

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TITLE: **1. Overview of Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Strategy,
2. Business Case & Recommendations for DA Service
Recommissioning &,
3. Procurement of Registered Housing Provider for the
Development of Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation**

REPORT TO:	CABINET
Date of Meeting	27/06/2022
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Public Health and Communities
Key Decision	Yes
Public or Private	Public

Purpose of report	
The purpose of the report is to	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seek approval to publish Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Strategy (Appendix 1).• Provide an overview and seek approval for the Business Case for re-commissioning Domestic Abuse Services (Appendix 2).• Seek approval for approaching the market for the procurement of a registered housing provider to acquire and manage on behalf of Barnsley Council, properties used specifically and in perpetuity, for those effected by domestic abuse, and who require Safe Accommodation.	
Council Plan Priority	Outcome
Healthy Barnsley	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People are safe and feel safe.• People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible.• Reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough
Learning Barnsley	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills, including access to apprenticeships.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment. • People have access to early help and support.
Growing Barnsley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are supported to have safe, warm, sustainable homes.
Sustainable Barnsley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.

All items contribute to the priorities and outcomes of the Council Plan 2021/2024 and performance management framework.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

- 1. Approve the Domestic Abuse Strategy which will be available online and offers regular updates for communications and training and be a source of information about local services.**
- 2. Approve the re-commissioning of domestic abuse services as detailed in the business case.**
- 3. Approve the procurement of a registered housing provider to meet the statutory responsibilities of providing Safe Accommodation to people fleeing domestic abuse.**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022 – 2027 and the business case for the recommissioning of Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Services alongside the development of safe accommodation that will respond to the statutory requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- 1.2 The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (DA Act 2021) creates, for the first time, a cross-government statutory definition of domestic abuse, to ensure that domestic abuse is properly understood, considered unacceptable and actively challenged across statutory agencies and in public attitudes.
- 1.3 Domestic abuse is an important priority on both the national and local agendas. The development of the Strategy, commission of Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Service and, the development of a property portfolio of Safe Accommodation will contribute to the following recently published national plans:
 - Domestic Abuse Act 2021
 - Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2021
 - Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan.

1.4 Evidence Base

- 1.4.1 The prevalence of domestic abuse in Barnsley is informed by the findings of the local needs assessment¹ and the incumbent providers performance activity. The prevalence of domestic abuse has also been affected by the COVID pandemic.
- 1.4.2 Monthly averages of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police have increased since the beginning of the pandemic, alongside an increase of high risk referrals, also reflected in the increase of MARAC² cases over the past three years. The average number of MARAC cases heard per year has increased by 34.3% since Q1 2019/20.
- 1.4.3 Although the increase in incidents may also have been affected by improved police recording, the confidence in local policing and the willingness of victims to report domestic abuse to the police, the increase nevertheless represents an increasing cohort of victims eligible for domestic abuse services.
- 1.4.4 The increase of Domestic Abuse Notification referrals provided from the MASH³ from an average of 4 per month in 2019/20 to 18 per month in 2020/21, representing a 350% increase during the pandemic. This indicates an increasing demand for services for children affected by domestic abuse, particularly in reference to the stipulation in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 in which children who experience domestic abuse are victims 'in their own right'.
- 1.4.5 There is also a considerable demand for accommodation support. The number of referrals into the refuge has continued to increase every year since the start of the contract in 2017. The needs assessment shows a gap exists in the provision of support for domestic abuse victims with multiple and complex needs who require accommodation.
- 1.4.6 The needs assessment also identified an increase in approaches to Housing Options citing current or domestic abuse and increase in homeless applications where domestic abuse was the main cause of homelessness.
- 1.4.7 Key headline demand figures
- In 2017/2018, the average monthly rate of domestic abuse incidents was 482 incidents per month. In the year ending March 2021, the average monthly rate was 602 incidents per month, demonstrating an increase of 25%.
 - In 2019/2020, a total of 571 cases were heard at MARAC. In 2021/2022, a total of 767 cases were heard, demonstrating a 34% increase in MARAC (High Risk) referrals.
 - The average number of Domestic Abuse Notification referrals to the MASH increased from an average of 4 per month in 2019/2020 to 18 per month in

¹ Appendix 3 DA Needs Assessment Executive Summary

² MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

³ MASH – Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub

2020/2021. This presents 350% increase in the first year of the pandemic.

