

<b>Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Domestic Violence and Hate Crime</b>	<b>Item No.</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Executive Director for Community Services</b>		
<b>Class</b>	<b>Part 1 (Open)</b>	<b>Date: 08 May 13</b>	

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 This report looks at the prevalence of domestic violence and abuse within Lewisham, and provides an overview of the increase in racially or religiously aggravated Hate Crime offences in 2012 and an update on new areas of work to tackle hate crime.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 Members of the Safer Stronger Select Committee are asked to note the contents of the report, and the following recommendations that were agreed by the Safer Lewisham Partnership:

1. Consider Expansion for existing high risk IDVA services by prioritising domestic violence and abuse in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) recommend that for every 100,000 of the adult female population, there should be 4 IDVAs. Currently in Lewisham, the adult female population is 103, 000 (2011 census), meaning that there are only 3 IDVAs for just over 100,000 adult females.
2. The Partnership to explore and consider opportunities for joint commissioning for domestic violence and abuse services, including services for perpetrators, for example, the TRYangle Programme for adult male perpetrators.
3. The appropriate recommendations from the domestic homicide reviews to be adopted and implemented locally, such as the creation of the DHR Task and Finish Group to monitor appropriate implementation of recommendations.
4. The commissioning of a Familial Abuse Worker to work with and provide support to vulnerable adults at risk of domestic violence and abuse.
5. Domestic violence and abuse remains a strategic priority for the borough and as such the focus on supporting victims and holding perpetrators to account remains. Any further increase in levels of reported domestic violence and abuse will continue to be closely monitored by the partnership.
6. Implementation of the hate crime manual
7. Expanding Hate crime reporting sites.

### 3. Background on Domestic Violence

3.1 On 25 November 2010, to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the government launched a paper outlining their ambition and guiding principles to tackle violence against women and girls. The principles of this vision are:

1. Prevention – Prevent violence from happening by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it and intervening early where possible to prevent it.
2. Provision – Provide adequate support where violence does occur.
3. Partnership – Work in Partnership to obtain the best outcome for victims and their families.
4. Protection – Take action to reduce the risk to women and girls who are victims of these crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice.

3.2 So far, the government continues to progress the VAWG agenda with the definition of domestic violence and abuse to now include 16-17 year olds as well as coercive control, and the creation of two new stalking offences. The new definition of domestic violence and abuse now states;

*Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse: Psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional.*

3.3 Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

3.4 Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

3.5 This new definition was implemented in April 2013, and agencies in Lewisham have been working to address and update their respective domestic violence and abuse policies. The definition change is likely to have an impact on domestic abuse services as refuges are likely to accept victims who are 16 and up, including the possibility of other services such as the Youth Offending Service working with a greater number of young people experiencing violence. Appendix B, the Lewisham Domestic and Sexual Violence Referral Pathway, displays a flowchart of what services are available in the borough for professionals to refer into.

3.6 In February 2013, on Valentine’s Day, the Home Office launched the 2013 Teenage Relationship Abuse campaign, aimed at helping young people spot the signs of abusive relationships and to help prevent young people from becoming victims. The campaign also aims to raise awareness among teens of what constitutes abuse and violence in their relationships, targeting girls and boys aged 13-18.

