

Health and Social Care responses to domestic violence

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Method

- Mail out to all Community Safety Managers, Local authority DV Commissioners, Domestic Violence Co-ordinators, Children's Services, AVA mailing list (which in turn went into various other second tier mail outs)
- FOI requests to all PCTs
- FOI requests to all MH Trusts
- Some responses were contradictory suggesting that DV work does not enjoy a high profile in many areas

A tsunami of responses flooded my inbox...



But when I asked who pays for it...



- There is some work going on in health but they only seem to pay for around 20%. Much of what health receives is on the back of the voluntary sector.



- **Once I asked who paid for Social Care interventions...**



'We have found very few interventions funded by health. In fact very little data is collected in Essex to evidence incidence of DV among NHS service users. Screening here is very patchy, some ok, some non-existent, but no collation of data that we are aware of.'



'[We] commission a full range of health related services for the population it serves. As such any person with an identified health need, will be supported to access appropriate clinical services according to the health issue they present with'



*Most common:
'These issues are dealt
with by the local
authority'*

*Second most
common:
'Perhaps the
police may be
able to help you?'*

*Uninformative
Barnsley: 'Contributes funding,
with partners, to a range of
domestic and sexual violence
counselling services.'*

*Short and sweet:
'NHS Hounslow neither
funds nor commissions
domestic and sexual
violence services and does
not foresee doing so in the
future.'*

*Astonishing:
Bexley:
'Commissioned a
comprehensive
Sexual Health
Needs Assessment
(SHNA) where the
issues of domestic
and sexual
violence were not
identified.'*

So what is there?!

A number of areas fund a post to work within a health setting providing IDVA services, safeguarding support or as a caseworker. These posts are most commonly not funded from health budgets with the exceptions of **Worth** (IDVAs in A&E Depts in East Sussex); **Reach** (A&E at Guys); **Moasic** (Maternity at Guys); **Advance** (NWCL); **Rise** (Brighton PCT); **IDAS** (Sandwell PCT); **United Hospital** (NHS Bristol)

- **Strategic posts in Barking & Dagenham; Sutton; Hammersmith & Fulham; County Durham and Salford**





Forced marriage

- ***Liverpool PCT has a dedicated worker who operates out of the Social Inclusion Unit and is a specialist resource that provides awareness and support around forced marriage.***
- ***Bolton PCT: Forced marriage and honour based violence is addressed under the domestic abuse work stream so again the first sentence above applies.***
And the first sentence is...
We currently do not have a dedicated commissioning specification for this work

HBV

- **Blackburn PCT with Darwen Care Trust Plus currently funds a Safeguarding Practitioner post with a portfolio for domestic abuse. This role is commissioned from Lancashire Care Foundation Trust and provides training for health staff including honour based violence.**



PCTs with a bit of dv work

- **East Lancashire PCT partially funds the Womens Refuge at Burnley**
- **Great Yarmouth & Waveney: All Children and Young People services receive domestic violence training and awareness updates and there is a designated domestic violence lead Staff within Midwifery and planned for Health Visitor services**
- **NHS Gloucester: A non-recurring contribution in 2011/12 of £50,000 was given for developmental work focussing on 'interventions for un-convicted perpetrators' and the public health directorate funds a part-time GP clinical lead for domestic violence to develop capacity in primary care to assist victims.**

- **NHS Sheffield: Commissions an Independent Domestic Violence Service: contract value £283k p.a. jointly commissioned with Sheffield City Council**
- **NHS Somerset jointly funds a DV coordinator post within Somerset County Council**
- **Swindon PCT contributes funds to the Community Safety Partnership for domestic violence.**
- **Portsmouth PCT contributes towards a partnership response to domestic violence with Portsmouth City Council which commissions the 'Early Intervention Project' (EIP). The agreement provides an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate and an Advocacy and Support Worker**

