 reported incidents of Domestic Abuse in North Yorkshire and York. In 2009, CAADA estimated that the average cost of reporting Domestic Abuse is £20,000 per victim, therefore we can approximate that the total cost of reporting Domestic Abuse in 2013/14, in North Yorkshire and York, was £202,220,000.

This figure is indicative of costs to the Police and Health Services, however, it does not include further costs such as refuges and support workers. This figure also does not cover external costs such as missed days at work. Once these further costs are factored in the actual cost of Domestic abuse in North Yorkshire is much higher, with figures reporting that the annual cost of Domestic Abuse for England and Wales is £15.7 billion².

This strategy recognises the importance of preventative measures in reducing offending and reoffending to drive down the costs and impacts of domestic abuse across North Yorkshire and York.

5.0 Related Documents and Guidance

This strategy has been informed by local and national guidance. For further context on the objectives of this strategy please see the following:

Adult Victims and Perpetrators

- The North Yorkshire Health and Adult Services Domestic Abuse Reference Pack (still under development)

Children and Young people

- The North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Youth Support Services Reference Pack
- Practice Guidance: Safeguarding Children Abused through Domestic Abuse http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/domestic-abuse.html
- Expect Respect Education Toolkit http://www.thehideout.org.uk/over10/adults/resources/educationaltoolkit/default.aspa
- Vulnerability Checklist http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/vlc.html http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/managed/NYSGC/reports/Vulnerability%20Check%20List.pdf
- Information on the Common Assessment Framework in North Yorkshire

Health


For a detailed overview of the existing services and pathways for all affected by domestic abuse in North Yorkshire and York and our partnerships, please see the relevant implementation plan http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/news.html/75
Appendices

- Appendix 1: Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group Terms of Reference
- Appendix 2: Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Appendix 3: The North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Training Strategy
- Appendix 4: The North Yorkshire and York Making Safe Scheme Protocol
- Appendix 6: Domestic Abuse Local Needs Analysis
- Appendix 7: Information Sharing
## Appendix 1:
North Yorkshire & York Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group 2014 (Under Review)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avril Hunter</td>
<td>Acting Chair (NYCC HAS Supporting People)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Warner</td>
<td>NY Police (Vice Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Rees</td>
<td>Scarborough CSP Manager/Senior Community Safety Officer, Rep for CSP Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Green</td>
<td>Office of Police and Crime Commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas Frank</td>
<td>Children's Safeguarding Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geraldine Mahon/Ian Spicer</td>
<td>Health and Adults Safeguarding, NYCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacancy</td>
<td>Domestic Abuse Officer, NYCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Izzy Birley</td>
<td>Foundation (perpetrator) Housing Provider</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Foundation Domestic Abuse Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Richards</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Merrygold</td>
<td>Integrated Services, NYCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nina Pinder</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Housing Authorities rep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lizzie Mills</td>
<td>Crime Prosecution Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaynor Stopani</td>
<td>Local Criminal Justice Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joanne Atkin</td>
<td>Probation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nick O'Brien</td>
<td>NYCC CYPS Social Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Hill</td>
<td>Independent Domestic Abuse Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen O'Brien</td>
<td>Broadacres Housing Association</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Victim Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carl Wain</td>
<td>City of York Council – Adults Commissioning &amp; Contracts Team</td>
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</table>
The Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group is part of the delivery of the York & North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum (YNYSCF) strategic priorities and the delivery of the Public Health agenda.

The Joint Coordination Group will appoint a Chair and Vice-chair from its membership. The Chair or another nominated person will represent the Partnership and will report by way of Highlight reporting to the YNYSCF

The multi-agency DAJCME meets quarterly to monitor the impact of the Local Domestic Abuse Forum Action Plans against the objectives of the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Overview Strategy 2014-2018 and focus on delivering specific strategic projects and delivery. Progress of this group and the associated action plan forms part of the North Yorkshire Community Safety Agreement and quarterly update reports to the Community Safety Forum. Progress of this group will be summarised in an annual report.

The purpose –

- To coordinate the effective development and delivery of services for anyone affected by domestic abuse; victims, children, young people and perpetrators, ensuring consistency of services across the sub region.

- To monitor delivery of the North Yorkshire & York Domestic Abuse Strategy (NYYDAS) and agreed action plans.

The DA JCG will:

1. Monitor the progress of the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Strategy and associated action plans including providing challenges to partners over the delivery of the strategy.

2. Provide timely reports to YNYSCF and NY Health & Wellbeing Board of ongoing work, activities and outcome against the Community Safety Agreement’s strategic priorities.

3. Monitor and analyse multi-agency data and outcomes to influence practice and coordinate approaches.

4. Jointly commission services in accordance with the agreed priorities of the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Commissioning Plan and agreed performance monitoring framework.

5. Receive reports from sub groups and take appropriate action, escalating issues as necessary.

6. Identify and provide a strategic response to national policy, regional and local legislative and policy changes.
All members within the JCG should have the ability to formulate strategy and drive the activities of the group within their own respective organisations.

Representatives on the JCG will be required to make recommendations regarding resource allocation, communicate best practice and direct strategic change within their organisations.

Additional attendees will be invited according to the agenda.

In addition to individual accountability to the employing organisation of each representative, the group as a whole will be accountable to the YNYSCF.

The Joint Coordinating Group will also link to both the Adult and Children's Safeguarding Board and appropriate subgroups.

This group is supported by the NYCC Domestic Abuse Officer.

Sub-groups

Sub-groups, including task and finish subgroups, will be established to carry out work on specific areas relating to the JCG and report back accordingly.

These include:

- Countywide Making Safe Group
- Countywide MARAC Group
- Healthy Relationship Group
- NY&Y Domestic Abuse Commissioning Steering Group
Communication and consultation

Consultation will take place across the county using local domestic abuse forums. The JCG will deliver a Communication Plan that will incorporate local and county-wide initiatives which will be regularly monitored at the JCG meetings. Public and Stakeholder Consultation is to be incorporated within strategic action plans.

Links to other strategies

The work of the Joint Coordination Group will link to the following National, Regional and Local Strategies:
- Police and Crime Commissioners Crime Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- National Violent Crime Strategy
- National Reducing Offending Action Plan
- National and Local Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategies
- National Standards for CSPs
- North Yorkshire Police Control Strategies
- Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessments
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- County Community Safety Agreement (CSA)
- CSP Partnership Plans
- North Yorkshire Children & Young People’s Plan
- North Yorkshire & York Housing & Homelessness Strategies
- North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Training Strategy

Frequency of Meetings

Meetings will be held quarterly

Decision Making

Where possible the group will make decisions by consensus, if this is not possible, decisions will be agreed by simple majority of those present using one vote per agency represented.

Where a decision cannot be reached or a decision is required between meetings decisions will be made by the chair and vice-chair.

The Chair and vice-chair will be elected by the members on a two yearly basis.

The Chair’s Role is to:
- Arrange & chair the meetings of the group
- Champion the issue
- Report agreed actions to the YNYSCE & Health & Wellbeing Board

The Chair will liaise regularly with NYCC Domestic Abuse Officer
Appendix 2:

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA): evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

September 2014

Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are public documents. EIAs accompanying reports going to County Councillors for decisions are published with the committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting. To help people to find completed EIAs we also publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of our website. This will help people to see for themselves how we have paid due regard in order to meet statutory requirements.
Name of Directorate and Service Area | Lead by Children & Young People’s Service’s Children’s Social Care
---|---
Lead Officer and contact details | Gemma Ingles
Domestic Abuse Officer
Gemma.ingles@northyorks.gov.uk
01609 533335
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the EIA | Gill Warner
Chair of North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group
Gill.Warner@northyorks.gov.uk
North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Strategy Steering Group (multi-agency)
How will you pay due regard? e.g. working group, individual officer | Reviewed by Children’s Social Care Equality and Diversity Steering
When did the due regard process start? | September 2014
Sign off by Assistant Director (or equivalent) and date | 

**Section 1. Please describe briefly what this EIA is about.** (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)
The North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group and Partners are revising its Domestic Abuse Strategy 2009-2014 to set out a vision for how domestic abuse should be addressed across North Yorkshire and York with implementation plans designed to achieve the aims of the strategy.

This strategy recognises that domestic abuse can affect people regardless of age; ethnicity; religion or belief; disability; sexual orientation; gender.

The North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Partnership recognises that domestic abuse:

- Is predominantly *but not exclusively* the abuse of women by their male partner or ex-partner
- Causes significant harm to children in the household
- Also occurs between other family members
- Requires specific procedures and practices if it is to be tackled effectively

Whilst women are predominantly the victims of domestic abuse, it is important to note that domestic abuse can also be perpetrated against men. Abuse can occur in any personal or family relationship including straight, gay and transgender relationships, with a number of published studies suggesting that domestic abuse occurs at a similar rate in both mixed and same sex relationships.
Section 2. Why is this being proposed? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)

From 31st March 2013, the Government have changed the definition of ‘domestic violence and abuse’ to:

‘Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

Psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional

One of the key changes is the inclusion of 16 -17 year olds within the definition. It is anticipated that extending the definition in this way will increase awareness that young people in this age-group experience domestic violence and abuse, and encourage more young people to recognise abuse and come forward to access the support they need. The wording has also been amended to reflect coercive control as an element of abuse, further widening the definition.

The revised strategy will reflect the implications of the definition change, updated legislation and is an opportunity to outlines North Yorkshire’s commitment to supporting all those affected by domestic abuse.

Section 3. What will change? What will be different for customers and/or staff?

Staff

This strategy will provide clarity on the structure and priorities of the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Partnership and provide a detailed action plan to inform staff of planned work and our monitoring framework. Due to the revised definition of domestic abuse this includes actions to increase engagement and resources for young people identified as both perpetrators and victims of domestic abuse.

Customers

The strategy aims to provide a transparency for the communities of North Yorkshire and York on the priorities of our Domestic Abuse Partnership. Including the commitment that the wishes and feelings of adults, children and young people affected by domestic abuse shape the strategies objectives.
Section 4. What impact will this proposal have on council resources (budgets)?

Cost neutral? Y
Increased cost? N
Reduced cost? N

Please explain briefly why this will be the result.
This strategy identified the priorities and objectives of the Domestic Abuse Partnership and references the Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Plan which included a detailed review of all funding. This plan was implemented prior to the strategy’s revision.

Section 5. Will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No impact</th>
<th>Make things better</th>
<th>Make things worse</th>
<th>Why will it have this effect? State any evidence you have for your thinking.</th>
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| Age       |                   | ✓                | This strategy recognises that domestic abuse can affect people regardless of age; ethnicity; religion or belief; disability; sexual orientation; gender. The 2014 action plan assigned to the strategy includes the delivery of guidance to increase awareness of domestic abuse amongst our elderly generation and young people. Increasing services and referral routes for Young People is a key priority identified through the Healthy Relationship Task Group linked to the partnership. An analysis of the age of victims (where known) has been completed to inform the distribution of resources and our understanding of the most at risk groups:  
- 20-24 years has remained the most common age of victims from 2010-present at 16.3% of all victims recorded. 25-29 years is the second most common age |
The number of under 18 year olds being recorded as a victim of domestic abuse has increased from 1.9% in 2010 to 3.4% in 2013-2014 (up to September). This may reflect the changing national definition of abuse to include those aged 16 and 17. 18 to 19 year olds have been the third most common age group over this time period.

Client record data for Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services in North Yorkshire (Victim and perpetrator) for the first 3 quarters of 2013/14 shows that people of varying ages from 16 to 83 accessed the service, with the majority or service users falling either within the 26-35 category or 36-45 category. 1.25% of service users were aged 16-17 and 0.25% were 80 or over.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-25</td>
<td>19.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46-55</td>
<td>16.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56-60</td>
<td>3.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-65</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66-70</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71-80</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80+</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Strategy Action Plan details our awareness raising campaigns to increase understanding of all vulnerable groups and the impact of Domestic Abuse.
The strategy recognised the need to increase confidence in the reporting of domestic abuse of our disabled community.

- Only 2% cases at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC’s) 2012-2013 has recorded victim or perpetrator as disabled.
- Client record data for Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services in North Yorkshire (Victim and Perpetrator) for the first 3 quarters of 2013/14 tells us that of 400 recorded service users 10.5% classed themselves as having a disability.

### Sex (Gender)

|       | ✓ |

Appendix 4 – Local Needs Analysis provides an assessment of domestic abuse across North Yorkshire and York to inform the strategies priorities. This includes that:

- 83% of perpetrators during 2012 are male. Those aged between 22 and 27 years are most prevalent - peaking at 26 years. A smaller, second peak occurs when males are in their mid-forties. There is a noticeable decrease in male perpetrators post 50 years. 4% of perpetrators are non-UK citizens.
- Client record data for Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services in North Yorkshire (Victim and Perpetrator) tells us that of the 400 recorded service users for the first three quarters, 86.75% were female, 12.5% were males and 0.75% did not answer

This strategy also recognises that “Honour based” violence is a fundamental abuse of human rights. It is a collection of practices, which are used to control behaviour within
families or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour. Such violence can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and/or community by breaking their honour code. Women are predominantly (but not exclusively) the victims of so-called “honour based” violence, which is often used to assert male power in order to control female autonomy and sexuality.

This strategy also addressed actions to reduce Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs whether for cultural or other non-therapeutic reasons. (HM Government 2006). The practice is illegal, medically unnecessary, and usually extremely painful and has serious health consequences, both at the time when the mutilation is carried out and in later life. The procedure is typically performed on girls aged between four and thirteen, but in some cases FGM is performed on newborn infants or on adult women before marriage or pregnancy. The scale of FGM is based upon estimates but it is thought that 24,000 girls under the age of 15 are at risk of FGM in the UK. It is particularly prevalent in communities from Somalia, Ethiopia, Egypt, Sudan, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania, Sierra Leone and some groups in Philippines, Malaysia, Pakistan, India, Indonesia, United Arab Emirates, South and North Yemen, Bahrain and the Oman.

Race

The strategy recognises the need to increase confidence in the reporting of domestic abuse of multi-ethnic community. Domestic abuse can affect people from all ethnic backgrounds and there is no evidence to suggest that people from a black or minority ethnic background are more at risk of domestic abuse than others. However, the forms of abuse that BME survivors are exposed to can vary and they may experience additional barriers to disclosing domestic abuse or in receiving appropriate support. For
example, the abuse might be perpetrated by a member of the person's extended family or they may fear the rejection of their community if they disclose abuse or seek help. The experiences of people from a BME background may also be exacerbated by racism, language barriers or insecure immigration status.

- 5% cases at MARAC’s 2012-2013 has recorded victim or perpetrator as minority ethnic.