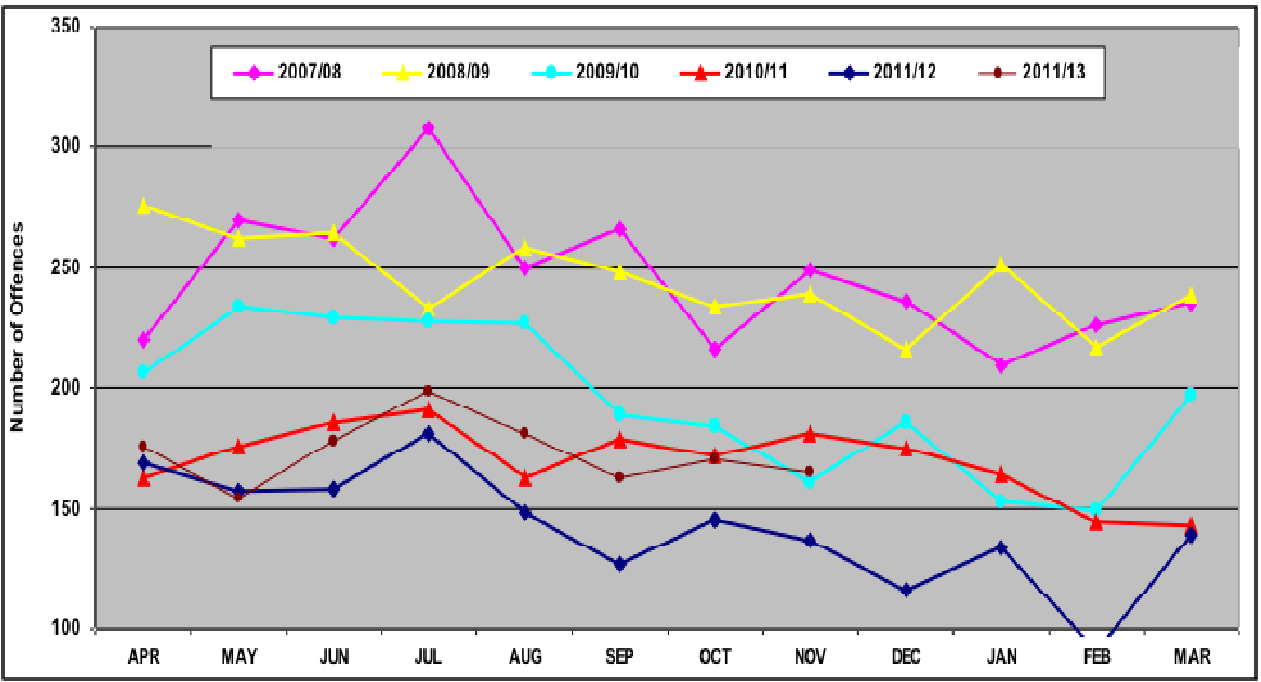
**4. Lewisham Data**

4.1 Reported DV (police data)

4.2 Although there has been a reported 18.6% rise in domestic violence and abuse incidents between January 2012 and January 2013, this percentage increase should be seen in context with domestic violence and abuse figures in Lewisham over the past five years.

4.3 Historically, Lewisham has always seen high numbers of domestic violence and abuse incidents in the borough, with 2007/2008 reporting the highest number of offences in the last 5 years at 2947; the highest of any London borough. Since the Safer Lewisham Partnership (SLP) made Domestic Violence and abuse a strategic priority in 2008/2009, there has been continuous and consistent decreases in domestic violence and abuse figures, with the sharpest decrease observed after the 2009/2010 financial year, when there were 593 fewer offences from the previous financial year. The partnership has invested significant funding and resources into tackling the issue of domestic violence and abuse, across three strands of prevention, provision and protection and as a result, levels of domestic violence and abuse have decreased.

4.4 Whilst year to date data suggests an 18% increase on last year, latest data available shown by Table A (below) shows that reported domestic violence and abuse this year to date remains lower than at any time since 2007/08, with the exception of 2011/12 which saw particularly low levels of reported incidents. When comparing November data – which is the latest available, the number of reported offences is 32% lower than in 2007/08 and remains 2% lower than in 2010/11.



#### 4.5 TABLE A

The partnership predicted that a continuing decrease in reported domestic violence and abuse was unsustainable, and were expecting that levels would plateau or increase at some stage, particularly given rising levels of domestic violence and abuse across London in recent years when Lewisham was experiencing a decrease.