- The needs assessment identified that in the twelve months from October 2020 to October 2021, 69 referrals to the refuge were rejected, totalling 71% of the overall referral rate.
- Since 2018/2019, there was a total of 6 applications made to Housing Options where domestic abuse was the main cause of homelessness. In 2020/2021, there was a total of 47 applications, demonstrating a 683% increase. *Please note that Housing Options was restructured in September 2020 leading to improved data collection, which will contribute in part to the rise in applications.*

2. PROPOSALS

Publish A Domestic Abuse Strategy

- 2.1 The DA Act 2021 requires Local Authorities to develop, publish, and give effect to a Domestic Abuse strategy.
- 2.2 Our new Strategy has been informed and developed using the data from the needs assessment. It will soon be online and, by doing this we will offer a clear central portal of information for pathways and signposting into services, training, and awareness opportunities for both professionals and public and regular updates on prevalence and performance. As it will be offered through the web portal it will also enable multiple language translation options.

The DA Act 2021 requires Local Authorities to:

- Provide accommodation-based support to victims of Domestic Abuse.
- Give victims of Domestic Abuse priority need for homelessness assistance and grant secure lifetime tenancies when granting new secure tenancies to social tenants who had or has a secure lifetime or assured tenancy.
- Assess the need for accommodation-based Domestic Abuse support in their area for all victims and their children, including those who come from outside the area.

Key headlines from Barnsley's Domestic Abuse Strategy

Re-Commission Support Services and further development of a portfolio of properties

- 2.3 Evidence detailed in the Strategy demonstrates a need for a commissioned Service that responds to the needs of victims of domestic abuse and delivers additional safe accommodation support that builds on the existing refuge provision.
- 2.4 It is our recommendation that we build on our current specification to meet the requirements of the Strategy and growing national guidance and, move towards addressing gaps highlighted in our needs assessment, e.g., developing the range of accommodation options, whilst building on the current service delivery model to provide:

- Barnsley's Referral Pathway,
- Assess Risk,
- Provide a standard, 'local call' help line,
- Trauma-Informed Specialist Provision,
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors/Advocacy (IDVA/ISVA),
- Therapeutic Groups and Counselling,
- Recovery Care Planning and Care Co-ordination,
- Safety Planning and target hardening,
- Facilitate access to Expert 'Lived Experience Group support,
- Offer Long Term Recovery,
- Intensive Accommodation Support and Refuge Management,
- MARAC Management,
- Communications and Training,
- Strategic and Operational Requirements,
- Safelives Standards Training and Service Programme.

2.5 The current offer of Safe Accommodation in Barnsley includes the provision of an eight bedded, purpose-built, refuge. The refuge is part of the national network of women only refuges that ensure women fleeing harm and violence have a safe and secure place to stay. Many women come to the refuge bringing children and although it is purpose built, it does not afford any opportunities to comfortably house women with more than one child.

2.6 The needs assessment highlighted the oversubscribed refuge as well as the limited building capacity. It also made direct links to domestic abuse, homelessness and increasing poverty. There is an absence of refuge spaces for the increasing number of men identified as experiencing abuse, and for women with older teenage sons. There is also an increasing number of victims of domestic abuse who have multiple and complex needs requiring safe accommodation, and for whom the current delivery model of the refuge is not adequate and does not meet the range of need. The needs assessment ultimately highlighted that Barnsley's current safe accommodation delivery model is not suitable or sustainable for the increasingly diverse profile of domestic abuse victims in the borough, and that safe accommodation options for victims should be diversified to meet this need.

