



DHR 5 Action Plan

Recommendation	Actions to be taken	Lead Agency	Outcome
The SNTB requests the Home Office to consider initiating a review into the effectiveness of the DASH Risk Indicator Checklists in relation to LGBTQ+ communities.	SNTB to arrange correspondence to the Home Office.	SNTB	The implementation of this action would provide a more balanced and inclusive DASH risk assessment process for the whole of the UK.

Recommendation	Actions to be taken	Lead Agency	Outcome
All agencies report progress on their internal action plan to the Safer North Tyneside Board	Agencies should complete their learning tables for submission to the SNTB to identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements identified from the agency IMR and how they have been implemented • Any associated learning or subsequent improvements linked to the original findings 	All NTC will collate the information	That all agencies can demonstrate to the SNTB that they have implemented their IMR action plans and have continued to learn as a result of the findings of this DHR.



Recommendation	Actions to be taken	Lead Agency	Outcome
<p>The current multi agency arrangements for Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding should be subject to review to establish and ensure that all aspects of these arrangements are fit for purpose and reflect the learning from this review in respect of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Policy & Procedures • Practice guidance • Thresholds and processes • Notifications and Referrals • Information Sharing 	<p>The Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP) has recently been reviewed as part of the Domestic Abuse Act preparation work. A new strategic Board, reporting to SNTB, has been established to provide multi-agency governance.</p> <p>A DA needs assessment is being undertaken to inform the new North Tyneside Domestic Abuse strategy, which needs to be published by the 31st October. This assessment considers equalities and diversity which will also be reflected in the strategy.</p> <p>The SNTB and DAP will ensure that all the learning from this DHR is reflected in the strategy.</p> <p>A review of MARAC is included in Table 5.</p>	<p>SNTB/DAP</p>	<p>As a result of review multi agency arrangements and working will be strengthened and practice will reflect the learning from the review.</p>



<p>SNTB should review its arrangements for undertaking DHR's to ensure these are fit for purpose and incorporate learning from this review</p>	<p>The named responsible officer will conduct a review into the current DHR process. This must cover all aspects of the process from Core Group to commissioning and managing the Panel process to meet statutory requirements and deadlines. There must also be consideration into more detailed family involvement in reviews.</p>	<p>NTC</p>	<p>A new DHR management process will be signed off by the SNTB.</p> <p>This will provide better management of the overall process in line with Home Office guidance and good practice recommended by AAFDA.</p>
<p>Ensure that current Safeguarding arrangements reflect the potential impact of domestic abuse, alcohol/substance misuse and mental health in their assessments, thresholds and responses</p>	<p>All agencies to ensure their assessments, thresholds and DA responses reflect this learning about these other factors which might increase individual risk.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Improved assessments and responses will lead to improved safeguarding outcomes where other factors might increase risk of DA</p>
<p>That the SNTB takes leadership across the multi-agency safeguarding partnerships in North Tyneside to assess safeguarding strategies in relation to access to services for LGBTQ+ communities</p>	<p>A DA needs assessment is being undertaken to inform the new NT DA strategy. This assessment considers equalities and diversity which will also be reflected in the strategy. The DAP will ensure that the results of this are shared across all safeguarding partnerships</p>	<p>SNTB/DAP</p>	<p>Improved access to services which meet the needs of our LGBTQ+ communities</p>
<p>That the SNTB acts on the systemic and cultural</p>	<p>SNTB to conduct a research project about these barriers. The results of the research</p>	<p>SNTB Chair/Responsib</p>	<p>An improved understanding of these barriers will influence</p>



barriers in place that may lead to LGBTQ+ community not receiving specific support services.	will be shared with the DAP for inclusion in the equality and diversity considerations of the DA needs assessment and strategy.	le Officer/Equality and Diversity lead	the approach to commissioning specific services.
That the SNTB ensures LGBTQ+ people's needs are recognised and made clearly visible in local policy/procedure frameworks, strategic needs assessments, and commissioning frameworks	The DAP is recommissioning DA services in the autumn of 2021 following consultation events which were held in June. Equality and diversity considerations have been included in the needs assessment and will be reflected in the strategy. This will be underpinned by the training recommendations in Table 4 so that this can also be reflected in practice.	DAP	A more inclusive needs assessment will influence the commissioning of appropriate services.
That the SNTB should undertake research on best practice in relation to working with LGBTQ+ communities with specific focus on identification of primary perpetrators	SNTB to conduct a research project with the DAP and seek specialist advice. The results of the research will be incorporated into other work to improve training, assessment and response to DA in LGBTQ+ communities.	SNTB/DAP	This research will inform other pieces of work to improve practice and outcomes for LGBTQ+ communities
That the SNTB collaborates with other LA and considers joint commissioning across a wider Northumbria or North East footprint.	The DAP is recommissioning DA services in the autumn of 2021 and consideration will be given to any joint opportunities based on the needs assessment.	DAP	Any joint commissioning implemented will improve consistency of services across a wider area



