



Stockport Domestic Abuse Strategy 2026-2031

High Hazel
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Bridge
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BRAMHALL
Great Cheadle
Moor Hulme
CALE
GREEN HEALD
GREEN
CHEADLE
GATLEY
HEATH
EDGELEY
HEATONS

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FOREWORD

Women's Voices of Strength – speaking out for change.
(Stockport's domestic abuse lived experience group)

Living through domestic abuse is something none of us ever expected yet it has shaped us in ways we never imagined. Our lived experiences, although varied, have felt painful and challenging but have also shown our courage, strength and resilience.

What is vital and can make the biggest impact is knowing victim survivors are not alone, that someone is there to listen, to believe, respect and stand beside them.

As survivors in Stockport, we want to use our voices to help others feel supported. By sharing our experiences, we aim to make services continue to be stronger, compassionate and more responsive.

Our hope is that victim survivors feel able to reach out, find the help and support they need and are able to move forward into a positive future filled with safety and dignity.

Micheal Cullen
Chief Executive

Domestic abuse affects people from all walks of life, often behind closed doors and too often in silence. Its impact on individuals, families and communities is profound and long-lasting, and it demands a coordinated, compassionate and determined response. In Stockport, we believe everyone has the right to live safely, with dignity, and free from fear, harm and control.

This Domestic Abuse Strategy sets out our shared vision to prevent abuse, protect those at risk, and support survivors to rebuild their lives. It reflects the strength of partnership working across public services, the voluntary and community sector, and—most importantly—the voices and lived experiences of victims and survivors. Their insight continues to shape our understanding and guide our commitment to meaningful change.

I am proud of the way partners across Stockport have come together to listen, learn and work collaboratively to improve how we respond to domestic abuse. At the heart of this strategy is a simple but powerful principle: victims' voices matter, and they must shape the services and systems designed to support them.

We recognise that domestic abuse takes many forms, including physical, emotional, psychological, sexual and economic abuse, as well as coercive and controlling behaviour. Addressing it requires not only effective intervention, but also early prevention, education, and the courage to challenge harmful attitudes and behaviours wherever they arise.

This document is not just a statement of ambition; it is a clear commitment to a whole-system approach that prioritises safeguarding, strengthens support services, promotes awareness, and holds perpetrators to account. By working together, we can create a Stockport where domestic

abuse is not tolerated, survivors are heard and supported, and prevention is at the heart of everything we do.

Deborah Hurst
Police Detective Superintendent

As Detective Superintendent for Stockport, I am proud to support this Domestic Abuse Strategy, which places people affected by abuse at the heart of our collective response.

Domestic abuse is complex and often hidden. While it is vital that we pursue offenders robustly, our approach must also ensure individuals feel safe, listened to, and supported throughout their journey. This means providing clear information, consistent safeguarding, and access to the right support at the right time.

Effective delivery depends on strong partnership working. Across Stockport, policing works closely with local authority, health, housing and specialist services to manage risk, share information and secure better outcomes. Forums such as Multi Agency Risk assessment Conference (MARAC) and Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) remain central to this coordinated approach.

This strategy is strengthened by the voices of those with lived experience. Their insight ensures our response is grounded in reality, informs improvement, and keeps the focus on what truly makes a difference.

Importantly, this strategy will be actively brought to life through delivery plans and partnership activity, ensuring it drives tangible improvements in how we prevent harm, protect people and respond to domestic abuse across Stockport.

By continuing to work together, learn and adapt, we can reduce harm and provide a more effective, compassionate response across our communities.

NHS Greater Manchester

“Health services play a vital role in identifying domestic abuse early, supporting victim-survivors, and helping to prevent harm. The NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (NHS GM) is a key statutory partner in Stockport’s response and will work alongside the local authority, Greater Manchester Police and specialist providers and communities to strengthen our whole-system approach.

NHS GM will ensure that domestic abuse is recognised as a core safeguarding and public health priority across all health settings. Health professionals are often the first point of contact for adults, children and families affected by abuse, and it is essential that they feel equipped, confident and supported to respond.

Through its strategic commissioning responsibilities, NHS GM will help develop clear and accessible pathways into support, improve early identification, and promote trauma-informed practice across the health system. This includes working with partners to strengthen specialist provision in clinical settings, ensure consistent training for the health workforce, and improve information-sharing to protect those at risk, whilst learning from incidents and statutory reviews.

NHS GM will contribute to shared governance, data and performance arrangements, supporting a coordinated and compassionate system that promotes safety, reduces inequalities and improves outcomes for all those affected by domestic abuse”.

Context

One Stockport: One Future

Stockport is an ambitious place undergoing a spectacular transformation. A great place to live, work and play, with green space and lots of culture on our doorstep, with excellent connections to Greater Manchester, London and the Peak District. It is a place where residents, businesses and communities work together to make good things happen and get people the support they need.