- Client record data for Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services in North Yorkshire (Victim and Perpetrator) in 2013/14 tell us that of the 400 recorded service users for the first 3 quarters:
  - 94% classed themselves as white British
  - 2.5% as White Other
  - 0.25% as Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi
  - 0.25% as Asian/Asian British: Indian
  - 0.25% as Asian/Asian British: Pakistani
  - 1% as Black/Black British: African
  - 0.25% as Mixed White and Black: Caribbean
  - 0.25% as Mixed White and Asian
  - 0.5% as Other
  - 0.25% did not wish to disclose this information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender reassignment</th>
<th>✓</th>
<th>The strategy recognises the need to increase confidence in the reporting of domestic abuse within the transgender community. At present no cases have been recorded at MARAC’s and/or as clients accessing our specialist services.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual orientation</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>The strategy recognises the need to increase confidence in the reporting of domestic abuse within the transgender community. At present no cases have been recorded at MARAC’s and/or as clients accessing our specialist services.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
domestic abuse within LBBT relationships.  
1% cases at MARAC's 2012-2013 has recorded victim or perpetrator as LBGT.

Client record data for Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services in North Yorkshire (Victim and Perpetrator) in 2013/14 shows that of the 400 recorded service users for the first three quarters, 85.5% classed themselves as heterosexual, 0.5% as lesbian, and 13% did not wish to disclose this information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion or belief</th>
<th>✓</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This strategy has adopted the Home Office's Definition of Domestic Abuse: Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse: Psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is regardless of Religion or Belief and includes issues of concern to black and minority ethnic (BME) communities such as so-called honour based violence, forced or early marriage and female genital mutilation.

Client record data for Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services in North Yorkshire (Victim and Perpetrator) tells us that of the 400 recorded service users for the first three quarters, 18% were recorded as Christian, 0.25% as Muslim, 0.5% as Sikh, 8.5% did not wish to disclose this information and
40.75% reported having no religion.

| Pregnancy or maternity | √ | This strategy is informed by national and local statistics including:
- Over a third of domestic violence starts or gets worse when a woman is pregnant.
- One midwife in five knows that at least one of her expectant mothers is a victim of domestic violence.¹ |

| Marriage or civil partnership | √ |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 6. Would this proposal affect people for the following reasons?</th>
<th>No impact</th>
<th>Make things better</th>
<th>Make things worse</th>
<th>Why will it have this effect? Give any evidence you have.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live in a rural area</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>This strategy has been informed by the Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Plan maps all service pathways across North Yorkshire and York identifying lack of services in rural areas and additional barriers to reporting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have a low income</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>This strategy recognises financial abuse as a form of domestic abuse.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 7. Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men?) State where this is likely to happen and explain what you think the effect will be and why giving any evidence you have.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The revised strategy places greater emphasis on the young people affected by domestic abuse due to the adoption of the revised definition. The definition change has informed the priorities within the partnership action plan including:

- Improve our understanding of Young People Perpetrating abuse to inform effective response and intervention.
- Expanding support services for young people who have experienced domestic abuse including those who may not be at risk of becoming perpetrators.

¹ Refuge.org.uk
Section 8. Only complete this section if the proposal will make things worse for some people. Remember that we have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us.

Can we change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts?

Can we achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people?

If we need to achieve our aim and can’t remove or reduce the adverse impacts get advice from legal services. Summarise the advice here. Make sure the advice is passed on to decision makers if the proposal proceeds.

Section 9. If the proposal is implemented how will you find out how it is really affecting people? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)

The North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Partnership is coordinated through the North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group (DAJCG). Through this group the partnership delivers its commitment to continuing to reduce the impact of domestic abuse and the effects on families across the sub-region. In order to do this we need to ensure that services are improving people’s lives, with an emphasis on early-intervention and providing secure provision and consistent services across the county.

The multi-agency DAJCG meets quarterly to monitor the action plan (Appendix 1). The plan’s monitoring framework includes regular Victim consultation and feedback from Local Domestic Abuse Forum’s. A data summary is reviewed at each partnership meeting to identify any areas of concern and/or success.

Section 10. List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>By when</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draft EIA and strategy is presented to the Domestic Abuse Strategy Steering Group for consideration.</td>
<td>GI</td>
<td>February 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft EIA is presented to Children’s Social Care Equality &amp; Diversity Steering Group.</td>
<td>GI</td>
<td>March 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation Event with Survivors of Domestic Abuse with Independent Domestic Abuse Services (IDAS)</td>
<td>GI</td>
<td>April 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Consultation Event</td>
<td></td>
<td>April – June 2014</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Appendix 3:

North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Training Strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>3 (draft)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Gemma Ingles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>April 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Glossary

CAADA  Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse
CYPS  Children & Young People’s Service
DA  Domestic Abuse
DAJCG  Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Group
DASH  Domestic Abuse Stalking/Harassment and Honour Based Violence
DVCs  Domestic Violence Co-ordinators
Foundation DAS  Domestic Abuse Service within Foundation (Specialist Service for North Yorkshire)
IDAP  Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme
IDAS  Independent Domestic Abuse Services (Specialist Service for North Yorkshire & York)
IDVA  Independent Specialist Domestic Violence Advisors
JSNA  Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
LSCB  Local Safeguarding Children Board
MAPPA  Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MARAC  Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
NYCC  North Yorkshire County Council
North Yorkshire & York Children’s Trust  The Children's Trust has strategic responsibility for the development and implementation of integrated children’s services across North Yorkshire and York
Specialist Service  Any service referred to within this document as a ‘specialist service’ is specialist in terms of the sole purpose being to address to issue of Domestic Abuse
1. Context

1.1 Introduction

This updated Training Strategy has been produced by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and provides a strategic overview of the underlying principles supporting all domestic abuse training, the role of partner agencies, the training available and where it should be targeted.

From 31st March 2013, the Government have changed the definition of ‘domestic violence and abuse’ to recognise the impact abuse can have on young people in their own relationships and emphasise the role of forms of abuse other than physical violence. This new definition is recognised in the revised Domestic Abuse Strategy 2014:

‘Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse: Psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional

All forms of domestic abuse involve perpetrators seeking to exert power and control over their partners or family member and often incorporate a range or variety of abusive behaviours.

Controlling behaviour includes a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour includes an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used by perpetrators to harm, punish, or frighten their victim. This includes issues of concern to black and minority ethnic (BME) communities such as so-called honour based violence, forced or early marriage and female genital mutilation.

The Domestic Abuse Strategy recognises that abuse can have a devastating impact on victims and their families, and tackling and reducing instances of abuse remains a key priority for partners across York and North Yorkshire. Domestic abuse is predominantly but not exclusively the abuse of women by their male partner or ex-partner, and also causes significant harm to children in the household. Domestic abuse can also occur in young people’s own intimate relationships. Men can also be victims of domestic abuse and it is recognised that abuse can occur in heterosexual, same sex and transgender relationships. The definition also encompasses honour-based violence.
1.2 Purpose

This Training Strategy sets out the vision for how North Yorkshire County Council’s domestic abuse training should be promoted, delivered and evaluated across North Yorkshire. This Strategy outlines the commitment of North Yorkshire County Council to the delivery of a coherent package of high quality, appropriate and relevant domestic abuse training for all professionals working with victims of domestic abuse and their families. All training is designed to enhance the capacity, understanding, skills and confidence of staff and managers across the local authority and partner agencies, as well as their ability to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults and children and young people.

1.3 Links to Other Strategies and Priorities

- **North Yorkshire Children and Young Peoples Service Workforce Development Strategy**

  The aim of this strategy is to meet the needs of the Children and Young People’s (CYPS) service staff (and to support our partners) by ensuring the workforce is well placed, confident, competent and well equipped to deliver positive outcomes for children, young people and their families.

- **North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Services Joint Commissioning Plan 2012-2016**

  This training strategy supports the work undertaken as part of the Domestic Abuse Review of Funding and Services 2011-12 and complements the North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Services Joint Commissioning Plan 2012-2016.

  To address the priorities for change identified in the Commissioning Strategy an implementation action plan has been developed describing how the work will be carried out.

  Outcomes to be delivered by the Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Strategy are:

  1. To improve the safety of victims and children who witness and experience domestic abuse
  2. To enable the development of services based on evidenced need
  3. To deliver equitable, coordinated and consistent services across the county
  4. To provide a funding framework for current and future domestic abuse services by using the vehicle of a Community Budget
  5. To evidence our long-term commitment to reducing the impact of domestic abuse and to deliver the City of York and North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Strategy
The main changes that the Joint Commissioning Strategy will facilitate are identified below:

- Safeguard Domestic Abuse Accommodation based services and specialist floating support services as much as possible
- Recurrent mainstream funding will be made available to support service provision via a community budget model
- Improve service pathways for Children and Young People affected by Domestic Abuse through enhancing existing provision
- Safeguard the North Yorkshire & York Making Safe Scheme and improve the distribution of services based on evidenced need

- City of York and North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2014

The Domestic Abuse Strategy outlines the following vision statement:

**Vision Statement**

Partner agencies across York and North Yorkshire recognise the negative impact that Domestic Abuse has on families, children and communities, and are committed to providing effective and consistent support and interventions to meet the needs of those affected.

Our vision directly supports the vision of the Police and Crime Commissioner Plan for North Yorkshire and York:

“Be safe, feel safe - protected by the most responsive service in England. Key Principles

- Understanding the needs and expectations of adults, children and young people affected by domestic abuse and using this knowledge to shape the objectives of this strategy.
- Working in partnership in a planned and coordinated way that will drive activities and deliver real outcomes.
- Communicating and educating our community on the causes and effects of domestic abuse.

- North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board Training Strategy

The strategy is currently under development but identifies the minimum standards for safeguarding training and outlines the Local Safeguarding Children Board’s commitment to delivering a high quality inter-agency training programme which supports professionals and the independent sector in their work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.
• **DAJCG Action Plan 2013-14**

The DAJCG Action Plan 2013-2014 outlines a number of commitments around training, including the implementation of this strategy, the roll-out of domestic homicide training, awareness-raising for practitioners and the public, embedding domestic abuse training with Adult Services, and embedding and mainstreaming the Champion’s Scheme.

• **Healthy Relationship Task Group Action Plan**

The Healthy Relationship Task Group plays a key role in raising awareness and developing the healthy relationship agenda in schools and other settings. This includes the monitoring of the Respect training ‘Working with Young People who Harm’, development of bespoke training for Health and Adults’ Services, and working with educational settings to train staff in the use of the ‘Expect Respect’ toolkit in PSHE and SRE settings.

• **Working Together to Safeguard Children; A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children**

Working Together stresses the importance of providing different levels of training based on the degree of contact a professional has with families. This includes being able to recognise when a child may require protection, taking account of their age and ability and knowing what to do in response to concerns about the safety and welfare of a child. Practitioners and managers must also be able to work effectively with others, both within their own agency and across organisational boundaries and this can be achieved by a combination of single-agency and inter-agency training.

• **Parenting Strategy**

The NYCC Parenting Strategy 20 11-2014 sits under North Yorkshires ‘s Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) 2011-2014 and sets out how a key priority of the plan ‘Enable people to be confident parents and learners’ will be achieved.’ The NYCC Parenting Strategy has identified as groups parents who may require additional specialist family and parenting services. These include families with complex and multiple needs – especially those with mental health, domestic abuse and/or substance misuse issues.

2. North Yorkshire Workforce Development

North Yorkshire County Council’s central Training and Learning Team offers a training and delivery function to each directorate ensuring that the workforce and the skill set needed by services is fully understood and commissioned accordingly. Responsibilities include ensuring training is resourced and budgeted appropriately and accessible to all staff, ensuring cost-effective and efficient delivery of training to meet workforce needs, and procuring, delivering and administrating training.

The principal workforce advisor for CYPS is Gemma Dickinson (Gemma.Dickinson@northyorks.gov.uk).

2.1 Training Types & Levels
Particular terms describe different types and aspects of the training.

**Training for inter and multi-agency work** means training which will equip people to work effectively with those from other agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This work typically takes place in two ways:

- **Single-agency training** which is training carried out by a particular agency for its own staff, and

- **Inter-agency training**, which is for employees of different agencies who either work together formally or come together for training or development. Training delivered on an inter-agency basis is a highly effective way of promoting a common and shared understanding of the respective roles and responsibilities of different professionals and contributes to effective working relationships.

To aid professionals to identify the level of training they require training is targeted at the following levels:

**Level one** - basic awareness for anyone and everyone working with children, young people and/or their families. Includes people who only work with vulnerable adults. Basic Awareness Raising sessions are designed to increase practitioner awareness and knowledge of the effects and signs of domestic abuse, local and national prevalence, definitions of abuse and the support services available. These sessions are targeted at a wide range of staff coordinated by the Local Domestic Abuse Coordinators. Content and frequency of sessions is linked clearly to the work of the multi-agency Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group (DAJCG) and to local demand. Educational Programmes to develop children and young people's awareness and understanding of abuse and Healthy Relationships are developed and monitored by the Local Domestic Abuse Coordinators.

**Level two** - targeted training for professionals whose role requires training to undertake assessments and interventions working with vulnerable adults, children and young people and families, for example newly qualified social workers, health visitors, youth workers, designated child protection people in schools, and people who would be invited to CP conferences and expected to participate in the CP processes. Level Two training must be delivered by an accredited or an approved Trainer and coordinated through North Yorkshire’s Workforce Development Department.

**Level three** – targeted training which is specific for specialist services or professionals, for example professionals who undertake child protection investigations or domestic homicide reviews. Level Three training must be delivered by an accredited or an approved Trainer and coordinated through North Yorkshire’s Workforce Development Department.

### 2.2 Quality Assurance

The Local Safeguarding Children’s Board has a responsibility to ensure quality of multi-agency training. Training must be consistent and of a high quality. The effectiveness of training should be continually and consistently evaluated. The focus of the evaluation should be on the extent to which training is improving the knowledge and skills of the workforce.

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1 NYCC LSCB, Quality Assurance of Single and Multi-Agency Child Protection Training, Draft 1 May 2012
Verifying the content of training and measuring the quality and effectiveness of the training will be done at various stages in accordance with the quality assurance cycle via the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board Training Sub Group. The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board ‘Quality Assurance of Single and Multi-Agency Child Protection Training’ 2012 handbook sets out the processes to ensure that both single and multi-agency child protection training across North Yorkshire is delivered to a consistently high standard.

2.3 Commissioning

To ensure consistency and quality of training all training must be delivered by accredited approved trainers via internal staff or through commissioning external training based on evidenced need. This strategy acknowledges that external services have knowledge and skills which complement our domestic abuse training packages. When commissioning training internally a local area agreement will be drawn up between NYCC and the provider.

2.4 Bespoke Training Packages

Bespoke or ‘one off’ training can be commissioned based on an evidenced need, for example a Honour Based Violence Case highlighted a training requirement in Skipton. All training must be agreed and commissioned by the NYCC Workforce Development Team.

3. Domestic Abuse Training

North Yorkshire County Council is committed to providing and coordinating a range of quality training to suit the various needs of professionals working with families affected by domestic abuse. Existing training has been reviewed to inform this strategy, the strategies implementation plan (Appendix 3) and future training plans.

3.1 Current Training

Appendix 1 shows the breadth of existing training available across North Yorkshire and York. A mixture of training, both single agency and multi-agency is currently available county-wide including Domestic Abuse Risk & Response, DASH Training, IDAP, Common Assessment, and Domestic Abuse Impact on Family. The training is currently provided by different agencies and marketed via Local Domestic Abuse Coordinators, Local Domestic Abuse Forums, Local Children’s Safeguarding Boards and individual agencies’ internal communications.

