

Keeping Swindon **Safe**



Swindon Domestic Abuse Forum
Friday 25th March 2022
0930-1130

Tackling Violence Against Women & Girls Strategy An Overview

Lin Williams

DA Lead

Community Safety & Safeguarding Partnership

Domestic Abuse Forum

25th March 2022

Keeping Swindon  **Safe**

Definition of Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)

Crimes include: (not exhaustive)

- rape and other sexual offences,
- stalking & harassment,
- domestic abuse,
- 'honour-based' abuse (including female genital mutilation and forced marriage and 'honour' killings),
- sexual violence
- Sexual harassment
- Modern day slavery & trafficking
- Sexual exploitation

***Disproportionately affect women and girls.

Aims of the Strategy

An overarching strategy

- Increase support to victims and survivors
- Increase the number of perpetrators brought to justice
- Increase reporting to Police
- Ultimately reduce the prevalence of violence against women and girls

Progress - Since 2010

Introduced new offences

- controlling or coercive behaviour;
- stalking;
- so-called 'revenge porn'; and
- 'up skirting'.
- FGM

Additional funding including

- ISVA/IDVAs
- Perpetrators
- End to End Rape Review
- Strengthening DHRs

Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Policing, Crime Sentencing & Courts Bill

Progress (continued)

- Call for Evidence 2019/20
- Refreshed National Statement of Expectations
- Domestic Abuse Strategy - awaiting
- New Position statement on Men & Boys

Wider work across Government to complement and complemented the VAWG Strategy:

- End-to-End Rape Review,
- Tackling Child Sexual Abuse Strategy,
- Ministry of Justice's Women's Concordat
- Victims' Bill consultation,
- the Women's Health Strategy,
- the National Disability Strategy,
- the Hate Crime Strategy

Ambition of the 2021 VAWG Strategy

- **Prioritising Prevention**

- PSHE
- Safer Streets Fund
- National communications campaign
- Street Safe Tool
- Further funding

- **Supporting Victims**

- Increase 'by & for' services & specialist services
- Tackle sexual harassment in HE
- Local pathfinder projects for mental health services

Ambition (2)

- **Pursuing Perpetrators**

- End to End Rape Review
- Independent Review of Police management of registered sex offenders in the community
- Criminalise 'virginity testing'
- More effective response to street harassment
- Consider recommendations from Law Commission on abusive online communications

Ambitions (3)

- **Strengthening the System**

- Requires a whole-of - Govt and whole of society approach
- Report from HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) into policing's approach to female victims of VAWG July 2021
- MAPPS System
- National Policing Lead for VAWG ACC Maggie Blyth. Insp. Gemma Vinton
Lead for Wiltshire
- Review of DBS
- New VAWG Transport Champion 2 appointed in July 2021
- Improve data

Further information includes

- Understanding VAWG
- Reporting to the Police
- Public Understanding & Awareness
- Demographics
- Trends in VAWG
- Impact of Covid-19

Nest Steps

- Publication of Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Publication of refreshed National Statement of Expectations
- Publication of refreshed Men and Boys Position Statement
- Publication of the Perpetrator Strategy
- Police, Crime & Sentencing Bill

Local Plans

- Local Strategies & Action Plans
- Governance for VAWG sits with the Community Safety Partnership Exec and is managed through the DA & VAWG Board
- National strategy will be monitored through the DA & VAWG Delivery Plan
- Consideration for a local VAWG Strategy
- Wiltshire Police have appointed a VAWG Lead DIInsp. Gemma Vinton
 - Developing an action plan to tackle VAWG
- Safety at Night Charter
- Safer Streets Funding Round 3 and 4

Keeping Swindon **Safe**



Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Lin Williams

Domestic Abuse Lead

Community Safety & Safeguarding Partnership

Domestic Abuse Forum

25th March 2022

Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Royal Assent 29th April

The Aim of the New Act is to:

- Further protect victims and their families
 - Strengthen measures to tackle perpetrators
- Have a legal definition of domestic abuse for the first time
 - Stop abusers cross examining their victim in Civil and Family Court
 - Improve access to special measures
 - Improve Police powers for Domestic Abuse Protection Notices and Courts for Orders (DAPN/Os)
 - New offence of non-fatal strangulation

Domestic Abuse Act

- Extend the offence of revenge porn to cover the threat of disclosure of intimate images – intent to cause distress
- Clarification of the law for ‘rough sex gone wrong’ - consent. R vs Brown
- Extending the Coercive Control offence to include post separation abuse
- Explicitly recognising CYP as victims
- Place a Statutory Housing Duty on local authorities
- Must establish a Local Partnership Board with representation from service providers
- Provide all eligible homeless DA victims with automatic ‘priority need’
- Place the guidance for DVDS on statutory footing (Clare’s Law)
- Protect lifetime/assured tenancies for DA victim
- Prohibit GPs and health professionals charging for legal aid letters
- Include polygraph testing for perpetrators leaving prison
- Statutory Duty on Secretary of State to publish a Perpetrator Strategy
- Establish the role of DA Commissioner

Additional information

- Rejected Amendments:

1. Management of Perpetrators – national register for serial perpetrators
2. Support for victims with NRPF/migrant victims

However the Government agreed to:

1. Strengthen MAPPA to effectively manage perpetrators & update guidance with sections on DA & Stalking
2. Spousal Visa support through Destitute DV Concession (DVC) is already in place

Other Visa holders who cannot access NRM

Pilot scheme to provide access to safe accommodation & specialist services –
Southall Black Sisters

Statutory Definition of Domestic Abuse: DA Act 2021

Domestic abuse covers a wide range of behaviours that are used to control, threaten or intimidate victims. Behaviours are classed as domestic abuse if:

- Both the individuals are **over 16 years of age**
- Both the individuals are '**personally connected**' to each other and the behaviour is abusive

Behaviour is considered abusive if it consists of one or more of the following:

- **physical or sexual abuse** **psychological or emotional abuse**
- **Coercive or Controlling behaviour** – intimidation, threats, humiliation that is used to punish, harm, isolate a victim and prevent them from enjoying life
- **Economic abuse** – any behaviour that prevents a victim having the ability to acquire, use or maintain money, or obtain goods or services

Statutory Definition continued

Children and Young People as victims:

Any reference in the Act to a victim of DA includes CYP (U18) who:

- a) Sees or hears or experiences the effects of abuse
- and
- b) Is related to A or B

A child is related if:

- a) is a parent of or have PR for the child
- or
- b) the child and the persons are related

Statutory Housing Duty on Local Authority

- Duty to provide safe accommodation and support for DA Victims and their families
- Needs Assessment completed The needs reflected in the DA Strategy – Report back to MHCLG October 2021 & published January 2022
- MHCLG (Ministry of Housing, Communities and local Government) Year 1 revenue funding received to implement the Duty - £430, 576.00
- (now the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities – DLUHC)
- Notified of funding for Year 2 - £431, 512.00
- Interim commissioning for 1 year has taken place
- Refuge or Safe Accommodation has to have support in place so all needs are met.

Needs Assessment – JSNA Public Health

Needs Assessment identified additional accommodation was/is needed

- Multiple Disadvantages
- Male Victims
- Victims with pets
- Employed victims
- Support for children and young people
- Support for all victims
- Training

Recommendation from JSNA 2021

- Improve data collection across the partnership
- Enhanced training for front line staff to enable identification of DA especially in older people and others with protected characteristics.
- Develop innovative ways to work and engage with victims and protected characteristics - BAME, LGBTQ+, Gypsy & Travellers, to encourage them to disclose domestic abuse and seek support
- Provide specialist support for victims and perpetrators with complex needs and multiple disadvantage
- Develop early intervention approaches to identify lower risk victims and their children to prevent escalation to high risk and crisis

Next Steps

- Evaluation of service provision for 2021/22
- Identify commissioning needs for 2022/23 onwards

Funding 2021/2022

- 4 rented properties for victims who cannot access refuge
- 1 3 bed property as safe accommodation for multiple disadvantage. Provider to manage house & staff
- 1 FTE Complex Needs IDVA
- 1 FTE Inclusion & Diversity IDVA
- 1 x Resettlement Worker (extension to existing temporary contract)
- 1 FTE Children's Worker
- Resource for tailored therapeutic Support – adult & children
- Additional resources to support those victims in safe accommodation other than refuge

What was in scope for Round Three?

IN SCOPE	OUT OF SCOPE
Rape	Grooming or CSE
Causing sexual activity without consent	Online forms of abuse
Sexual Coercion	DA/intimate partner violence
Abduction	FGM
Street Harassment	'Honour' based abuse
Stalking	Forced Marriage
Indecent Exposure	Modern Slavery
Unwanted Sexual Touching	Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation
Up-skirting	Revenge Pornography

Round 3 Commissioning Updates

CCTV	20 cameras	£100k
Lighting	30 lights	£75K
By-stander Training and NTE vulnerability awareness training	Commissioned provider to deliver programme of training and awareness raising with licensed venues	£35k
Stopp Tops	To prevent spiking in venues through providing a secure cover for drinks	£30k
Development of local directory of services to support VAWGs	Work with VAWG partners to produce directory of services and how to access them	£5k

Round 3 Commissioning Updates

Personal attack alarms with CSP Logo	5000 ordered and to be disseminated out in the self defence classes we are delivering in schools	£10,000
Book marks for 'what is a healthy relationship' aimed at Young People	4000 Provided by Swindon Soroptimists. Will be distributed to schools	£144.00
Prime Theatre Company	Work with Young People to produce a video about the consequences of sexual harassment. Some intergenerational work to be included	£30000
Violence Against women & Girls Survey	2 surveys. 1 aimed at Adults and 1 aimed at Young People. Being developed by VAS in partnership with the Stakeholder Focus Group. To produce report of feedback and develop an action plan to address concerns / trends identified across the partnership. VAS will attend Colleges and undertake some face to face consultation	£4400

Round 3 Commissioning Updates contd.

Loves Me...

Signs of a loving relationship

- Makes me feel safe
- Makes me feel comfortable
- Listens to me
- Values my opinions
- Supports what I want to do in life
- Is truthful with me
- Always tries to understand how I feel
- Likes that I have other friends
- Makes me laugh
- Trusts me
- Treats me as an equal
- Respects my family
- Understands my need for time alone or with family
- Accepts me as I am

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www.sigbi.org

Loves Me Not...