- **NHS Sefton commissions Sefton Women's and Children's Aid (no further detail)**
- **NHS Leicester City employs a full time Domestic Violence specialist nurse. This position is to support the MARAC**
- **NHS Hull & East Riding of Yorkshire: The commissioned Midwifery and Health Visiting service to *'screen pregnant ladies and new mums'* and Hull PCT commissions *'Strength to Change'* (a perpetrator programme)**

- **NHS Walsall commissions the DV Forum across all its areas. NHS Walsall has an SLA with the Domestic Violence forum, at £30k for two outreach workers and they deliver support to victims**
- **NHS Leeds: Commissions Women's Health Matters to provide support groups to women who are or who have experienced domestic violence and Women's Aid to provide drop in support session at A&E and ante natal clinics**
- **NHS Salford provides funding for a Named Nurse for Domestic Abuse post within Salford Royal Foundation Trust. This post holder delivers domestic abuse training both within the organisation and multi-agency training and manages the processes relating to domestic abuse notifications received from the Police and the health contribution to the MARAC processes.**

- **NHS Surrey funds the East Surrey Domestic Abuse Outreach Service. This is via a joint Service Level Agreement with Tandridge District Council, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, Surrey County Council, Surrey Police, and Mole Valley Borough Council. Our contribution is £20,324 per annum.**
- **Seven PCTs deliver more substantial interventions**

The seven beacons



- **Bristol:** Funds in whole or in part the following services: Voluntary perpetrator programme: Community based support services; Group work support for women survivors; Children's work/commissioner; United Hospital Bristol emergency department IDVA Service; MARAC support to primary care and acute trusts; IRIS and a BME outreach worker in voluntary sector

Birmingham & Solihull NHS Cluster

- The PCTs commission maternity services who all employ specialist midwives to work with women who suffer domestic abuse.
- The PCTs commission universal Health Visiting services who have a strong focus on domestic abuse and the impact on children. In addition there is a specific team working with families in temporary accommodation, many of whom are fleeing domestic abuse.
- The PCT Cluster commissions a range of CAMHS services to work with children and young people who are suffering mental ill health. This includes children whose ill health results from living with domestic abuse.
- The PCT Cluster currently commissions a Pregnancy Outreach Worker service to support a targeted group of vulnerable women in pregnancy and up to 6 weeks post natal. This group specifically includes those suffering domestic abuse.
- The PCT Cluster commissions Birmingham Women's Aid to deliver a range of services to vulnerable women (no further details).

NHS NE London

- Commission the domestic and sexual violence maternity service which operates at Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospital Trust Maternity Services. This contract is for three full time independent domestic violence advocates and a project coordinator which is a shared role with the Barking and Dagenham IDVA service.
- Commission Woman's Trust to provide free 1:1 specialist counselling to women affected by domestic violence. This is a three year mental health small contract from 2010 and is for £25 000 per annum.
- Redbridge Public Health Team have agreed a £10 000 contribution in 2012/13 towards an IDVA post for Redbridge.
- NHS ONEL employ a strategic implementation lead for domestic violence. This is a full time post and is a senior role, located within the Nursing Directorate's Safeguarding Team (This has just been deleted)
- NHS Redbridge have supported the development of the Redbridge domestic violence one stop shop through provision of free meeting room space and facilities at the Loxford Polyclinic.

NHS Nottingham City

- The PCT currently partly or fully funds the following services that support the domestic and sexual violence agenda :
- **Women's Aid Integrated Services (WAIS) Deliver 24 hour helpline**
- **Nottingham University Hospitals (NUH) Emergency Department Domestic Violence Nurse**
- **Nottingham CityCare Partnership - Domestic Abuse Nurse Specialist**
- **Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA's)**
- **Childrens Workers in Refuge**
- **Nottingham Domestic Violence Forum (NDVF) youth early intervention work.**
- **NHS Nottingham City works in partnership to identify and support people through acute services and sexual health services to tackle domestic and sexual violence and delivers training and support to all providers and community staff.**