3.2 Future Priorities

The review of current training and feedback from the Domestic Abuse Workshop has identified future priorities for the delivery of multi-agency training for professionals on reducing the impact of domestic abuse:

- Increase the availability and capacity of existing training.
- Increase awareness of the online tool available through Independent Domestic Abuse Services (IDAS)
- Enable the delivering of bespoke training packages based on an evidenced need.
• Ensure all training on the effects of Domestic Abuse on Children and Young People includes health related issues.

• Increase awareness of the targeted programmes available within the county.

• Ensure all staff including Senior Managers have completed basic training on the effects of Domestic Abuse.

• Include awareness of domestic abuse in all training targeting professionals working with vulnerable groups.

• Improve consistency of training delivered across the county.

Future Improvements

Through consultation with professionals the following areas have been identified as areas of expertise where additional training is required:

• Increasing professionals' confidence working with couples who want to remain within the relationship where there is domestic abuse.

• Increasing professionals' confidence and ability to work with young people affected by domestic abuse and particularly young people who harm.
## Appendix 1 Existing Training Available 2014-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Course</th>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
<th>Approximate Frequency</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Craven</th>
<th>Hambleton and Richmondshire</th>
<th>Harrogate</th>
<th>Ryedale</th>
<th>Scarborough</th>
<th>Selby</th>
<th>York</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safeguarding Children’s Board Basic Awareness Training (online)</td>
<td>Online LSCB NY and York</td>
<td>Gives a basic awareness of child protection issues</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/e-learning-course.html">http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/e-learning-course.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Four Elements (4 parental difficulties that impact on children) (full day)</td>
<td>LSCB NY</td>
<td>Examines how parental substance misuse, parental mental illness, domestic abuse and parental learning disabilities impact on children, young people and families. Builds on and enhances the previous ‘Toxic Trio’ course</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Child Development and Safeguarding (half day)</td>
<td>LSCB NY</td>
<td>Explores how abuse and neglect impacts on child development and how this might be recognised</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>Every few months</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Sexual Exploitation (basic awareness) (half day)</td>
<td>LSCB NY</td>
<td>Basic awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation. Optional afternoon session on 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013'</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealing with Disclosures of Historical Abuse</td>
<td>LSCB NY / Adult Mental Health</td>
<td>How to deal with adult disclosures of historical abuse and the implications for safeguarding children and young people who may still be at risk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>Every few months</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Impact of Abuse on Children</td>
<td>LSCB NY</td>
<td>The impact of sexual, emotional and physical abuse on children, young people and families</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>An Introduction to MARAC and MAPPA (half day)</td>
<td>LSCB NY</td>
<td>Includes an overview of the MARAC process, risk identification and referral process</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>Every few months</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Abuse: Managing Risk and Supporting Families (full day)</td>
<td>LSCB York - IDAS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td>Every few months</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toxic Trio: domestic abuse, parental mental health &amp; substance misuse targeted training for case holders (full day)</td>
<td>LSCB York - IDAS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Multi-Agency</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Abuse Safety Planning</td>
<td>??? On Learning Zone</td>
<td>Develops skills in confidently providing safety planning to children and young people</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
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</table>
| Online DA Training | Online IDAS Course: | Impact on Adults and Children: Facts and Figures, Impacts on children and adults, best practice | 1 | Multi-Agency | n/a | ✓  
| Dealing with Forced Marriages | Online – Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Key issues surrounding forced marriage, how cases can present and how to respond appropriately | Multi-Agency | n/a | ✓ |
### Other courses on old version (some may still be relevant)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Course</th>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DASH, Domestic Abuse Risk and Response, Impact on Children</td>
<td>DVC/ Safeguarding/ Police</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children, Dash, Impact, Response</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Twice yearly</td>
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<tr>
<td>DASH Training</td>
<td>Police Trainers</td>
<td>Introduction for officers to new DV booklet / Police responsibilities re DV</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>One off 2012 only</td>
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<td>Domestic Abuse Awareness</td>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Basic awareness, women perpetrators</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Probation staff</td>
<td>once or twice yearly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) For Protective Services Officers (PSO)</td>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: use of the SARA assessment tool and writing court reports where IDAP is being considered</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Probation staff</td>
<td>Annually</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Craven</th>
<th>Hambleton and Richmondshire</th>
<th>Harrogate</th>
<th>Ryedale</th>
<th>Scarborough</th>
<th>Selby</th>
<th>York</th>
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<tr>
<td>IDAP Facilitation</td>
<td>Regional Trainers</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Training facilitators to deliver IDAP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Probation staff</td>
<td>Annually</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Abuse Early Years Training</td>
<td>Children’s Social Care</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Definition and signs of DA, effect on child, how to support the family, signposting information</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Early Years</td>
<td>Termly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common Assessment</td>
<td>Barnados (commissioned by Integrated Services, NYCC)</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Vulnerability checklist, how and when to do a CAF, NY process for managing CAF, review process, lead professional role, links to safeguarding</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Few times a month</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Abuse: Impact, Risk and Response</td>
<td>York LSCB Safeguarding and DA Coordinator</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>2/3 times a year</td>
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<tr>
<td>All York LSCB Training Courses</td>
<td>Safeguarding Board</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Impact of DV in families and/or outcomes for children/YP - depends on focus of course, e.g. YP own relationships and abuse</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Degree - Working with CYP Safeguarding Module</td>
<td>Local Safeguarding Board York</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Process for DA, how it affects parenting/children</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Learners York St John University</td>
<td>Twice yearly</td>
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<tr>
<td>York LSCB MAPPA / MARAC Briefing</td>
<td>DA Co-ordinator and Probation</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: MAPPA and MARAC</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>Twice yearly</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Parenting Puzzle, Safety Planning, Strengthening Families / Incredible Years</td>
<td>NSPCC</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Champion's Training</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: all areas around DA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Children's Safety Planning</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Children: Safety Planning</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>when required</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARAC</td>
<td>IDVA</td>
<td>Impact on Adults: MARAC</td>
<td>when required</td>
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<td>Domestic Abuse Awareness</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Effects/impacts of DA, best practice, facts and figures, providing effective support</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>when required</td>
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<td>Programme and Healthy Relationships</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Adults: Education course for women</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male Victims</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Adults: Working with male victims, risk management and safety planning</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interpreter Course</td>
<td>Children’s Social Care NYCC Community Cohesion Team</td>
<td>Impact on Adults: Trains community members to be interpreters - point of program includes cultural diversity awareness and encompasses ‘sensitivity training’ regarding interpreters meeting members of ethnic minority who may have been affected by domestic abuse</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Interpreters</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Freedom Programme</td>
<td>Broadacres</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Traits of DA, impact on children, safety measures, types of abuse</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>12 week course</td>
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<td>Basic Safeguarding (Children)</td>
<td>Broadacres</td>
<td>Impact on Children: Basic Safeguarding</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic DA Awareness</td>
<td>Broadacres</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Awareness Raising</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service/Innovation</td>
<td>Provider</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>When Required</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>Healthy Relationships</td>
<td>Broadacres</td>
<td>Impact on adults and children: content in development</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1 x 3 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working with Hostile Families</td>
<td>NYCC CYPS</td>
<td>Domestic Abuse: Impact on Family</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 times yearly</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Domestic Abuse: Impact on Family</td>
<td>Children's Social Care</td>
<td>Domestic Abuse: Impact on Family</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARAC Workshop</td>
<td>DA Co-ordinator / IDAS</td>
<td>MARAC Workshop</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
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<td>Safety Planning Training</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Safety Planning Training</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Champion's Training</td>
<td>DA Co-ordinator / IDAS</td>
<td>Champion's Training</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>DA Awareness  (basic and intermediate)</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Awareness Raising and Multi-agency work</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bespoke School Work</td>
<td>IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Expect respect toolkit, bespoke work, PHSE lessons</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>School staff</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Champion's Training</td>
<td>DA Co-ordinator / IDAS</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Champions Training</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>quarterly</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karma Nirvana Training / Seminar</td>
<td>Karma Nirvana</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Forced marriage, honour-based violence</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multi-agency</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Articulate</td>
<td>Play Therapist (DAS Scarborough)</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: impact and effect of DA on children and relationship/ bond with adult victim: Basic play therapy techniques to work with small groups of children (aged up to 11)</td>
<td></td>
<td>School staff</td>
<td>twice annually</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Champion's Training</td>
<td>DA Officer</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Stats, awareness of DV, different types, effects on victim - why stay, HBV, drink, drugs, effects on children, signposting, what to do with a disclosure</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>DV Awareness Training (college/school)</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Stats, awareness of DV, different types, effects on victim - why stay, HBV, drink, drugs, effects on children, signposting, what to do with a disclosure</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>when required</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwife</td>
<td>Midwife</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Stats, awareness of DV, different types, effects on victim - why stay, HBV, drink, drugs, effects on children, signposting, what to do with a disclosure</td>
<td>Midwives, doctors, link nurses, GP's</td>
<td>when required</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Making Safe Worker</td>
<td>Impact on Adults: working with perpetrator challenging attitudes/behaviour towards victim. Signposting for services available (counselling, anger management etc), healthy relationships</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>when required</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAS Project for victims (to be named by victims)</td>
<td>DAS Worker</td>
<td>Impact on Adults: definition and cycle of DA, effects of drink and drugs, goal setting</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Victims</td>
<td></td>
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<td>✓  ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freedom Programme</td>
<td>DAS Worker – Freedom Programme</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: different types of abuse / abuser, self-esteem</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Victims</td>
<td></td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Train the Trainers</td>
<td>DAS Worker</td>
<td>Impact on Adults and Children: Safeguarding, safety planning, effects of DA on children, understanding the making safe scheme - outline of how the scheme works, outline of agencies linked to safety planning - CSC, Police, DAS etc</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 monthly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓  ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwifery Refresher</td>
<td>Midwife</td>
<td>Impact on Children: how to ask domestic abuse questions to all women antenatal, why it is important to recognise DA during pregnancy, local resources</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Healthcare professionals</td>
<td>once a month</td>
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## Appendix 2 Implementation Plan 2012-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified Priority</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Progress April 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Increase the availability and capacity of existing training.</td>
<td>• Increase the availability of existing training through marketing all training via NYCC Learning Zone. The demand for training against the delivery to be regularly reviewed by the NYCC Workforce Development Unit.</td>
<td>NYCC Workforce Development</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
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</table>
| • Increase awareness of the online tool available through Independent Domestic Abuse Services (IDAS) | • Establish a web link between NYCC Learning Zone and IDAS online tool  
• Online training to form part of all CYPS’s staff compulsory induction package.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | NYCC Workforce Development    | April 2013       | Implemented (web link) |
<p>| • Enable the delivery of bespoke training packages based on an evidenced need.      | • Identify Domestic Abuse training budget to enable the commissioning of bespoke packages.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | NYCC Domestic Abuse Officer    | On-going         |                      |
| • Ensure all training on the effects of Domestic Abuse on Children and Young People includes health related issues such as attachment. | • To be included in quality assurance monitoring.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | LSCB Training Task Group       | April 2013       |                      |
| • Increase awareness of the targeted programmes available within the county.        | • All training to be marketed via the NYCC Learning Zone Site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | NYCC Workforce Development    | ?                | Not fully implemented |
| • Ensure all staff including Senior Managers have completed basic training on the effects of Domestic Abuse. | • Online training to form part of all CYPS’s staff compulsory induction package.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | NYCC Workforce Development    | ?                |                      |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Responsible Body</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Include awareness of domestic abuse in all training targeting professionals working with vulnerable groups.</td>
<td>All training to be marketed via the NYCC Learning Zone Site. County-wide training to be communicated via Local Domestic Abuse Forum.</td>
<td>NYCC Workforce Development</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve consistency of training delivered across the county.</td>
<td>All training to be marketed via the NYCC Learning Zone Site.</td>
<td>NYCC Workforce Development</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td>Not fully implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase professionals confidence discussing and developing safety plans with victims.</td>
<td>Implement Safety Planning Training across the county following the evaluation of the training pilot.</td>
<td>NYCC Workforce Development</td>
<td>September 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase understanding of Domestic Homicide Reviews and Independent Management Reviews.</td>
<td>Domestic Homicide Review Training being included within the existing training course’ Writing Chronologies and Reports for Serious Case Reviews’ (note title could change).</td>
<td>LSCB Training Task Group</td>
<td>September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identified gaps</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Increasing professionals’ confidence working with couples who want to remain within the relationship where there is domestic abuse.</td>
<td>Training content to be included in quality assurance monitoring.</td>
<td>LSCB Training Task Group</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing professionals’ confidence and ability to work with young people affected by domestic abuse and particularly young people who harm.</td>
<td>Develop further expertise within existing services through commissioning bespoke training package e.g. Respect Training on Young People who Harm</td>
<td>NYCC Workforce Development</td>
<td>February 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 3 Implementation Plan 2014
A multi-agency initiative supporting victims of domestic abuse to remain in their own homes and at the same time challenging the perpetrators behaviour.
## Contents

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<th>Pages</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criteria for making safe</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flow Chart Offender</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flow Chart Victim</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outline of Project</td>
<td>8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appendix 1 Criteria Building Better Relationships (BBR)</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>Appendix 2 Role of Victim's Services</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix 3 Role of Offenders Services</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix 4 Role of Probation Services</td>
<td>14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix 5 Role of North Yorkshire Police</td>
<td>16-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix 6 Role of RSL and District Councils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appendix 7 Role of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts</td>
<td>19-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appendix 8 Information Sharing</td>
<td>21-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appendix 9 Referral Protocol between NYP and Children and Young Peoples Service</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
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<td>Appendix 10 Signatories</td>
<td>26</td>
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Introduction

This document should be read in conjunction with partner agencies service level agreements.

The Making Safe Scheme is a multi agency initiative that provides positive intervention to high risk incidents of domestic abuse.

The Home Office definition of domestic abuse is:
“Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional”

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

This definition, which is not a legal definition, includes so called ‘honour’ based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

The Making Safe scheme is the initiative of York and North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group and aims to address the number of repeat victims and repeat offending across the City of York and North Yorkshire.

The scheme works with female and male victims and their family ensuring their safety is paramount. Work with female offenders does not apply to the scheme other than the statutory group work and is identified within the appropriate sections within the protocol. Work is undertaken with male perpetrators in conjunction with the National Probation Service, Building Better Relationships (BBR) that challenges the offender’s behaviour and encourages them to change it.
The agencies involved in the delivery of the scheme include

- York and North Yorkshire Probation Trust
- York and North Yorkshire Local Delivery Groups
- Victim Support North Yorkshire
- North Yorkshire Police
- Domestic Abuse Services
- Independent Domestic Abuse Services
- Craven Domestic Abuse Services
- Foundation
- Scarborough and Ryedale Councils
- Harrogate and Craven Councils
- Hambleton and Richmondshire Councils
- York and Selby Councils
- Her Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service
- Crown Prosecution Service
- North Yorkshire County Council Adult and Children’s Services

The information contained within this document will provide organisations with the roles and responsibilities of the agencies involved in the delivery of the Making Safe Scheme.

