Strategy for the Provision of Support within Safe Accommodation 2022-2025 Isle of Wight Council

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Strategy for the Provision of Support within Safe Accommodation 2022-2025 Isle of Wight Council

1. Context

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 ('The Act')ⁱ introduces a broad range of new measures designed to strengthen the UK response to domestic abuse, including a new statutory definition of domestic abuse incorporating a range of behaviours not limited to physical violence.

Part 4 of the Act places a duty on each tier one local authority in England to:

- Assess the need for accommodation-based support for victims of domestic abuse (and their children) in their area.
- Prepare and publish a strategy for the provision of such support in their area, with regard to the needs assessment by 5 January 2022.

This is Isle of Wight Council's (IWC) first strategy for the provision of support in safe accommodation. The IWC has undertaken a needs assessmentⁱⁱ to inform this strategy which sets out how IWC, in partnership with members of the new board (To be established), will explore ways to improve the offer of support in safe accommodation - to meet identified need - over a three-year period, taking into consideration any available and approved expenditure of new burden funding.

2. Introduction

Domestic abuse (DA) is an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence. Whilst both men and women experience domestic abuse, it disproportionately affects women, who are more likely to be repeat victims and to sustain long-term emotional damage from the abuse they experience. Furthermore, women experience a greater severity of abuse, are significantly more likely to fear injury or death, and substantially more likely to be killed in a domestic or family contextⁱⁱⁱ

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (the Act) aims to transform the national response to DA by:

- preventing offending, protecting survivors and children, and ensuring they have access to support.
- placing a range of duties on statutory agencies, such as local authorities and criminal justice system agencies; and,
- requiring relevant local authorities to establish a DA multi-agency partnership board, carry out a safe accommodation needs assessment and publish a strategy for the provision of accommodation-based support in their areas by January 2022.

This duty under the Act is separate to local authority housing duties under the Housing Act 1996 and Homelessness Act 2002. The Act does not place a requirement on authorities to provide domestic abuse victims with accommodation, but to assess the need for accommodation-based support and develop a strategy to meet that need. The duties outlined in Part 4 apply to safe accommodation which is defined in statutory guidance^{iv} accompanying the Act as:

- **Refuge accommodation** a refuge offers single gender or single sex accommodation and domestic abuse support which is tied to that accommodation.
- Specialist safe accommodation specialist safe accommodation offering single gender or single sex accommodation, alongside dedicated domestic abuse support which is tailored to also support those who share particular protected characteristic(s) and / or who share one or more vulnerabilities requiring additional support. Accommodation may be in shared or self-contained housing.

Dispersed accommodation:

- i. Safe (secure and dedicated to supporting victims of domestic abuse), self-contained accommodation with a similar level of specialist domestic abuse support as provided within a refuge but which may be more suitable for victims who are unable to stay in a refuge with communal spaces, and/or where peer support from other residents may not be appropriate, due to complex support needs, or where older teenage sons cannot be accommodated in a woman only refuge, for example. Where two or more units share any part of the accommodation, including shared hallways or access routes, provision should be single gender or single sex.
- ii. Safe (secure and dedicated to supporting victims of domestic abuse), self-contained 'semi-independent' accommodation which is not within a refuge but with support for victims who may not require the intensive support offered through refuge, but are still at risk of abuse from their perpetrator/s. Where two or more units share any part of the accommodation, including shared hallways or access routes, provision should be single gender or single sex.
- Sanctuary Schemes properties with local authority or private registered providers
 of social housing installed Sanctuary Schemes which provide enhanced physical
 security measures to a home or the perimeter of the home. A Sanctuary Scheme
 is a survivor centred initiative which aims to make it possible for victims of
 domestic abuse to remain in their own homes, where it is safe for them to do so,
 where it is their choice, and where the perpetrator does not live in the
 accommodation. The Whole Housing Approach Toolkit on Sanctuary
 Schemes provides further information.
- Second stage accommodation accommodation temporarily provided to
 victims, including their children, who are moving on from other forms of relevant
 accommodation and/or who no longer need the intensive level of support provided
 in a refuge, but would still benefit from a lower level of domestic abuse specific
 support for a period before they move to fully independent and settled
 accommodation. Where second stage accommodation is in shared housing it
 should be single gender or single sex.
- Other forms of domestic abuse emergency accommodation a safe place (single gendered or single sex, secure and dedicated to supporting victims of domestic abuse) with domestic abuse support tied to the accommodation to enable victims to make informed decisions when leaving a perpetrator and seeking safe accommodation. For example, short term (e.g. 2-3 weeks) accommodation providing victims with the space and safety to consider and make informed decisions about the options available to them.

