

INTEGRATED CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY PANEL

Day: Thursday
Date: 14 January 2021
Time: 6.00 pm
Place: Zoom meeting

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.	MINUTES To approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the proceedings of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel held on 5 November 2020.	1 - 4
3.	DOMESTIC ABUSE The Panel to meet Councillor Allison Gwynne, Executive Member, Neighbourhood Services; Councillor Eleanor Wills, Executive Member, Health, Social Care and Population Health; James Mallion, Consultant Public Health; and Samantha Jury-Dada, Strategic Domestic Abuse Manager, to receive an update on domestic abuse in Tameside.	5 - 20
4.	GREATER MANCHESTER SCRUTINY The Chair to discuss priorities and recent activity of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Scrutiny Committees.	
5.	CHAIR'S UPDATE The Chair to provide a verbal update on recent activity and future priorities for the Panel.	
6.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING To note that the next meeting of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel will take place on Thursday 11 March 2021.	
7.	URGENT ITEMS To consider any additional items the Chair is of the opinion shall be dealt with as a matter of urgency.	

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Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel 5 November 2020

Commenced: 6.00pm

Terminated: 7.40pm

Present: Councillors T Smith (Chair), Affleck, Alam, Cooper, Jackson, Martin, Mills, Owen, Patrick, Welsh, Wild.

Apologies for absence: Councillors S Homer, Boyle, Gosling.

23. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel held on 10 September 2020 were approved as a correct record.

24. CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Panel welcomed Councillor Bill Fairfoull, Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families); and Richard Hancock, Director of Children's Services, to receive an overview of Children's Social Care improvements.

Members received an overview of service objectives. The core principles aim to support children and families by building stronger relationships, delivering high quality place-based services and developing a more cooperative approach in order to improve outcomes for children in Tameside.

Mr Hancock informed members that the Early Help Strategy and action plan are now in place, with a comprehensive and blended neighbourhood offer. A new family support service was launched in September 2020, providing a 7 day flexible and adaptive offer to meet the needs of children and families. Work in this area has been further complemented by the roll out of Team Around the School (TAS), the launch of a parent strategy and a young carers review completed.

The presentation touched upon key services within children's social care, with detail provided on specific improvements and practice changes across:

- Safeguarding & front door
- Services for children in care and care leavers

The new quality assurance framework includes the Signs of Safety and is a fundamental part of the ongoing improvement work. The framework has been revised, rewritten and re-issued, with a need to ensure this becomes fully embedded. Developments made to the audit framework and activity, with next steps to close the loop on this work ensuring it becomes connected and evidence based to inform and improve future practice.

A significant amount of reflection and planning has taken place across a broad range of areas. It was reported that the Integrated Children's System has improved functionality as a result of recent upgrades. Workforce planning is ongoing, while some issues have arisen related to recruitment and retention, there is a need to once again work to reduce agency rates. This will be monitored closely to ensure numbers and ratios continue to improve by the end of 2020.

The Panel heard that further integration has taken place with children and adolescent mental health services (CAHMS). There is a single point of access for Healthy Young Minds aligned to the Early Help Access Point. A number of completed project were referenced and include:

- LISTENing co-production framework agreed and implemented. Provides a methodology and

- commitment to how we work with young people.
- ILACS action plan
 - SEND local offer
 - Care Leavers local offer
 - Early Help website

It was reported that Covid-19 has presented a range of challenges to the workforce, requiring an ongoing dedication and commitment for staff to remain flexible and creative in order to deliver quality services and ensuring a range of statutory responsibilities are met.

New procedures were developed and risk assessments undertaken when face-to-face visits were required. Regulations eased to accommodate this during the first phase of national restrictions, however they are no longer in place and face-to-face visits are expected once again. They continue to be risk assessed to ensure the safety of children and staff.

Education services reconfigured to create a single point of contact. Schools contacted daily, with a need to respond quickly to emerging issues. This work also included the distribution of laptops to support virtual learning. It was reported that additional measures were put in place to ensure the effectiveness of our safeguarding partnership during this challenging period.

Cllr Fairfoull and Mr Hancock responded to a number of questions from the Panel on:

- Transitional support and good quality accommodation options for care leavers.
- Approach and ambition to build on the current position for in-borough placements and capacity. This included new areas of investment for placements and preventative measures.
- Recruitment of foster carers within Tameside's BAME community
- Workforce issues related to permanence and caseload levels
- Progress of key elements within the agreed sustainability projects
- Adoption services and external factors
- Domestic abuse

Resolved: That Cllr Fairfoull and Mr Hancock be thanked for attending the meeting.

25. SCRUTINY MID-YEAR BUDGET UPDATE

The Panel received for information, a letter of the Scrutiny Chairs to Councillor Oliver Ryan, Executive Member, Finance and Economic Growth, in response to the mid-year budget update meetings held on 22 September 2020.