There is NOT a requirement for the victim and/or perpetrator to have all the elements of the scheme agencies can refer to any part of the scheme using the required referral form at (appendix 3) stating what part of the scheme they wish to refer to. This does not apply to the offender if they are sentenced at court to undertake elements of the scheme.

All incidents attended by North Yorkshire Police are referred to agencies as Making Safe where consent is given. The agency receiving the referral will triage the victim, child/ren and perpetrator and refer into appropriate part of the service or onto other agencies.
Criteria for agencies when triaging Making Safe at point of referral

- Is the referral a victim known to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)?
- Is the victim that of persistent and prolific repeat offending?
- Has the offender been arrested and/or charged?
- Is the offender due to be released from prison and at risk of reoffending putting the victim at risk?
- Are both parties over the age of 18?
- Eligible for BBR or 1 to 1 DV work with Probation if resources allow
- Offender requesting support or/and to attend a civil offender programme
- No extended family who could house the offender safely away from the victim
- At risk of returning to the family home
- Repeat offenders
- Clear indication that accommodation is linked to risk e.g. if alternative housing isn’t sought then the risk to victim will remain same or increase.

The aim of the scheme is multi agency intervention so that risk can be monitored on a daily basis and any risk changes notified early to appropriate agencies to try and prevent further incidents. Agencies working together are able to ensure the victims’, children/young people’s voices are heard within the Criminal Justice System and any changes to bail and or sentence can be notified to the victim quickly as well as stable accommodation and/or support to the perpetrators to try and prevent them from putting pressure on the victim to allow them to return home.

Governance

The Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group is a multi agency advisory body for domestic abuse within North Yorkshire and City of York. The remit of the group is to oversee the Making Safe Scheme in North Yorkshire and York and advise responsible agencies where there are gaps or difficulties. This is a monitoring role, ensuring that effective partnerships are maintained with other public protection bodies and address any operational issues.

Domestic Abuse Coordinators will report any performance indicators for Making Safe to the Local Making Safe Steering Groups and Making Safe County Steering Group. They will also prepare annual reports to other bodies as appropriate.
Flow Chart - Offender

Police Officer Attends Incidence of Domestic Abuse

↓

Arrest of Offender (in conjunction with NYP DA Policy)

↓

Risk Assessment with Offender (in conjunction with RA tool)

↓

Police Bail Conditions Set (possible access to temporary accommodation)

↓

Offender Making Safe Support Worker Intervention

↓

Assessment /Agreement/Contract with Making Safe/offender

↓

Offender attends Court (recommendation to BBR and undertake work with Making Safe)

↓

Building Better Relationships

↓

Monitoring by Probation, North Yorkshire Police, Foundation

↓

Review Service

↓

Exit Programme
Flow Chart - Victim

- Police Officer Attends Incidence of Domestic Abuse
- Arrest of Offender (in conjunction with NYP DA Policy)
- Risk Assessment undertaken with the victim (immediate safety considered)
- Statement / Victim Personal Statement taken by OIC
- Victim Making Safe Support Worker/IDVA Intervention
- Assessment/Agreement/Contract (next working day)
- Safety Measures Put in Place (in conjunction with RA tool)
- Probation Women's Safety Worker (where appropriate)
- Support at court if requested
- Review Service
- Exit Programme
Outline of Project

1. On attendance at a domestic violence incident reported to the Police, the Police will deal with the incident in accordance with the North Yorkshire Police Domestic Violence Policy.

2. If the offender is arrested and charged a risk assessment will be undertaken by the arresting officer and it will be used when considering bail conditions for the offender.

3. A risk assessment will be undertaken by the officer in the case with the victim giving them the option to move to safe temporary accommodation and instigate any immediate safety features to be put in place.

4. The officer in the case will gain consent from the victim and make a referral to agencies working within Making Safe following the incident using the referral form.

5. A referral to Making Safe for the offender will be considered at this point and a referral made following the incident or at point of release and/or charge.

6. The officer in the case will consider the risk to the child/ren and make appropriate referrals to Children’s Social Care all other referrals for children will be made to Making Safe victim service following the incident.

7. The Making Safe victim service will triage the children where there is consent (and not child protection) from the non abusing parent/carer and refer to appropriate children’s service.

8. The Making Safe Support Worker for the victim and or child/ren will contact them on the same day if within office hours or the next working day if out of office hours. Following this initial contact a decision will be made as to what further support can and should be offered. Each victim will be assessed and offered advice and signposting as a minimum.

9. If emergency accommodation is required for the offender out of office hours the officer will contact the appropriate housing emergency out of hours team for their area (flow charts are available in all custody suites).

10. If Monday to Friday and the offender has no alternative accommodation (any bail accommodation must take into consideration the safety of the victim) Foundation will be contacted by the officer in the case or custody sergeant who will find temporary accommodation for the offender if he meets the criteria.

11. The officer in the case will give the Crown Prosecution Service a copy of the risk assessments undertaken with the victim and offender.
12. If an assessment is undertaken which highlights the need for any additional security and support measures these will be offered and put into place. This could include the following:

- Cocoon Watch
- Home Guard Alarms/ Ryecare Alarms
- Patrol Awareness
- 999 Mobile Phones
- Cameras
- National Monitoring Alarms
- Lock changes/security lighting
- Extra locks on doors and windows
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences

13. The victim will also be contacted by the Independent Domestic Advisor (IDVA) whose role it is to support victims through the court process keeping the victim informed at every stage and supported at court if requested.

14. If the offender is sentenced to the Building Better Relationships (BBR) the victim will receive a pre sentence visit from the Women’s Safety Worker and 3 subsequent visits during the programme.

15. If the offender is placed in temporary accommodation by Emergency Housing, Foundation or bailed to another address other than family home the offender Making Safe Support Worker will contact the offender on the same day if within office hours or the next working day if out of office hours. A contract of service will be offered to ensure the offender maintains their tenancy and deter them from returning to the victim.

16. All offenders will be assessed at the first hearing at court for the BBR and Making Safe. Where appropriate recommendations for the offender to undertake the BBR will be made to the Magistrates as part of both community and prison sentencing.

17. If the offender pleads not guilty or the case is adjourned Probation will undertake a pre sentence report taking into account the risk assessments undertaken with both the offender and victim. Any reports undertaken by North Yorkshire Police and Making Safe Workers will be shared with Probation.

18. Subject to sentence, the offender will undertake the BBR and will receive joint visits by Probation and Police if requested by the Probation Offender Manager during the course of the programme. This to ensure the offender is complying with any bail conditions and BBR.
When entering the Making Safe scheme the following agencies will work with the victim in line with roles and responsibilities as set out in appendices.

- Making Safe Support Workers
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- Probation Women’s Safety Worker
- Police

Making Safe Workers will support the victim and/or offender on an agreed basis with the victim/offender.

Monthly meetings with frontline workers within Making Safe will take place. A Making Safe Matrix of those within Making Safe will sent out weekly/monthly by the Domestic Abuse Coordinators to the relevant agencies involved i.e. IDAS, Police. Probation etc for update. Responses will be collated by the Domestic Abuse Coordinator for discussion at the monthly meeting.

The North Yorkshire Police Domestic Violence Officer, the offender Making Safe worker, the victim Making Safe worker and the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor will attend these meetings.

All agencies will be responsible for delivering their agreed part of the scheme in line with any Service Level Agreements and this protocol and will be asked to supply quarterly project progress reports as agreed. The Domestic Abuse Coordinators will provide quarterly reports to their local Domestic Abuse Forum, local Making Safe Steering Groups and Making Safe County Steering Group.

All front line workers providing the service will undergo the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment Tool Training that will be provided by Probation and agreed risk assessment training provided by the Domestic Abuse Forum. Agencies line managers will undertake supervision for all front line staff.

Reviews of service provision provided by agencies under Making Safe will be undertaken by the individual agencies and steering groups in accordance with their role descriptions in attached appendices.

**Complaints**

Complaints about the conduct or actions of an agency or the representative within the Making Safe Scheme should be addressed directly with the line manager of the agency whom the complaint is against. If the complaint is not resolved or puts the Making Safe Scheme at risk the local and county steering groups should be made aware of the complaint.
Appendix 1

Criteria for BBR

1. Index offence is domestic violence or related – could be criminal damage/ Assault PC but clearly in context of domestic violence

2. Pattern of domestic violence offending – can be evidenced by callouts or previous charges.

3. Likely to be over 25 but not exclusively

4. Evidence of entrenched views, but motivation to change

5. Understanding of issues – recognise difference between violence and domestic violence

6. Ability to engage

7. Ineligible if severe substance abuse which would prevent engagement or with apparent learning disabilities or severe mental health issues in (line with Probation BBR Guidelines).
Appendix 2

Role of Victim Making Safe Service

- Will make contact with the victim on the same working day if a referral is received during office hours or the next working day if a referral is received out of office hours.
- Will undertake an assessment with the victim where need identified from initial contact.
- Will attend Specialist Domestic Violence Court hearings if appropriate
- Will liaise with other agencies signed up to the Making Safe Scheme on a weekly basis as a minimum and attend monthly meetings.
- Will liaise with agencies signed up to Making Safe on any risk indicators that may put victim and/or children at further risk of harm.
- Will liaise with the Crown Prosecution Service to support a case at court where the victim consents
- The line manager will attend quarterly meetings with the local Making Safe steering group.
- Will provide quarterly returns to the Domestic Abuse Coordinator
- Will provide weekly reports to agencies on those victims within Making Safe
- Will attend monthly meetings

Essential information to be supplied if the victim is within the criminal justice system by the Victim Making Safe Workers to Probation, Police, Offender Making Safe Worker, Crown Prosecution Service and Independent Domestic Violence Advisor to include;

- The victim Making Safe Support Worker will provide appropriate information if the victim is within the criminal justice system to Probation Offender Manager, Offender Making Safe Support Worker and Police Domestic Violence Officer on any raised concerns.
- The victim Making Safe Support Worker will inform the referring agency if the victim refuses to engage with the Making Safe Scheme following contact.
- Will provide information to the Crown Prosecution Service on the victim’s concerns to ensure these are presented at court with the victim’s consent.
Appendix 3

Role of Offender Making Safe Service

- Will make contact with the offender on the same working day if a referral is received during office hours or the next working day if a referral is received out of office hours.
- Will work with the offenders identified through the Making Safe Scheme.
- Will attend Specialist Domestic Violence Court hearings where the need is identified.
- Will liaise with Crown Prosecution Service
- Will complete an assessment.
- Will provide intensive housing management support to the offender
- Will ensure all relevant housing benefit claims are made for clients in temporary accommodation.
- Will liaise with other agencies signed up to the Making Safe Scheme on a weekly basis as a minimum.
- Will liaise with Probation Offender Manager on any concerns re perpetrator
- Will liaise with North Yorkshire Police Domestic Abuse Officer and Victim Making Safe Worker on any safety concerns for the victim
- The Line Manager will attend quarterly meetings with Making Safe steering group
- Will provide quarterly returns to Domestic Abuse Coordinator
- Will attend monthly meetings
- Provide weekly reports to agencies on those victims within Making Safe

Essential Information Supplied by Offender Making Safe Workers to Probation, Police, Victim Making Safe Worker, Crown Prosecution Service and Independent Domestic Violence Advisor will include:

- Information on the offender’s address and progress and behaviour within the Making Safe scheme
- Details of any concerns that the Offender Making Safe Support Worker has.
- If the offender is being asked to leave the Making Safe accommodation and when move on plans are finalised.
- The offender Making Safe Worker will inform the referring agency if the offender refuses to engage with the Making Safe Scheme following contact
- Liaise with Probation Court Officer before any bail accommodation is agreed.
- Will ensure the Crown Prosecution Service are aware of any safety implications to victim if bail granted to the offender
Appendix 4

Role of Probation Service

There are five key Making Safe posts in Probation

Pre Sentencing Report (PSR) Author
Court Duty Officer
Building Better Relationships Tutor
Women Safety Worker
Offender Manager

They will work in different ways with the offender, victim and outside agencies.

PSR Author/Court Duty Officer –

- If not picked up in police custody will check eligibility for Making Safe Scheme with Making Safe workers present at court
- Will liaise with offender Making Safe Support Workers and Public Protection Unit if they have already been referred to scheme prior to court to inform report
- Will request offender engagement of Making Safe through pre sentence report where appropriate.
- Will automatically make referral to Probation Women Safety Worker for victim visit.

BBR Tutor/ Offender Manager –

- Will participate in risk management meetings
- Will inform as a minimum the Making Safe Support Workers for the offender and victim and Police Domestic Violence Officer if the offender is removed from BBR programme/ goes into breach.
- Urgent concerns will be passed to Public Vulnerable Persons Unit if out of hours /after group/ emergency then phone call will be made to Police Control Room immediately.
- Will liaise internally with Women’s Safety Worker and Offender Manager

Women Safety Worker

- Will work with victim to ensure her safety, and check discrepancies in offenders self reported behaviour (not intended to replace long term support offered by Making Safe Support Worker)
- Will liaise with Victim Making Safe Support Workers/ North Yorkshire Police Domestic Violence Officer prior to visiting the victim.
- Will respond to call out notification
- Will be a point of contact for Making Safe Workers
- Will attend Risk Management meetings,
- Will keep BBR Tutor/ Offender Manager informed on victim issues and concerns.
- Will signpost victim to Making Safe Support Workers if contact not already established.
**Offender Manager (Home Safety Worker)**

- Where deemed appropriate by the Risk Management Plan, the Offender Manager will undertake home visits to the offender and these will be accompanied by the relevant designated police officer.
- Will work jointly with agencies signed up to Making Safe
- Will inform BBR tutors/ Women’s Safety Workers of any concerns.
- Will inform offender Making Safe Support Worker of concerns
- Will supply report to Risk Management Meetings, or attend where there are serious concerns.

**Criteria for undertaking Joint Police Probation Visits**

This applies to men who are either in Making Safe accommodation, or who are receiving floating support under Making Safe from Foundation. The visits should be joint with the Police (from the Neighborhood Police Team) and Foundation.

- Liaise with Foundation and the Offender Manager about the offender before visiting.
- Check the offender is living where they say they are, look for evidence of new relationships.
- Check 1) response to intervention work, 2) accom issues/ Foundation feedback, 3) relationships and risk indicators, 4) any further relevant information.

A letter to the offender will be sent by Probation to the offender explaining nature of visit.