The IWC has been provided with funding for 2021/22 by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) to carry out its duties under the Act by commissioning services to meet the need for support in safe accommodation in its area. In the spirit of the New Burdens Doctrine, the new duty will be funded in future years. The amount of funding from April 2022 will be a matter for the next Spending Review.

Actions by IWC and its partners will enhance existing services, pathways and structures and improve the gathering of data and intelligence. There are opportunities to make links between Part 4 of the Act and other areas, especially those that relate to housing.

3. Vision

To ensure everyone on the island has the chance to live safely without fear of being harmed by domestic abuse.

4. National Context^v

Domestic abuse is a unique crime type. Whilst it is common, it is often hidden and therefore difficult to quantify. However, the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) estimated that 2.3 million adults aged 16 to 74 years had experienced domestic abuse in the year ending March 2020 viOver 40% of victims of partner abuse have at least one child under the age of 16 years old living in the householdvii, and Childhood Local Data on Risks and Needs estimated that 66 in 1,000 0-17 year olds lived in households where a parent is suffering domestic abuse in 2019.

The police recorded a total of 1,288,018 domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes in England and Wales (excluding Greater Manchester Police)^{viii} in the year ending March 2020. This is an increase of 4% from the previous year. This follows a broader pattern of increases in police recorded domestic abuse and may reflect general improvements in crime recording by the police. This suggests that more victims are coming forward to report domestic abuse, and that there is greater police awareness of this crime. Excluding fraud, overall, 15% of all police recorded crime was identified as domestic abuse related in the last year.^{ix}

Domestic abuse can affect anyone, regardless of age, disability, gender identity, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. Domestic abuse can also manifest itself in specific ways within different communities.

The CSEW for the year ending March 2020 estimated that 1.6 million females and 757,000 males aged 16 to 74 years experienced domestic abuse in that year. According to the CSEW for the year ending March 2020, around one in four women aged 16 to 74 (27.6%) had been a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime. 274 women were killed in domestic homicides between April 2016 and March 2019. In 263 cases (96%) the suspect was male-X According to the CSEW for the year ending March 2020 around one in seven men aged 16 to 74 (13.8%) had been a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime. 83 men were killed in domestic homicides between April 2016 and March 2019. In 44 cases (53%) the suspected perpetrator of these homicides was male.Xi

Research published by the Home Office has estimated the social and economic costs of domestic abuse in the region of £66 billion for the victims identified in England and Wales within the year 2016/17. The biggest component of the estimated cost is the physical and emotional harms incurred by victims (£47 billion), particularly the emotional harms (the fear, anxiety and depression experienced by victims because of domestic abuse), which account for the overwhelming majority of the overall costs. The cost to the economy is also considerable, with an estimated £14 billion arising from lost output due to time off work and reduced productivity because of domestic abuse.

There are also additional barriers to services experienced by victims from protected groups and those experiencing multiple disadvantages. Black, Asian and ethnic minority women, women with insecure immigration status, deaf and disabled women and LGBT victims will experience further barriers when accessing services. Similarly, the co-occurrence of homelessness, drug and alcohol use, criminal justice system involvement and mental health will often mean that victims will face huge challenges when seeking support.

5. Local Context

The Isle of Wight ('The Island') lies off the coast of Mainland England and spans an area of 147 square miles. It has a population of around 141,771^{xii}, with a split of about 49% to 51 % women to men, broadly similar to that in England as a whole. The vast majority of the Island's population (96.8%) are White British, although there are some signs of a gradual diversification, with the non-white population more than doubling from 1.3% in 2001 to 2.7% in 2011^{xiii}.

The Island has greater proportion of older residents (those aged 65 and over) than both the South East and England and Wales. It is anticipated that this will increase significantly over the next 10 years, exacerbated by the number of those aged 60-74 migrating to the Island. Like other coastal areas of England, the Isle of Wight is a popular retirement destination^{xiv}, but its aging population puts increasing pressure on local health and social care resources. In keeping with its older population, the Island has a higher proportion of people living with health problems or disabilities than both the South East and England and Wales as a whole^{xv}. It also has a significantly higher percentage of people with learning disabilities (known to their GPs) than most other comparable areas^{xvi}.