- Tries to control me
- Gets violent, loses temper quickly
- Always blames me
- Is sexually demanding
- Keeps me from seeing my friends and family
- Makes all the decisions
- Embarrasses me in front of others
- Hits me
- Makes me cry
- Makes me feel afraid
- Is always 'checking up' on me
- Takes my money and other things
- Threatens to leave me if I do not do as I am told
- Teases, bullies and puts me down

If you recognise any of these signs you may be a victim of abuse. You DO NOT have to suffer alone.

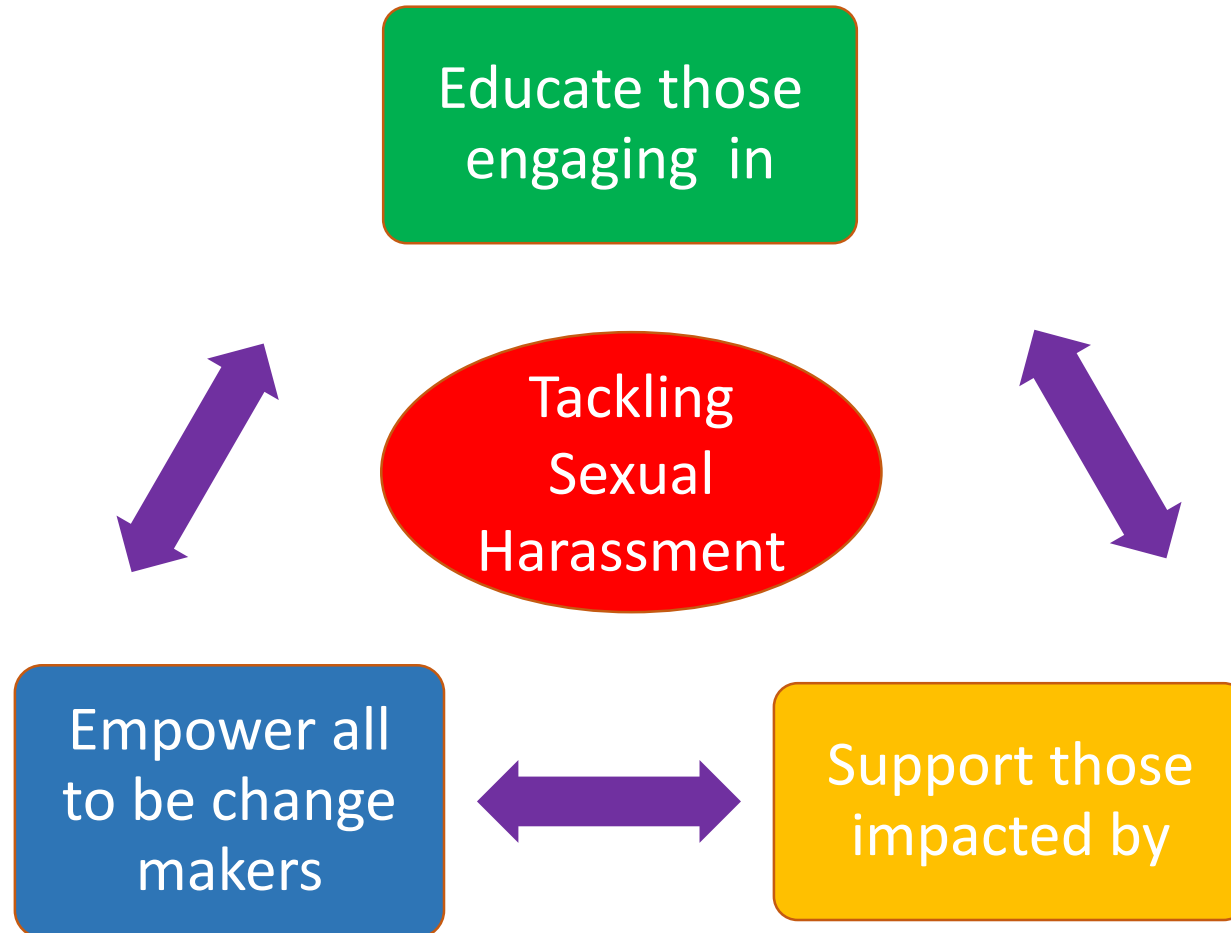


**National Domestic Abuse
Freephone Helpline
0808 2000 247**

Round 3 Commissioning Updates

Item	Numbers (delegates /courses/product)	Cost
Iprovefit 1:1 (boys) under the AIMS Assessment threshold – medium risk	30 places 2hrs a week	£43,875
Iprovefit Group (boys) group work with boys on the school radar exhibiting HSB	10 schools x 10 students	£19,200
Barnados 1:1 (girls) Targeted 1:1 work with girls who are under the SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) and who have experienced sexual harassment	32 places	24,914

A whole school community approach



EDUCATE those engaging in Harmful Sexual Behaviour against women and girls

- **Iprovement Offer**

- Targeted group workshops in schools
- 1:1 sessions lasting 2 hours a week for 12 weeks
- The groups will be a maximum of 6 participants/ cycle. Sessions will concentrate on supporting young men (between the ages of 12-16 years of age) who are at **significant risk of**, or **who have engaged in harmful and unsafe behaviours**



EDUCATE and raise awareness in our schools to start having the conversations about women's safety