**Probation Making Safe Link Officer**

- Will co-ordinate flow of information.
- Will provide quarterly returns to the Domestic Abuse Coordinator
- Will be point of contact for the Making Safe Project Manager

**Essential Information Supplied by Probation Service to Police, Offender Making Safe Support Worker, Victim Making Safe Worker, Crown Prosecution Service, Independent Domestic Violence Advisor will include**

- Any disclosures in one to one meetings and during BBR on any raised concerns for the safety of the victim
- Any breaches of orders which could increase the safety of the victim
Appendix 5

Role of North Yorkshire Police

Officer in Case

- Will make an arrest in line with the North Yorkshire Police Domestic Violence policy on attending an incident
- Will ensure a risk assessment is undertaken with the victim to ensure their safety
- Will undertake a risk assessment with the offender in interview where appropriate
- Will make a paper referral to Making Safe agencies using agreed referral form
- Will check offenders criteria for the Making Safe Scheme
- Will make a referral to emergency accommodation needed for offender out of office hours
- Will not refer any offenders for emergency accommodation that are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Will not refer for emergency accommodation after 10pm.
- Will ensure the Crown Prosecution Service are aware of any referral to Making Safe Scheme and receive copies of risk assessments undertaken with both parties
- Will ensure all files are stamped Domestic Violence
- Will inform Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit of intervention

Custody Sergeant

- Will ensure offender meets Making Safe criteria

Protection Vulnerable Persons Unit

- Will, if the officer in the case has referred an offender to Making Safe temporary accommodation and he is yet to appear at court, notify the Probation so that they can highlight the case to the Court Designated Officer.
- Will liaise with Crown Prosecution Service where appropriate
- Will be the main point of contact for all Police Officers regarding the Making Safe Scheme
- Will provide weekly reports to agencies on those victims within Making Safe
- Will attend monthly meetings

Officer Attending Offenders Home

- Will work jointly with the Probation Service where requested by offender manager
North Yorkshire Police will wherever possible consider all domestic violence offenders for the Making Safe Scheme and ensure clear lines of communication through the North Yorkshire Police Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit.

**Inspector/Deputy**

- will attend quarterly meetings with the Making Safe Steering Group.

**Information Supplied by Police to Probation Service, Offender Making Safe Support Worker, Victim Making Safe Worker and Independent Domestic Violence Advisor will include**

- Details of all callouts and further incidents (this is a key requirement of the BBR programme).
- Details of pending court dates and charges in relation to domestic violence

**Referral Protocol between North Yorkshire Police & North Yorkshire County Council Children & Young People’s Services**

Referrals by North Yorkshire Police to Children & Young People’s Service should be made in line with the protocol in Appendix 8
Appendix 6

The Role of District Councils and/or Registered Social Landlords

- The Council and its representatives will be contacted by North Yorkshire Police to advise that a perpetrator has been arrested & requires temporary accommodation (if out of hours for Foundation)
- The Council will assess all referrals made via the Making Safe scheme in accordance with the Housing Act 1996/Homelessness Act 2002
- If able to provide temporary accommodation to house perpetrators on behalf of the Making Safe team, the Council may provide temporary accommodation up to an agreed period. This is to be determined between each Council & local Steering Group
- The District Housing team will contact Foundation in open hours (Monday to Friday), & will notify them that a person has been put into temporary accommodation and will ensure that the landlord is paid, invoicing Foundation for the out of hours accommodation provided

The Council will

- promote the Making Safe scheme
- ensure that all its staff are aware of the Making Safe scheme
- will attend meetings of the local Making Safe Steering Groups, & will participate in the ongoing development of the scheme
- will provide an agreed annual contribution/resource to the scheme (as agreed between the local Steering Groups & the Councils
- will take referrals to the Making Safe scheme only from agencies signed up to the Making Safe scheme
Appendix 7

Role of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVC)

Crown Prosecution Service

- Will ensure wherever possible that a trained lawyer is present at hearings on the designated day for SDVC hearings
- Will ensure that any up to date information received from agencies involved in the Making Safe scheme are heard by the Magistrates.
- Will attend local SDVC meetings whenever possible

Her Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service

- Will ensure at least one trained Magistrate is present on the bench on the designated day for SDVC
- Will ensure a trained legal advisor is present at hearings on the designated day for SDVC
- Will ensure that court clerks are informed about domestic violence issues
- Will wherever possible list domestic violence cases to the designated day for SDVC.
- Will work with Crown Prosecution Service and Police to ensure early trials
- Will provide facilities for victims and supporting agencies away from the offender
- Will endeavour to provide data on court hearings to the Domestic Abuse Coordinator on a quarterly basis
- Will attend local SDVC meetings.
Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

- Will contact the victim following an incident of domestic abuse and ensure the victims safety and advise of any charges brought against the offender
- Will undertake risk assessment and signpost to Making Safe Support Workers or appropriate support agency if a referral has not been made by Officer in Case.
- Will liaise with other agencies signed up to the Making Safe Scheme on a weekly basis as a minimum
- Will ensure victim is informed of any criminal proceedings and that criminal justice agencies are aware of victims wishes
- Will support the victim through any criminal proceedings
- Will liaise with the Crown Prosecution Service
- Will attend Court on the designated day for SDVC
- Will provide data to the Domestic Abuse Coordinator on a quarterly basis


- The Independent Domestic Violence Advisor will provide information to Victim Making Safe Support Worker, Probation Offender Manager, Offender Making Safe Support Worker and Police Domestic Violence Coordinator on any raised concerns.
- The Independent Domestic Violence Advisor will inform the referring agency if the victim refuses to engage with the Making Safe Scheme following contact.
- Will provide information to the Crown Prosecution Service on the victims concerns to ensure these are presented at court.
Appendix 8

Information Sharing Under The Scheme

Information that is shared within the Making Safe Partnerships agencies is to monitor and identify risk to victims and wider family members from the offenders.

Legal Framework

The key legal acts relevant to Making Safe are;

a) Data Protection Act 1998
b) Common Law Duty of Confidence
c) Human Rights Act 1998
d) Crime and Disorder Act 1998
e) Children’s Act 2004

Agencies signed up to the Making Safe Scheme should be signed up to the North Yorkshire General Framework Information Sharing Protocol paying attention to the safe storage of personal and sensitive information and the safe exchange of information when necessary.

What Data is Shared

Listed below are the types of data that the Making Safe agencies are likely to deal with:

a. Personal Data

Personal data that relates to a living individual who can be identified from that data or any other information held or likely to be held. This includes any expression of opinion about the individual and any indication of the intentions of the data controller or any other person in respect of the individual.

Examples of personal data shared in relation to the Making Safe clients are names, date of birth and addresses.

b. Sensitive Personal Data

Sensitive data is data which falls into the following categories:

a) Racial or ethnic origin.
b) Sexual orientation.
c) Physical or mental health.
d) Membership of a trade union.
e) Political or religious beliefs.
f) Criminal offences and proceedings.
c. Non-Personal and Aggregated Data

Non-personal data constitutes data that does not or cannot be used to establish the identity of a living individual. Aggregated data consists of statistics of events forming a trend or pattern but from which it is not possible to identify individuals. It is data derived from personal, non-personal and de-personalised data.

Non-personal data is more often than not aggregate data. It is non-personal data, (never has referred to an individual), or aggregated data, (derived from personal, non-personal and de-personalised data), that is normally used for crime-mapping. Non-personal data can be used for crime-mapping purposes, within the remit of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Non-personal data may be held subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and there may be a duty to disclose this data to a third party if a request is made under the Act.

Examples of such data would be the monitoring information produced for the County and local Making Safe Steering Groups, Domestic Abuse Joint Coordinating Group, Domestic Abuse Forums and Local Delivery Groups

d. De-personalised Data

This is data that does not and cannot be used to establish the identity of a living person, having had all identifiers removed including even postcodes or addresses. It may be possible for a person’s identity to be revealed by comparing several sets of de-personalised data. There are no legal restrictions on the exchange of de-personalised data although a duty of confidence may apply in certain circumstances, or contractual or other legal restrictions may prevent the information being disclosed to partner agencies. This is to be decided on a case by case basis by the disclosing agency.

The Children Act 2004 notes that domestic abuse is a child protection/safeguarding issue and as such information sharing about such children is provided for within the Data Protection Act 1998, Schedules two and three. Making Safe considers cases assessed as high risk and thus where there are children and young people involved in Making Safe the information sharing procedure within the LSCB Procedures, Information Sharing, Confidentiality and Consent, Section 3 holds.

However whilst not a prerequisite, it is good practice for information to be shared with the child or young person’s parent or carers and the child themselves if appropriate. The safety and welfare of the child is paramount.

Where consent cannot be obtained to share information or consent is refused or where seeking it may undermine the prevention, detection, or prosecution of a crime (Crime and Disorder Act 1998) the practitioner must judge from the facts whether there is enough public interest. A concern in relation to protecting adults from serious harm or preventing crime and disorder are all well within public interest.
Sharing confidential information without consent will normally be justified in the public interest:

- When there is evidence or reasonable cause to believe that a child is suffering, or is at risk of suffering, significant harm;

- When there is evidence or reasonable cause to believe that an adult is suffering, or is at risk of suffering, serious harm;

- To prevent significant harm to a child or serious harm to an adult, including through the prevention, detection and prosecution of serious crime.

Practitioners must decide whether sharing information is a necessary and proportionate response to the need to protect the victim or their family in question. The decision making process must weigh up what might happen if the information is shared against what might happen if it is not shared.

It is best practice to obtain consent but not obligatory in high risk cases and this approach is not always safe.

There is a need to share information proportionality for example signatory agencies should consider the perpetrators right to a private life under Article 8 of the Human Rights Act, and balance this with the need to share information.

**Security and Data Management**

Data will be stored and managed in line with recommendations within the North Yorkshire General Framework Information Sharing Protocol.

Each Domestic Abuse Coordinator for all the areas will keep a database recording all those referred onto Making Safe. The data base will allow progress to be monitored and will be used principally for audit purposes.

The Manager of each agency signed up to the protocol should act as the one single point of contact within each signatory agency and have a coordinating and authorising role as they will be responsible for ensuring that the agency they represent obeys the protocol and all relevant legislation.

Any breaches of the protocol will be extremely damaging for all the signatory agencies.
Appendix 9

Referral Protocol between North Yorkshire Police & North Yorkshire County Council Children & Young People’s Service

INTRODUCTION

This protocol has been drawn up as an action from the (North Yorkshire Local Children’s Safe Guarding Board (NYLSCB) Learning Lessons Review for Child A /Child B of March 2010

RECOMMENDATION 3.3

A strategy is required for the management of domestic abuse incidents where there are children in the household – regardless of whether present or not at the time of the Incident. Key aim of strategy is for Police to inform Children’s Social Care (CSC) of all children involved in a domestic incident or living in a household where a domestic incident has occurred so that early intervention and/or support can be offered.

AIM OF PROTOCOL

The Aim of this protocol is to clarify the liaison and referral process between N.Y. Police and CYPS and to ensure a timely response at the most appropriate level of intervention is achieved in all circumstances where domestic abuse is identified and children may be at risk of harm.

KEY STATEMENTS

- All incidents of domestic abuse are serious. Nominated Managers in the police service are accountable for case by case decision making and must use their professional discretion as to when to make a referral to CYPS. There must be a clear audit trail regarding any decision made on all cases.

- CSC should be seen in the wider context of the CYPS

Agreed Protocol

With the introduction of the PVP Booklet and the adoption of the DASH risk assessment by North Yorkshire Police, in all but the urgent cases, any required referrals will be submitted to Customer Services by Supervision in the PVP units across the force. PVP supervision will review the incident in the booklet and decide whether the case meets the threshold for a referral. Those cases which do meet the threshold will be passed through as a referral to Customer Services.

All domestic occurrences will be reviewed on a daily basis and an entry will be recorded on the Occurrence Enquiry Log of the Police Niche system detailing the action taken by supervision and the decision making rationale behind the action. This could include reasons why or why not a referral was felt to be necessary. This also provides a record of incidents which can be referred to should further concerns occur at a later date. All historical incidents will be considered by N.Y. Police when considering whether to refer to CYPS/CSC.

Officers outside of the PVP Units will still have the facility to submit referrals including to EDT on an urgent cases basis. These cases will also then be picked up by PVP supervision and reviewed.
Referrals will go into CYPS via the Customer Services Centre. These contacts will be screened to ensure that referrals are channelled into the best service to provide the most appropriate level of intervention/support/action.

A Deputy Service Manager (DSM) is also based in the Customer Service Centre. The DSM in conjunction with the Customer Services Specialist Advisor will review all referrals and ensure that they are directed to the most appropriate service within CYPS. This may be to Children’s Social Care (CSC) or other service e.g. Integrated Services or Education Welfare.

Those referrals sent through to the CSC A&S teams will then be subject to a further level of screening by the relevant local Social Care team manager or their deputy. There will be an opportunity for the SM/DSM to discuss the referral with the DSM in Customer Services. Any referral can be discussed with the referring officer if required.

This will enable a greater focus of service provision to be provided for children where the concerns are of a child protection or child welfare nature.

Nick O’Brien  
G.M. Children’s Social Care

D.I. Andrea Kell  
North Yorkshire Police

17th May 2011
Appendix 10 - Signatories

North Yorkshire Police
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

York & North Yorkshire Probation Trust
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

Victim Support
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

Foundation
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

Independent Domestic Abuse Services
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

Domestic Abuse Services
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

Her Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..
Crown Prosecution Services
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

North Yorkshire County Council Adult Services
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

North Yorkshire County Council Children and Young People Services
Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

Local Authorities
Scarborough Borough Council
Ryedale District Council
Harrogate Borough Council
Craven District Council
Hambleton District Council
Richmondshire District Council
City of York Council
Selby District Council

Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..

Local Delivery Groups
Scarborough
Ryedale
Harrogate
Craven
Hambleton & Richmond
City of York
Selby

Position……………………………… Date …………………………………
Signed……………………………… Print Name…………………………..
Appendix 5: North Yorkshire and City of York

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Protocol

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Introduction

Domestic abuse accounts for nearly a quarter of all violent crime. In 2011/12, research suggests that 31% women and 18% men have experienced domestic abuse since the age of 16 years. This amounts to 5 million women and 2.9 million men. Regarding domestic homicides, 2 women a week are unlawfully killed by their partners or ex-partners in the UK. The MARAC process provides a structured response to the high risk cases of domestic violence.

The purpose of this document is to set clear guidelines for agencies in relation to the aims of a Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), to establish accountability, responsibility and reporting structures and to outline the process of the MARAC.

The document contains guidance on information sharing between agencies and provides detail of the legislation that allows agencies to share information in certain circumstances.

The document gives a clear pathway of how MARAC and MAPPA work together in addressing the risk posed in cases.

It is well established that there is a clear link between domestic abuse and child abuse. All agencies must be aware of the impact that Domestic Abuse can have on children. In doing so, agencies must consider the need for a referral to Children’s Social Care in accordance with Local Safeguarding Children’s Boards guidelines and procedures.

The MARAC will allow all the relevant agencies to share information and decide upon the most appropriate way to reduce or manage the identified risks around each case of domestic abuse that is the subject of a MARAC. The MARAC model fits into the ethos of multi-agency working. No single agency can solve all the problems but by sharing information and working together through the MARAC process the outcomes for the victims and survivors of domestic abuse incidents can be improved.