2.7 It is the recommendation of this report that we develop a portfolio of property types, to meet varying need in the Borough and enable a more diverse offer.

To facilitate this need:

We will negotiate the 'change of use' of a property currently being used, elsewhere. Although this offers fewer units (4) than the refuge (8), we believe this could offer day support venue with no night-time cover. This would be a female only facility.

The established refuge could then change its use, to offer a 'concierge' service so that the more complex clients can access 24-hour support. This client group often experience more practical, emotional and uncertain lifestyles and without 24-hour support gravitate back to the abusing partner. This would also be a female only facility.

We already have 4 self-contained, single occupancy, independent units across the Borough for female offenders. This project originally sponsored by MoJ funding offers specific accommodation for female offenders who have or are having domestic abuse as a key element influencing their life.

We propose to expand the offer by securing through a short tender process, an independent third sector, registered housing provider and property management to purchase on the Council's behalf additional properties dispersed across the Borough to achieve a variety of accommodation facilities. These will be offering 1 and 2 bedded properties to be used for dispersed, move-on with additional specialist support from agencies in a coordinated and sustainable way. Following discussion with our Barnsley Council property colleagues, we feel it would be more advantageous to invite independent sector support for this project. The properties would be held on behalf of Barnsley Council, for the use of housing domestic abuse victims in perpetuity. This also offers a greater reach in terms of minoritized communities, people with disabilities and men who have no specific facility to safely accommodate them.

To service the clients in these properties, we propose to extend the current domestic abuse team to specifically support these tenants when they need it most and to ensure they are fully supported to move out of victim status into someone who thrives and flourishes without threat of harm.

Target hardening/sanctuary provision is provided by our community domestic abuse service in partnership with Berneslai Homes and SYP (South Yorkshire Police). We will continue to support the ideal choice of victims to remain in their own home environment through this continued scheme to offer property security.

Using the Safe Accommodation grant to its intended purpose we will uplift the current domestic abuse contract to provide intensive support for victims of domestic abuse, providing three specific specialists over a period of three years, to offer support in situ, when the client requires it beyond 9-5 parameters with a much more flexible programme.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3.1 Financial and Risk

Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Service Director of Finance (S151 Officer) and are summarised below.

- 3.2 The DA Act 2021 came into law on 1st October 2021 and placed new duties on local authorities to ensure that victims of domestic abuse and their children can access the right support in safe accommodation when they need it. Barnsley Council already plays an important leadership role in delivering domestic abuse services to victims/survivors in Barnsley. The Domestic Abuse service's recurrent budget is £651k, which is funded by core council budget (£579k) and PCC contribution (£72k). The new DA Act supports our current activities in commissioning and monitoring victim services by its re-iteration of the responsibilities outlined in para 2.2 of this report.

Accommodation based support grant

- 3.3 The Government has allocated the Council new burden funding of £588k in the current year (£586k in 2021/22) to discharge the statutory responsibilities outlined above. In the spirit of the New Burdens Doctrine, the new duty will be funded in future years – however future funding allocations would be determined as part of the next spending review. The funding (revenue) has been provided as a s31 grant, with a legal obligation to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children residing within safe accommodation.

Re-commissioning of the Domestic Abuse Service

- 3.4 The current commissioned Domestic Abuse Service is provided by IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Service) at an annual cost of £651k. It is proposed that we build on our current specification to meet the requirements of the Strategy (and DA Act 2021) and growing national guidance by uplifting the current domestic abuse contract by £105k per annum.
- 3.5 Given the uncertainty of future years funding (subject to spending review decisions) it is proposed that the uplift in the contract value over the period of 3 years (£315k) is funded from the current year's grant allocation (£588k). This additional cost is to provide intensive support for victims of domestic abuse through the provision of x3 specific specialists to offer support in situ when the client requires it beyond 9-5 parameters with a much more flexible programme.
- 3.6 It is envisaged that in the event of funding being confirmed for future years, then such grant allocation would be applied to release the council's core funding underpinning the Domestic Abuse service (i.e. cashable efficiencies).