NHS County Durham & Darlington

- **Employs a Domestic Abuse Coordinator (in the safeguarding children team) but remit to also safeguard adult victims of domestic abuse. Provides specialist guidance to PCT staff and the wider health economy; coordinates and delivers half day training sessions and is the appointed SPOC for the MARAC. The PCT contributes £44k pa**
- **the PCTs have a ratified policy to address domestic abuse affecting staff.**
- **the consultant in Public Health chaired the voluntary Domestic Homicide Review Board for 18months**
- **during 2011, the NHS County Durham provided £48k to Derwentside Domestic Abuse Service (voluntary sector) to lead on the work on behalf of the partnership to tackle to tackle teenage partner violence**
- **during 2012, £17k was provided to evolution (?) in Darlington to undertake some work with users of both sexual violence/domestic abuse services to look at their experiences of services across the whole spectrum of support from voluntary sector, health sector, criminal justice and court settings**

NHS South of Tyne & Wear

- Sunderland, contributes an annual sum towards Wearside Women in Need – a local refuge
- South Tyneside PCT funds:
 - South Tyneside Domestic Abuse Perpetrators Programme (STDAPP)
 - “Options Service” to support victims
 - Contributes to the funding of Domestic Violence Coordinator
 - Partially funds the South Tyneside Women’s Aid – providing funding for crèche facilities for victims of Domestic Abuse
- Small grant support to Women’s Health in South Tyneside (WHIST) which is an organisation providing a range of counselling and support for women including those who are victims of domestic abuse
- Contributes to the funding of LSCB to assist with training staff in awareness of domestic abuse
- The PCT also contributes to Youth Offending Service interventions which include addressing domestic abuse, have engaged in work with GPs to respond to issues relating safeguarding which included domestic abuse issues and funds work in schools which also cover issues relating to violence

NHS North West London

- **Talking Without Fear'** is a therapeutic programme for children who have experienced living with households where there is domestic violence, and their mothers.
- **'Standing Tall'** : This project focuses on preventing domestic violence by offering a programme of domestic violence training to teachers and other school staff
- **ADVANCE (IDVA service)**. The Westminster and H&F IDVA service (provided by ADVANCE) is part funded by NWL PCT.
- **The Barnardo's Risk Assessment Matrix** training programme has been offered
- **Women's Trust Counselling Service**. This provides counselling for women in KC experiencing domestic violence.