26. GREATER MANCHESTER SCRUTINY

The Chair provided a verbal update on activity of the Corporate Issues & Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting that took place on 6 October 2020. Regular Scrutiny update emails will continue to include a link to all public papers for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Scrutiny Committees.

27. CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Chair informed members that the next meeting of the Children's Working Group will take place on 12 November 2020. The group will be undertaking follow-up activity on a previous review of Recruitment and Retention of Foster Carers. The report tabled at the joint meeting of Cabinet and Overview Panel on 12 February 2020 will be circulated to members of the group to review past recommendations and the Executive Response.

28. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel will take place on 14 January 2021.

29. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR

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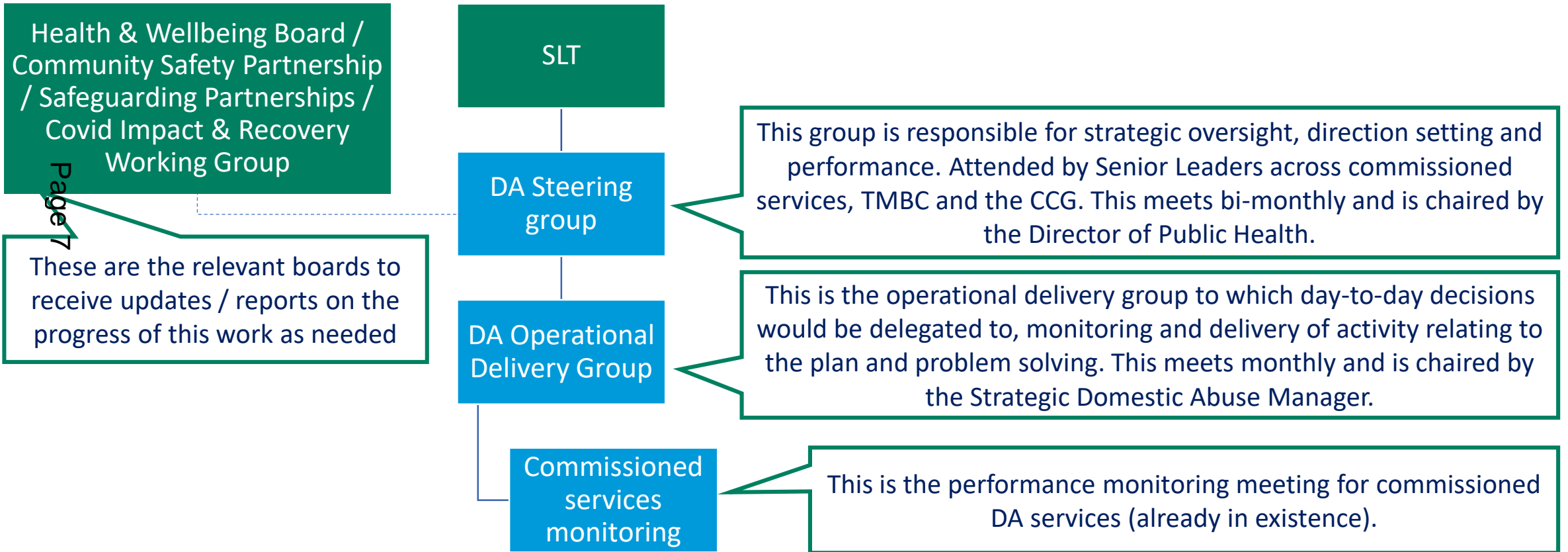
Domestic Abuse in Tameside

Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel
14 January 2021

Introduction

Roles and responsibilities

Domestic Abuse Officer Governance | Strategic oversight and operational expertise



Background

Services and support in
Tameside

Background | Services and interventions relating to domestic abuse in Tameside

Our response to domestic abuse can be split into operational safeguarding risk management/interventions and specific targeted work.

The **operational risk management processes are multi-agency, and work to ensure that victims and their children are kept safe.** These interventions or processes include MARAC, MASH and Operation Encompass.

The majority of the specific and targeted support that victims receive in Tameside are provided after an assessment of their needs and risk level through the operational processes described above. However, self-referrals are also possible to some of these services. Victims of abuse and their children access domestic abuse provision in Tameside through Bridges, our core commissioned service. There are community based organisations that also work with victims of domestic abuse and also GM-wide organisations and initiatives.

Bridges | Commissioned provision in Tameside

Bridges is our core commissioned service to respond to domestic abuse. It is part of Jigsaw, which is a social housing provider in Tameside.

Depending on risk of the domestic abuse, there are different services that can be available. The risk levels are categorised as standard risk, medium risk and high risk. The Bridges service works across all risk levels but the most intensive work is done with those at high risk.

