



COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT:

DOMESTIC ABUSE – PROGRESS REPORT

VERSION FINAL
JANUARY 2019

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For more information about the team phone 01223 715 300

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Produced by:	Leigh Roberts, Senior Analyst, Cambridgeshire County Council Leigh.Roberts@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Additional Contributions:	Louise Walker, Safer Communities Partnership Support Officer, Cambridge City Council
On behalf of:	The document has been produced by the CRG, on behalf of Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership and is available to download from https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/communitysafety/community-safety-partnerships/cambridge-city/
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUMMARY

This report is focused on reporting actions that could be taken by the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) to support the prevention of domestic abuse and the countywide action plan. It has not provided an in-depth analysis on data sources previously discussed.

A trend is provided for information, and shows that the level of recording of incidents is similar over the long term but that the volume of crimes is more than double that of eight years ago. Changes in recording, new offences and improvements in both reporting and recording account for the majority of this. Although as with any underreported crime it is hard to estimate which factors have caused the biggest impact in the figures.

A lot of progress has been made in Cambridge City to tackle domestic abuse, in line with the action plan. Further work is needed in particular areas to continue this progress.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following actions are recommended to the Partnership;

1. Awareness raising –

Whilst the CCSP continues to raise awareness both to the public, students in secondary schools and professionals there is still impact that could be made. It is recommended that for the message to stay consistent with the wider County in order to have the greatest reach.

1.1 In order to raise awareness of domestic abuse locally there is already resources available from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership– see the link below

(https://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/downloads_and_resources_1/96816):



1.2 In particular raise awareness within LGBT+ community about domestic abuse. Although locally there is no specialist support services, all local support services are open to anyone regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.



a. There are resources available (such as the image on the left) that can be used locally. Further there a number of resources available in multiple languages.

b. Further, victims can be signposted to Galop. **Galop** is a national lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans* (LGBT) anti-violence and abuse **charity**. They give advice and support to people who have experienced biphobia, homophobia, transphobia, sexual violence and domestic abuse, and we work to improve the way the our communities can get help.



c. If the Partnership wishes to add further value in relation to work to reduce domestic abuse within the LGBT+ community, then the Kite Trust could be engaged. This would need further discussion with an agreed aimed in place. The Kite Trust, previously known as SexYOUality, are a local Cambridgeshire charity that works with LGBT+ young people and schools.

2. Engagement with organisations – This is an area of that CCSP has already demonstrated success in. Specific recommended actions that would add value are outlined below;
 - 2.1 DA champions – Encourage each organisation to identify their champion for county meetings and that enables greater buy-in and impact
 - 2.2 Each board member to promote within their respective organisations to increase awareness raising
 - 2.3 Each board member to confirm that their respective organisations has a Domestic Abuse employee policy

INTRODUCTION

This document will update the police data, including the calculations of the rate of victimisation per 1,000 population that takes into consideration the growth of the City population. The main focus however, will be the activity that has been undertaken or is recommended to continue to progress the CCSP objective to reduce domestic abuse.

The Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has received a number of strategic assessments over recent years exploring the data and issues of domestic abuse. These are published on Cambridgeshire Insight (<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/communitysafety/community-safety-partnerships/cambridge-city/>). They have covered such topics as;

- Trends
- National changes
- Demographic profile of victims

This report will not revisit information previously shared and discussed. Except to provide an update to the local data where available. The report will focus on the two following areas;

- Progress on the action plan and previous recommendations
- Actions that can be taken that support the recommendations from the House of Commons Home Affairs Committee Domestic Abuse Ninth Report of Session 2017–19¹

¹ Published on 22 October 2018 by authority of the House of Commons

TRENDS IN RECORDING

The table below presents the data as recorded by Cambridgeshire Constabulary for Cambridge City.