But Stockport is not immune from the challenges of our times. The challenges facing us are big. They will take time to address. That is why One Stockport: One Future looks ahead to 2040. We want to ensure that Stockport is a place that is resilient to whatever changes and opportunities come in the future.

One Stockport: One Future is the next phase of our borough plan. It sets out how we will work together to tackle the challenges we face, so Stockport can be the best place to live happy and healthy lives, a place where anything is possible, a place that everyone, right across the borough can be proud of. It will be delivered through a range of organisational and partnership strategies, including the One Safer Stockport Plan(OSSP)

Delivering '5 Big Things' together

To achieve our shared vision to 'make Stockport the best place to live happy and healthy lives', we must have a relentless focus on the biggest challenges facing our borough.

No one thing or organisation can address these challenges alone. One Stockport: One Future is a collective call to action to work together to deliver the '5 Big Things' we believe will transform our borough over the next 15 years to help us achieve our shared vision. These are set out in the infographic on the following page.

There are also two major issues that affect each of these '5 Big Things'. These cross-cutting issues are:

- **Fair and inclusive:** making Stockport a great, diverse place to live, where everyone can thrive.
- **Climate Action Now:** creating a 'green print' for Stockport so it is a climate-friendly place to live, work, play and invest.

The role of the Domestic Abuse Strategy in delivering:

ONE STOCKPORT ONE FUTURE

Our Domestic Abuse Strategy provides a strategic framework for the delivery of One Stockport: One Future embedding the prevention of domestic abuse within the borough's long-term ambition to make Stockport the best place to live happy, healthy lives.

It directly supports the One Stockport Safer Partnership Plan and contributes to the delivery of the 5 Big Things—particularly Best Health and Care, The Best Place to Grow Up and Thriving Neighbourhoods—and applies a whole-system, fair and inclusive approach grounded in partnership working, lived experience and early intervention.

1

Good Jobs and Homes



2

The Best Place to Grow Up



3

Best Health and Care



4

Thriving Neighbourhoods



5

Clean, Green Transport



Introduction

This document sets out Stockport's Domestic Abuse Strategy for the period 2026–2031.

Domestic abuse is a widespread and deeply harmful issue that affects individuals, families and communities across Stockport. It cuts across age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality and socio-economic status, with enduring consequences for physical and mental health, safety and overall wellbeing. As a local authority, we have both a moral and statutory responsibility to prevent abuse, protect victims and survivors, and hold those who cause harm to account.

This strategy is underpinned by a strong commitment to equality, inclusion and the voices of those with lived experience. It recognises that domestic abuse is not solely a criminal justice issue, but also a public health, safeguarding and human rights concern.

This strategy sets out our shared vision and collective commitment to addressing domestic abuse in all its forms. It has been developed in collaboration with survivors, frontline professionals, community organisations and statutory partners, ensuring that the voices of those with lived experience are central to our approach.

We recognise that domestic abuse is complex and multifaceted, requiring a whole-system response that is trauma-informed, culturally competent and grounded in lived experience.

Domestic abuse is often influenced or exacerbated by a range of interrelated factors. Socio-economic pressures, such as poverty, insecure or unsuitable accommodation, and wider social inequalities can increase vulnerability and strain within relationships. Alcohol and substance misuse can further intensify risk, increasing the frequency or severity of abuse. Whilst these factors are never accepted as an excuse for those who use harmful behaviours in their relationships, understanding and addressing them is essential for effective prevention and intervention.

We are committed to a whole-family approach that includes older adults, babies, children and young people, victim-survivors, and those who cause harm.

We are committed to raising awareness, challenging stigma, and improving identification and responses across all services. Our approach is survivor-centred, trauma-informed and rooted in safeguarding and human rights principles.

We will work collaboratively with communities, professionals and survivors to ensure that harmful practices are neither overlooked nor minimised. Through training, policy development and effective multi-agency working, we aim to build a system that protects those at risk, supports those affected, and holds people who cause harm to account.

Our partners are committed to creating a safe, supportive, and inclusive workplace, recognising domestic abuse as a key safeguarding, wellbeing, and workforce issue. We ensure affected staff receive timely, compassionate support, and strive to foster an environment where employees feel safe, empowered, and protected from harm. This includes the local authority refreshing the Domestic Abuse Staff Policy and the development of a Domestic Abuse Champion network.

Together, we will work to make Stockport a borough where domestic abuse is not tolerated, where survivors are supported, and where everyone can live free from fear and harm.

Strategic Alignment

The strategy delivers on the “Keeping People Safe and Supporting Victims” strategic theme within the One Stockport Safer Partnership Plan 2025–2028. It aligns with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and local safeguarding frameworks.

This strategy is also aligned with national and regional frameworks, including the Government’s Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy (2025) and the Greater Manchester Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Strategy (2021) and Delivery Plan (2026–2029). While locally focused, it reflects Stockport’s commitment to working closely with Greater Manchester partners on planning, commissioning, funding and delivery, ensuring a coordinated and effective response to domestic abuse across the city region.