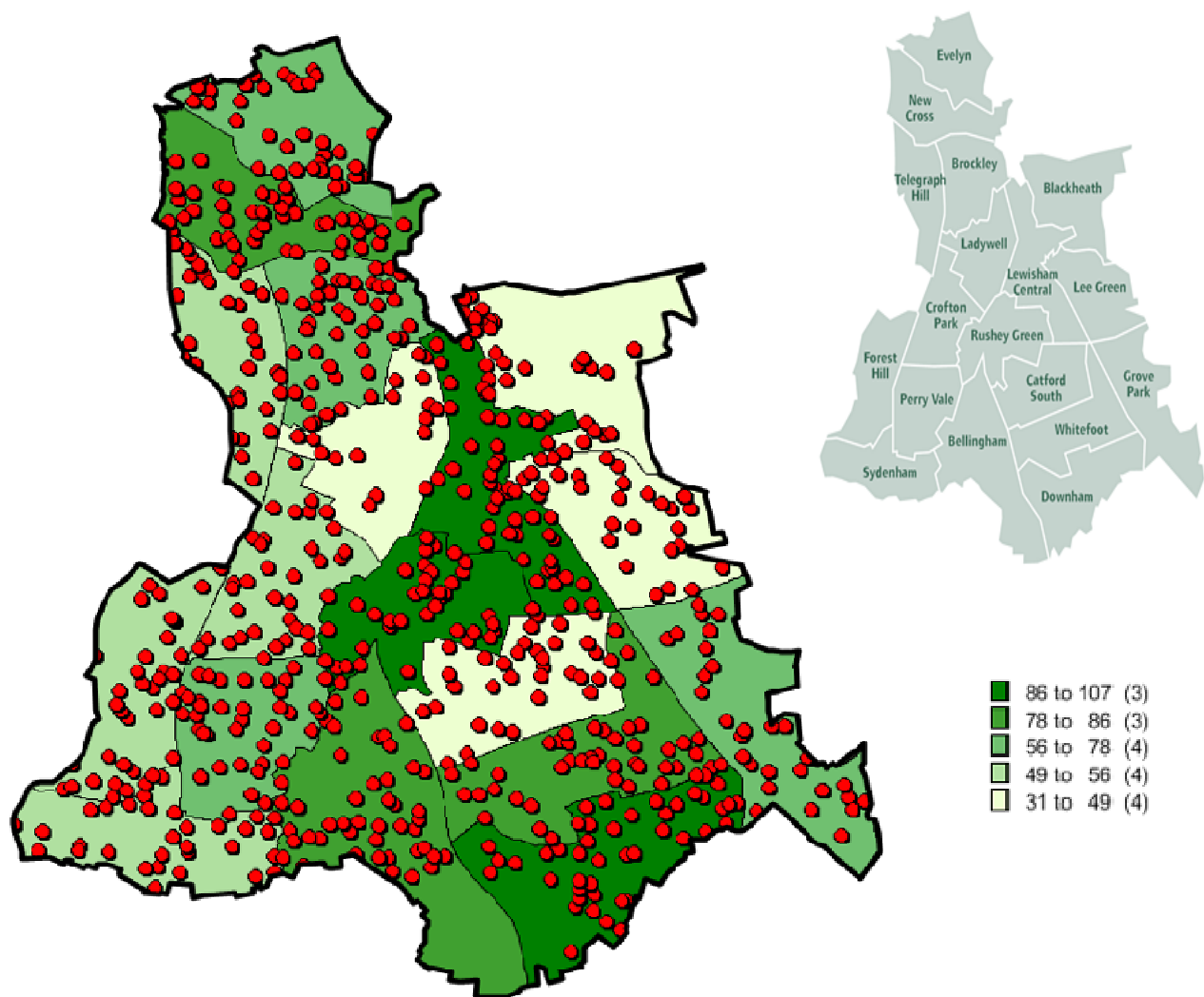
4.6 The increase in domestic violence and abuse is not only reflected in Lewisham but across all local authorities in London. Although Lewisham ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> for DV offences this Financial Year to Date (FYTD) compared to 10<sup>th</sup> the last financial year to date, this is in the context of all the 32 London Boroughs, where only 7 have seen a decrease in domestic violence and abuse offences this financial year to date, with no decrease greater than 9%, thus showing an overall increase in domestic violence and abuse across London.

Borough / Investigating Unit	DV Incidents		DV Offences		
	Last FYTD	This FYTD	Last FYTD	This FYTD	% Change
Lewisham	4025	4062	1301	1550	+19.1%

#### 4.7 TABLE B

In Lewisham, although a 19.1% increase in domestic violence and abuse offences has been reported, (Table B above) there has only been a very small rise in the volume of domestic violence and abuse incidents (which includes total offences such as police call outs and non-crime domestic incidents). This can be attributed to the fact that police officers are improving in the identification and investigation of various types of domestic crimes, including ABH, Common Assaults and Harassment. Table B above shows that overall domestic violence and abuse incidents has only risen by 37 additional incidents (or an increase of less than 1%). However, this data does not show the complete picture as it is only in relation to the financial year to date.

4.8 It is not possible to obtain a breakdown of domestic violence data to determine whether there is any particular demographic that is experiencing a rise in domestic violence. However, given that the overall increase of domestic violence crimes and incidents combined is less than 1%, it is unlikely that any particular cohort are disproportionately affected by the increase in domestic violence.



#### 4.9 Local Mapping

Domestic violence and abuse data across the borough has been collated to show what parts of the borough are most affected by domestic violence and abuse offences. The most recent and available data gathered covered offences in the three months to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

4.10 The map above shows that in the last three months (Dec, Jan, Feb), domestic violence and abuse offences have been the most prevalent in the central and south wards of the borough, particularly Rushey Green, Lewisham Central and Downham, while the east of the borough (Blackheath, Lee Green) have seen the smallest volume of incidents in the same three month period.

4.11 It is vital to note that domestic violence and abuse services commissioned by the partnership are not spread out across the borough - Victim Support is based in Catford South and the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) are based within the Lewisham Police Station. The IDVAs at the police station work with the most high risk victims of domestic violence and abuse with their primary role of reducing the high level of risk to the victim by providing immediate intensive support.

4.12 Research conducted by the Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) suggests that to achieve optimal social and financial impact, there needs to be sufficient IDVA provision, with a recommended 4 IDVAs for every 100,000 of the adult female population. Currently in Lewisham, the adult female population is 103, 000 (2011 census), meaning that there are only 3 IDVAs for just over 100,000 adult females.

## **5. Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (Marac)**

5.1 The MARAC has been operating in Lewisham since February 2009. To date, 1299 cases have been discussed, involving 1487 children. There are now over 40 agencies signed up to the MARAC Information Sharing Protocol, and actively participating by sharing information and working together to create action plans for the most high risk victims of domestic violence and abuse and their children. The repeat referral rate for MARAC is currently 28%.