Mental Health Trusts

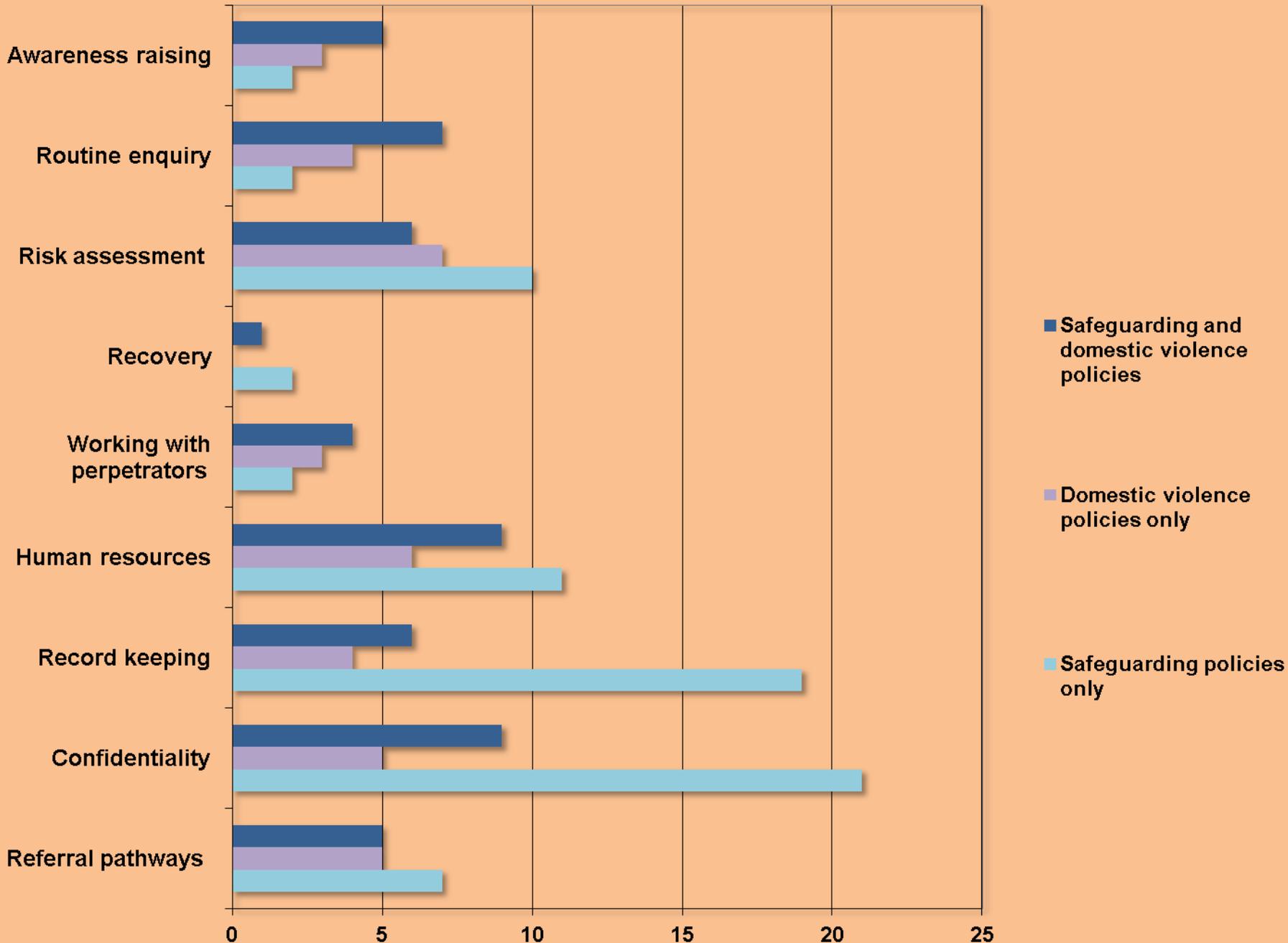
- **51 Trusts responded**
- **5 have a domestic violence strategy**
- **34 provide domestic violence training. Sessions range from 30 minutes to 2.5 hours except Mersey Care NHS Trust and Nottinghamshire NHS Healthcare Trust who both run whole day courses. Almost all training is based within safeguarding (ie only current abuse)**

- All have a policy but most use a safeguarding vulnerable adults definition rather than the cross Government dv definition
- Only half have a standalone policy; the rest subsume it within a general safeguarding policy and in many, this is a single mention. Subsequent referral pathways and risk assessments are then also usually generic
- Six policies had a human resources focus outlining procedures for dealing with staff who are victims of perpetrators of domestic violence. Interestingly, in each case the staff policies were more comprehensive and provided a range of options for supporting victims of all risk levels than the policies aimed at service users.
- In terms of policy content, two issues stand out as key priorities: confidentiality and record keeping. Next most common issue was support for staff.
- Only nine policies specifically referred to perpetrators
- 23 referred to risk assessment but for ten, this was a generic RA and where domestic violence specifically mentioned, most only suggested referring to an IDVA or MARAC
- Three trusts had specialist workers: Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust employ 1.5 (FTE) workers to provide practical and emotional support to victims of domestic and sexual violence; Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust employ a specialist domestic violence health visitor and Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust employs a domestic violence/safeguarding officer to provide support to staff who are affected by domestic violence