- **STEP Swindon**

- 80 places have now been confirmed in the following schools (40 young women and 40 young men) **Peer Support Groups**.
 - Lawn Manor Academy: 40 places
 - Kingsdown School: 20 places
 - St Joseph's catholic college: 20 places
- Working with professionals in schools to identify young people most at risk of being either victims or perpetrators of (VAWG) violence against women and girls with the **aim to prevent these crimes before they occur**



SUPPORT those women who have experienced Harmful Sexual Behaviour

- **Barnardo's Offer**

- Targeted group workshops in schools
- 1:1 sessions for 1.5 hours for 8 weeks
- School participation groups during March 2022. (Young people will be invited to have their say in the development and content)
- Sessions will focus on working with young women (between the ages of 12-18 years of age) who have **not** experienced sexual abuse (SARC), but may be at risk of doing so, **and who have experienced sexual harassment.**

SUPPORT for schools to deliver the Relationship and Sex Education offer and have engaging conversations with young people around Harmful Sexual Behaviour

- **SBC produced licenced RSE Curriculum (digitalised)**

- Over 500 pages of resources for teachers to dip onto with activities, lesson plans and ideas for discussion.
- A peer reviewed excellent piece of work written by our own Gail McVicar.
- This will give us a consistent approach to RSE and will be trained into the schools by Gail McVicar our RSE Champion – Free of charge for Swindon Schools
- Opportunity to trade with our Local Authorities as we have copy write.
-

EMPOWER School staff to better Understand, React To & Prevent Public Sexual Harassment

- **Our Streets Now, Elevating Our Voices programme**

The Problem

- PSH is endemic in society
- Pupils experiencing PSH feel alone
- Teachers are left unsupported and under-trained

=

PSH is accepted and an embedded part of school culture

The Elevating Our Voices Programme

- Support teachers to react and prevent PSH
- Empower young people to create change

=

Schools become a vehicle to create a PSH free society



EMPOWER students to become change-makers in their own school communities

- **Our Streets Now, Elevating Our Voices programme**
- Direct work with young people.
- Once teachers are properly equipped to respond and help prevent PSH, pupils are in the right environment to become **agents of change in tackling this issue.**
- Change-making workshops to a smaller segment of the student body exploring PSH in more depth and encouraging the young people to **develop their own ideas for change within the school community**



Evaluation

Evaluation to be commissioned following delivery of all interventions

- Management of project
 - Survey Results
- Community Feedback
- Commissioned services Feedback
 - Schools Feedback
- Challenges and learns



Moving On Project

Empowering survivors of modern slavery
to thrive in their community

Donna Lovell & Terri Baylis
d.lovell@medaille-trust.org.uk

Overview

- Medaille Trust: who we are
- Modern slavery and trafficking definitions
- Spot the signs
- Moving on Project
- How can you help?
- Questions????

Medaille Trust

- Medaille Trust exists to provide refuge and freedom to victims of modern slavery, supporting them to rebuild their lives
- What started in 2006 with a house for women trafficked into prostitution quickly grew into a national network supporting all people trapped in modern slavery



Largest provider
of safe house
beds in UK

We support both
male and female
victims

We have 9 safe
houses across
England

We host an
international
Police conference
each year

First responder
into the NRM

We work
internationally to
support efforts to
eradicate Modern
Slavery

So what is Modern Slavery?



Definitions

- Modern slavery is a serious crime being committed across the UK in which victims are exploited for someone else's gain. It can take many forms including trafficking, sexual exploitation, forced labour and domestic servitude.
- The **Modern Slavery Act 2015** was brought out to tackle this evil.
- **Section 1** is the offence of Modern Slavery and deals with a person who holds another person in slavery or servitude and/or a person requires another person to perform forced or compulsory labour. In essence a person is forced or compelled to do something they do not want to do.
- **Section 2** is the offence of trafficking and states that a person commits an offence if the person arranges or facilitates the travel of another person with a view to that person being exploited. Trafficking requires an Act and a means and this act has to be for exploitation.

Trafficking v People Smuggling

PEOPLE SMUGGLING:

- Crime against the state
- Involves immigrants and asylum seekers paying others to help them enter a country illegally
- **After the transportation there is no longer a relationship**

TRAFFICKING:

- Crime against the person
- Victims are coerced or deceived
- **Transport is ancillary only to enable exploitation**
- **Controlled upon arrival, victims are exploited**