5.2 In the 12-month period February 2012 to January 2013, 406 cases were heard at the MARAC involving 478 children. This is an increase from 363 cases heard involving 397 children, when compared to the previous year. This increase is considered to be due to the fact that the MARAC in Lewisham is now more embedded amongst borough agencies resulting in an increase in the identification of high risk cases.

5.3 The % of non-police referrals is currently 69.5% compared to a national average of 38% non-police referrals. This is regarded as good practice by CAADA as it shows that other agencies are identifying high risk cases and making referrals to the MARAC.

5.4 In 2012 a total of 408 cases were discussed at the Lewisham MARAC, involving 460 children. Of the 460 children discussed, 239 (52%) were aged 0-5 years.

5.5 Additionally, 48 cases discussed during 2012 involved pregnant women. Assuming all these women went on to deliver babies, and to access universal health visiting services, that brings the total to 287 (62%).

5.6 Whilst the MARAC only deals with the most high risk cases, if we presume that domestic violence demographics are consistent across all risk levels we can approximate:

- There were 4062 incidents of domestic violence reported to police in the first three quarters of financial year 2012/13. This gives a projected figure of 5416 incidents for the full financial year.
- Assuming 30% of incidents are repeat incidents of domestic violence involving the same partners (in accordance with current repeat victimisation at MARAC and previous analysis of repeat victimisation reports to police in 2010), that means an estimated total of 3791 victims reporting domestic violence incidents to the police per financial year.
- Assuming the ratio of children aged 0-5 (including pregnant women) to adult victims remains consistent across all risk levels, we can estimate that 2667 children aged 0-5 are exposed to domestic violence significant enough to require police attendance per year.

- Only a minority of incidents of domestic violence are reported to the police, varying between 23% (Walby and Allen, 2004) and 35% (Home Office, 2002)
- Assuming only 29% of incidents of domestic violence were reported to Lewisham police in 2012 (taking the mean of the two statistics above), we can provide indicative figures of;

1. 18,676 incidents of domestic violence in Lewisham in 2012
2. 13,073 victims of domestic violence once repeat victims are removed
3. 9,196 children aged 0-5 (including pregnant women) in Lewisham experience domestic violence per year

5.7 Finally, there have been four domestic homicides that have occurred since the implementation of the April 2011 legislation making the review of all domestic homicides a statutory obligation. In the more recent domestic homicides, Lewisham also has seen back to back matricides – whereby the son has killed his mother. To further support vulnerable adults at risk, the partnership will need to consider commissioning a familial abuse worker to work with victims of domestic violence and abuse who are over 55.

## **6. Hate Crime Data**

6.1 The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) operate with a nationally agreed definition of Hate Crime. Hate crimes are taken to mean any crime where the perpetrator's hostility or prejudice against an identifiable group of people is a factor in determining who is victimised.

6.2 The CPS and ACPO have agreed 5 monitored strands of hate crime:

- disability
- race
- religion or belief
- sexual orientation
- transgender identity

6.3 In 2011/12 the Home Office published statistics on Hate Crimes recorded by all police force areas in England and Wales. There were 43,748 hate crimes recorded by the police in 2011/12, of which:

- 35,816 (82%) were race hate crimes;
- 1,621 (4%) were religion hate crimes;
- 4,252 (10%) were sexual orientation hate crimes;
- 1,744 (4%) were disability hate crimes; and
- 315 (1%) were transgender hate crimes.

6.4 MPS figures available to the Partnership currently only cover Racist and Religious, and homophobic hate crime. Before the amending of the Public Order Act and the introduction of religiously aggravated offences there was a widespread perception particularly amongst Muslim community leaders that attacks on a largely BME faith were in many cases a form of racism by proxy. This historic connection underpins the combining of the two offences into the

'Racially and Religiously aggravated offences' category. When the offences are separated out it is apparent that race hate crimes account for the overwhelming majority of RRHC ; across the whole of the MPS force area there were only 603 recorded religious hate crimes as opposed to 7791 Race Hate crimes. Analysis of local figures suggest that the borough reflects this national trend.

- 6.5 Figures for Hate Crime are particularly sensitive to variations in both recording and subjective perceptions (a Hate Crime can be classified as a Hate Crime if it is *perceived by the victim or a witness to be motivated by prejudice against a 'protected group'*)
- 6.6 Whilst homophobic hate crime is registering a significant decrease; 22.0 % down on last year: there has been a significant percentage rise in RRHC. This is the first increase in this offence since 2007 when recording began though it should be set against the caveats previously indicated.
- 6.7 Between 01/01/2012 to 31/12/2012 there were 282 recorded offences of racially or religiously aggravated offences compared with a total of 221 for the previous calendar year – an increase of 27.6 %. The vast majority of offences in the RRHC category are public order offences with a small number of violent offences (12 offences causing injuries to the victim). Much of which the index offence is the primary issue with a hate crime becoming secondary to the incident.
- 6.8 A breakdown of perpetrators and suspects by IC code is outlined below<sup>1</sup>.