Procurement of a Registered Housing Provider

- 3.7 The November 2021 SMT report ('Domestic Abuse – strategic review') put forward an option to develop a property portfolio through a social landlord for the bespoke use for victims of domestic abuse. To this end, earmarked funding was made available in 21/22 towards the property acquisition costs (by switching the grant allocation with the council's core funding for Domestic Abuse service).
- 3.8 The case for an enhanced accommodation based provision is outlined in para 2.3 to 2.7 above. Discussions are ongoing with Property services regarding the accommodation / property options with potential independent sector registered housing provider. No estimates of acquisition costs have been provided at this stage – however it is proposed to set aside the 21/22 carry forward resource (£340k) and the anticipated uncommitted balance of funding in 22/23 of £273k.
- 3.9 The registered provider will be asked to maximise the drawdown of intensive housing management through housing benefit, resulting in potential to reduce support costs.

3.10 The table below outline the proposed spending / funding commitments for the Domestic Abuse service for 22/23 and 23/24:

	2022/23	2023/24
Committed expenditure	£,000	£,000
IDAS Contract	651	651
Intensive support – IDAS contract	315	-
Total Costs	966	651
Funded by		
Core budget	579	579
OPCC Funding	72	72
21/22 Earmarkings	340	-
DA Accommodation Grant	588	-
Total Funding	1,579	651
Balance	-613	-

3.11 This approach allows for grant funding to be utilised in accordance with the grant conditions, whilst providing flexibility to switch funding with core council budget. This would allow any unutilised funding to be carried forward to the following year to meet agreed commitments.

Exploration of Efficiencies

Area of exploration	Response
Are there any other contracts or services in the Council connected to this service where efficiencies can be explored?	No other services or contracts deliver the scope proposed in this report.
Has corporate procurement been consulted on other related contracts?	Yes, consultation has taken place with corporate procurement and there are no other related contracts.
Is there an overlap in management of the various services provided by the same provider where efficiencies can be gained?	We will explore efficiencies as part of the procurement process for both the support service and the housing. A Registered Provider may be in a position to draw down grant from Homes England resulting in less investment from the Council and subsequent efficiencies. The RP will also be expected to draw down Intensive Housing Management, again resulting in the Council exploring revenue efficiencies.
Are there any other efficiencies offered in relation to this service?	In the event of funding being confirmed for future years, then such grant allocation would be applied to release the council's core funding underpinning the Domestic Abuse service (i.e. cashable efficiencies

Cashable savings proposed	Depends on the level of grant received in future years and any new requirements
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Other considerations

According to Nicole Jacobs the Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales, it is critical for the safety of all victims of domestic abuse and their children, that the new duties are implemented fully and result in an increase in the provision of support in quality domestic abuse safe accommodation. We will continue to develop the exceptional services being provided by charities who are expert in their field, to Barnsley and meet the requirements of the DA Act 2021 whilst seeking to explore efficiencies.

On receiving approval to engage a registered housing provider, we will state that the provider must identify and draw down additional, central funding through intensive housing management benefits as well as other grants to maximise the investment in properties in Barnsley.

Currently, this paper has referred all provision through charity status organisations. When engaging providers, we clearly state all contracts are not subject to 'cost of living' increases across the life of the contracts and we also encourage current providers to identify where savings can be made, nevertheless colleagues may have a view on the re-investment of these saving back into developing provision.

3.3 Legal

Procurement and legal services have been engaged and are waiting Cabinet approvals.

3.4 Equality

A full EIA has been completed for the Strategic Review and the Domestic Abuse Strategy. It covers the Authorities responsibilities for providing Safe Accommodation within the DA Acts agenda and public sector equality duty.