The availability of affordable housing in the local area is a major issue, with house prices on the Island at 7 times the annual wage, and demand for social housing far exceeding supply. Some 21% of all local children are classed as being in relative poverty^{xvii}, and the institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) has identified the Island as one of the **two most vulnerable** areas in England post COVID-19, across all domains of vulnerability (health-related, labour market and family). This is reflective of the elderly population, reliance on tourism and hospitality and concentrated pockets of socio-economic deprivation^{xviii}.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales^{xix} showed that an estimated 2.3 million adults aged 16 to 74 years experienced domestic abuse in the last year (1.6 million women and 757,000 men), a slight but non-significant decrease from the previous year

The police recorded 758,941 domestic abuse-related crimes in England and Wales (excluding Greater Manchester Police)1, an increase of 9% from the previous year; this continues an ongoing trend that may reflect improved recording by the police alongside increased reporting by victims

Referrals of suspects of domestic abuse-flagged cases from the police to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) for a charging decision fell 19% to 79,965, from 98,470 in the year ending March 2019.

The police recorded 1,867 incidents of domestic abuse on the Isle of Wight between October 2019 and September 2020, representing an increase of 204 from the previous year. In the most recent annual data set (April 2020-March 2021), this figure remained steady, with 1,879 incidents of domestic abuse reported to police. Since their introduction in 2011, 3 Domestic Homicide Reviews have been published on the Isle of Wight.

In keeping with the national picture, the vast majority (90.8%) of offenders with a domestic abuse flag were male, and in the majority of cases (68%), the perpetrator was a current or expartner, which is similar to previous years' figures. The figure for parents as victims was 6.2%, also the same as the previous year. Well over a third of incidents (37%) were repeats^{xx}.

Data from Safelives indicates the Isle of Wight Multi Agency Risk Assessment. Conference (MARAC) has a rate of 38 cases per 10,000 adult females compared to a national average of 41, with a repeat level of 19%, which is below both the national average of 31% and the Safelives recommendation of between 28 and 40%. Data appears to indicate cases rose by 36% year on year in 2020, compared to a national rise of 6%. However, Hampshire shows the same percentage rise over the same period and there are questions around robustness of the data. Despite this rise in high-risk cases, the use of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS), also known as 'Claire's Law', more than halved in 2020 when compared with the previous year^{xxi}.

In the 2020-21 year, 150 children in the locality were subject to Child Protection Plans with the secondary category of domestic abuse. There was a significant increase in these figures across the last two reporting quarters (57 children from April-September and 93 from October to March), with 37% of the total recorded in Q4 (January to March 2021)

This increase in numbers is likely to be due to the prolonged lockdown followed by children returning to school, and Children's social care recruited additional agency social workers ahead of the lockdown easing to be ready for this expected increase. Overall, the numbers of children subject to child protection planning on the Island has increased by 49% since the start of the pandemic and the average caseload of a social worker has increased from 19 to 22 in the same period.

Local police data also indicates that in the year ending March 2020, 42 children from the Island were recorded as 'perpetrators' in that they had used abusive behaviour or violence towards their parents within the context of Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (APVA).

6. Strategic Priorities

The strategic priorities are based on the findings from the strategic needs' assessment and is structured around four key themes: Prevention, Protection, Provision and Partnerships.

PREVENT	PROTECT
Preventing violence and abuse through early intervention and education	Providing support that keeps individuals and their families safe from harm
PROVISION	PARTNERSHIPS
Survivors have access to a range of	Develop and embed Coordinated