Whilst domestic abuse sits within the wider framework of gender-based violence (GBV), GBV encompasses a broader range of harms, including sexual violence, exploitation, stalking, misogyny, harassment, and abuse in public, online and workplace settings. The Domestic Abuse Strategy and the wider GBV response are closely aligned; however, domestic abuse requires a distinct and prioritised focus due to its scale and associated statutory responsibilities. This strategy therefore focuses on domestic abuse, noting that the wider GBV agenda is addressed separately.

The Domestic Abuse Strategy forms part of a wider suite of strategies contributing to the delivery of the Children and Young People Plan 2024–2026, with a particular focus on Ambition 1: ensuring that services work together so that families receive the help they need when they need it, and that children and young people are safe and supported by their family networks.

Evidence Base and Development

This strategy has been developed through an evidence-led and collaborative process, drawing together national and regional policy, partnership strategies, research and emerging best practice. It is informed by analysis of local data and intelligence, alongside the domestic abuse needs assessment, which identified levels of need, current provision, and gaps across services.

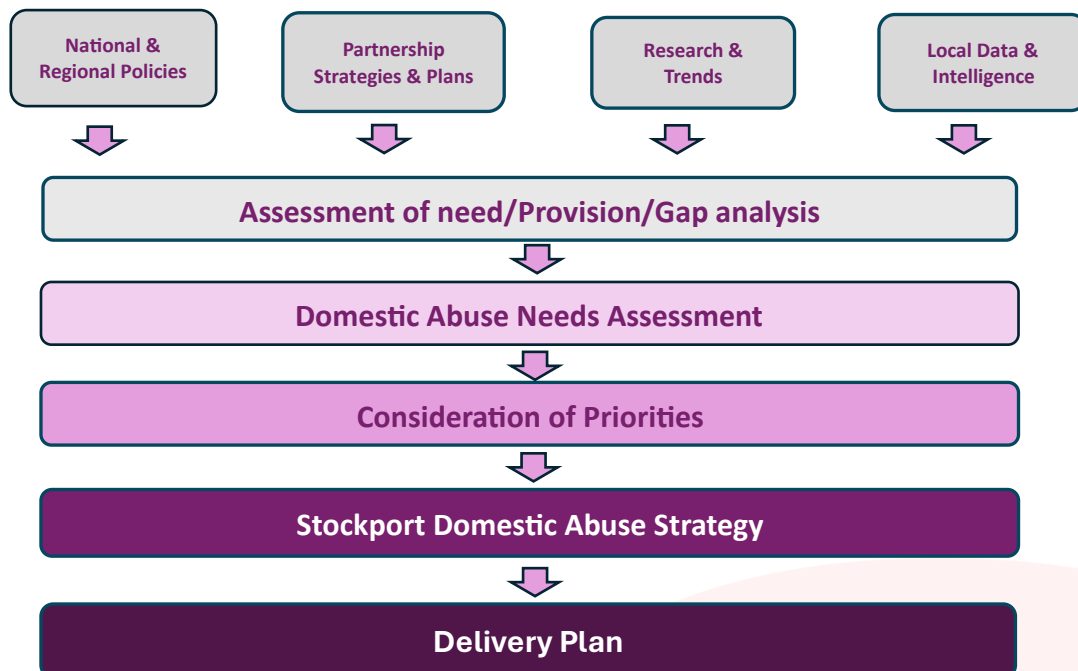
This strategy has been informed by a detailed domestic abuse needs assessment commissioned by the Stockport Domestic Abuse Partnership Board (DAPB). The needs assessment, undertaken by Linxs Consultancy Limited, was informed by a comprehensive programme of data collection, service analysis and wide-ranging consultation. Engagement was underpinned by the voices of domestic abuse survivors and their families, whose experiences have helped shape our vision and recommendations. Representatives from a wide range of organisations also contributed their insights.

Central to this process has been meaningful engagement with survivors, their families, and a wide range of statutory and community partners, ensuring that lived experience and professional expertise have shaped the strategic priorities. The findings from this work have

informed the identification of shared priorities and the development of a clear delivery plan to support coordinated action across Stockport.

To ensure we continue to meet the needs of our communities, we will undertake a refreshed needs assessment in line with the requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

The process followed to develop this strategy is summarised in the following chart: -



What is Domestic Abuse?

