



Safeguarding Partnership Board

Terms of Reference - Domestic Abuse Sub-Group

1. Introduction

The experience of agencies, both statutory and non-statutory, over many years, together with associated statistical and anecdotal records confirms that Domestic Abuse continues to be an area of concern in Jersey.

The Domestic-Abuse sub-group of the Safeguarding Partnership Board will continue to develop and monitor the effectiveness of both the strategic and operational multi-agency activities in this area.

2. Purpose of the Sub Group

The role of the Domestic Abuse Sub Group (updated in July 2018) is to agree and deliver an annual work programme that delivers the Board's Business Plan and in doing so:

- To develop, publish and regularly update a Domestic Abuse Strategy for Jersey which will result in better outcomes for victims and families and in the earlier identification of abuse.
- To ensure that the Domestic Abuse work plan is fully and effectively implemented and to capture and report on performance against agreed and stated outcomes.
- To continue to build on and maintain a clear understanding of the available range and nature of services to both support victims in Jersey and address the behaviour of perpetrators of abuse, understand what the gaps in service and provision are and work collectively to identify ways of addressing such gaps.
- To develop and promote a greater understanding of the issue of domestic abuse in Jersey.
- To keep up to date with developments outside the Island (including legislative developments) in order to maximise learning opportunities and to identify actions that it might be appropriate to adopt.
- To commission Domestic Homicide Reviews where appropriate to do so.

3. Value Base

The Domestic Abuse sub-group members will ensure that policies and procedures reflect a consistent value base in regard to the principles of:

- safeguarding is **everyone's responsibility**: for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part (Working Together 2018) **and**
- a **people-centred approach**: for services to be effective they should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and views of adults and children.
- **anti discriminatory and anti oppressive practice** demonstrated through mutual respect and sensitivity to the diversity of children and adults circumstance and backgrounds in respect to age, gender, physical or mental ability, culture, religion, language, sexual orientation or socio-economic status
- **confidentiality, data protection and information sharing** - the DA S-G members will work within the agreed MOU and SPB Information Sharing Protocol
'Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the need to promote the welfare and protect the safety of children' (Working together 2015)

4. Membership

4.1 The Domestic Abuse Sub-Group will be chaired by a full member of the Safeguarding Partnership Board, plus members from agencies/ services which may include:

Family Nursing & Home Care

Health and Community Services

Children, Young People, Education and Skills

States of Jersey Police

Primary Care

Jersey Women's Refuge

Victim Support

Probation

Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

Social Security

Housing – Strategic and Providers

Representatives will be drawn from a broad range of services and do not have to be members of the Safeguarding Partnership Board.

4.2 The Domestic Abuse Sub-Group may co-opt, as appropriate, additional members on a temporary basis in order to access specialist skills and knowledge which will assist the work of the group. Members of the sub-group may name substitutes, who will have the same responsibilities as the sub-group member for whom they are substituting.

4.3 Member responsibility

- The Sub group members will keep up to date with any emerging procedural issues in their agency, and within the field of adult Safeguarding generally.
- The Sub group members will develop and contribute to joint working protocols.
- The Sub group members will exercise their responsibility to be a conduit of information between the Board and agencies/services
- The Sub group members will attend regularly (attendance at sub-group is monitored and reported)

5. Decision Making and Accountability

5.1 To be quorate, attendance must include as a minimum:

- the Chair and
- and at least 5 other members or their substitutes from different services/agencies

5.2 The Sub Group will conduct business on a consensual basis.

5.3 Members of the sub-group are accountable to each other and the Board for completion of actions as required for the delivery of the sub-group work programme.

6. Administration

The Sub-Group Chair will ensure, with the support of the SPB Officer, that:

- the Sub-Group meets at least quarterly on dates to be agreed in advance or at such other intervals as may be agreed by members
- the agenda is circulated prior to the meetings and meeting notes are taken, circulated to members with copies being retained and stored by the Chair
- meeting notes are agreed as a permanent record at the following meeting.