Where agencies need to respond immediately to ensure the safety of the victim and their children, actions should not be delayed until the case is discussed at the MARAC and all agencies should refer to their individual agency procedures to ensure the protection of victims of domestic abuse and child abuse.

Governance

North Yorkshire Police is responsible for the MARAC process in North Yorkshire and York and advise responsible agencies where there are gaps or difficulties.

The MARAC Coordinator will report any performance indicators for MARACs to the relevant forums, Government Office and Community Action Against Domestic abuse (CAADA).

— Office of National Statistics
Definition of Domestic abuse
The Home Office defines domestic violence as “Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:
• psychological
• physical
• sexual
• financial
• emotional
Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.
Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.
This definition includes so called ‘honour’ based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

What is a MARAC?
MARACs are recognised nationally as best practice for identifying and managing high risk cases of domestic abuse.

In a multi agency structured meeting a MARAC combines up to date risk information with a comprehensive assessment of a victim’s needs and links those directly to the provision of appropriate services for all those involved in a domestic abuse case; victim, children and perpetrator. By combining all known information within a multi agency setting the identified risks will be reduced or managed in the most appropriate and effective way.

Aims of a MARAC
The aims of the MARAC are to:

• Facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing between multi agency partners.
• Enable appropriate interventions to be taken to safeguard high risk victims of domestic abuse and their families.
• Identify high risk victims of domestic abuse offering support and guidance to reduce the threat of further harm and repeat incidents of domestic abuse.
• Provide a multi agency safety plan for each victim and their immediate families
• Identify wherever possible whether the perpetrator poses a risk to other particular individuals or to the wider community.
• Identify any child contact, child protection concerns within the family environment.
• If appropriate, hold relevant multi agency discussion under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, “Right to Ask” and “Right to Know”.

The responsibility to take appropriate actions rests with individual agencies. The role of the MARAC is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase public safety.

Membership

A single point of contact within the agencies identified below will receive all invitations for MARACs. The agencies include:

• North Yorkshire Police
• Children’s Social Care
• Adult ‘s Social Care
• Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
• Specialist Domestic Abuse Services
• Foundation
• Health agencies
• Probation Service
• Education
• Children and Family Court Advisory Support Services
• Mental Health Services
• Drug and Alcohol Services
• Local Authority Housing / housing association and Registered Social Landlords
• Safeguarding leads in colleges / 6th form
• Youth Offending Team / Youth Services

Each agency will appoint a representative which should wherever possible be middle manager level to attend the MARAC and/or provide a report on the template provided with the invite.

The above list is not exhaustive. Consideration will also be given to requesting additional professional support as appropriate to MARAC needs.

Repeat MARACs

In order for a case to be referred as a repeat case to MARAC it must meet the repeat criteria. The CAADA definition for a repeat referral is - "a case between the same victim and perpetrator(s), where the victim has been identified as meeting the threshold and has been previously referred to MARAC, and within the twelve months from the date of the last referral a further incident is identified"

Any agency may identify the incident (regardless of whether it is reported to the police). A further incident includes any one of the following types of behaviour, which, if reported to the police, would constitute criminal behaviour:

• Violence or threats of violence to the victim (including threats against property)
• A pattern of stalking or harassment
• Rape or sexual abuse is disclosed
When an agency identifies a repeat victim, that agency should refer the case back to MARAC regardless if the victim meets the threshold of “high risk”.

Incidents that occur more than 12 months after the last MARAC do not constitute a repeat incident, however the MARAC referral form should be completed and the case number can be recorded on the form indicating that the victim has previously been subject to MARAC.

**Emergency MARACs**

An emergency MARAC is an exceptional event called when a victim is assessed as meeting the MARAC threshold and the risk of harm is so imminent that statutory agencies have a duty of care at once, rather than waiting for the next MARAC. Contact the MARAC Coordinator to arrange (contact details at end of document).

**Transfer of MARAC cases to/from another area**

If agencies are made aware that a high risk victim moves out of the MARAC area then they should inform the MARAC Coordinator who will transfer the victim to the relevant area and inform MARAC members of the transfer in order for agencies to update their systems accordingly.

If the victim moves outside the NYP Force area then the MARAC Coordinator will liaise with the relevant MARAC Coordinator for that area, remove flags from previous addresses and update systems with the new address and notify MARAC members of the transfer in order for agencies to update systems.

All agencies should inform the MARAC Coordinator if they are made aware of a high risk victim moving into the NYP Force area.

The MARAC Coordinator will then arrange for a Domestic Abuse Officer to establish contact with the victim in order for a risk assessment to be carried out and a safety plan implemented. The risk assessment carried out may determine that the level of risk has been reduced by the victim moving however, if the victim consents to victim support then a referral will be made to relevant agencies.

**Legal Framework and information Sharing**

During the MARAC meeting, for each case, all attendees will sign a confidentiality statement:

a. The Data Protection Act 1998 (the processing of personal information)

b. The Human Rights Act 1998, Articles 2, 3 and 8 for the rights of life, to be free from torture and the right to have a private life without suffering violence

c. Race Relations Amendment Act 2000

d. Section 325 Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Duty to co-operate)

e. Sections 39 and 39a Police Act 1996 (Codes of Practice on the Management of Police Information)
The following legislation, codes of practice and guidance will also be relevant:

a. Common Law Duty of Confidence (Social Services, medical profession, patient confidentiality, Police, Nurses, Health Visitors and Midwives).

b. Professional Codes of Conduct

c. The Freedom of Information Act 2000

d. The Mental Health Act 1983 (The Health Sector)

e. Health and Social Care Act 2001 (For Health/Social Services).

f. Children Act 1989

gh. NHS and Community Care Act 1990

di. Sections 37 and 39 Crime and Disorder Act 1998

The Children Act 2004 notes that domestic abuse is a child protection/safeguarding issue and as such information sharing about such children is provided for within the Data Protection Act 1998, Schedules Two and Three.

MARAC consider cases assessed as high risk and thus where there are children and young people involved in a MARAC, the information sharing procedure within the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Procedures, Information Sharing, Confidentiality and Consent, Section 3 holds.

However, whilst not a prerequisite, it is good practice for information to be shared with the child or young person's parent or carers and the child themselves if appropriate. The safety and welfare of the child is paramount.

The Police information provided can be used by police officers to CPS in support of a decision to prosecute or remand. Anything else needs permission of the Chair.

In relation to family law. A Judge would need to make an order for disclosure before any information is given.

Information Sharing without Consent

Where consent cannot be obtained to share information or consent is refused or where seeking it may undermine the prevention, detection, or prosecution of a crime (Crime and Disorder Act 1998) the practitioner must judge from the facts whether there is enough public interest. A concern in relation to protecting adults from serious harm or preventing crime and disorder are all well within public interest.

Sharing confidential information without consent will normally be justified in the public interest:

- When there is evidence or reasonable cause to believe that a child is suffering, or is at risk of suffering, significant harm;

- When there is evidence or reasonable cause to believe that an adult is suffering, or is at risk of suffering, serious harm;

- To prevent significant harm to a child or serious harm to an adult, including through the prevention, detection and prosecution of serious crime.
Practitioners must decide whether sharing information is a necessary and proportionate response to the need to protect the victim or their family in question. The decision making process must weigh up what might happen if the information is shared against what might happen if it is not shared.

There is a need to share information proportionality for example signatory agencies should consider the perpetrators right to a private life under Article 8 of the Human Rights Act, and balance this with the need to share information.

An ‘Information Sharing Without Consent’ form must be completed prior to the MARAC and sent to the MARAC Co-ordinator.

**Security and Data Management**

The MARAC Coordinator will keep a database recording brief details of each case discussed at a MARAC. The database will allow progress to be monitored and will be used principally for audit purposes. Agencies requiring information about whether or not a child or family have been subject to a MARAC should contact the relevant Chair. Where there are child welfare concerns, agencies should follow the procedure to refer a child to Children’s Social Care through Section 5, LSCB Procedures.

**Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)**

MAPPA is the statutory arrangement for managing sexual and violent offenders. MAPPA is not a statutory body in itself but is a mechanism through which agencies can better discharge their statutory responsibilities and protect the public in a co-ordinated manner. Agencies at all times retain their full statutory responsibilities and obligations.

Three categories of offenders are defined as falling within the remit of MAPPA.

**Category 1 offenders** (registered sexual offenders);

**Category 2 offenders** (violent offenders sentenced to 12 months custody or more and other sexual offenders and those subject to hospital orders with restrictions);

**Category 3 offenders** (other dangerous offenders). This could be offenders who have been previously managed at MAPPA level 2 or 3 under Category 1 or 2 and still pose a risk of harm or other persons who, by reason of offences committed by them (wherever committed), are considered by the RA to be persons who may cause serious harm to the public.

**The Link between the MARAC and the MAPPA Process**

MARAC is not a formal part of the MAPPA although it should be complementary to and have links with the local MAPPA. The MARAC ensures identified high risk domestic abuse cases are dealt with in a public protection framework. Exceptionally, offenders will meet the criteria for both MAPPA and MARAC management. The key areas to consider are:

Communication - there needs to be clear communication between both MARAC and MAPPA to ensure all cases identified as high risk are managed effectively.
Expertise and skills - it should be acknowledged that MARAC and MAPPA have specific skills regarding work with both victim and offender.

Manage risk - both the MARAC and MAPPA’s function is to manage the risk of harm from the offender and risk of further harm to the victim

Communication between MARAC and MAPPA

If a perpetrator of domestic abuse is being managed within MAPPA, the Domestic Abuse Officer should liaise with the MAPPA Unit to establish how the offender is being managed and what information can be shared at the MARAC.

It will be the responsibility of the Probation Service representative attending the MARAC meeting to bring to the attention of the MARAC Chair any MARAC actions which replicate actions already agreed in the MAPPA risk management plan.

MAPPA risk management plans will not be shared at a MARAC meeting.

If it is proposed to discuss a perpetrator within the MARAC process, and that perpetrator is already subject of MAPPA management, it will be the responsibility of the MARAC and MAPPA Chairs, after consultation, to determine if the case should run concurrent at both the MARAC and MAPPA processes.

Where a case is already being managed within MAPPA, that process will have precedence over MARAC and the high risk victim will be managed within the MAPPA procedures

Complaints

Complaints about the conduct or actions of an agency representative at a MARAC meeting should, in the first instance, be referred to the Chair of the MARAC meeting to resolve with the individual agency. Problem resolution is an integral part of professional co-operation and joint working to safeguard victims of domestic abuse. Professionals should try to resolve differences through discussion, and/or meeting within a timescale that is acceptable to both of them. If a complaint cannot be resolved at this level, then the Chair will escalate the complaint to the Head of the North Yorkshire Police Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit.

As the lead agency for MARAC’s, the Police will seek to resolve all complaints, but in certain cases it may be necessary to refer the complaint to the complaints procedure of the agency in question.

If a complaint is about the conduct of the Chair of a MARAC, then this will be immediately escalated to the Head of the North Yorkshire Police Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit.

It should be noted that each member agency of the MARAC has a specific complaints procedure. These internal procedures should be followed when concerns relate to an aspect of service for the individual agency, for example where the complaint is about staff conduct, the provision of a service or an agency procedure or policy.
Domestic Homicide reviews

Section 9 (3) of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004) came into force on 13 April 2011 and deals with the establishment and conduct of domestic homicide reviews.

A Domestic Homicide Review is a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence or abuse. A Domestic Homicide Review is held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death.

The purpose of the Domestic Homicide Reviews is to:

- Establish what lessons are to be learned from the domestic homicide regarding the way in which local professionals and organisations work individually and together to safeguard victims;
- Identify clearly those lessons both within and between agencies; how and within what timescales they will be acted on; and what is expected to change as a result;
- Apply these lessons to service responses including changes to policies and procedures as appropriate; and
- Prevent domestic violence homicide and improve service responses for all domestic violence victims and their children through improved intra and inter-agency working.

Where North Yorkshire Police identify a homicide in North Yorkshire which falls within the criteria for a Domestic Homicide Review they will inform the Chair of York & North Yorkshire Communities Forum within ten working days. The York & North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum will be responsible for establishing a review on behalf of the local Community Safety Partnerships.

Subsequent learning should be disseminated to the York & North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Group and its sub-group the MARAC Steering Group, local domestic violence forums or similar, the Local Safeguarding Children Board (North Yorkshire and the City of York) and commissioners of services and incorporated into local and regional training programmes.
Appendix 1 - MARAC Procedure

Prior to the meeting

a) Referrals to MARAC

**Note: only high risk cases of domestic abuse should be referred to a MARAC.**

Any agency can refer a case into a MARAC. Where possible the referring agency should undertake an initial assessment and complete the Risk Indicator Checklist (also referred to as the CAADA risk assessment) with the victim. The checklist is used by all agencies signed up to the MARAC and establishes a starting point for the risk assessment process.

To establish the conclusive level of risk agencies may use the following:

- Professional judgement: if a professional has a serious concern about a victim’s situation, they should refer the case to a MARAC. There will be occasions where the particular context of a case gives rise to serious concerns even if the victim has been unable to disclose the information that might highlight their risk more clearly. This could reflect extreme levels of fear, cultural barriers to disclosure, immigration issues of language barriers, particularly in the case of so-called honour based violence. This judgement would be based on the professional’s experience and/or the victim’s perception of risk.

- Visible high risk: 14 ticks in the 'yes' boxes.

- Potential Escalation: the number of police callouts to the victim as a result of domestic violence in the past 12 months. This can be used to identify cases where there is not a positive indicator of a majority of risk factors on the risk assessment.

Pay particular attention to a practitioner’s professional judgement in all cases. The results from checklist are not definitive assessment of risk. They provide a structure to inform judgement and act as prompts to further questioning, analysis and risk management whether via MARAC or in another way.

A MARAC Referral Form should be completed and sent to the MARAC Coordinator (see end of document for contact details).

The referring agency should also provide background information regarding the risk factors and any professional information in support of the referral to ensure full concerns are identified and discussed at the MARAC.

The referral will be identified by the MARAC Coordinator as an ‘initial’ referral if new to the MARAC process, or a ‘repeat’ case, if the victim has been discussed within the past 12 months.

The referring agency should where appropriate, discuss their concerns with the victim and seek to obtain their consent to share information with other agencies represented on the MARAC.
Referrals must be received at least 8 days prior to the next scheduled meeting in order that the MARAC Coordinator can prepare the relevant documentation to send out to all agencies.

The MARAC Coordinator will collate all referrals for each respective area and complete a case summary sheet. This will be sent to core attendees of the relevant MARAC seven days prior to the meeting. Other agencies will be invited on a case by case basis as appropriate and will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement.

b) Agency Reports

On receipt of the case summary, a MARAC Research Form should be completed by each agency in relation to each case where they have identified relevant information and returned to the MARAC Coordinator prior to the meeting. This information should include:

- Basic demographic information including any pseudonyms used and whether there are any children and any agencies currently working with the family;
- Information on key risk indicators;
- Any relevant history of domestic violence or other associated behaviour (child abuse, sexual assault, assault on public service staff) by the perpetrator;
- Any criminal damage or other criminal activity associated with domestic violence

The MARAC Meeting

Across North Yorkshire and the City of York MARACs are held either fortnightly or monthly. Contact the local Domestic Abuse Coordinator or MARAC Coordinator for details.