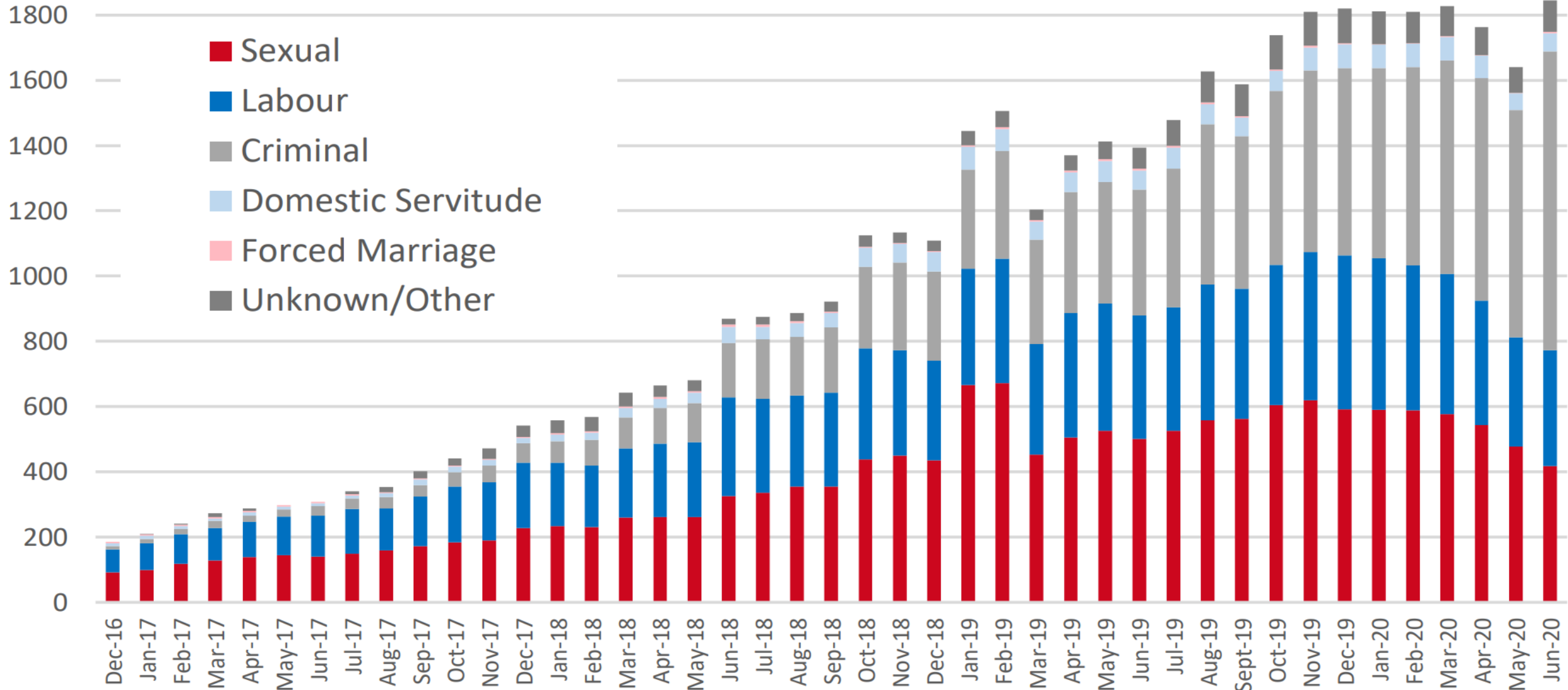
Types of Modern Slavery



- Domestic servitude
- Criminal exploitation
- Sex trafficking
- Child exploitation
- Forced compulsory labour
- Organ harvesting



Modern Slavery by Principle Crime Type



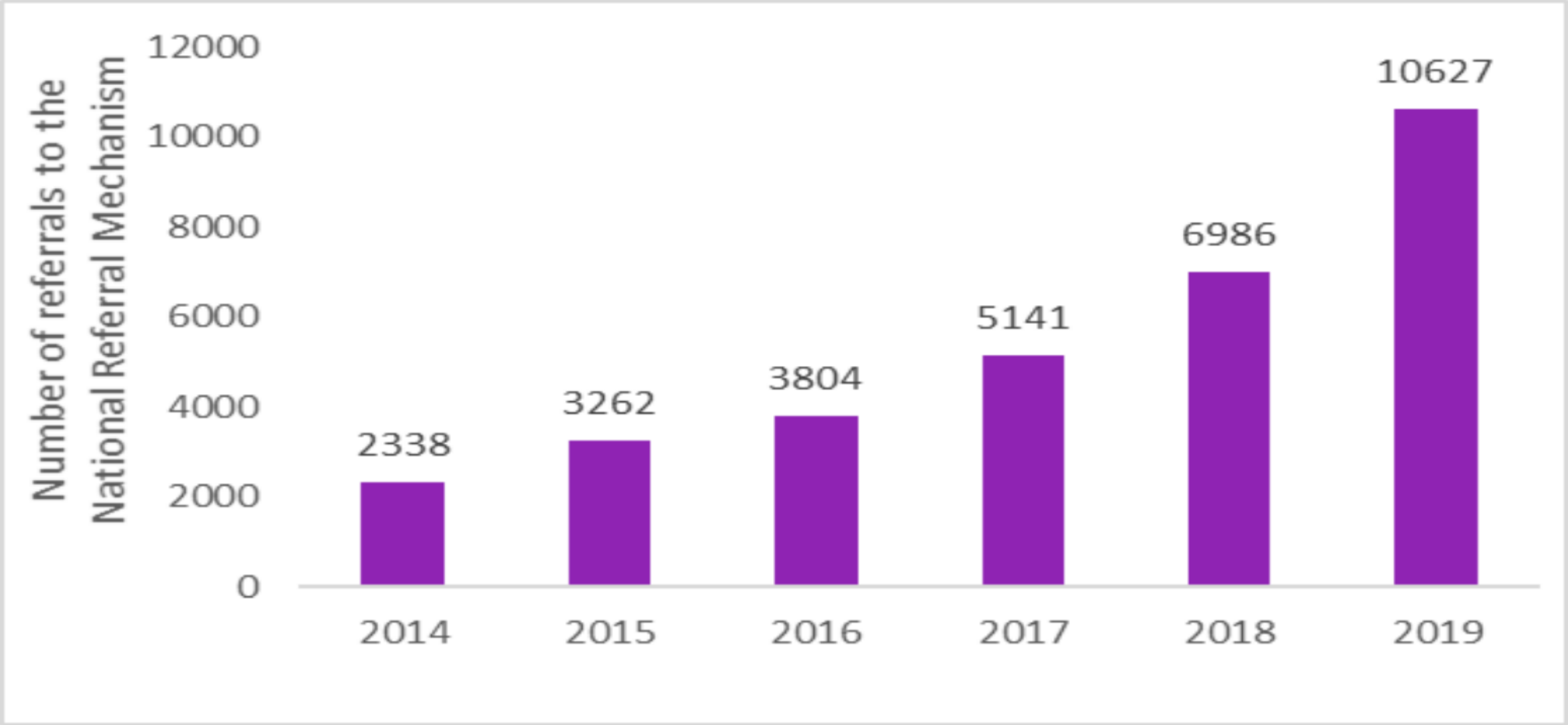
Is it really a big deal?

