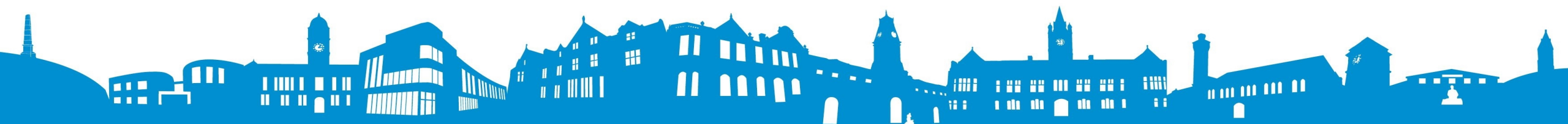


# WEST STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

26 January 2023

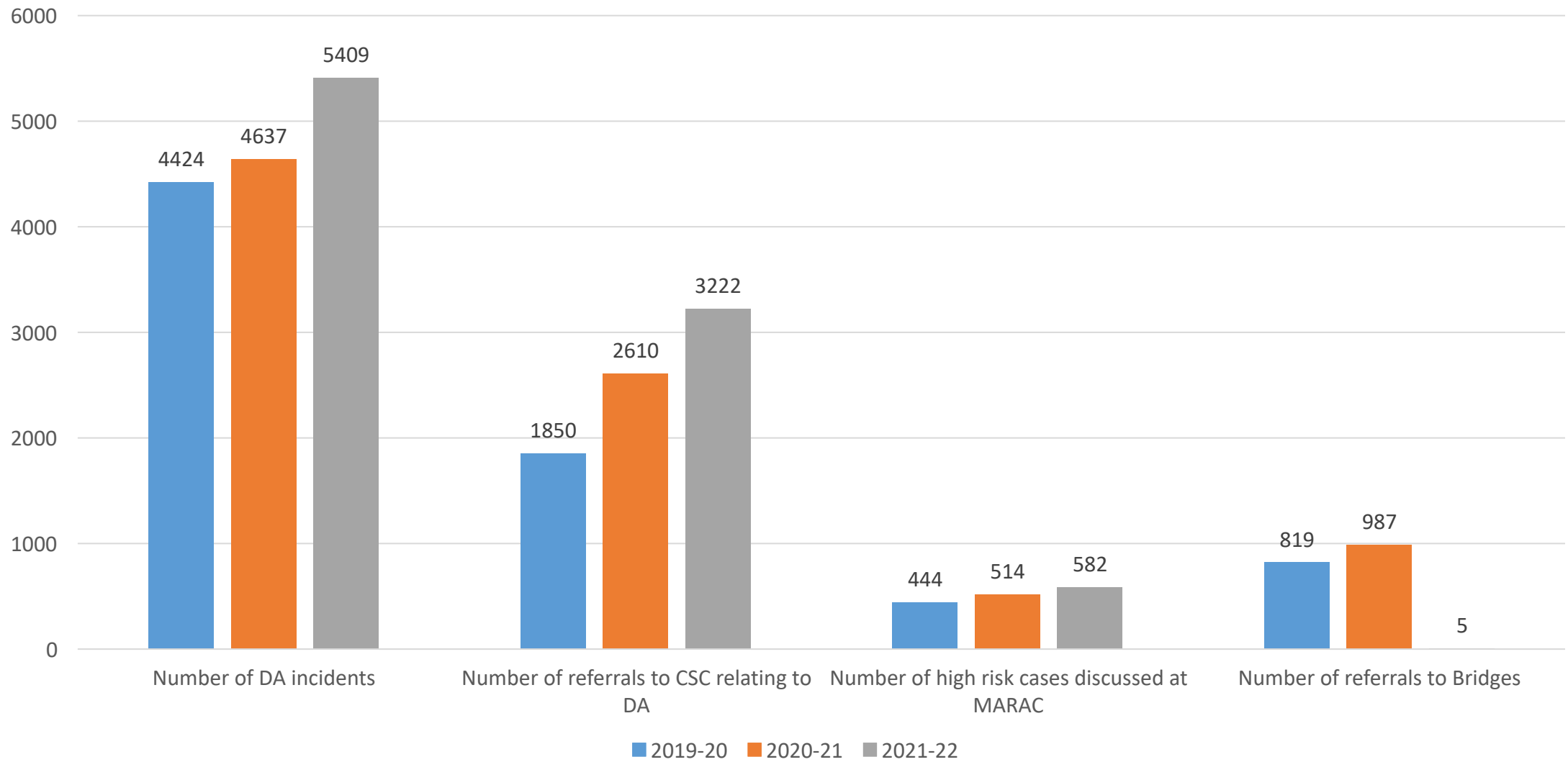
**Domestic Abuse & White Ribbon Accreditation**