The Detective Inspectors from the Protecting Vulnerable Person Unit chair the MARACs. All agencies should be aware of the confidential nature of information discussed at the MARAC. The Chair will ensure a confidentiality statement is signed by all parties attending the MARAC. For each case the following will take place:

- The referring agency will share the concerns and risk for calling a MARAC
- The agency supporting the victim will share the victim's views.
- Agencies will share their information.
- Risk will be assessed, identifying what needs to change to ensure safety;
- Recommendations will be made based on this assessment of risk;
- Actions will be agreed to take forward the recommendations – Actions should be linked to desired outcomes, timescales and the lead agency for each.

The MARAC Coordinator will record minutes and actions pertaining to each case.
The Perpetrator

The perpetrator is not informed of the meeting or its safety plans. It is important that those taking part in the MARAC take care not to inadvertently inform the perpetrator of any element of the safety plan.

The Victim

The victim should be aware of the MARAC taking place and generally will have given consent for the information to be shared. Should the victim not give consent the MARAC can still take place, however, a document requires completion detailing the rationale for this decision. On occasion, for example when a perpetrator is due for release from prison, the victim may be unaware of the MARAC, however due to the risk it is necessary to hold the meeting.

After the MARAC, an elected person (usually the referrer) will update the victim on the safety plans.

After the meeting

Within 3 working days of the meeting the MARAC Coordinator will circulate actions and within 10 days the minutes. Agencies should provide their updates of their actions to the MARAC Coordinator.

Emergency MARAC meetings

An emergency MARAC is an exceptional event called when a victim is assessed as meeting the MARAC threshold and the risk of harm is so imminent that statutory agencies have a duty of care at once, rather than waiting for the next MARAC.

The process is:

- Initial referral from Agency to the MARAC Coordinator, recorded by both;
- Statutory partners are to be contacted at once;
- Non-statutory agencies will not be expected to attend unless they are the referring agency. However they may be contacted by phone or by secure email to check what information they have and where there are specific actions that they can address the risk;
- The MARAC will be held as soon as practicable; and
- Urgent actions should be executed immediately and the emergency MARAC should be prioritized as the next MARAC.
Appendix 2: MARAC Procedural Flowchart

**Agency**
- Identifies High Risk Domestic Abuse
- Completes CAADA Risk Assessment.
- Gains consent from victim
- Sends to MARAC Coordinator
- Supplies full details of agencies to be invited to MARAC

**MARAC Coordinator**
- Collates all Referral, Information Sharing Without Consent and CAADA risk assessment forms.

**Agency**
- Completes Research Form for victim, perpetrator and children. Information should be pertinent and relevant.
- Without exception, send Research Forms to MARAC Co-ordinator and present to

**MARAC Flowchart**
- Creates summary list of all cases with names, address, DoB for victim, perpetrator and children.
- Researches details on police systems.
- Sends out to core agencies and other invitees 7 days prior to the MARAC meeting.

**MARAC Meeting**
Representatives from all invited agencies attend and information is shared.
- Sends out actions within 3 working days and minutes within 10 working days

**Agency**
- Agencies note own actions and complete within agreed timescale
- Risk management actions agreed
- Inform MARAC Co-ordinator when actions are completed.

**MARAC Coordinator**
- Update Niche with completed actions.
Appendix 3 - Roles and Responsibilities

All Agencies will:
- Use a common risk assessment tool to determine consistent threshold for referral to MARAC
- Ensure consistent MARAC membership at a level of seniority to enable commitment of resources required to carry out action plans
- Bring pertinent and relevant information to the MARAC meeting
- Prior to MARAC, ensure research is submitted to MARAC Coordinator
- Complete actions as agreed at the meeting within set timescales and advising the MARAC Coordinator when complete.
- Retain responsibility to address any gaps in their agency’s response and to acknowledge this to the group
- Ensure they have procedures for the receipt and secure storage of MARAC related documents including minutes and that the process complies with confidentiality requirements

MARAC Chair will:
- Establish a process that addresses the safety of the highest risk victims of abuse.
- Encourage attendance from all partner agencies
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of participants
- Manage the MARAC meetings efficiently
- Ensure that all agencies have an opportunity to be heard at the meeting
- Identify who has brought information from the victim to ensure their views regarding their own safety are heard
- Facilitate creation of proactive safety plans where the risks and needs of victim, children and perpetrator are addressed by MARAC
- Identify the most appropriate person to inform the victim of any action plan or relevant information agreed at MARAC
- Ensure relevant data is recorded

MARAC Coordinator will:
- Establish effective communication between MARAC partner agencies
- Identify gaps in agency attendance and link with agencies to enable full participation in MARAC
- Organise secure sending of information to partner agencies
- Access databases and police systems to ensure accuracy of MARAC list prior to distribution
- Circulate MARAC list 7 days prior to MARAC meetings
- Produce accurate records of actions from MARAC meetings and distribute as soon as possible, but within 3 working days.
- Produce and circulate minutes within 10 working days of the meeting
- Record MARAC data to monitor effectiveness

Police will:
- Treat all domestic violence cases seriously and deal with them expeditiously in accordance with Force policy
- Ensure attending officers at a domestic violence incident complete MARAC risk indicator checklist
• Provide details of IDVA service to High Risk Domestic Violence victims and seek consent for referral
• Provide up to date intelligence to MARAC about the perpetrator and victim including bail conditions, impending prosecutions, warning markers and previous convictions
• Offer actions to increase victim safety and manage risks from perpetrators such as investigating offences discussed at MARAC if safe and appropriate to do so

**IDVA will:**
• Attempt to contact the victim before the meeting to ensure their views are represented
• Complete or review the risk assessment with the victim
• Ensure safety plans are in place at every stage of the case
• Inform the MARAC in relation to expertise on domestic violence
• Share up to date information on level of risk, barriers to accessing support for the victim, wishes of the victim, upcoming appointments and content of previous contacts
• Offer actions to support the victim through crisis, clarify their options, utilise the criminal and civil justice systems, and assist with accessing safe housing, signposting to other services

**Probation Service will:**
• Inform the MARAC about the dynamics of offender management
• Share up to date information about the risks posed by offenders in cases known to the service, this could include the offenders current state of mind, their patterns of offending, criminal history, license conditions and attendance on Community Domestic Violence Programme
• Offer actions to manage the risk posed by the offender or to facilitate contact with the victim such as using MARAC information to inform pre sentence report

**Children Services/Social Care will:**
• Inform the MARAC in relation to the safeguarding of children and young people
• Share up to date information including whether the case is known to Children’s Services, whether the child is subject to a protection plan, level of intervention, any assessments and outcomes
• Offer actions to increase the safety of children

**Housing/Homelessness Services will:**
• Inform the MARAC regarding housing issues and housing options
• Share up to date information on tenancies, arrears, repairs, feedback from neighbours/estates or anti social behaviour, as well as availability of housing stock across all tenures
• As well as availability of housing stock
• Offer actions on homelessness, sanctuary measures, arrears, moves, use of tenancy agreements to address perpetrator behaviour
• Identify safe and secure temporary accommodation as appropriate.
• Liaise with private landlords as appropriate

**Registered Social Landlords will:**
• Inform the MARAC regarding housing issues and housing options within the Registered Social Landlord’s remit.
• Share up to date information on tenancies, arrears, repairs, feedback from neighbours/estates or anti social behaviour as well as availability of housing stock
• Offer actions on sanctuary/security measures, arrears, moves and use of tenancy agreements to address perpetrator behaviour

Health Services will:
• Inform the MARAC in relation to health issues

Drug and Alcohol Services will:
• Inform the MARAC in relation to the impact of substance misuse and service provision
• Share up to date information on cases known to the service such as details on substance use, impact on behaviour and access to support
• Offer actions prioritising the provision of services

Specialist Domestic Violence Services will:
• Inform the MARAC about the dynamics of domestic violence and safety planning
• Share up to date information on cases known to the service such as the impact of abuse on the victim, the extent of the abuse and disclosures relating to risk
• Offer actions to support the victim through crisis, explore their options, facilitate attendance at drop ins or support groups to break down isolation, provide refuge accommodation, liaise and signpost to other agencies.

Sexual Violence’s Services will:
• Inform the MARAC in relation to the dynamics of sexual violence
• Share up to date information regarding cases known to the service which could include barriers to accessing support, information relating to serial perpetrators, unreported incidents of rape, upcoming appointments and content of previous contacts
• Offer actions such as forensic or therapeutic support or support through court processes

CAFCASS will:
• Inform the MARAC in relation to the interests of families involved in public or private law proceedings
• Share up to date information in the furtherance of child protection (without reference to the court) relating to court proceedings, residence and contact arrangements
• Offer actions, using discretion, to increase the safety of contact and residence arrangements
• Share up to date information including attendances, summary of injuries, whether domestic violence was disclosed
• Offer actions which ensure that responses to patients reflect their status as high risk victims such as enquiring further into causes of incidents, seeing patients alone at appointments, and assessing risks in relation to home visiting

Education will:
• Inform the MARAC regarding educational support
• Share up to date information about children, attendance, collection of child from school, any concerns
• Offer actions such as a safe venue to meet with victim, making school staff aware of the children's home situation

Adult Services (inc Safeguarding Adults Team) will:
• Inform the MARAC around care needs and service provision for vulnerable adults
• Share up to date information on current service provision to the household, any capacity issues, wishes of the vulnerable adult and carers
• Offer actions to safeguard vulnerable adults and provision of services

Mental Health Services will:
• Inform the MARAC in relation to expert knowledge around mental health issues
• Share up to date information relating to history of mental ill health and services the perpetrator/victim/children are receiving
• Offer actions to support victims and reduce risks from perpetrators through appropriate service provision
SIGNATORIES

North Yorkshire Police
Name………………………………….. Position…………………………………………
Date ………………………………….. Signature ………………………………………..

Children’s Social Care
Name………………………………….. Position…………………………………………
Date ………………………………….. Signature ………………………………………..

Adult’s Social Care
Name………………………………….. Position…………………………………………
Date ………………………………….. Signature ………………………………………..

Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor (IDVA)
Name………………………………….. Position…………………………………………
Date ………………………………….. Signature ………………………………………..

North Yorkshire Probation Service
Name………………………………….. Position…………………………………………
Date ………………………………….. Signature ………………………………………..

Victim Support
Name………………………………….. Position…………………………………………
Date ………………………………….. Signature ………………………………………..

Foundation
Name………………………………….. Position…………………………………………
Date ………………………………….. Signature ………………………………………..
North Yorkshire Safeguarding Board
Name…………………………………..Position………………………………………………
Date ........................................ Signature ..............................................................

York Safeguarding Board
Name…………………………………..Position………………………………………………
Date ........................................ Signature ..............................................................

Mental Health Services
Name…………………………………..Position………………………………………………
Date ........................................ Signature ..............................................................

Youth Justice Service
Name…………………………………..Position………………………………………………
Date ........................................ Signature ..............................................................

Domestic Abuse Services
Name…………………………………..Position………………………………………………
Date ........................................ Signature ..............................................................

Independent Domestic Abuse Services
Name…………………………………..Position………………………………………………
Date ........................................ Signature ..............................................................
Appendix 6:

Local Needs Analysis

The Local Picture

Information from the following sources has been collated to present a Local Needs Analysis for the Local Authority Areas of North Yorkshire and York:

- The North Yorkshire and York Police June 2011 produced a Domestic Abuse Problem Profile through analysing multi-agency data and research to assist partners in providing strategic and tactical guidance.
- Incident and Crime data provided by the Corporate Performance Team North Yorkshire Police.
- Client data from North Yorkshire County Council’s Supporting People.
- North Yorkshire County Council’s Children and Young People’s Service.

The assessment indicates the following:

Domestic Abuse Data

- Domestic Violence statistics for 2012-13 show that on average 566 domestic abuse incidents are recorded per month in North Yorkshire, and 206 incidents are recorded per month in York. The average for North Yorkshire in 2013-14 is 605, and 237 in York.

Incidents with a domestic indicator 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Qtr 1</th>
<th>Qtr 2</th>
<th>Qtr 3</th>
<th>Qtr 4</th>
<th>Total 2013/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Yorkshire</td>
<td>1750</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>1644</td>
<td>7262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>2849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>2423</td>
<td>2746</td>
<td>2608</td>
<td>2334</td>
<td>10111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Crimes with a domestic indicator 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Qtr 1</th>
<th>Qtr 2</th>
<th>Qtr 3</th>
<th>Qtr 4</th>
<th>Total 2013/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Yorkshire</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>2046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>2852</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where there was at least one arrest made in relation to the incident/crime 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Qtr 1</th>
<th>Qtr 2</th>
<th>Qtr 3</th>
<th>Qtr 4</th>
<th>Total 2013/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North York</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>1698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>576</strong></td>
<td><strong>594</strong></td>
<td><strong>610</strong></td>
<td><strong>585</strong></td>
<td><strong>2365</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In April 2014 -15 there were 819 incidents with a domestic indicator, of these 30% were crimed, 20% involved an arrest and 35% were repeat incidents.
- In 2012-13, 29% of all incidents were classed as a ‘repeat incident’ where a previous incident has been reported by the same victim within the last 12 months. Currently the average for 2013-14 is 23%, which is positive as it represents a slight decline in repeat incidents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012-13</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Repeats</th>
<th>% Repeats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Craven</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hambleton</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrogate</td>
<td>1591</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmondshire</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryedale</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarborough</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selby</td>
<td>1030</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York</td>
<td>2476</td>
<td>851</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9268</strong></td>
<td><strong>2702</strong></td>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 April – October</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Repeats</th>
<th>% Repeats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Craven</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hambleton</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrogate</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmondshire</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryedale</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarborough</td>
<td>1311</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selby</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4287</strong></td>
<td><strong>982</strong></td>
<td><strong>23</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Richmondshire, Craven and Ryedale continue to experience the least volume of domestic incidents. This has been attributed to the low density of population compared with other districts within North Yorkshire, but also to the reluctance, inability or lack of awareness in victim reporting due to the potential isolation of some rural residents.

**MARAC**

Multi Agency working is key to tackling the complex issues associated with domestic abuse and in particular those cases that are perceived as ‘high risk’. Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) are multi-agency meetings where information on high risk domestic abuse victims is shared between local public agencies. By bringing all agencies together to share information, a coordinated safety plan can be put together to support the victim and reduce risk.\(^1\)

The purpose of MARAC is to combine in a single meeting relevant up to date risk information with a comprehensive assessment of the victim’s needs and link those directly to the provision of appropriate services for high risk cases of domestic abuse: considering the need and risk factors around the victim, any children and the perpetrator. The North Yorkshire & York MARAC Protocol sets out the terms of reference for MARACs in North Yorkshire and York and provides guidance for agencies represented in this process. CAADA (Coordinated Action against Domestic Abuse), a national charity supporting multi agency responses to domestic abuse, quality assessed MARAC. MARAC administration, aligned to the CAADA quality assurance programme, aims to provide practical support to the process and data for monitoring and evaluation.