- **40.3 million** people are estimated to be trapped in some form of modern slavery in the world today
- **136,000** victims are estimated to be in the UK
- **10 613** potential victims were referred into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) in the UK in 2020.
- Of those **63%** of individuals referred claimed exploitation in the UK only

National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

- A Framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery, ensuring they receive the appropriate support
- Reasonable grounds (RG) decision – the decision from Single Competent Authority that someone is a potential victim of modern slavery
- Conclusive grounds (CG) decision – the decision from the Single Competent Authority that someone is definitely a victim of modern slavery

Current National NRM Figures



Spot the Signs



Spot the Signs

- Be fearful of police/authorities
- Exhibit signs of physical and psychological trauma e.g. anxiety, bruising, untreated conditions
- Have limited freedom of movement
- Have no passport or mention that someone else is holding their passport
- Be unpaid or paid very little
- Have limited access to medical care
- Seem to be in debt to someone
- Be regularly moved to avoid detection
- Be controlled by use of witchcraft e.g. Ju Ju
- Be malnourished
- Be fearful of their trafficking, believing their lives or family members' lives are at risk if they escape
- Be fearful of telling others about their situation
- Sleeping on work premises
- Display a limited amount of clothing, of which a large proportion is sexual
- Display substance misuse
- Be living and working for a family in a private home

Reporting

If you have any concerns about potential victims, do not confront them as this could make them more vulnerable. Instead, contact:

- **999 in an emergency**
- 101 to report your concern to the Police
- National slavery helpline **08000 121 700**
- Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** in confidence

The **Moving On Project** is delivered by Medaille Trust in collaboration with the Snowdrop Project





Moving On Project

We support

- Women who are leaving safe-house accommodation & settling in the community
- Women who have come to the end of statutory support & longer-term support within the community is required
- Women who have chosen not to enter into the NRM and are now at risk of re-exploitation
- Women over 18 in the community who are disadvantaged and vulnerable to the risks of modern slavery