### **Suspects Ethnicity**

Of 277 suspects the IC code is known in 269 cases.  
The breakdown by IC code is as follows:

153	(55.23%)	IC1
6	(2.16%)	IC2
79	(28.5%)	IC3
12	(4.33%)	IC4
2	(0.72%)	IC5
1	(0.36%)	IC6

### **Victims Ethnicity**

Of 316 victims the IC code is known for 310

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<sup>1</sup> IC codes are codes used by the police to describe the apparent ethnicity of a suspect/victim. They may not in all cases match self-described ethnicity

- IC1 – White person, northern European type
- IC2 – Mediterranean European/Hispanic
- IC3 – African/Afro-Caribbean person
- IC4 – Indian, Pakistani, Nepalese, Maldivian, Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi, or any other (South) Asian person
- IC5 – Chinese, Japanese, or South-East Asian person
- IC6 – Arab person
- IC0, IC7 or IC9 – Origin unknown



85	(26.5%)	IC1
16	(5.06%)	IC2
150	(47.4%)	IC3
46	(14.5%)	IC4
11	(3.48%)	IC5
2	(0.63%)	IC6

- 6.9 Comparisons with IQUANTA's (Home Office data tool) Most Similar Group average indicate that Lewisham's average of 0.859 offences per 1000 residents is above the MSG average of 0.733<sup>2</sup>. By contrast Lewisham is below the Metropolitan Police average. Given the relatively low volume of offences caution should be exercised in drawing any conclusions from this information.

#### Possible Contributory Factors

- 6.10 By its very nature, and the vulnerable position of the protected groups, Hate Crime is acknowledged to be a vastly underreported crime, an outcome which has historically been connected with poor community relations with the affected communities. In such circumstances rises in recorded crime may be a welcome occurrence if they indicate improved public confidence in the police and other statutory services. Such a view is in accordance with current Government policy on Hate Crime which is focused in the first instance on addressing the issue of under-reporting. The Government has singled out the following groups as particularly adversely affected ; new migrant communities, including Asylum and Refugee communities; Gypsy, Irish Traveller and Roma communities, transgendered people and disabled people<sup>3</sup>.
- 6.11 It is possible that this increase can be attributed to a better knowledge of reporting mechanisms and an increase in confidence of victims to report incidents in the borough. A significant amount of work has been undertaken by SLP partners as well as community groups and organisations since 2010 to raise awareness of hate crime, how to report incidents and the support available to victims, particularly with Lewisham's newer migrant communities. Work has also been undertaken to ensure that reporting is as accessible as possible in the borough.
- 6.12 Lewisham's Third Party Reporting Scheme, introduced in 2010, has been increasingly used as a method of reporting hate crime in the borough over the past year, whereas its was previously not utilised. There are currently 17 reporting sites operating in the borough, which have been widely promoted by Lewisham Council, Lewisham Police and the reporting sites themselves. The Islamic Centre, Lewisham Temple, Downham Tamil Association and the Metro Centre have all been recently signed as reporting sites to increase accessibility of support to victims from these communities and encourage them to report incidents.

<sup>2</sup> iQUANTA holds the figures all Force areas are required to submit to the Home Office. The MSG average controls for pertinent demographic characteristics and creates a realistic benchmark

<sup>3</sup> Research by Mencap demonstrated that 90 per cent of people with a learning disability had experienced bullying and harassment. Sixty-six per cent of people with a learning disability have been bullied regularly with 32 per cent stating that bullying was taking place on a daily or weekly basis (Living in Fear, 2000).

- 6.13 Increasingly, online reporting has been used by victims in the borough, who access an online reporting form via the Lewisham Website. Since April 2011, 28 reports have been facilitated through third party reporting, including 15 Racist and Religious and 5 homophobic incidents. Through the introduction of Lewisham Police's LGBT Liaison Unit in 2011 there is also a team of Police Officers who specialise in dealing with reports of homophobic crime and providing support to victims. They undertook a range of awareness raising work to build confidence and encourage reports of incidents, as well as develop dialogue between the police and the LGBT community in the borough.
- 6.14 The Safer Lewisham Partnership has developed a hate crime action plan for the period 2012-13. One of the actions on this plan is to develop a Hate Crime Manual, detailing advice and support for victims on hate crime as well as responsibilities of agencies such as the Police, Council and RSLs and the tools available for these agencies to address hate crime and deal with perpetrators. Additionally, there is an action to enable victims of hate crime to report at libraries across the borough, which further improves accessibility for victims. Both of these actions are due to be launched in Early 2013.
- 6.15 Lewisham Council and Lewisham Police are not aware of any specific tensions in the community that may be causing an increase in racist and religious incidents in the borough; however this will continued to be monitored over the next year.