Table 1: Cambridge City recorded domestic abuse crime and incident data

Year (Apr-Mar)	Total number of incidents	Rate of incidents per 1,000 population	Total number of crimes	Total number of crimes per 1,000 population
2010/11	1,914	15.5	503	4.1
2011/12	1,609	13.0	384	3.1
2012/13	1,558	12.5	474	3.8
2013/14	1,606	12.8	561	4.5
2014/15	1,744	13.7	690	5.4
2015/16	1,725	13.2	785	6.0
2016/17	1,968	14.9	1,059	8.0
2017/18	1,898	14.2	1,134	8.5

NB: figures may differ from previous publications where data has been updated and population estimates/forecasts have been re-calculated.

LOCAL INITIATIVES

The Meadows Children and Family wing successfully secured Innovate & Cultivate funding from Cambridgeshire County Council to provide the following;

- Freedom and Freedom Forever along with drop ins and one to one support in July 2018
- Children’s Services in the City will begin to deliver a rolling programme of Caring Dads, Recovering Together and a locally developed early intervention programme called RISE in 2019.

These programmes have been designed locally or funding identified to train practitioners to deliver them to ensure there is appropriate provision available for those who require support.

HOUSE OF COMMONS HOME OFFICE COMMITTEE DOMESTIC ABUSE REVIEW

The following table summarises the relevant recommendations from the House of Commons Home Affairs Committee Domestic Abuse Ninth Report Session of 2017-19.

Table 2: Review of House of Commons Home Affairs Committee Domestic Abuse Ninth Report Session of 2017-19

Recommendation	Reference	Local action needed/ gap identified
1. Promoting awareness	Page 41	Continued need for awareness raising.
1.1 Promoting awareness of women victims	Page 41	Several specific targeted campaigns. Report is clear that some of this should be to front line staff. The CSP can support this work through accessing the training provided

1.2 Promoting awareness of male victims		by Cambridgeshire County Council. https://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/training_1/86050
1.3 Promoting awareness of LGBT victims		The partnership can consider the options of having these topics covered.
1.4 Promoting awareness of victims from wider family members		

CAMBRIDGE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN

In the last three years the Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has focused on or supported the following activity:

Prevention:

- For 2018/19, Healthy Relationships Workshops and performances of 'Chelsea's Choice' are being delivered to the city schools before 31 March 2019 as a coordinated approach to school-based VAWG prevention interventions. This year, in addition to the agreed funding by the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner, the approval of the Chair of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence County Delivery Group was required.
- Being organised as a city programme, Healthy Relationships Workshops are being delivered by Centre 33 and The Kite Trust (formerly known as SexYOUality) to pupils in schools aged 13-15 (Year 9/10).
- Also being organised as a city programme, the play 'Chelsea's Choice', will be performed to over 900 pupils in the city schools aged 13-15 (Year 9/10) to coincide with the annual National Child Sexual Exploitation Day on 18 March 2019. The play covers the themes of drugs and alcohol, child sexual exploitation, healthy relationships and sexual consent. The performance will be followed by actor facilitated post-show talk exploring the different issues with signposting. In addition, there will be one community performance at one of the schools for parents, teachers, governors and local community groups.

Feedback from schools on the offers included:

"Thank you again for offering students the opportunity to receive these funded activities."

"We would like to accept the offer, as they have been very well received in previous years."

"Great....happy to have these preventive activities again"

"Thank you so much for getting in touch - these sound like a brilliant way to educate young people and we would love to get involved."

Awareness raising – detailed update:

- To inform government, the Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership (CSP) responded to the Government Consultation on “Transforming the response to domestic abuse”, which closed on 31 May 2018.
- Cambridge City Council responded to the consultation by the Home Affairs Committee Inquiry on Domestic Abuse for evidence on what measures and reforms are needed to prevent domestic abuse, which closed in July 2018. This information will be fed into the work around the Domestic Abuse Bill.
- To mark 25 November - White Ribbon Day and the United Nations International Day of Elimination Violence Against Women, which starts 16 Days of Action to 10th December, Human Rights Day - Cambridge City Council hosted a Domestic Abuse Conference on 22 November 2018. This was free to the public with nearly 200 attending consisting of survivors, service providers, professionals and members of the public. The conference was opened by Antoinette Jackson, Chief Executive of Cambridge City Council, introduced by the council’s Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Communities, Anna Smith, who provided an overview of the work being undertaken in the city as a strategic priority and also of the council’s White Ribbon Campaign accreditation since February 2015.
- Chaired by Councillor Nicky Massey, Lead Councillor on Community Safety, there was a range of guest speakers providing different perspectives from local service providers, Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA), Cambridgeshire Constabulary as well as 6 of the 8 Cambridge City Council White Ribbon Campaign Ambassadors.
- The keynote speaker was Luke Hart, who spoke on 'The Insidious Nature of Coercive Control'. Luke and Ryan Hart’s mother and sister were murdered in broad daylight by the family’s father. As the two surviving sons, Luke and Ryan Hart, now openly share their story to raise awareness of coercive and controlling behaviour. They are White Ribbon Ambassadors and Refuge Champions speaking out against male violence towards women. They have written a book of their experiences, ‘Operation Lighthouse’, challenging the myths and stereotypes surrounding domestic abuse and coercive control that they experienced following their tragedy.
- Information was available at the conference about the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV) Partnership, Soroptimists International – Cambridge and the White Ribbon Campaign.
- There was television coverage by BBC Look East and on social media; Facebook and Twitter, using the hashtag #camcoercion. Filming of some of the guest speakers, including Luke Hart, is available on the Cambridge City Council Youtube Channel: <https://youtu.be/4RU00-VieFw>.
- The Cambridge Community Forum on Domestic and Sexual Violence/Abuse, led by Cambridge City Council, met during the year to discuss themes such as Safe Later Lives: older people and domestic abuse with a guest speaker from SafeLives.
- Cambridge City Council White Ribbon Campaign stalls were held during the year such as at a Community Big Lunch in the summer. This community event for local residents also had a

live screening of the World Cup 2018 England vs Panama Football match, which provided the opportunity at both the stall and on the large screen to share the Domestic Abuse Campaign. These activities have been supported by the Cambridge City Council White Ribbon Ambassadors.

- Cambridge City Council is applying to be reaccredited by the White Ribbon Campaign in February 2019.

Partnership Working

- Cambridge CSP continues to be actively engaged with the countywide work on domestic abuse and sexual violence (DASV). Cambridge CSP is represented on DASV County Delivery Group, and the DASV County Operational Group. In addition, there is representation on a DASV CSP / Domestic Homicide Group, which shares learning such as from the Cambridge city and other district's Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- Since April 2018, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership have set up sessions for a domestic abuse and sexual violence champions' network. These sessions are open to different agencies across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and held in each of the districts. Sessions are held quarterly focussing on a variety of topics such as services for children and young people.
- **Cambridge City Council is working towards Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation.** DAHA is a partnership between three agencies who are leaders in innovation to address domestic abuse within housing; Standing Together Against Domestic Violence, Peabody and Gentoo. DAHA's mission is to improve the housing sector's response to domestic abuse through the introduction and adoption of an established set of standards and an accreditation process. DAHA Accreditation is the UK benchmark for how housing providers should respond to domestic abuse in the UK. It is part of the Government's "Ending Violence against Women and Girls Strategy: 2016 to 2020". The council will need to fulfil **8 priority standards in** Policies & Procedures, Case Management, Risk Management, Equality & Diversity, Perpetrator Management, Partnership Working, Staff Training, Publicity and Awareness. The City Council has established a steering group chaired by the Head of Housing with internal representation by Housing (Management, Advice and Supported Housing), Safer Communities, Estates and Facilities, HR and Customer Services Centre as well as external representation by the **Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) and county DASV Partnership. The steering group will continue to meet following accreditation, which is valid for three years.**

APPENDIX

Timeline of how the Domestic Abuse laws in the UK have changed over time