Moving On Project

We offer

Casework and befriending

Wellbeing

Education and employment

Community activities

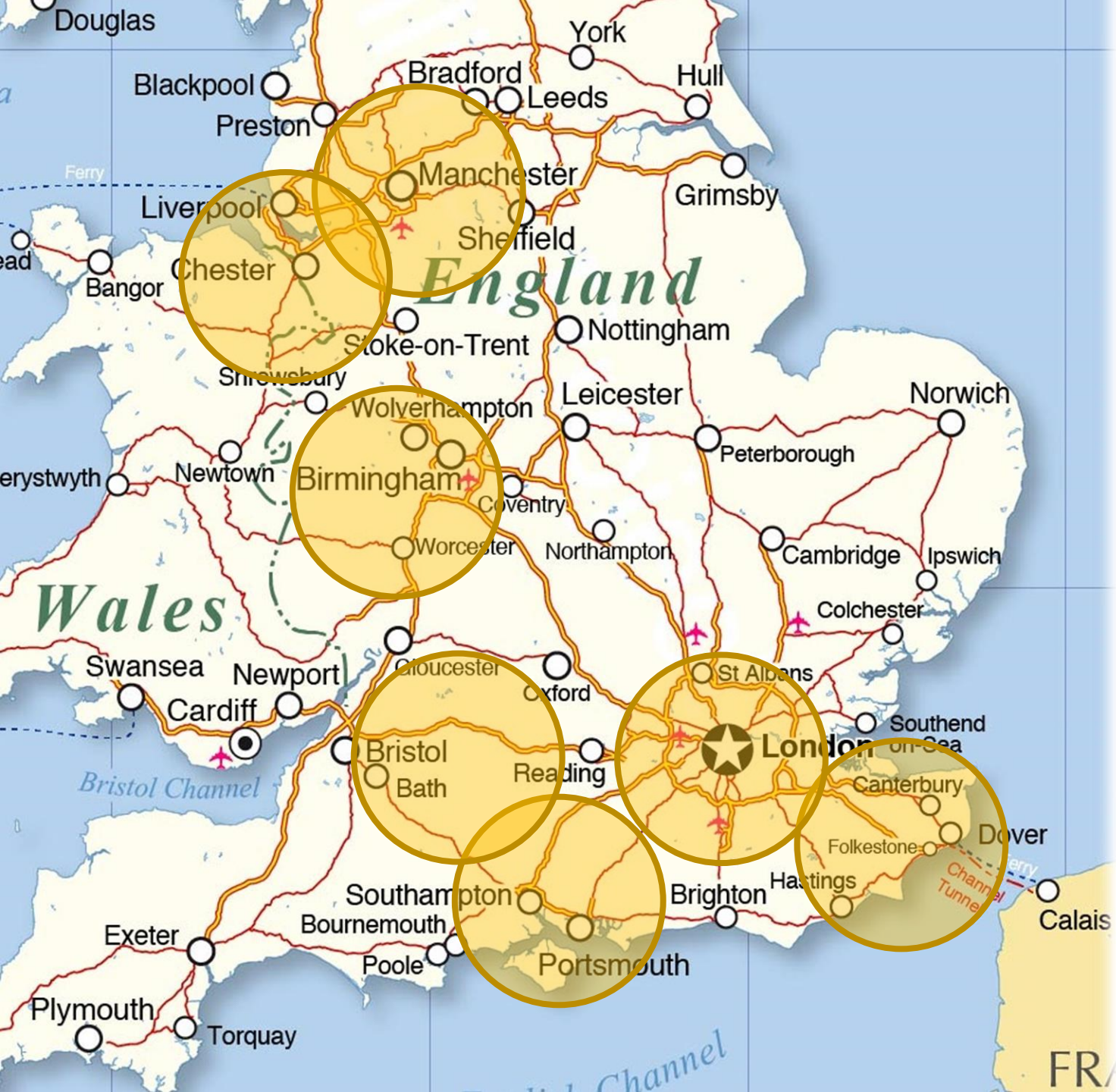
Independent living

Access to Justice



Christmas photo shoot





Moving On Project – where we are

- Manchester
- Cheshire
- Midlands
- Wiltshire
- Hampshire
- London
- Kent

We take referrals from a range of service providers, including other charities, local authorities, social workers and primary care providers

Women can also make a self-referral

A cartoon illustration of a character's head, shown from the side, with a large, white, cloud-like thought bubble. The thought bubble contains the text "What can I do?". The background is orange with a dashed border. There are two small white circles on the orange background, one above and one below the thought bubble.

What can
I do?

You can make a difference



- Volunteer
- Donate
- Awareness sessions
- Refer – Moving on Project
- Sign up to newsletter
- Contact d.lovell@Medaille-trust.org.uk

Questions



Swindon Domestic Abuse Forum

25.03.22

**Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Work
Update**

1

Mobilisation



- Who should be involved in designing this strategy? What is our scope (geographical, agencies)?
- Why are we developing a local perpetrator strategy together?

2

Where are we at today?



- What are our local needs?
- To what extent does our existing provision cover these needs?
- Is our existing provision suitable to the needs of all groups (e.g. including female perpetrators, English as a second language, racialised communities, LGBTQ+, or young perpetrators)? Are these interventions culturally appropriate?
- What do we know about the quality of these interventions? What quality assurance processes do we have?

3

Where do we want to get to?



- What's our shared vision?
- What are the limits in our current provision, comparing with best practice and taking into consideration our local needs?
- What are our long term objectives to address these limits/gaps?
- Which objective, or which gap(s) should we address first?
- What data, evidence or other considerations support this prioritisation?

4

How to get there?



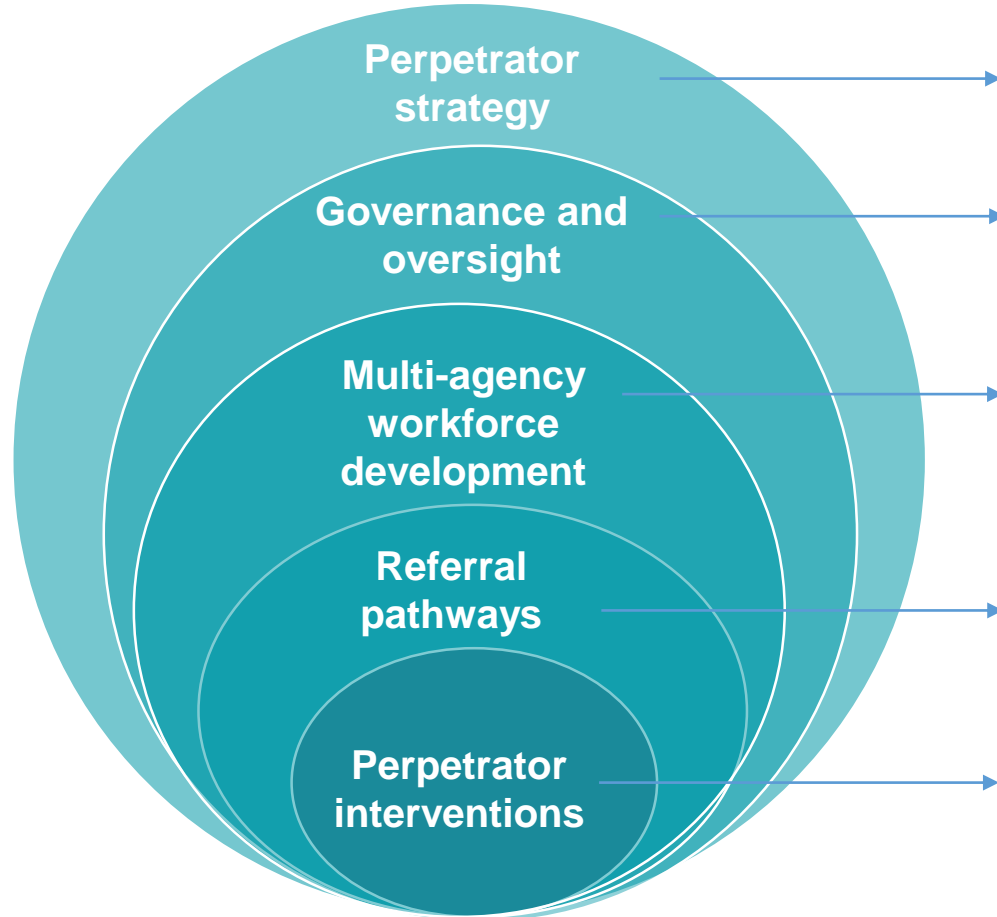
- How to achieve this objective? What specific actions are needed and from whom?
- What is the governance around this strategy?
- What are the barriers and how can we overcome them?
- How can we fund this strategy?
- How do we hold ourselves accountable to this action plan, and track progress?
- How do we ensure "testing & learning", with the flexibility to pivot the strategy when needed?

