**Tackling Domestic Abuse Board**

**Terms of Reference**

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**Tackling Domestic Abuse Board**

**Terms of Reference**

**Mission Statement:**

To develop our partnership responses to protect and support all victims of domestic abuse regardless of the victim’s race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies.

**Aim:**

The Tackling Domestic Abuse Board (TDAB) is a subgroup of the Salford Community Safety Partnership (SCSP). Its aim is to develop a range of measures to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse over time with a strong emphasis on cultural change, raising awareness amongst public and professionals to improve the response to Domestic Abuse. The TDAB will work to enhance the quality of domestic abuse services in the city and to monitor the effectiveness of these services.

**Definition:**

The TDAB takes its remit from the cross-government definition of domestic abuse as enshrined in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

For the purposes of this Act, two people are “personally connected” to each other in the following circumstances:

* they are, or have been, married to each other or civil partners of each other.
* they are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other.
* they each have, or there has been a time when they each have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child.
* they are relatives.

Behaviour of a person (“A”) towards another person (“B”) is “domestic abuse” if:

* A and B are each aged 16 or over and are personally connected to each other, and
* the behaviour is abusive.

Behaviour is “abusive” if it consists of any of the following:

* physical or sexual abuse.
* violent or threatening behaviour.
* controlling or coercive behaviour.
* economic abuse (see below).
* psychological, emotional, or other abuse; and it does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a course of conduct.

“Economic abuse” means any behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on B’s ability to:

* acquire, use, or maintain money or other property, or
* obtain goods or services.

For the purposes of this Act A’s behaviour may be behaviour “towards” B despite the fact that it consists of conduct directed at another person (for example, B’s child).

### Definition of “personally connected”

Two people are “personally connected” to each other if any of the following applies—

(a) they are, or have been, married to each other;

(b) they are, or have been, civil partners of each other;

(c) they have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);

(d) they have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);

(e) they are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other;

(f) they each have, or there has been a time when they each have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child;

(g) they are relatives.

A person has a parental relationship in relation to a child if—

(a) the person is a parent of the child, or

(b) the person has parental responsibility for the child.

* “child” means a person under the age of 18 years;
* “civil partnership agreement” has the meaning given by section 73 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004;
* “parental responsibility” has the same meaning as in the Children Act 1989 (see section 3 of that Act);
* “relative” has the meaning given by section 63(1) of the Family Law Act 1996.

### Children as victims of domestic abuse

Any reference in this Act to a victim of domestic abuse includes a reference to a child who -

(a)sees or hears, or experiences the effects of, the abuse, and

(b)is related to A or B.

A child is related to a person for the purposes of subsection (2) if—

(a)the person is a parent of, or has parental responsibility for, the child, or

(b)the child and the person are relatives.

In this section -

* “child” means a person under the age of 18 years;
* “parental responsibility” has the same meaning as in the Children Act 1989 (see section 3 of that Act);
* “relative” has the meaning given by section 63(1) of the Family Law Act 1996.

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.

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.'

**Purpose and Duty**

This group is responsible for developing the SCSP responses to protect and support victims of domestic violence and abuse, to implement risk management and reduction interventions and to develop appropriate domestic abuse perpetrator/behaviour change programmes alongside public and private sector agencies. It is answerable to the SCSP Board and supports the strategic aim of the SCSP Community Safety Strategy 2020-23:

**To build safer, stronger more resilient communities in Salford and reduce the fear of crime.**

**Role and Responsibilities of the Tackling Domestic Abuse Board**

* Deliver the TDAB Delivery Plan and report progress to the SCSP Board on a regular basis, and provide assurance to the Safeguarding Boards.
* Deliver local, regional and national domestic abuse strategies on behalf of the SCSP and make recommendations regarding policy and practice to SCSP on recognising gaps or system issues.
* Maintain oversight of and response to the new legal definition of domestic abuse, including issues of coercive control and responsibility for 16-17 year olds.
* Use domestic abuse data including evaluative data to identify any changes in trends/local needs to inform service provision developments and commissioning decisions.
* Review service provision to meet emerging needs (such as emergency planning through the Covid pandemic).
* Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of local domestic abuse commissioned services.
* Maintain overall responsibility for well-functioning MARAC processes and protecting victims.
* Take responsibility for implementing system changes arising from Domestic Homicide Review and other review findings. Monitor the implementation of recommendations and actions.
* Maintain oversight of Salford agencies’ contributions to supporting effective domestic abuse provision.
* Oversee partnership training and development programmes, delivery and effectiveness.
* Ensure that the voices of families, children and victims are heard and that they influence our decision making.

**How we will work.**

* We will work together where there is added value, as our experience of partnership working has shown that we are stronger and more effective when we plan and work together.
* We will be intelligence led, using needs analysis to respond to trends and patterns of crime.
* We will utilise feedback from service users and people in Salford (such as the VOCAL forum) to drive improvement in domestic abuse service provision for the population
* We will share information in line with Data Protection Protocols and the SCSP Information Sharing Agreement.
* We will collaborate in the preparation of crime prevention injunctions and criminal behaviour orders.

In order to achieve the above, we will co-ordinate meetings as follows:

**Frequency and Timing –** we will meet quarterly in order to undertake and progress our business.

**Membership** shall comprise a senior representative of relevant partner agencies. It is important that representation is made by members of staff who are empowered to make decisions / commit resources on behalf of their respective organisations.

The membership of the TDAB will include senior officers from:

Salford City Council – including Children’s/Adults Services

Greater Manchester Police

National Probation Services

NHS GM Integrated Care Board (Salford locality)

Social Housing Registered Providers

Greater Manchester Mental Health Foundation Trust

Northern Care Alliance

Safe in Salford IDVA commissioned service

Victim Support

Salford Foundation

Salford Safeguarding Adults Board

Salford CVS

VOCAL Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Forum rep

The group will set up Task and Finish sub-groups if required to deliver specific pieces of work.

**Governance:**

The Tackling Domestic Abuse Board is the strategic lead for domestic abuse and reports to the Community Safety Partnership.

We recognise that domestic abuse remains a significant priority for the Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) and for the Safeguarding Adult Board, and the partnerships have agreed an Inter-Board Protocol which describes the reporting arrangements between the boards.

We currently have a Children’s Domestic Abuse (CDA) subgroup and the chair of this will ensure updates are reported to the TDAB. The SSCP will continue to support the Children’s Domestic Abuse subgroup and will undertake a scrutiny and challenge role in relation to domestic abuse activity.

We currently have a MARAC Steering Group and the chair if this will ensure updates are reported to the TDAB.

The SSCP oversees the FGM task group and this group reports updates to the TDAB.

Salford CVS oversees the VOCAL Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Forum which provides input to TDAB on the Voice of the Victim/Survivor.