7. Strategic Objectives and Measuring Success

Ob	jective	Indicator 1	Indicator 2	Indicator 3
1)	Preventing violence and abuse through early intervention and education	% Decrease in number of repeat offences of domestic abuse, including offences by Persistent Prolific Offenders	% Decrease in the number of Children in Need planning and reviews where domestic abuse is a concern	% decrease in risk for survivors accessing accommodation related support
2)	Survivors have access to a range of appropriate housing options and support services, which increase safety and prevent homelessness.	% increase in survivors who report they were able to access the right support, at the right time	% increase in survivors successfully maintaining settled accommodation	% increase provision to survivors by up to 20% of Sanctuary support as part of homelessness prevention
3)	To shape the support within safe accommodation to ensure it is fit for purpose and ensure practitioners are operating at and safe accommodation meets, the relevant quality standards.	% increase of housing providers who are DAHA accredited	% staff report increased confidence in areas of their practice as a result of training, improved communications and increased awareness	% increase in survivors with Protected Characteristics / those underrepresented accessing services
4)	Lived experience shapes service design and delivery	% reduction in declined referrals to refuge due to lack of space	% increase in survivors supported via Managed Reciprocal	% Accommodation providers prioritise the maintenance of accommodation for survivors
5)	Develop and embed Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse	% reduction in multiple moves / waiting times for settled accommodation	% increase in number of survivors who retain security of tenure as a result of seeking safety	% increase in identification of DA within housing settings % increase in referrals to DA services from housing settings
6)	Hold perpetrators to account whilst providing opportunity for change and support	% increase in the number of perpetrators engaged in services	% increase in successful completions	

8. Governance

The Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board will be responsible for monitoring our progress against the forthcoming Strategic Action Plan to be developed in partnership with wider stakeholders in early 2022. As well as this, the aim of the Board will be to continue to secure high level commitment to the strategy across multiple agencies and ensure that domestic abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is included in wider policy and strategy developments across the IOW. Underneath this, we will form a small number of working groups to drive forward change in specific areas of the strategy. These will be short-term and focused groups of multi-agency professionals, formed to address a particular issue, need or challenge as it arises.

The focus and membership of these groups will be decided by the Domestic Abuse and VAWG Partnership Board. We will establish a Service User Advisory Group that will be responsible for providing scrutiny of the strategy, feedback on services, and co-production of campaigns, training, and tools.

The Domestic Abuse Partnership Board will be accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board. It will also report to the IOW Safeguarding Children's and Adults Boards and Community Safety Partnership.

9. Strategic links with other strategies.

- Corporate Plan 2021-25
- Public Health Strategy 2020-2025
- Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024
- Community Safety Partnership Plan 2022
- Care Close to Home Strategy 2021-2024

In addition, this also links with national strategies:

- The Violence against Women and Girls Strategy (July 2021) and the forthcoming complementary national strategy on domestic abuse aim to reduce the prevalence of violence against women and girls and improve the support and response for victims and survivors by increasing the number of perpetrators brought to justice and increasing appropriate, quality support for victims and survivors, preventing and identifying more of these crimes.
- The Victim's Bill which aims to establish a right to specialist sexual violence and abuse support services for victims of sexual, violent, and domestic abuse, and for connected purposes.
- The Perpetrator Strategy which will form part of the domestic abuse strategy that will
 go beyond the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act by improving the detecting,
 investigating and prosecuting offences involving domestic abuse.
- The rough sleeping strategy GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

These strategies tend to be underpinned by a key priority that is shared which is to ensure that vulnerable people are protected from harm and that everyone has the opportunity to live the lives they want to lead in a safe community and a place people can call home.

APPENDIX 1 - Summary of recommendations

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Number	Recommendation	Category	Agency
1	Review authors, on behalf of IOWC, to share findings on data gaps with relevant colleagues in Hampshire and with the Hampshire Domestic Abuse Health Steering Group, to promote the development of consistent responses across the locality.	Data	IOWC/Review Authors
2	Local work to begin as a priority on the collection of domestic abuse data, to include demographic information. Minimum standards to be set for both forum agencies and LAPB members and local templates/data sharing agreements drawn up accordingly.	Data	IOWC/LAPB
3	Consideration to be given to the need to allocate additional resources to the co- ordination and collection of data, both in the short term as above, and in the longer term as the LAPB carries out its monitoring functions.	Data	IOWC
4	All support available to those in safe accommodation should be routinely offered at intake, regardless of setting, and revisited on a regular basis as part of ongoing support planning.	Support within safe accommodation	Commissioned Provider
5	Undertake further review of the levels and intensity of staff support within safe accommodation, and in the refuge, with a view to identifying any increase in capacity required.	Support within safe accommodation	IOWC/LAPB/ Commissioned Provider
6	Consider a specific capacity increase in move-on support, in response to the challenges with affordable/appropriate local accommodation.	Support within safe accommodation	LAPB
7	Establish a routine process by which the feedback of those using safe accommodation is sought, both by those involved in the oversight of the IDASCS contract and the Local Area Partnership Board (LAPB).	Support within safe accommodation	IOWC/LAPB