A summary of key findings from the needs assessment tells us that:

- In 2020/21, women still made up the vast majority (89%) of referrals to IDAS, though this nevertheless demonstrates a sizeable group of (420) men approaching the service.
- 8% of the cases discussed at the MARAC (i.e., those most high risk) involved male victims.
- A total of 49 referrals to IDAS in 2020/21 (i.e., 1.2% of total referrals) were known to be from trans people and 99 individuals (2.4% of all IDAS clients in 2020/21) identified as Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual.
- 2% of those high-risk cases discussed at MARAC during 2020/21 involved a victim who was known to be LGBTQ+.
- around 7% of referrals in total are from non-White British ethnic backgrounds, with the largest minority group being white Eastern Europeans and 2.5% of IDAS clients during 2020/21 stated a language

other than English as their main language. This represents 104 people and 27 different home languages.

- Christianity accounted for the largest specific religious group with small numbers of Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh plus any other religion accounting for the remainder. Specific data regarding religion was recorded for 38% of 2020/21 clients.
- During 2020/21, 711 of IDAS's 4092 (i.e., 17%) clients were known to have a disability and/or health condition, with mental health being the most common. 133 people (3.25% of all clients) had more than one impairment/condition and during 2020/21, 89% of clients accessing domestic abuse services in Barnsley had protected characteristics

It is anticipated that the delivery of the strategy, contract re-commission and proposed safe accommodation will have a positive impact on the those with protected characteristics, particularly those individuals who face barriers to accessing domestic abuse services and safe accommodation and ensures we can offer a range of opportunities for minoritized groups, complex needs and men who may wish to access services for domestic abuse and safe accommodation and who cannot be catered for through core service accommodation.

3.5 Sustainability

3.5.1 Research shows that people living with domestic abuse usually experience this for 20 years or more before they seek support, and domestic abuse has significant long-term implications for those affected:

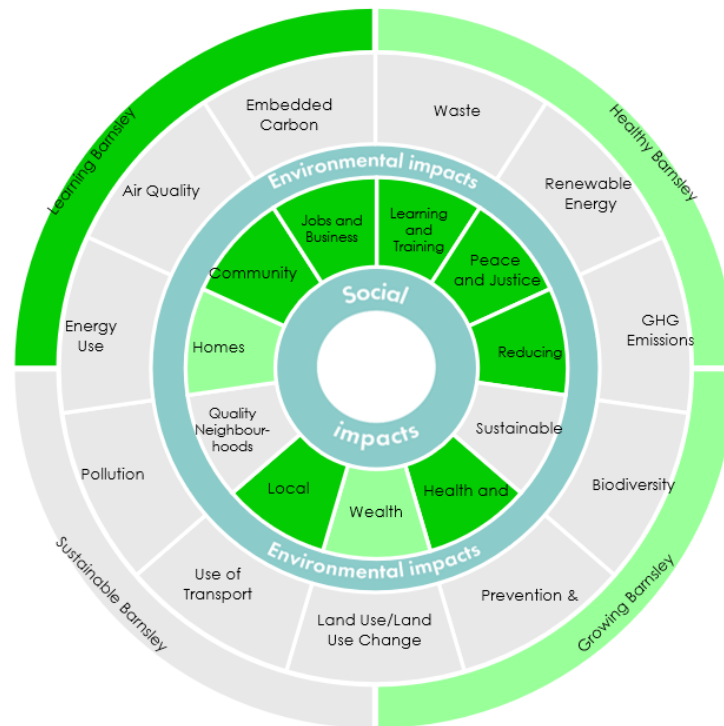
- physical and psychological pressures that also contribute to rising poverty levels.
- intergenerational abuse may impact on successful education outcomes and career prospects.

Therefore, investing in support for victims to establish a life without threat is an investment in our community. Clients will be supported to look forward to better opportunities to engage and train within the workforce in the Borough, contributing towards a Healthy and Growing Barnsley.