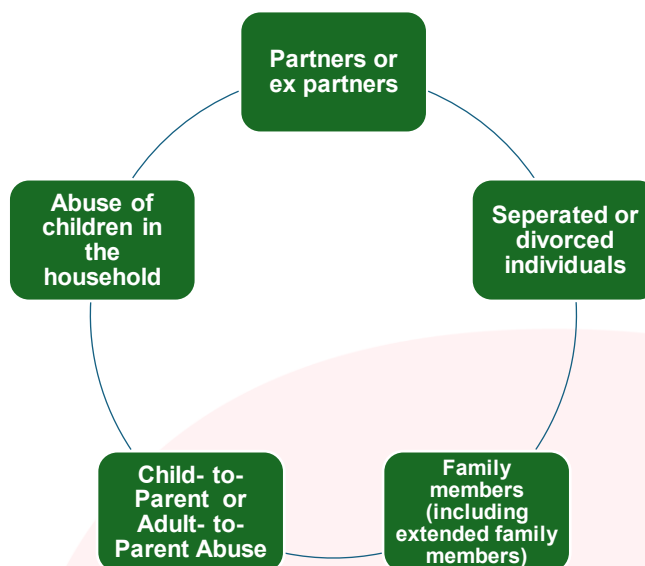
Domestic abuse occurs across all our society, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, wealth or where you live. The abuse can be physical, sexual, psychological, financial, economic, emotional or spiritual. It can be done through a range of harmful behaviours including violence, threats, technology such as cyber and virtual abuse and coercive or controlling behaviour.

It includes harmful practices—such as forced marriage, so called honour-based abuse and female genital mutilation (FGM) are forms of abuse that are often hidden, culturally embedded, and underreported. These practices violate human rights, perpetuate inequality, and cause lasting trauma to victims and survivors. In Stockport, we recognise the need to address harmful practices as part of our wider domestic abuse strategy.

DOMESTIC ABUSE IN ALL ITS FORMS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE

What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic abuse may occur as a single incident or as a pattern of repeated behaviour. It can involve abuse carried out by.



Who Does it Effect?



Disproportionately impacts women and girls: Greater prevalence, severity and



Also affects marginalised groups targeted because of gender

Occurs in heterosexual and same-sex relationships



- Domestic abuse can occur regardless of how long a relationship has lasted or whether the individuals live together

Age and Vulnerability



- All ages can experience abuse
- Older people may be abused by carers
- Children and young people are victims in their own right under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Domestic Abuse Nationally

The impact of domestic abuse is not only devastating to individuals and families, but also to society. The total cost of domestic abuse is estimated at £85 billion annually ([Domestic Abuse Commissioner, 2024](#)), including £14 billion in lost productivity and time off work ([Home Office, 2019](#)).

An estimated **2.3 million** adults aged 16 and over experienced domestic abuse in England and Wales in the year ending March 2024, including 1.6 million women and 712,000 men ([ONS, 2024](#)).

- **Over 105,000 children live in homes where there is high-risk domestic abuse.** ([SafeLives Marac national dataset \(2023\)](#))



Children in the UK experience domestic abuse.
(*For Baby's Sake, 2025*)

49% of teenagers in intimate relationships aged between 13-17 in England and Wales experienced violent or controlling behaviour.
(Youth Endowment Fund, 2024).

There were **108** domestic homicides in the year ending March 2024, of these, 83 were women and 25 were men; 66 of these victims were killed by a partner or ex-partner.
([Homicide in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics, 2025](#))

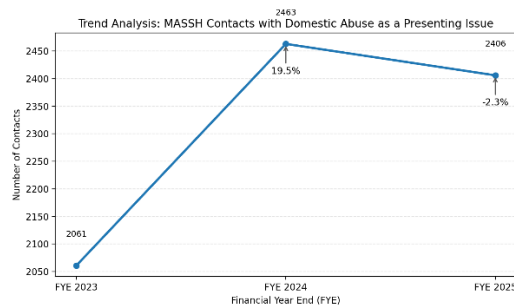
- Every 30 seconds a domestic abuse related call is made to the police (NCVD)
- Non-physical abuse, such as emotional manipulation, psychological harm, and coercive control, continues to be among the most commonly reported experiences, followed by physical assault and financial control (SafeLives 2019; ONS, 2024).

Domestic Abuse in Stockport

(Greater Manchester Police (GMP) Data)

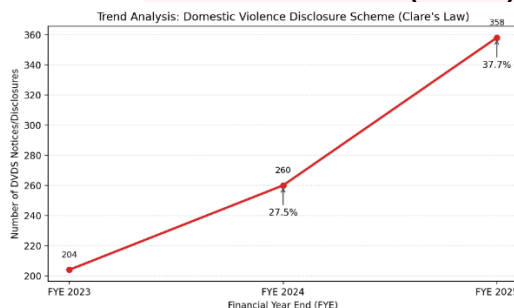
Domestic abuse remains a significant concern in Stockport, affecting individuals across all demographics. The Stockport Domestic Abuse Strategy 2026-2031 outlines a comprehensive, multi-agency approach to tackling domestic abuse, with a vision of making Stockport a place where domestic abuse is unacceptable and individuals feel safe and supported.