An independent analysis published in 2010 ‘Saving lives, saving money: MARACs and High Risk Domestic Abuse’ concluded that for every £1 spent on MARAC’s at least £6 of public money can be saved annually.

Since being in operation MARACs have contributed to the following success (not exclusive):

- Reduction in repeat victimisation
- A more coordinated approach to domestic abuse
- Prevent cases of domestic homicides
- Improved victim satisfaction and victim safety
- The Criminal Justice Service (CJS) now recognise MARAC cases to be significant when prosecuting cases and when considering bail applications/variations

\(^1\) [http://www.idas.org.uk](http://www.idas.org.uk)
### MARAC data

MARAC data, assessed by financial year, indicates that the overall number of MARAC cases within North Yorkshire has increased annually since 2010-11. Levels within Hambleton/Richmondshire and Selby record an increasing annual trend. Scarborough/Ryedale is the only area where levels have continually decreased since 2010-11. Overall, the highest number of MARAC cases are recorded within Scarborough and Ryedale - these areas are recognised as having the highest recorded levels of domestic incidents within North Yorkshire. The figure is also high – and increasing – in the City of York.

### NYP referrals

NYP referrals into the MARAC process have steadily decreased over the past three years - from almost two-thirds of referrals in 2010-11 to a current level of just under half. This suggests that the comprehensive awareness training targeted at partner / agency staff across the City of York and North Yorkshire is likely being realised. This decrease is mirrored across all areas. The voluntary sector have remained the second most frequent referring agency; for 2012-2013 this equated to 27% of all referrals, whilst NYP equated to 46%.

### Repeat referrals

For an effective MARAC, CAADA would anticipate the level of repeat referrals to be in the range of 28 to 40 per cent - this recommended repeat range is based upon an analysis of several years of data. For 2012-13, 1851 cases were classed as ‘repeat cases’ (15%).

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2 Supplied by Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA)
Making Safe (Perpetrator Element) is a programme which aims to improve the safety of victims and children through removing the perpetrator from the home and providing accommodation and support to address their offending behaviour. This is the only Countywide perpetrator programme available and won the Butler Trust Award for innovative work with offenders in 2008. As part of the award the scheme has been evaluated by Aberystwyth University.

**Making Safe Perpetrator Programme 2012/13**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2012/13</th>
<th>2013/14 to date (up to end quarter 3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>York</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrogate</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craven</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryedale</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarborough</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hambleton / Richmond</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selby</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>267</strong></td>
<td><strong>208</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 83% of perpetrators during 2012 are male. Those aged between 22 and 27 years are most prevalent - peaking at 26 years. A smaller, second peak occurs when males are in their mid-fourties. There is a noticeable decrease in male perpetrators post 50 years. 4% of perpetrators are non-UK citizens. Specific information with regard to country of origin, for example Poland, would enable the analyst to examine domestic abuse within isolated communities in more detail.

- Female perpetrators are predominantly in their 20s with numbers decreasing as decades progress. No specific primary age grouping can be identified – any peaks in specific ages are difficult to establish because of the sporadic nature of the data. In 2011, female perpetrators were identified predominantly as older, aged between 30 and 39 years. As per male victims, the shift towards the younger age group could be significant. Generally, the number of female perpetrators decreases post 53 years. Current 2013 data suggests a similar number of female perpetrators by year end as that of 2012.
• 395 repeat perpetrators have been identified as linked to two or more domestic abuse incidents during 2012. A number continue to commit offences during 2013. 12 perpetrators are linked to in excess of 5 incidents - all of the latter, aside from 1 perpetrator, are male. The female is also shown as a victim of domestic abuse. The majority of these perpetrators are resident within York followed by Selby.

• The 2013 Problem Profile ‘Effects of Domestic Abuse on Children and Young People’ highlighted an increasing national trend of familial domestic abuse, in particular child-on-parent abuse. Although statistically, this trend was not evident within the City of York and North Yorkshire, anecdotally there were reports from local agencies that this pattern was becoming more apparent. Recent local interventions by IDAS and DAS suggest an increase in teenage female perpetrators targeting mothers.

Young person arrest data 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of Young Person</th>
<th>NY</th>
<th></th>
<th>York</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Q3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 and under</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above data shows where a young person was arrested following a domestic violence incident, this does not necessarily mean they were the perpetrator however they were involved in the incident. For example one young person involved in a domestic abuse incident involving the whole family was arrested for breach of the peace.

VICTIMS

Making Safe Cost Benefit Analysis

In North Yorkshire the services provided for victims/survivors by specialist domestic abuse agencies are commissioned by Supporting People and are called Making Safe. These services can provide support for victims and children regardless of whether the perpetrator is also known to Making Safe services. During 2012/13 Making Safe had 315 service users. In 2013/14 there have been 317 service users. It is estimated that on average a week long stay in a domestic abuse refuge costs £426.93, therefore if Making Safe did not exist a minimum of £134,482.95 extra would have been spent on refuge stays in 2012/13, and £135,336.81 in 2013/14. This figure only calculates the cost of victims staying in a refuge for one week, in reality the actual figure would be much higher dependent on the length of stay.

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³ DAS
stay. This figure does not take into account any additional optional support that the victim may choose to receive.

Formal support includes outreach victim services and accommodation. Providers also provide a triage service which may include phone conversations, signposting to other services or provision of short term information and support.

The North Yorkshire and York strategic partnership define triage as:

**Low level triage**: Clients receiving one off support of any kind either face to face or by telephone and to include those that refuse further service but may still receive some safety advice / signposting. This could include any clients that did not attend a subsequent appointment but may have received some initial advice when contact was first made

**Intensive triage**: Clients that receive support on more than one occasion either face to face or by telephone, to include those clients who can refuse full-service but continue to receive intensive triage up to 4 months.

In 2012-13, North Yorkshire & York’s Supporting People Services recorded that 1450 service users accessed support from a specialist domestic abuse service. This includes 767 people who were provided with a short term ‘triage’ service:

| **Clients Accessing North Yorkshire Supporting People Domestic Abuse Services 2010-2013** |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| **District**             | **2010-11**               | **2011-12**               | **2012-13**               | **2013-14 Up to end Q3** |
|                         | Formal Support | Triage | Total | % of total | Formal Support | Triage | Total | % of total | Formal Support | Triage | Total | % of total | Formal Support | Triage | Total | % of total |
| Hambleton / R’shire     | 113           | 20     | 133   | 11.7      | 49            | 38     | 87    | 7.3      | 102           | 47     | 149   | 10.27     | 90            | 54     | 144   | 12.53     |
| Scarborough / Ryedale   | 154           | 32     | 186   | 16.37     | 136           | 168    | 304   | 25.5     | 117           | 296    | 413   | 28.48     | 115           | 183    | 298   | 25.93     |
| Harrogate               | 85            | 21     | 106   | 9.33      | 98            | 77     | 175   | 14.69    | 90            | 84     | 174   | 12        | 67            | 71     | 138   | 12.01     |
| Craven                  | 60            | 29     | 89    | 7.83      | 73            | 46     | 119   | 9.91     | 59            | 53     | 112   | 7.72      | 40            | 48     | 88    | 7.65      |
| Selby                   | 290           | 62     | 352   | 30.98     | 167           | 54     | 221   | 18.55    | 78            | 97     | 175   | 12.06     | 60            | 75     | 135   | 11.74     |
| York                    | 119           | 151    | 270   | 23.75     | 164           | 121    | 285   | 23.92    | 237           | 190    | 427   | 29.44     | 171           | 175    | 346   | 30.11     |
| Total                   | 821           | 315    | 1136  | 100       | 687           | 504    | 1191  | 100      | 683           | 767    | 1450  | 100       | 5343          | 606    | 1149  | 100       |
Age of Victim

An analysis of the age of victims (where known) has been completed to inform the distribution of resources and our understanding of the most at risk groups:

- 20-24 years has remained the most common age of victims from 2010-present at 16.3% of all victims recorded. 25-29 years is the second most common age group.

- The number of under 18 year olds being recorded as a victim of domestic abuse has increased from 1.9% in 2010 to 3.4% in 2013-2014 (up to September). This may reflect the changing national definition of abuse to include those aged 16 and 17. 18 to 19 year olds have been the third most common age group over this time period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grouping</th>
<th>2010-2011</th>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2012-2013</th>
<th>2013-2014 to Sep</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 18</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-44</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-49</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-54</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age of Victim 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grouping</th>
<th>Number of Reported Incidents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-25</td>
<td>796</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35</td>
<td>1057</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45</td>
<td>792</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46-55</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-60</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-65</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Children and Young People

Domestic abuse between other family members can have a significant impact on children and young people, with research also reporting an overlap between the abuse of the non-abusing parent and the abuse of children⁴.

- 70% of victims accessing IDVA services have children (Howarth et al., 2009)
- 1 in every 4 (27%) victims accessing IDVA services who have children report that they are fearful of their children being harmed (Howarth et al. 2009)
- 1 in every 10 victims (11%) accessing IDVA services report that threats have been made to kill their children (Howarth et al., 2009)⁵
- The risk of domestic violence for women is nearly doubled where children are present (ref?)
- Children exposed to domestic abuse within the family are more likely to experience direct abuse or neglect (Brandon et al, 2008)⁶. The perpetrators may abuse the child as part of their violence against women
- Witnessing violence to their mothers may have an abusive and detrimental impact on the children concerned. About two-thirds of child witnesses were not fairing as well as the average child⁷
- There is a strong correlation between domestic violence and child maltreatment⁸
- Children can experience domestic violence in many ways: -
  - seeing the violence or hearing shouts, screams and crying from another room

---

⁷ ‘The Impact Domestic Violence has on Children and Young People’ - Presentation by Professor Marianne Hester, University of Bristol
- witnessing the outcomes and impacts of violence, such as cuts or bruises and the emotional impact on the abused parent
- intervening between the abuser and other person, sometimes getting physically hurt in the process
- being deliberately injured in order to terrorise the non-abusive parent

North Yorkshire Children and Young People’s Services

Children’s Social Care

- Children’s Social Care is the primary statutory organisation contacted by members of the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Units after review of the F174s - this is the only organisation where referral can be made without a victim’s consent.
- Children’s Social Care is the primary statutory organisation contacted by members of the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Units after review of the F174s - this is the only organisation where referral can be made without a victim’s consent.
Table 5 Domestic Abuse Referrals to Children’s Social Care

### Referral Sources 2013-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Count of N1a referrals</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A - Family member/relative/carer</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D - Other Individual (e.g. Councillor, MP)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A - Schools</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A - Primary Health - GP</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B- Primary Health - Health Visitor</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C - School Nurse</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D - Primary Health - Community Nurse</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D - Primary Health - Other Professional</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3E - Health Services, A&amp;E (Emergency Department)</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3F - Health Services - Other (eg, Hospice, Ward)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - Housing Association</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A - Internal Dept (CSC)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B - Same LA - Education</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B - Same LA - Other Directorate</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B - Youth Justice</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C - Other Local Authority</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - Police</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - Courts</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - Other Legal Agency (Immigration, CAFCASS, Prison)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - Probation</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - Central Government Agency</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - Children’s Centre</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - Forces Family Officer</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - Independent Sector Provider</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - Voluntary Agency</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - Anonymous</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - Not Known</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Agency (Court, Police, Probation)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>963</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The majority of referrals (53%) continue to come from the Police. This represents a slight increase on the figure for 2012/13 of 46%. 14% of total referrals came from Health Services or professionals, a similar rate as for the previous year. The remaining referrals are spread fairly widely over a range of sources, and the rate of referrals from these sources continues to remain broadly similar to 2012/13.
Appendix 7:

Information Sharing

It is recognised that for the purposes of this strategy it is necessary for all parties to share information which constitutes ‘personal data’ and ‘sensitive personal data’ under the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Information shared through our partnership structure and to inform the delivery of this strategy must:
• have lawful authority
• be necessary
• be proportionate

Depersonalised information is defined as any information which is provided to another partner in a format where it is no longer possible to identify an individual. Whenever possible the use of depersonalised or aggregated information should be considered. This may assist with strategic planning processes of the partners and provide quantitative information.

The following criteria will apply:
• No attempt must be made to identify an individual through the provision of depersonalised information
• Information must not be released to those with a commercial interest in their use
• Arrangements must be made for the secure storage of such information
• Information should be destroyed when it is no longer required
• Verification will be made that the information does not conflict with corporate statistics generated by the relevant partner

In terms of general information governance, partners must adhere to the principles of the Information Commissioner’s Data Sharing Code of Practice, the General Framework for Information Sharing in North Yorkshire and York and their own organisation’s policies and procedures.

The North Yorkshire and York Multi-Agency risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Protocol recognises that a key element of effective public protection and safeguarding practice is the sharing of accurate, relevant and up to date information between agencies that can be used to effectively identify, assess and manage the risk of individual persons.

This agreement takes into account the following legislation:

(a) The Data Protection Act 1998 (the processing of personal information)

(b) The Human Rights Act 1998, Articles 2, 3 and 8 for the rights of life, to be free from torture and the right to have a private life without suffering violence

(c) Race Relations Amendment Act 2000

(d) Section 325 Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Duty to co-operate)
The following legislation, codes of practice and guidance will also be relevant.

(a) Common Law Duty of Confidence (Social Services, medical profession, patient confidentiality, Police, Nurses, Health Visitors and Midwives)
(b) The Freedom of Information Act 2000
(c) The Mental Health Act 1983 (The Health Sector)
(d) Health and Social Care Act 2001 (For Health/Social Services)
(e) Children Act 1989
(f) NHS and Community Care Act 1990
(g) Sections 37 and 39 Crime and Disorder Act 1998
(h) Adoption and Children Act 2002.

The Children Act 2004 notes that domestic abuse is a child protection/safeguarding issue and as such information sharing about such children is provided for within the Data Protection Act 1998, Schedules Two and Three.

Where consent cannot be obtained to share information or consent is refused or where seeking it may undermine the prevention, detection, or prosecution of a crime (Crime and Disorder Act 1998) the practitioner must judge from the facts whether there is enough public interest. A concern in relation to protecting adults from serious harm or preventing crime and disorder are all well within public interest.

Sharing confidential information without consent will normally be justified in the public interest:

- When there is evidence or reasonable cause to believe that an individual (child or adult) is suffering, or is at risk of suffering, significant harm;
- To prevent significant harm to a child or serious harm to an adult, including through the prevention, detection and prosecution of serious crime.
Contact us

Jane Mowat, Head of Community Safety, City of York Council.
Tel: 01904 555742  Mob: 07984496352

Gill Warner, Commissioning and Development Manager (Health and Adult Services), NYCC
Tel: 01609 536903

North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD
Our Customer Service Centre is open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 5.30pm (closed weekends and bank holidays).
Tel: 01609 780780  email: customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk
Or visit our website at: www.northyorks.gov.uk

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Tel: 01609 780780  Email: communications@northyorks.gov.uk