## **7. Next steps**

### **Reporting in Libraries**

- 7.1 Third party reporting in Lewisham aims to improve accessibility of reporting methods to victims outside of attending a police station or contacting the police directly.
- 7.2 Third party reporting provides an independent, non police method to report crime, and aims to encourage those victims that would usually find it difficult to report directly to the police or those who lack confidence in the police's response to reports.
- 7.3 Lewisham currently has 17 independent reporting sites across the borough that promote themselves as a point of contact where hate crimes can be reported.
- 7.4 Lewisham Council also provide an online reporting service on their website, which is the most widely used method of third party reporting in the borough. All third party reports are sent through to Lewisham Council's Neighbourhood Community Safety Service (NCSS), who forward these reports on to the police for investigation. The NCSS monitor the progress of the case and ensure a police response is provided.
- 7.5 Based on the success of this online reporting, it was proposed that reporting be introduced in Lewisham Libraries so that victims who do not have access to the Internet or a computer at home could access this facility using the computers at the libraries free of charge.

- 7.6 The libraries will also facilitate reporting using hard copy reporting forms if the victim prefers not to use the electronic reporting form.
- 7.7 When implemented, this project will ensure that:
- Victims can visit any library and ask a member of staff for a reporting form to complete. This completed form will then be sent by the librarian to the NCSS for follow up.
  - Victims can visit any library and ask to report an incident using the computers at the library for free, accessing the online reporting form on the Council's website.
  - To report online via the library computers, victims would sign up to a day library card in order to be given a pass code to access the internet.
  - If victims did not want to provide their details to be given a library card, they would be directed to the paper reporting form.
  - Libraries would advertise within their premises that they provide a third party reporting services.
  - Library staff would undertake training provided by NCSS around third party reporting and the process for facilitating the report between the victim, library and NCSS.
- 7.8 It is hoped that another benefit of introducing hate crime reporting in libraries will be an increase in awareness of what hate crime is, how to report, and the support services available. All libraries will be provided with leaflets on support services to display and distribute to residents, as well as posters highlighting what hate crime is and how to report it.

## **8. Hate Crime Manual**

- 8.1 Lewisham's Crime Reduction Service proposes to implement the publication of a 'hate crime manual'.
- 8.2 This manual will be a user-friendly document that details a range of information around hate crime and includes borough specific information on what is being done to address it.
- 8.3 The manual includes information on:
- What hate crime is, the forms in which it can be perpetrated and how it affects victims.
  - Reporting of hate crime, how to report to the police, third party reporting sites, online reporting and reporting in libraries (see above).
  - Agencies that have a responsibility for addressing and tackling hate crime and the tools and legislation they use.
  - Support available for victims of hate crime and contact details of relevant agencies in the borough.
- 8.4 The manual has been written with a view that both residents and professionals will use it. The aim is to raise awareness of hate crime and the available support in the borough, as well as improve understanding of the role professionals play in identifying and addressing hate crime and supporting victims.

- 8.5 The document will be available as a PDF on the Council's website. The website currently provides information on hate crime and reporting on dedicated 'hate crime' pages, and the PDF will be located there.
- 8.6 Additionally, a number of hard copies will be produced for the publicity launch and sent to a range of partners including Police, Registered Social Landlords, Probation and health care professionals.

## **9. Legal Implications**

- 9.1 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 places an obligation upon Local Authorities to have a committee which scrutinises crime and disorder within its area.
- 9.2 Within the context of the powers of this committee, the section provides that it should have the power to “ (a) review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities, for example, police and other relevant partner agencies of their crime and disorder functions; (b) to make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of those functions.”
- 9.3 Further, where this committee makes a report or recommendations it shall provide a copy— (a) to each of the responsible authorities, and (b) to each of the persons with whom, and bodies with which, the responsible authorities have a duty to co-operate under section 5(2) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (“the co-operating persons and bodies”).
- 9.4. The Local Government Act 1999 places a duty on the local authorities to secure continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised having regard to the combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 9.5 These statutory duties amongst others are relevant to the production of the Council's Safer Lewisham Strategy.

## **10. Financial Implications**

- 10.1 There are financial implications arising from this report for the Council, and the Partnership which is reliant on external bids being successful.

## **11. Environmental Implications**

- 11.1 Specific environmental implications of crime and disorder are reviewed annually through the strategic assessment process and appropriate action taken as required.

## **12. Equalities Implications**

- 12.1 Equalities implications are considered throughout the delivery this work.

## **13. Crime and Disorder Implications**

- 13.1 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1988, as amended, places a duty upon Local Authorities to consider crime and disorder implications and in particular, “to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.” This statutory obligation is the same for the Authorities “responsible partners” too. The level of crime and its impact is influenced by the decisions and activities taken through the day-to-day functions of local bodies and organisations.
- 13.2 Responsible authorities are required to provide a range of services in their community from policing, fire protection, planning, consumer and environmental protection, transport and highways. They each have a key statutory role in providing these services and, in carrying out their core activities, can significantly contribute to reducing crime and improving the quality of life in their area.