MASSH contacts with domestic abuse as a presenting issue



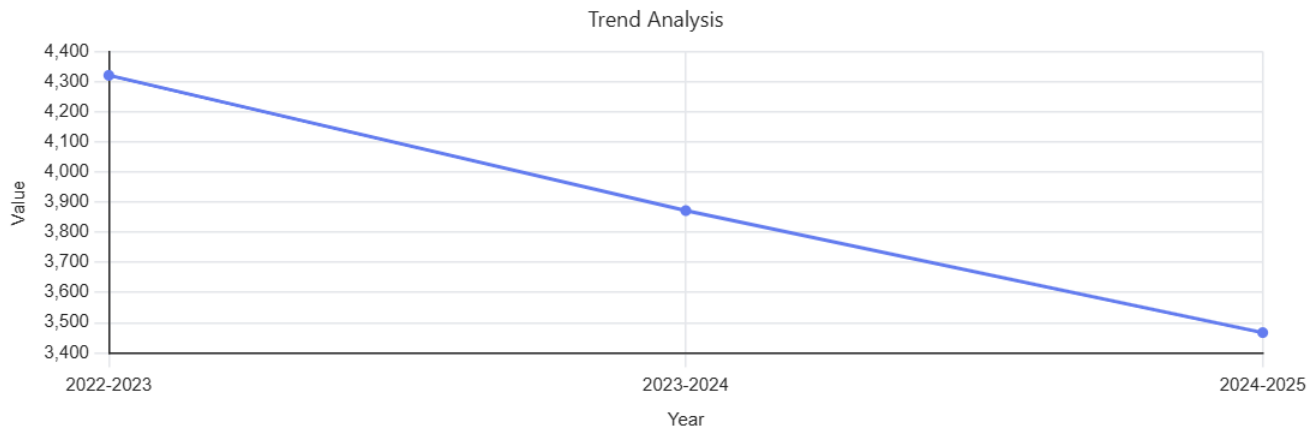
Overall pattern: A rise from 2023 to 2024, followed by a slight dip in 2025. This can indicate improved identification/referrals into MASSH from partners (e.g., police, schools, health) in 2024, with activity stabilising in 2025.

Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS)- Claire's Law



Overall trend: Strong year-on-year growth across the period, indicating increased awareness and/or uptake of Claire's Law pathway.

The number of recorded crimes with a Domestic Abuse flag for Stockport



Overall trend: Clear downward trend across the three years.
From 2022–2023 to 2023–2024, there is a noticeable drop of 449.
From 2023–2024 to 2024–2025, the decline continues by 405.
Overall decrease across the period: 854 (19.8%).

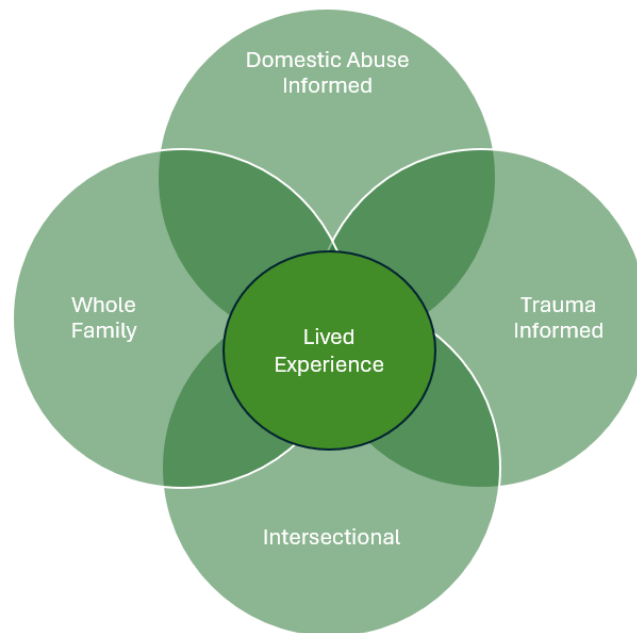
Our Vision

In Stockport, we will not tolerate any form of domestic abuse, and we will strive to ensure everyone can live free from abuse and harm. We will create an environment where healthy relationships are the norm and where victims, survivors and their children will have access to appropriate safe accommodation and specialist support. Through a coordinated, trauma-informed and evidence led approach, we will prevent abuse, identify risk earlier, promote safety and long-term recovery.

To do this we have adopted a framework that underpins all our priorities, providing holistic, inclusive and a coordinated approach to tackling domestic abuse. This framework is informed by commitment at a senior and strategic level to listen and learn from the voices of lived experience and apply this to the delivery of services through co-design and co-production.

We will ensure that domestic abuse is everybody's business and responsibility. We will all work together to achieve our vision, by creating a society where domestic abuse is prevented before it begins, and victims, survivors and children feel safe, supported and have access to the right support at the right time. We will work collaboratively to create lasting change across all our communities with the voice of lived experience at the heart of our response; and where perpetrators of abuse are held accountable for their behaviour.