Number	Recommendation	Category	Agency
8	Consider resourcing childcare provision (crèche facilities, play provision) for those within safe accommodation to support them to access groups, attend appointments, or seek advice and support.	Support for children	LAPB
9	Address provision for those with disabilities within safe accommodation, both in the short-term (such as adaptations to the downstairs refuge room) and in the longer-term planning of disabled facilities.	Support for those with protected characteristics	IOWC/LAPB
10	Undertake a more in-depth review of support pathways for older victims in conjunction with Adult social care, mapping where older victims who need safe accommodation are placed and what support is made available as part of this process. Assess to what extent the current support a) involves appropriate coordination between services and b) meets the specific needs of older victims.	Support for those with protected characteristics	LAPB
11	LAPB to monitor the number of male victims being placed into non-specialist, temporary accommodation in the locality.	Support for those with protected characteristics	LAPB
12	Training to be made available for all specialist staff on working with male victims (via Respect or similar) and with the LGBT community.	Support for those with protected characteristics	IOWC/LAPB/ Commissioned Provider
13	Providers to work to improve the availability of 'by and for' provision, particularly for women from BME backgrounds and the LGBT community. Establish and grow links with relevant community groups and networks in the short term, whilst in the longer term seeking to develop effective local support networks, peer support groups, and so on. Consider representation on the LAPB from relevant community groups.	Support for those with protected characteristics	Commissioned Provider
14	Translation services to be available for the use of all staff, when required, within all safe accommodation settings.	Support for those with protected characteristics	Commissioned Provider
15	Explore the development of a 'wraparound' partnership response to women with complex needs, involving relevant services including the Commissioned provider,	Support for those with complex needs	LAPB

WoW centre, Substance use services, Housing, Mental health services, and	
CRC.	

Number	Recommendation	Category	Agency
16	Expand on the sanctuary scheme, resourcing to provide additional support and assessments, and raise awareness across all Island agencies. Use these additional resources to work more closely with private landlords (See also – whole housing response at section 5) and seek additional opportunities for funding repairs (e.g., through local businesses/Corporate Social Responsibility)	Remaining in the home	Commissioned Provider/IOWC/ LAPB
17	Look to transition away from the use of the safe house unit for domestic abuse (once suitable alternatives are available).	Building and locality	IOWC/LAPB
18	Any expansion of future refuge provision to develop in accordance with a dispersed model best fitting of the needs of those from the local area.	Building and locality	IOWC/LAPB
19	The Local Area Partnership Board to embed and oversee improved co-operation and co-ordination between local housing providers, both between the providers themselves and between the providers and wider local partnerships.	Local housing Response	LAPB
20	Revisit a review of all local housing policies and approaches to ensure consistency and compliance with relevant duties.	Local Housing Response	LAPB
21	Local Housing Associations to be represented at The Domestic Abuse Forum.	Local housing Response	DA Forum
22	Local Housing Associations should be represented at the MARAC and the attendance of the representatives prioritized by their organisations.	Local housing Response	MARAC
23	Bi-directional work to be undertaken to improve communication between housing providers and specialist organisations.	Local housing Response	Housing Providers/ IOWC/Commissioned Services

24	The Local Authority Housing Department should be resourced to apply for DAHA		IOWC
	accreditation, with a focus on improving provision and co-ordination across	Response	
	providers.		

Number	Recommendation	Category	Agency
25	LAPB to consider the Island's transition towards the Whole Housing Approach and improved co-ordination between housing providers and community services.	Local housing response	LAPB/IOWC
26	Membership of the Domestic Abuse forum to be reviewed and the inclusion of all local DA providers, Housing, those representing older people, and those with lived experience prioritised.	Wider partnerships	DA Forum
27	Review MARAC membership to include housing and consider the inclusion of Wight DASH on the distribution and/or attendance list in light of the potential information held.	Wider partnerships	MARAC
28	Raise the profile of the Domestic Abuse Forum and its work locally.	Wider partnerships	IOWC/DA Forum
29	Agencies (to include specialist providers and IOWC) to review the relevant pages of their websites to ensure that information on the support available in relation to domestic abuse (and how to access it) is easy to find, clear, and concise. Content of websites to be reviewed to include a variety of media, including videos, images, and personal testimonies where appropriate.	Accessibility of support information	Specialist DA providers/IOWC
30	In the longer term, consideration to be given to the development of one central Island Domestic Abuse Website, to contain all referral pathways, support information, training news and updates. Website management to form a future requirement of the IDASCS contract, to be undertaken in conjunction with the DA Project Officer, with the web address remaining static regardless of provider.	Accessibility of support information	IOWC
31	Consideration to be given to the possibility of a local number as a single point of contact. To be maintained, as above by the commissioned provider. If it is not	Accessibility of support information	IOWC