For further information on this report please contact Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney, Head of Crime Reduction & Supporting People, Directorate for Community Services on Tel: 020 8314 9569.

## **Appendix A – List of DV services in the borough**

### **Domestic Violence Support Services and websites for women and children**

Name of service – Contact address numbers/Website	Description of service offered
Community Groups Programme	The Community Groups Programme is an integrated community groups programme for children and their mothers who have experienced domestic abuse. The children's groups help children begin the healing process by providing an opportunity for children to talk about what happened, helping them to understand it's not their fault and teaching them how to develop a safety plan and practise it. The mother's groups support women in understanding how best to help their children.
Refuge Advocacy Service Community Safety Unit Lewisham Police Station 43 Lewisham High Street London, SE13 5JZ 078 7955 5358 / 078 7955 5359 078 2517 3513 www.refuge.org.uk	The Refuge Advocacy Service offers information, advice, support and advocacy to high risk, female victims of domestic violence (from their current partners) accessing the criminal and civil justice systems
Refuge Vietnamese Community Outreach Service www.refuge.org.uk	Domestic Violence Community Outreach Project for Vietnamese women and their children in Lewisham. Holistic and individual service based upon a needs assessment and support planning process. Including the following – risk assessment, safety planning, emotional and practical support. Self referral and agency referrals accepted
TRYangle Project Trinity Centre, 265 Burrage Road, Plumstead, London, SE18 7JW Groups for men also run in Bellingham. 020 8855 7564 (Men's Service) 020 8854 6906 (Women's Service) www.tryangle.org.uk	A Domestic Violence and Abuse Intervention Programme for men who want to end violent or abusive behaviour towards a partner. A Women's Support Service for women who are experiencing violence and abuse in an intimate relationship. One to one counselling and advice sessions and phone support for both men and women

<p>Victim Support  300 Sangley Road, Catford,  London, SE6 2JT  020 8698 4583 (Choose ext 4 for  domestic violence service)  020-8695 6679 (fax)  <a href="mailto:VS.Lewisham@vslondon.org">VS.Lewisham@vslondon.org</a></p>	<p>Emotional and practical support for male and female victims of domestic violence, LGBT victims, victims of familial abuse and children who have experienced / witnessed domestic violence.  Emotional and practical support for victims of crime</p>
<p>Women Against Domestic Violence  170 New Cross Road,  New Cross,  London SE14 5AA.  020 7732 9716</p>	<p>Domestic violence support to women who live in Lewisham Borough. Support is given through Advocacy – practical and emotional support; counselling; weekly support group for women; children’s support; volunteering opportunities for women.</p>

# Lewisham's Domestic and Sexual Violence (DSV) Risk / Referral Pathways 2012/2013

(DSV includes: Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation, honour based violence, sexual assault/rape, stalking/harassment, trafficking and exploitation)

## Child or Adult at risk of Domestic and Sexual Violence

### 1. Victim is in danger or an immediate response is needed:

- Dial 999 in an emergency or in danger
- Contact the 24 hour DV Helpline 0808 2000 247
- Contact an IDVA on 020 8698 4583
- Contact Lewisham Social Services (Out of Hours for Safeguarding Adults & Children on 020 8314 6000
- Contact South London Rape Crisis Centre (rape/sexual assault) on 0808 802 9999
- Forced Marriage Unit 0207 008 0151
- Karma Nirvana (honour based violence) 0800 599 9247

### 2. ADULT (18 and over)

**Vulnerable Adult:**  
(e.g. unable to care for, or protect themselves)  
**Contact the Social Care Access & Information Team (SCAIT) on 020 8314 7777**

### Non-Vulnerable Adult

**ASSESS RISK to the adult using:**

1. CAF Assessment (if pregnant victim)
2. CAADA-DASH Risk Assessment, or;
3. Your own agency's assessment, or;
4. Professional Judgement

*NB: If you are not trained in assessing risk, contact your safeguarding or domestic violence lead*

### 3. CHILD (under 18) is in the family

**Child is under 5 years (including pre-natal) contact Children's Social Care directly on 020 8314 6660**  
Child is 5 years to 17 years

**Child is 5 years to 17 years**

**ASSESS RISK to the child/ren using:**

1. CAF Referral to Children Social Care or;
2. CAADA-DASH Risk Assessment or;
3. Your own agency's assessment, or;
4. Professional judgement

*NB: If you are not trained in assessing risk, contact your domestic violence lead*