Our Framework:



Domestic Abuse Informed

Domestic abuse can take many forms and encompasses a range of abusive and coercive behaviours that may occur across all types of relationships. Statutory and voluntary sector services working with children and adults require a detailed understanding of the abusers' use of controlling and coercive behaviours, and how these impact on the victim and child.

A domestic abuse-informed approach recognises that every experience of domestic abuse is different. Services should seek to understand an individual's journey and the nature of the harm they have experienced, in order to provide the right support at the right time. This approach moves beyond an incident-based response and considers the cumulative harm experienced by victim survivors and children, by identifying patterns of behaviour by those who cause harm.

A domestic abuse-informed response clearly identifies the source of harm by naming and describing the behaviours of the person causing harm, and by recognising the impact of those behaviours on both adults and children as direct victims who are entitled to support. It also acknowledges that people who cause harm may themselves have experienced harm. Our interventions will therefore focus on holding people who cause harm to account, while offering appropriate support to enable change.

Our ambition is that all services across our borough will understand what it means to be domestic abuse informed and account for all risks, not just physical violence, and risk assessments will consider cumulative harm and identify the needs and experiences of both adults and children.

We are committed to actively seeking out and working with people who have lived experience of domestic abuse, from all ages and backgrounds, to inform and improve responses. We will continue to engage victim survivors, recognising that involvement in shaping change can play a positive role in their journey towards recovery and life after abuse.

Trauma Informed

A trauma-informed approach recognises that domestic abuse is inherently traumatic and that trauma can have lasting impacts on an individual's physical, emotional, and psychological wellbeing. Survivors may carry the effects of trauma into every interaction with services, systems, and relationships. Supporting recovery therefore requires more than ensuring physical safety; it requires understanding, empathy, trust, and consistency.

Being trauma-informed means that services not only recognise the prevalence and impact of trauma but actively works to avoid re-traumatisation and to promote recovery. This includes creating environments and responses where survivors feel safe, respected, listened to, and empowered.

Through this strategy, we aim to develop a system that not only protects individuals from harm but also supports survivors to rebuild their lives with dignity, resilience, and hope.

Intersectional

An intersectional approach goes beyond recognising the diverse characteristics and identities of children and adults. It requires an understanding of how multiple and overlapping factors can interact to create experiences of discrimination, exclusion, and oppression.

Applied to domestic abuse, an intersectional approach means that services seek to understand the unique experiences of each individual and family, including their histories, identities, and current circumstances. These experiences must be understood within the wider context of structural inequalities, including racism, sexism, poverty, and other forms of disadvantage. Practitioners must be supported to reflect on their own values, assumptions, and biases, and to ensure these do not negatively influence their work with families.

We recognise that every person's journey is unique, and we are committed to ensuring that everyone can reach a place of safety. We acknowledge that some individuals face greater barriers to accessing support, and we will work to improve the accessibility and responsiveness of services through gender-informed and culturally informed approaches

Whole Family

A whole-family approach is a core element of this strategy and requires all services to consider the risks, needs, and experiences of every family member. This includes offering proactive support not only to victims and survivors, but also to children, wider family and social networks, and to those who cause harm.

Domestic abuse can disrupt relationships, routines, and emotional wellbeing across the family. A whole-family approach ensures that services do not operate in isolation but instead recognise the interconnected experiences and recovery journeys of all those affected.

By adopting a whole-family approach, Stockport aims to create safer and more stable environments in which families can recover and thrive beyond the trauma of domestic abuse. We will strengthen partnership working to ensure that all family members are recognised, valued, and supported within a coordinated whole-system response.

Our approach is to work *with* people, not to do things *to* or *for* them, focusing on individual and family strengths, needs, and aspirations, and supporting change alongside those affected.

Our Strategic Priorities

Based on input from the domestic abuse needs assessment, testimonies and voices of domestic abuse survivors and their families, a development workshop with Domestic Abuse Partnership Board members, and a review of available information, the following four priorities have been identified:

1. Awareness, Prevention and Early Intervention
2. Joint Working and Partnership Focus
3. Safe Accommodation
4. Responding to those who cause harm

1. Awareness, Prevention and Early Intervention

Headline

To promote awareness, provide prevention and early intervention so that domestic abuse is known, understood, and recognised, thereby reducing harm and risk. Our priority is to ensure that everyone – the victim, the person who has caused harm, and children and young people – can access services and support as early as possible.

“Information and understanding across our communities to enable recognition of domestic abuse. Victim survivors, children and families need clear guidance and early support; when services explain what help is available, and why it matters, it can reduce harm, help protect children and offer people the chance to rebuild their lives much sooner.”

(Women’s Voices of Strength)

Achieved through:

- Ensuring frontline practitioners across the partnership have access to high quality training in responding to domestic abuse; that will equip them with the knowledge and confidence to identify abuse early, respond safely and support victims effectively.
- Ensure effective, timely support and targeted interventions for children and young people to promote healthy relationships and prevent domestic abuse.
- Ensuring children and young people affected by domestic abuse have access to appropriate support to help them recover, build resilience and thrive.
- Strengthening commissioning efforts to expand the capacity of domestic abuse support services, ensuring timely, accessible, and specialist help is available to those who need it.