	possible to maintain the same number across different providers, consideration to be given to mandating that SPOC numbers for the Island are local numbers.		
Number	Recommendation	Category	Agency
32	Demographic data collection to be improved across all key forum agencies.	Diversity and accessibility	LAPB/Forum
33	Diversity and accessibility to be added to the forum agenda as a static point of discussion and review.	Diversity and accessibility	Forum
34	Develop and embed processes by which feedback and input can be sought directly from those with lived experience in a consistent and sustained way. This should be a whole-Island approach, independent of any commissioned service, for example in the shape of a survivors forum, with representation on both the DAF and LAPB.	Opportunities to feed back	IOWC/DA Forum
35	Undertake a snapshot/brief review of domestic abuse training provision on the Island as a whole, to establish whether professionals have access to training suitable for their area of practice and delivered by those with the relevant knowledge and skills. Compile a development plan where this is not the case.	Training and Policy	IOWC
36	Undertake a full review of the approach to domestic abuse within educational and early years settings, including training, policy and practice. Compile a workforce development plan accordingly.	Training & Policy	IOWC
37	Work towards the availability of centralised Island training information in relation to domestic abuse (see recommendation 30, above), and recommended training pathways for local professionals' dependant on role.	Training & Policy	IOWC
38	IOWC Domestic Abuse policy to be reviewed in conjunction with specialist domestic abuse providers.	Training & Policy	IOWC

39	Audit all forum and LAPB organisations (as a minimum) for clear and consistent policies on staff who are experiencing domestic abuse.	Training & Policy	IOWC/DA Forum/LAPB
40	IOWC Housing to be involved in the management and oversight of the IDASCS contract.	Governance	IOWC
Number	Recommendation	Category	Agency
41	Consider renaming the Domestic Abuse Project Officer to Domestic Abuse Coordinator, better reflecting the role performed.	Governance	IOWC

Endnotes

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/datasets/po

 $\underline{https://www.ons.gov.uk/people population and community/crime and justice/bulletins/domestic abuse in england and wales overview/november 2020$

i Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)

[&]quot; Please find summary of recommendations at Appendix 1

iii Dobash & Dobash, 2004; Hester, 2013; Myhill, 2015; Myhill, 2017; ONS, 2020; Walby & Allen, 2004; Walby & Towers, 2017.

iv Delivery of support to victims of domestic abuse in domestic abuse safe accommodation services - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

^v Home Office, Domestic Abuse Draft Statutory Guidance Framework, July 2021

vi Domestic abuse in England and Wales overview - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

vii https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesoverview/november2020

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesoverview/november2020

^{*} https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesoverview/november 2020

 $^{^{}x}\,\underline{\text{https://www.ons.gov.uk/people population} and community/crime and justice/bulletins/domesticabuse in england and wales overview/november 2020}$

xi https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandiustice/bulletins/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesoverview/november 2020

^{xii} ONS, 2020:

xiii As above

xiv As above

xv IOWC, 2019: https://www.iow.gov.uk/azservices/documents/2552-Equality-Diversity-Factsheet-Jan-2019-v2.pdf

xvi IOWC, 2017: https://www.iow.gov.uk/azservices/documents/2552-Learning-Disabilities-Factsheet-2017-Final-DB-v1.pdf

xvii IOWC, 2019: https://www.iow.gov.uk/Meetings/committees/cabinet/13-6-19/PAPEREAppendix1DigitalIslandstrategy.pdf

xviiiThe Institute for Fiscal Studies, 2020: https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/14888

xix ONS, Domestic abuse in England and Wales overview: November 2020

xx All police data taken from Domestic Abuse Problem Profile, IOWC November 2020, or IOW Domestic Abuse forum data 2020-21.

xxi As above