	Service/Intervention	Risk level
Adults	IDVA	High
	Refuge	High
	Strive	Standard
	Freedom Programme	All
	Outreach	Medium
CYP	CHIDVA	All
	Time to talk	All

Performance

DA in Tameside | What we know

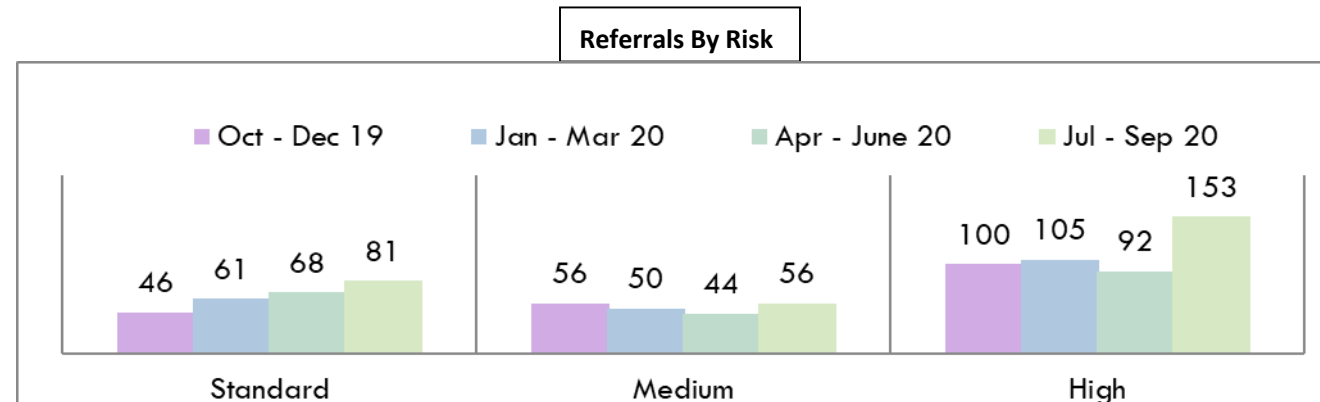
2019 Peer review

1. Improve **prevention** of domestic abuse
2. There is a gap in **recovery support** for victims/survivors
3. The current approach is not **holding perpetrators to account**
4. We need to support a **co-ordinated community response**



- **Covid-19** disruption
- Increase in high-risk cases heard at **MARAC**
- **Additional IDVA capacity required** to meet demand
- **Challenging financial landscape**
- **Increased demand for services**
- **DA Bill** requirements

DA in Tameside | Q2 Performance for Bridges



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- There has been a **40% increase in referrals into the service from the previous quarter**
- The majority of service users are female but there was an increase in male victims of abuse in Q2
- **Between April and September 2020 Bridges IDVAs dealt with 233 high risk DV referrals.** These are victims who have been identified as being at high risk of domestic homicide or serious harm. Compared to the same period last year – 139 represents a 68% increase.
- For children, issues such as **increased aggression, low self-esteem, and behavioural responses both in school and at home are common** features.

Challenges at the moment | Current risks

Key pressures across services:

- **GMP** data challenges mean we don't have a system-wide view on domestic abuse
- **Covid-19 additional spend**
- **Maintaining staff cover** can be challenging when staff are told to isolate or are off sick
- The **intensity of caseloads** for those supporting domestic abuse victims
- **Delivering services virtually is not always as safe** as a perpetrator can be in the home but just out of sight
- The **CHIDVA waiting list is high**

Priorities for the year ahead

Key Priorities for 2021

- The **cost of domestic abuse in Tameside** – analysis of spend and demand
- **Needs assessment** including getting a better understanding of needs around housing, health, children and young people, victim-survivor needs, minority victims (Elderly/BME/LGBT/Male/Disability), perpetrators (including children that abuse parents), criminal justice and the community
- **Victim-survivor consultation**
- **New Domestic Abuse Strategy (2021 – 2024)**
- **DA Bill** capacity building and implementation of new statutory duties

DA Bill | New duties for local authorities

Among other things such as the Victims Charter and reforms to Family Court, it includes new statutory duties for local authorities.

The biggest change is that councils in England **must commission additional vital support for those victims of domestic abuse and their children who might currently be turned away from refuges and other safe accommodation because their needs cannot be met.**

The DA Bill also will result in these new duties/requirements:

- A statutory **needs assessment** for each Tier 1 authority
- A statutory **local domestic abuse strategy**
- Each Tier 1 authority must have a **DA Partnership board**
- Authorities will be required to **commission support in safe accommodation** to meet the diverse needs of all victims and their children in or coming into their area
- Give **priority housing to homeless victims of domestic abuse.**

DA Bill | What next?

- The new duties are expected to come into force in April 2021.
- We need to have shown significant progress that we can meet the requirements of the bill by April including a plan to demonstrate how we are going to meet the new obligations if we are not already.
- There is a raft of activity that will need to be done, across the council including a needs assessment, commissioning review and new strategy.
- Activity is already underway to ensure we are in a good position by Spring 2021.

Questions

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