<p>That the SNTB acts to raise awareness of available sources of help and support in the LGBTQ+ community and the wider community and specifically for families and friends.</p>	<p>The SNTB will commission an initial awareness campaign to raise general awareness of DA in LGBTQ+ communities and signpost people to sources of help, advice and support.</p> <p>As services are improved by all the learning from DHR 5, the campaign will be updated.</p>	<p>SNTB</p>	<p>To improve awareness of DA in LGBTQ+ communities</p>
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Recommendation	Actions to be taken	Lead Agency	Outcome
<p>That the SNTB commissions LGBTQ+ and domestic abuse awareness raising training and embeds this across the partnerships</p>	<p>The Workforce Development Team are finalising the updated DA Training Strategy for North Tyneside. This will reflect the learning from this DHR.</p> <p>DAP Board will undertake a multi-agency DA training audit to ensure the needs of LGBTQ+ relationships are included.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Refreshed training offers will be inclusive and will improve practice</p>



<p>All staff working with alcohol and domestic violence are trained in techniques for working with change resistant drinkers for example as set out in the Blue Light manual</p>	<p>All partner agencies will be asked to review their current training provision and ensure this is included.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Training will improve practice and lead to better outcomes for change resistant drinkers in the context of domestic abuse</p>
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<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Actions to be taken</p>	<p>Lead Agency</p>	<p>Outcome</p>
<p>Ensure that risk assessments adequately reflect the seriousness and dynamic nature of the risk associated with problem drinking in the context of domestic violence</p>	<p>The DAP Board will undertake a multi-agency DA audit and ensure that risk assessments seek to identify when this risk occurs and outline what further safeguarding assessment might be needed.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Improved assessments will identify where this risk occurs and will improve safeguarding practices.</p>



<p>Ensure that immediate consideration should be given to the terms “perpetrator” and “victim” how these concepts are assessed and recorded reflecting on current best practice and research</p>	<p>The DAP will research and identify any assessment tools in use in other areas and disseminate these to partners for immediate use.</p> <p>Any assessment tool should include assessing the potential for coercive and controlling behaviour to be a risk factor.</p>	<p>DAP</p>	<p>Improved assessments will aid future professional curiosity to ensure that these terms are assessed correctly and with C&C in context where it might be a risk factor.</p>
<p>Request that all agencies initiate a DASH on receiving a disclosure of abuse</p>	<p>The DAP Board will undertake a multi-agency DA audit which will include the use of the DASH RIC.</p>	<p>DAP</p>	<p>This will increase opportunities for further assessment and response</p>
<p>Review of the North Tyneside MARAC arrangements</p>	<p>As above, the DAP Board will undertake a multi-agency DA audit.</p> <p>The North Tyneside MARAC protocol is reviewed annually and is due to be reviewed in September 2021 in line with required changes from the DA Act.</p> <p>The audit findings could link with the review of the protocol at its next revision (2022)</p>		<p>This will identify gaps and improvements to improve the overall effectiveness of the MARAC</p>



Recommendation	Actions to be taken	Lead Agency	Outcome
Northumbria Police to ensure Police National Computer (PNC) checks are carried out routinely in respect of all future complex domestic abuse cases – and provide assurance to The Safer North Tyneside Board.	Northumbria Police to review processes to ensure that this action is included as standard.	Northumbria Police (Strategic Innovation and Partnerships Team)	This will improve opportunities to identify patterns of abuse and safeguard those at risk of harm from perpetrators
Northumbria Police to ensure DVPO and DVPN are utilised robustly.	Northumbria Police to review process and include a method (audit) to check these tools are being deployed appropriately.	Northumbria Police (Strategic Innovation and Partnerships Team)	This will increase opportunities to safeguard those at risk from DA.