## Domestic Abuse Act 2021

- Introduced a new definition of domestic abuse:
  - Behaviour of person A towards person B is domestic abuse if –
    - A & B are each aged 16 or over and are “personally connected” to each other **and**
    - The behaviour is abusive
  - Behaviour is abusive if it consists of any of the following:
    - Physical or sexual abuse
    - Violent or threatening behaviour
    - Controlling or coercive behaviour
    - Economic abuse
    - Psychological, emotional or other abuse
  - Children as victims of domestic abuse:
    - Any reference in this Act to a victim of domestic abuse includes a reference to a child who –
      - (a) sees or hears, or experiences the effect of, the abuse, **and**
      - (b) is related to A or B.

# Prevalence in Tameside



## Gender Based Violence

- Domestic Abuse is a gender based issue.
- ONS data (2020) identified that 82% of victims were female compared to 18% of males. 92% of those using harmful behaviours were male.
- Greater Manchester Gender Based Violence Strategy:

The ambition...is to challenge the attitudes and social conditions that sustain or excuse gender-based violence and deliver whole system improvements in responses to those affected by it. These will fundamentally change the story of Greater Manchester over the next ten years, in terms of what it delivers with regard to safety for women and girls, gender equality, challenging misogyny - the contempt that follows from ingrained sexism - and holding perpetrators of gender-based violence - the majority of whom are men and boys – to account.



- #isthisok campaign: [#IsThisOK – #IsThisOK Campaign Site \(isthisokgm.co.uk\)](https://www.isthisokgm.co.uk)

## High profile cases

- The femicides of Sarah Everard and Sabina Nessa in the UK during 2021 (just 6 months apart) have forced a national conversation on male violence against women.
- These horrific crimes have generated extensive media attention in the UK as both women were attacked when they were just walking home or meeting a friend.
- Between March and September, when these two cases occurred, at least 81 more women were killed by men in the UK.
- Focus continues to be on women to keep themselves safe which ignores the responsibility of those using harmful behaviours and the wider societal gender imbalances which perpetuate a culture of misogyny.
- At the time of writing the presentation the news broke of another service Metropolitan police officer admitting to dozens of rapes and sexual offences against 12 women.

## White Ribbon Accreditation



- White Ribbon Accreditation is a nationally recognised programme for organisations who are committed to improving their workplace culture, progress gender equality and end violence against women and girls.
- The accreditation is divided into four key areas, which support the organisation to assess capabilities and current practice, enabling the identification of appropriate actions:
  - Strategic Leadership
  - Engaging Men and Boys
  - Changing Culture
  - Raising Awareness
- White Ribbon Ambassadors and Champions are key to the delivery of the White Ribbon Action plan.
- Ambassadors are men within the organisation who act as formal representatives of White Ribbon. They are positive role models who take a stand against male violence against women and girls and encourage other men and boys to do the same.
- Champions can be both males and females, but tend to be primarily females who support the White Ribbon work and the ambassadors within their organisation.

## Domestic Abuse Strategic Response

The Domestic Abuse Strategy aims to address domestic abuse across seven key priority areas:

- Making domestic abuse everybody's business
  - Creating safe spaces for disclosure
  - Meeting the needs of victims through local services
  - Helping victim-survivors stay safe in their homes
  - Better outcomes for children impacted by domestic abuse
  - Identifying problem behaviours early
  - Holding perpetrators accountable
- Key to the delivery of these ambitions is a collective commitment to achieving them.
  - Local offer is available to anyone affected by domestic abuse irrelevant of gender, age, sexuality, religion or disability.

## Our ask

- Attend Domestic Abuse Awareness Training
- Promote domestic abuse communications campaigns
- Challenge misogynistic attitudes and behaviours when you encounter them
- Sign up to be a White Ribbon Ambassador or Champion: [Ambassadors and Champions — White Ribbon UK](#)

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**[bridges@jigsawhomes.org.uk](mailto:bridges@jigsawhomes.org.uk)**