### LOW-MED RISK ACTIONS

- Complete a CAF (where children are involved or pregnant victim)
- Conduct 'Safety Planning' with children and/or non-abusing adult
- Information sharing with relevant professionals and refer to agencies for support, including:
  - IDVA
  - Police Community Safety Team
  - Sexual Health Services
  - Counselling/Support Groups
  - Health Services
  - Rape Crisis Centre
  - Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)
  - Housing/Refuge Services
  - Mental Health Service
  - Drug and alcohol services
  - Children's Centres
  - Forced Marriage Unit
  - Stalking Helpline

### HIGH RISK ACTIONS

- Refer to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
- Refer to Children's Social Care
- Refer to IDVA
- Contact Police
- Conduct 'Safety Planning' with victim to reduce harm
- Flag as 'domestic violence' on your systems
- Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC)
- Forced Marriage Unit
- Engage with Sanctuary scheme (housing)
- Refuge
- DV National 24 Hour Helpline

## Appendix B



## Lewisham's Domestic and Sexual Violence (DSV) Risk / Referral Pathways 2012/2013

(DSV includes: Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation, honour based violence, sexual assault/rape, stalking/harassment, trafficking and exploitation)

### Professional Guidance:

- All risk assessment templates and related documents are on
- Domestic Violence is a 'process' not an 'incident', work with the victim holistically.
- If you are not trained in risk assessment or safety planning methods contact your Domestic Violence Lead in your service or team and for training
- Always explain the limits of confidentiality with the victim or young person
- Recognise any potential indicators of DSV; Risk Asses the incident; Respond by taking the necessary actions.
- Reassure the victim or child that the violence is not their fault
- Record all information, referrals, assessments and interventions
- Always consider additional vulnerabilities of the victim/child including mental health, substance misuse, disabilities and cases of Honour Based Violence (HBV)
- Where appropriate going through a risk assessment with a victim may help them to think through their situation and make decisions about their safety
- Before going through any assessment ensure the victim: has time, is safe to talk, is alone, knows where the perpetrator and children are and understands why you are going through a risk assessment
- Risk Assessments are structures to help you make an informed decision using your professional judgement. They are not definitive assessments of risk
- Always remember that risk is not static and can change over time. Risk assessments should be conducted regularly and used as a prompt for further questioning
- If the violence involves sexual assault it is important that you contact the local Havens Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and/or police to ensure evidence of the assault is not lost. This includes the victim not showering, going to the toilet, drinking or washing their clothes. When a sexual assault is reported to the police a specially trained officer attends the victim and coordinates the investigation. You can go direct to the SARC without going to the police.

## PHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

Lewisham Victim Support (IDVA):	<b>020 8698 4583</b>	National 24 Hour Domestic Violence Helpline:	<b>0808 2000 247</b>
Refuge Advocacy Service:	<b>020 8694 2707</b>	Rape Crisis Centre – South London:	<b>020 8683 3311</b>
Lewisham Housing Options Centre:	<b>020 8314 7007</b>	Havens: Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC):	<b>020 3299 1599</b>
Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Service:	<b>020 8314 7777</b>	TRYangle (male perpetrator programme):	<b>020 8855 7564</b>
Lewisham Children’s Social Care:	<b>020 8314 6660</b>	Refuge Vietnamese Outreach Service:	<b>020 8694 6025</b>
Out of Hours for Safeguarding Children or Adults:	<b>020 8314 6000</b>	Refuge Vietnamese Mental Health Service:	<b>020 7234 0601</b>
Lewisham Police Community Safety Unit:	<b>020 8284 4806</b>	RESPECT (perpetrators):	<b>0845 122 8609</b>
Police non-emergency crime reporting:	<b>101</b>	National Child Protection Helpline:	<b>0808 500 5000</b>
Lewisham Women Against Domestic Violence:	<b>020 7732 9716</b>	Child Line Number	<b>0800 1111</b>
Lewisham Drug and Alcohol (Adults) Service (CRI):	<b>020 8314 5566</b>	Karma Nirvana (honour based violence):	<b>0800 599 9247</b>
Lewisham Drug and Alcohol (Young People) Service	<b>020 8297 7941</b>	Family Pathways (early intervention)	<b>020 8695 5955</b>
Lewisham Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordinator:	<b>020 8314 9397</b>	Forced Marriage Unit:	<b>0207 008 0151</b>
Lewisham MARAC Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conf:	<b>020 8314 6326</b>	The Metro Centre (LGBT):	<b>020 8305 5000</b>
Lewisham Citizens Advice Bureau:	<b>08701 264 037</b>	Stalking Helpline:	<b>0300 636 0300</b>

Lewisham Local Safeguarding Children’s Website: <http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myserVICES/socialcare/children/safeguarding-children-board/Pages/default.aspx>

Lewisham Council Website Domestic & Sexual Violence Pages: <http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myserVICES/publicsafety/domestic-violence/Pages/default.aspx>

UKBA – Protecting Victims of Domestic Violence: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/residency/DDV-concession.pdf>

*(Templates for risk assessments and referral forms are on both LSCB and Lewisham Council Websites)*