- Ensuring all schools in Stockport provide comprehensive education on healthy relationships, consent, and recognising abuse, empowering young people to challenge misogynistic attitudes.
- A continued targeted focus on boys and young men to prevent the development of harmful behaviours, promote positive masculinity, and reduce the risk of future harm within relationships. This will include work addressing misogyny and will align with, and complement, activity across the Council linked to the wider Gender-Based Violence (GBV) agenda.
- Placing strong emphasis on cross sector collaboration, bringing providers together and working at a -whole system- level to ensure a coordinated and consistent response.
- We will collectively strengthen our understanding and response to children and young people being recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

2. Joint Working and Partnership Focus

Headline

To improve collaboration and shared accountability among agencies to ensure consistent, effective, and survivor-centred responses to domestic abuse through strong leadership and governance arrangements.

“We need a culture where services work together- sharing information, communicating well, and offering consistent trauma informed compassionate support – to empower victims to recognise abuse, seek help, and feel truly validated and heard. Joined-up support from trained professionals can be life-changing, giving people the confidence and strength to move forward”

(Women’s Voices of Strength)

Achieved through:

- Adopting a unified one service model through the development of One Stockport COMPASS domestic abuse hub, for victim survivors, and those who cause harm across the continuum of risk.
- Develop the new Domestic Abuse Hub (COMPASS) to serve as a single point of access, improving pathway clarity and access to support for professionals and families.
- Working with Greater Manchester Police and Greater Manchester Combined Authority to implement a standardised approach by redesigning the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) to improve the quality and effectiveness of this process. Ensuring there is a timely, proportionate and appropriate response to all victims of domestic abuse.
- Developing a new ‘navigator model’ to support victims and families with complex needs. This whole-family approach aims to reduce repeat victimisation and improve long-term outcomes.

- Raising awareness and confidence across the partnership to increase appropriate referrals and understanding to all our risk management process ensuring broader identification and support.
- Establishing a robust quality assurance framework, underpinned by accurate data collection and analysis to evidence impact and inform continuous improvement.
- Maximising resource to enable us to offer a comprehensive community support service for victims, children, and families affected by domestic abuse.
- Strengthening pathways and coordination between providers to ensure seamless support and reduce duplication.

3. Safe Accommodation

Headline

To ensure that victim-survivors have access to safe, secure, and appropriate housing when escaping abuse and beginning their journey toward healing and independence.

“Accessible information available to raise awareness of all the housing options and pathways for victim survivors. When services communicate clearly and show understanding, it can promote someone’s sense of hope, safety and sense of stability”

(Women’s Voices of Strength)

Achieved through:

- Developing a Sanctuary Scheme and a cross-tenure single point of contact. This will enable tailored safety planning and support plans, allowing more victims to remain safely in their homes where appropriate.
- Ensuring victim-survivors can access safe accommodation locally, maintain vital support networks, and reduce disruption to children’s and adults’ education and wellbeing.
- Improving understanding of needs and outcomes by strengthening data systems to accurately record and monitor the experiences of victim-survivors in safe and temporary accommodation.
- Working as a partnership to develop response to individuals and families to ensure they are supported into long term accommodation.

4. Responding to those who cause harm

Headline

A priority of ours is to continue to develop, implement and evaluate how we respond to those who cause harm. We will continue to tackle and address abusive behaviour, holding individuals accountable, and providing support to facilitate the development of healthy relationship behaviours.

“Meaningful support that both protects survivors and challenges those who cause harm can change the course of our lives. Those who cause harm should be held to account and offered the tools to change so they could learn to take responsibility, respond differently, and choose safer behaviours “

(Women’s Voices of Strength)

Achieved through:

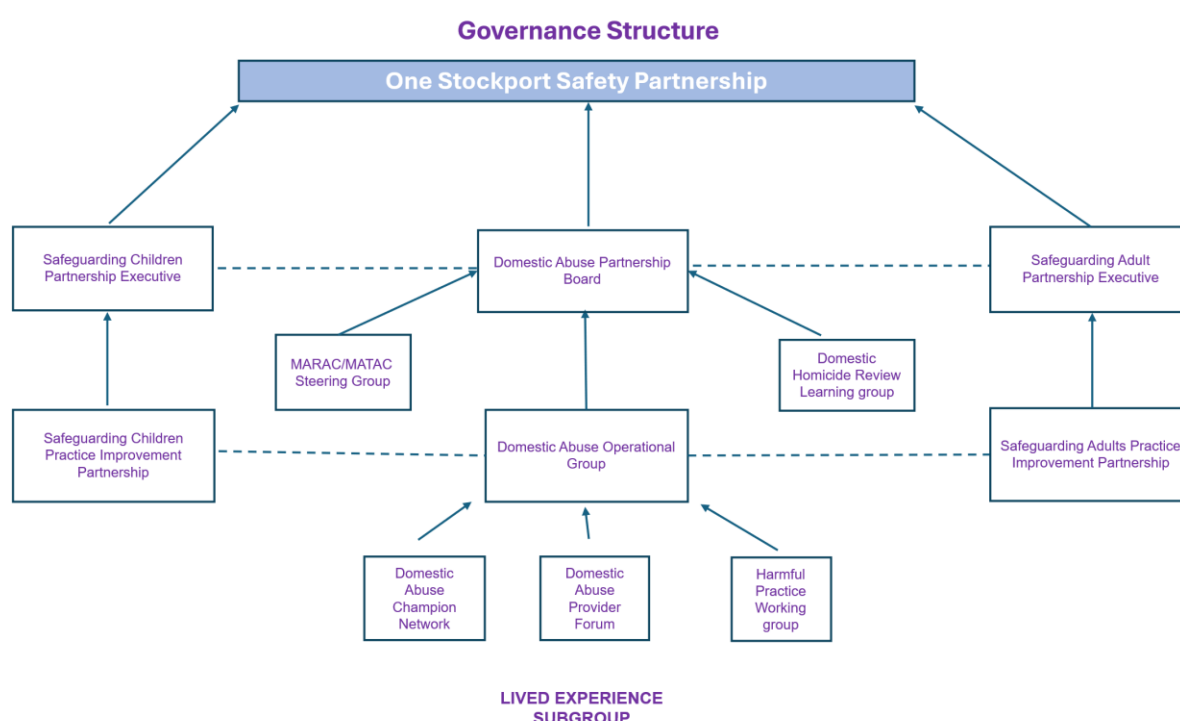
- Ensuring protection of victims-survivors, and children and young people is central to work with those causing harm, and they are listened to and appropriately supported.
- Delivering timely assistance to those concerned about their behaviour causing harm, supporting them in understanding how to prevent abuse and change their behaviour.
- Creating a culture where staff feel they can engage with those causing harm to enable to them to access support where available.
- Making best use of civil and criminal sanctions and control measures including Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPO) to safeguard individuals, young people and children.
- Ensuring effective governance and oversight through our Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Multi-Agency Task and Coordination (MATAC) Steering Group with a particular focus on ensuring victim safety, risk management and the effective disruption of those offenders who do not engage in this process.
- Ensuring partnership and governance arrangements between multi agency risk assessment conference (MARAC), multi-agency tasking and coordination (MATAC), Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are coordinated and robust, ensuring protection and support of victims and the person who has caused harm.
- Ensuring maximisation of opportunities to address harmful behaviours associated with child to parent abuse, utilising best practice and research to inform potential commissioning opportunities.
- Adopting a collaborative approach to assess the programmes of work implemented for individuals who have caused harm, enabling us to identify key learnings and support ongoing development.

Governance and Accountability

Stockport Domestic Abuse Partnership Board

Stockport Domestic Abuse Partnership Board is made up of representatives from across statutory agencies, voluntary and community organisations, specialist domestic abuse services and survivors of domestic abuse. The role of the partnership is to provide leadership, governance and direction to operational partners involved in the response and prevention of domestic abuse.

The Partnership will be responsible for producing an annual report demonstrating progress made towards the strategic priorities, providing honest and transparent reporting to the One Safer Stockport Partnership board, partner agencies, communities and victim survivors



The Domestic Abuse Partnership Board is responsible for delivering this strategy, reporting to the One Stockport Safer Partnership and contributing to the joint Children and Adult Safeguarding Executive Board. It is also accountable to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Local Government and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC).

The strategy is for five years as an indicator of the long-term commitment that is required to address our priorities. This will be supported by a dynamic action plan which will evidence our activity and progress in meeting our overall vision. We will complete an interim review in line with the requirements of Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

Acknowledgements

Partners involved in the development of this strategy, and members of the Stockport Domestic Abuse Partnership, include but are not limited to the list below.

- Survivors
- Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council
- Greater Manchester Police
- NHS Greater Manchester
- Stockport Homes Housing Group
- Stockport NHS Foundation Trust
- Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
- Probation
- Stockport Domestic Abuse commissioned services
- Stockport VSFCE representation

On behalf of Stockport Domestic Abuse Partnership Board, we extend special thanks to the victim-survivors who have courageously chosen to work alongside us. Your voices, experiences, and insights have been instrumental in shaping our understanding and improving our services. It can be incredibly hard to re visit that trauma and we recognise the strength it takes to speak out and advocate for change. We pledge to continue listening to and to collaborate with victim survivors to achieve our vision.

References

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Office of National statistics ([ONS, 2024](#))

SafeLives MARAC national dataset (2023)

For Baby's Sake, 2025

Youth Endowment Fund, 2024

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ONE STOCKPORT

For further advice and guidance, please contact.

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