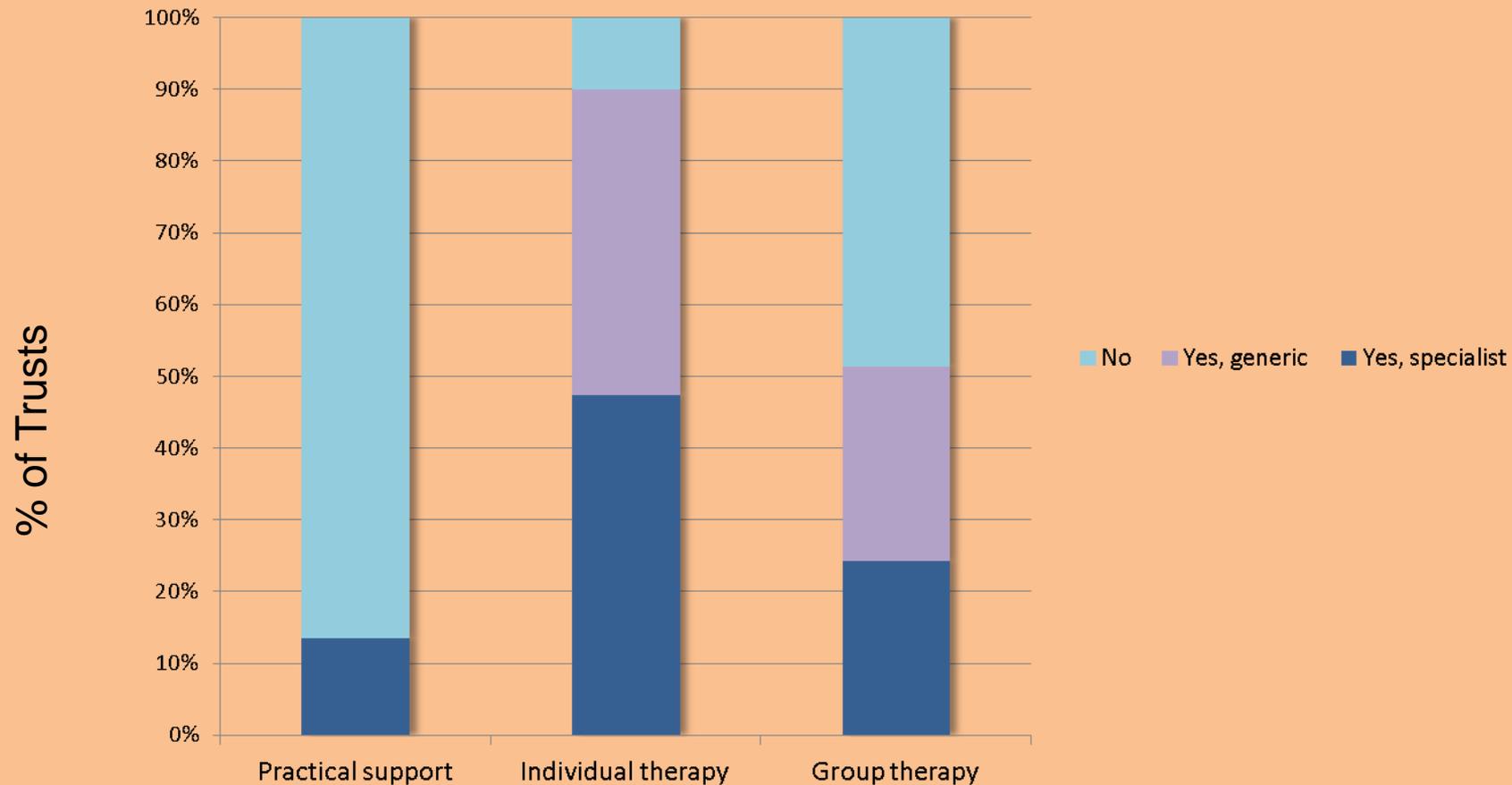
Number of MARAC referrals per Trust per annum (not all responded)

Number of referrals	Number of Trusts
0	4
1	2
4	3
5	1
6	1
9	1
10	1
135	1

Content of Mental Health Trust safeguarding and domestic violence policies



No of trusts



Types of support available

