**Tackling Domestic Abuse Board**

**Terms of Reference**

**2016**

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**Terms of Reference**

**Mission Statement:**

To develop our partnership responses to protect and support all victims of domestic violence and abuse regardless of the victims 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) – formerly the Salford Violence Against Women Board (SVAWB) – 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 violence and abuse over time with a strong emphasis on cultural change.

**Definition:**

The TDAB takes its remit from the cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse:

'Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family membersregardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

* psychological
* physical
* sexual
* financial
* emotional

'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.'

The Government definition, which is not a legal definition, includes so called 'honour’ based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

It has been widely understood for some time that coercive control is a core part of domestic violence. As such the extension does not represent a fundamental change in the definition. However it does highlight the importance of recognising coercive control as a complex pattern of overlapping and repeated abuse perpetrated within a context of power and control.

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

* psychological
* physical
* sexual
* financial
* emotional

Whilst our duty of care legally applies to persons aged 16 years and above, we have adopted a preventative model to consider those vulnerable young people between 10 yrs – 17 yrs who may be affected by domestic abuse, who are signposted to the young person’s domestic abuse meeting. We also have regard to our responsibilities to safeguard all children exposed to domestic abuse.

**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 2016-19:

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

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

* Deliver the TDAB Delivery Plan and report progress to the SCSP Board on a regular basis.
* Deliver local, regional and national domestic abuse strategies on behalf of the SCSP.
* Maintain oversight of and response to the new definition of domestic abuse, including issues of coercive control and responsibility for 16-17 year olds.
* Improve use of domestic violence and abuse data including evaluative data to identify any changes in trends and to inform service provision developments and commissioning decisions.
* Maintain overall responsibility for well-functioning MARAC processes and protecting victims.
* Take responsibility for implementing system changes arising from Domestic Homicide Review findings.

**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 the Problem Profile to respond to trends and patterns of crime.
* 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

Community Rehabilitation Company

Social Housing Registered Providers

NHS Salford CCG

Greater Manchester West Mental Health Foundation Trust

Salford Royal Foundation Trust

SIDAAS commissioned service

Victim Support

Salford Foundation

The group has linkages to the Bridge Strategy Group, the Reducing Re- offending Board and Adult and Children’s Safeguarding Board.

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 Board (SSCB) and for the Adult Safeguarding 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 CDA Chair also reports every six months to the SSCB Co-ordination and Delivery Group. The SSCB will continue to support the Children’s Domestic Abuse subgroup and will undertake a scrutiny and challenge role in relation to domestic abuse activity.