3.5.2 A key priority of the Domestic Abuse Strategy is the prevention of domestic abuse, to foster a culture of zero tolerance and to raise awareness or services so, support can be accessed as early as possible. This will in part be achieved through training and volunteering opportunities offered by domestic abuse services, both to third sector and statutory organisations.

3.5.2. The Domestic Abuse Service, IDAS is a registered charity with extensive knowledge of health, social care and other organisations and networks throughout in the borough and nationally, where onward referral may be appropriate or needed. This service offers an approximate local workforce of 19 people from the local community all of which are sourced, supported, and trained to a national standard and qualification, as well as sourcing, training, and maintaining a local workforce to national IDVA standards. All the workforce has been supported and locally 'grown'.

3.5.3 This project offers property security through 'target hardening' as well as the intention to purchase select properties for the use of domestic abuse clients. These will be sourced and maintained on the council's behalf by an approved social landlord. All properties will be consulted within the community and will attempt to achieve 0 level impact on the environment.



3.6 Employee

3.6.1 There are no employee implications with regards to the Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022/2027.

3.6.2 The current Domestic Abuse Service employs approximately nineteen members of staff in a variety of roles which are funded within the contract value.

3.6.3 The procurement of a new Domestic Abuse Service may have implications on Service employees working currently should the new service contract be awarded to another provider. However, it is most likely that TUPE would apply should they have to transfer to another employer.

3.7 Communications

3.7.1 A communication plan has been agreed with the Communication and Marketing Team to launch the Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022/2027 with an online webpage that will help guide residents through the strategy. The communications and digital teams are working to develop an, accessible webpage to support the communication of the strategy. Information regarding the recommission and procurement of a new service will be delivered through

the communications and marketing team as soon as approval has been given, making sure clear communications are delivered to Barnsley's residents.

- 3.7.2 The findings from the various consultations that have taken place to develop the Strategy 2022/2027 and the review of the current support service consistently highlight the importance of effective communication to promote the availability of and access to relevant information and support. The online version of the strategy will give the opportunity to access language translations and social media coverage of ongoing 'messages,' training, and events.
- 3.7.3 Both the strategy and the new service commission consider digital solutions to support clients in accessing information, advice, and support. The pandemic has widened the opportunities for clients to access support digitally when face to face would have been impossible.
- 3.7.4 Since 2016 the communications and marketing team have helped us develop, a strong message around domestic abuse. They have created awareness through the '#SpeakUp' and 'behind closed doors' campaigns using key messages to tell those affected by domestic abuse or violence that there is help and support available. Signposting people to IDAS' services and urged them to call 999 if in immediate danger. They have also developed themed campaigns around different events, for example, the Euro's campaign and valentine's day through multi-channel messages.

They have shared posts from the Violence Reduction Unit, as well as information around the Inspire to Change DA perpetrator programme.



The current campaign is positioned to begin to address issues as we emerge from the pandemic and remind everyone in our community that there is support and a way out of domestic abuse in Barnsley. New images were launched at the library @TheLightbox in 2022, highlighting a range of different people and situations.

4. CONSULTATION

Substantial consultation is being carried out with a range of stakeholders, professionals, and the public, kickstarted by the needs assessment, to inform our understanding of the issues facing individuals, their families, and communities to help us identify our key priority areas. We have consulted through a range of methods:

- Verbal feedback from stakeholders via Teams Meetings.
- Feedback via online events and surveys.
- Guidance issued by DLUHC, Domestic Abuse Commissioner and Local Government Association.
- Discussions with Lived Experience/Expert Groups
- Regular communications with regional colleagues and OPCC
- National learning and guidance from pandemic experts.
- The draft Strategy has been shared for comment with Head of Children's Service, Director of Adults and Communities, Service field experts, PVP membership including Housing Options, BMBC Commissioning, BMBC Safeguarding Adults, BMBC Youth Justice, Probation Service Yorkshire and Humber, Barnsley CCG, BMBC Public Health, SY Fire & rescue, Berneslai Homes, HM Prison Service, OPCC, BMBC Adult Social Care, BMBC Children's Social Care and Safeguarding, SWYPT, IDAS, Humankind, Centrepont, BSARCS
- Mark Cockayne, South Yorkshire Police
- Age UK
- Children's DMT
- Adult and Children Safeguarding Board Managers,
- Claire Throssell MBE,
- An outline paper to the TEG.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are no alternative approaches to consider with regards to the Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy.

5.2 With regards to the re-commissioning of Domestic Abuse Service, three options have been considered:

1. Do nothing.
2. Recommission the same service model and service specification via a competitive procurement process.

3. Commission a new service developing the model and specification taking into consideration the DA Act 2021 and subsequent guidance, via a competitive procurement process.

5.3 Option 1

Do nothing. If this option is taken, then the current service will expire on 31 March 2023. This option is not recommended as the loss of this provision would subject Barnsley Council to reputational damage. The development of sustainable and effective domestic abuse services is a very public agenda as well as creating a gap in support for those affected by domestic abuse, their children, and our communities.

Option 2

Recommission the same service model and service specification via a competitive procurement process. The second option would be to recommission the same service model using the existing service specification. The findings from the service needs assessment, show that the service is broadly meeting its aims and objectives, although its reach has room for improvements, and some changes have been identified. Additionally, taking into consideration Government guidance, the recommendations in Barnsley's Domestic Abuse Strategy, the DA Act 2021, and the findings of our needs assessment, it would restrict development to meet growing need.

Option 3

Commission a new service developing the original model and specification taking into considerations and recommendations of the above and subsequent Government guidance, via a competitive procurement process.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 **Publication of Domestic Abuse Strategy**

A strategy and delivery plan that reflects the national and local priorities is required for the Borough, not only on a practical level but also to meet statutory requirements of the DA Act 2021. Hence, we offer a contemporary and most appropriate portal for information to achieve priorities.

6.2 **Recommission of domestic abuse services**

The findings from the needs assessment and lessons learnt demonstrates that there is a need for the provision of continued support to victims of domestic abuse. Based on this feedback, Option 3 - Commission a service based on an updated delivery model and specification via a competitive procurement process is recommended.

6.3 **Develop a property portfolio for the use of Safe Accommodation**

The findings of the needs assessment also demonstrate a clear need to diversify housing options for those made homeless due to domestic abuse. The development of a property portfolio would begin to meet varying need in the Borough and enable a more diverse offer to minoritised communities and demonstrate the authority's adherence to the statutory responsibilities of the DA Act 2021.

7. GLOSSARY

DA Act 2021 - Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Service)
LGBTQ+ - Lesbian, Gay Bi-sexual, Trans, Queer, (+ represents those who are part of the community, but for whom LGBTQ does not accurately capture or reflect their identity.)
MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MASH – Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
DLUHC - Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (formally MHCLG, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government).
CCG – Clinical Commissioning Group
PVP – Protecting Vulnerable People sub-group
SWYPT – South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
BSARCS – Barnsley Sexual Assault and Rape Crisis Services
TEG – Trust Executive Group
OPCC – Office for Police & Crime Commissioner

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Domestic Abuse Strategy
Appendix 2: Business case
Appendix 3: Needs Assessment Exec Summary

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Domestic Abuse Act 2021
Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2021
Domestic Abuse Plan 2022

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email governance@barnsley.gov.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made

10. REPORT SIGN OFF

Financial consultation & sign off	Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date  26.05.2022
Legal consultation & sign off	Legal Services officer consulted and date

	<i>Jason Field 26/05/22</i>
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Report Author: R. Clewer

Post: Senior Commissioning Manager

Date: 26/05/2022