

Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy

Draft Year 3 Action Plan



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

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Department of
Justice

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STRAND¹	PRIORITY²	ACTION	LEAD	TARGET
Driving Change through Co-operation and Leadership	1, 2	1. Continue to maximise opportunities to disseminate information and promote delivery of initiatives under the Strategy and Action Plan.	DoH, DoJ	Mar 2019
	1, 2	2. Identify new initiatives to ensure a continued focus on sexual violence and abuse.	DoH, DoJ	Mar 2019
	1, 2	3. Convene a problem solving workshop to consider how we can optimise existing resources to address matters of concern raised by the Stakeholder Assurance Group and progress actions arising.	SAG	Sep 2018
	1	4. Review the arrangements to deliver justice in serious sexual offence cases, taking appropriate account of the views of individual victims and victims' organisations, legal practitioners, and the criminal justice organisations involved in the conduct of such cases.	DoJ	Jan 2019
Prevention and Early Intervention	9	5. To link in with the work of the SBNI's Domestic Violence Sub Group which has been set up to deliver Priority 2 of the SBNI's Strategic Plan: 'To provide a voice to children and young people affected by domestic and sexual violence and abuse.'	DoH	Mar 2019
	6	6. Consider how relationships and sexuality education curriculum resources can support teachers in covering issues related to domestic and sexual violence.	CCEA	Mar 2019

¹ Relates to the Strand in Strategy document

² Relates to priority number listed in Strategy document.

STRAND¹	PRIORITY²	ACTION	LEAD	TARGET
	6	7. Produce material on the subject of Healthy Relationships for the DE's iMatter programme.	DE, DoH, DoJ	Oct 2018
	7	8. Consider the conclusions from the evaluation of the Preventative Education Project and its recommendations and related emerging implications for the teaching of the preventative curriculum in schools.	DE	Early 2019
	5	9. Consider how notification to schools of domestic abuse incidents could be achieved through the use or adaptation of current processes and procedures, identify what material benefits would be secured through the introduction of Operation Encompass in Northern Ireland and agree the way forward, in conjunction with key stakeholders.	DE, DOH, DOJ	Mar 2019
Delivering Change through Responsive Services	13	10. Commence a Crown Court Observers' study, to gather information on victims' and witnesses experience of the court system in sexual offence cases.	VSNI	Sep 2018
	12	11. PPS legal staff within the Serious Crime Unit, and panel counsel, will continue to undertake ongoing specialised training relevant to the work of the Unit.	PPS	From Apr 2018
	12	12. Continue to review the work of the Serious Crime Unit particularly in relation to building confidence, delivering proportionate and effective prosecutions and monitoring the performance of independent counsel.	PPS	From Apr 2018

STRAND¹	PRIORITY²	ACTION	LEAD	TARGET
	12	13. Continue to review the training provided to prosecutors and Counsel and take into account issues raised in research into the criminal justice experience of victims of sexual violence and domestic violence.	PPS	From Apr 2018
	12	14. Pilot the IRIS domestic violence and abuse training, support and referral programme with selected General Practices in Northern Ireland and extend to cover sexual violence and male victims.	DoH	Mar 2019
Support	15	15. Progress a procurement exercise for the future delivery of the 24 Hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline.	DoH, DoJ, DfC	Mar 2019
	15	16. Develop a model for a streamlined Advocacy Support Service.	DoJ, DoH, PSNI	Oct 2018
	17	17. Evaluate the provision of support to victims of sexual violence, through Independent Sexual Violence Advisors.	VSNI	Dec 2018
	16	18. Develop policy proposals for the 'Sanctuary Scheme'.	DfC	Dec 2018
	16	19. Undertake further research on, and consider future options for, the accommodation requirements of male victims of domestic violence, including consultation with relevant support and advisory networks.	DfC	Mar 2019
	17	20. Reduce sexual violence counselling waiting lists with Nexus NI.	DoH	Mar 2019

STRAND¹	PRIORITY²	ACTION	LEAD	TARGET
Protection and Justice	20	21. Introduce a new Domestic Abuse Offence and statutory aggravator.	DoJ	Subject to legislative timescales
	20	22. Monitor and review the Domestic Violence and Abuse Disclosure Scheme.	PSNI, DoJ	Mar 2019
	20	23. Deliver a series of measures to effectively implement a Domestic Homicide Review process, to identify lessons learned, share good practice and improve the response to domestic violence and abuse.	DoJ	Mar 2019
	20	24. Monitor the operation of the Pilot Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme in Londonderry/Derry Magistrates Court and initiate an evaluation on the effectiveness of the programme to inform next steps.	DoJ	Mar 2019
	20	25. Monitor the Non-Adjudicated Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme in the WHSCT, as funded through the Cross-Cutting Reform Programme, and initiate an evaluation on the effectiveness of the programme in order to inform next steps.	DoJ, PBNI	Mar 2019
	18	26. Introduce Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Domestic Violence Protection Orders in Northern Ireland.	DoJ	Subject to legislative timescales

STRAND ¹	PRIORITY ²	ACTION	LEAD	TARGET
	19	27. Continue to progress implementation of agreed actions arising from the MARAC Review.	DoJ, PSNI, DoH	From Apr 2018
	19	28. Progress work relating to the findings from academic research, including in relation to domestic and sexual violence training provision across criminal justice agencies.	DoJ	Mar 2019

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