Respect



SOCIAL FINANCE

A strategic framework around these interventions is critical to their success

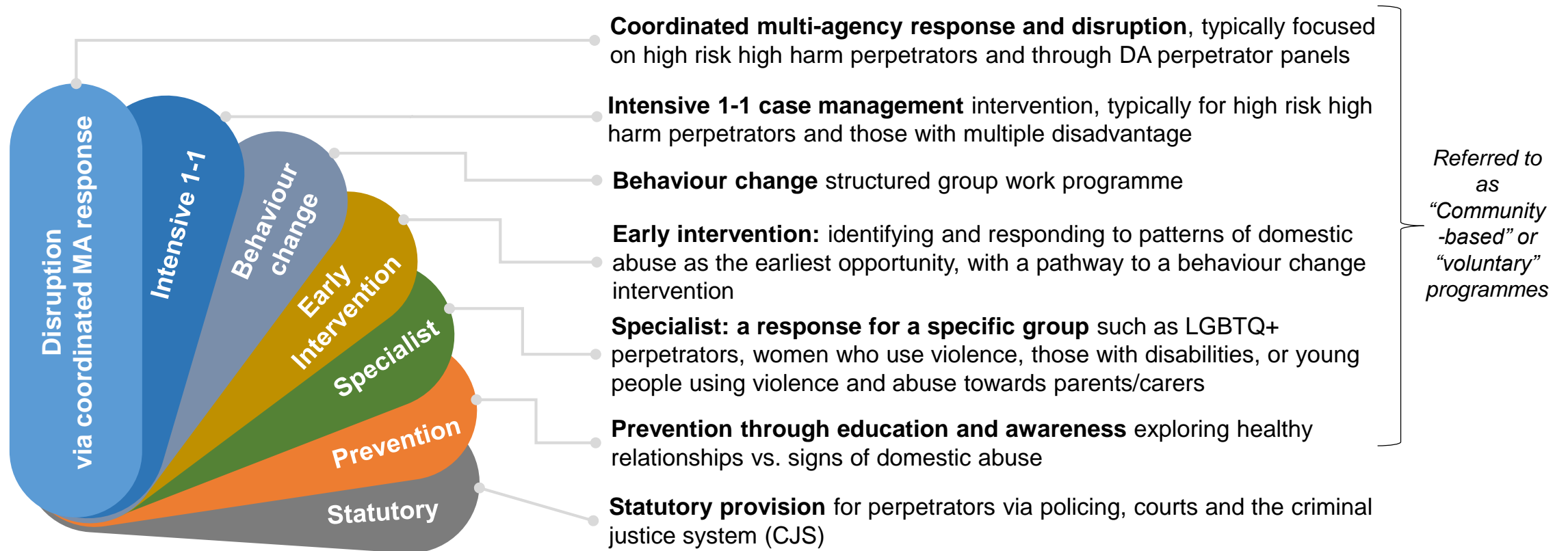


Summary of recommendations

- Overall strategy for work with perpetrators, sitting within a whole family, whole system response to domestic abuse
 - Considerations around coherence between national and local perpetrator strategy
- Effective governance including information sharing agreements, contract oversight and quality assurance arrangements developed
 - Joint-commissioning, embedded in a strategy
- Training across multi-agency sectors, to support cultural shift towards engaging the perpetrator and holding them to account, promoting identification, engagement and signposting/ referring onto the specialist services pathway
 - Best practice enhanced training models across the perpetrator sector
- Mapping out potential routes into interventions and planning for multi-agency engagement
 - Active engagement with communities to embed pathways and include underrepresented groups, e.g. Black, Asian and other racialised groups, LGBTQ+ communities.
- High quality, safe (meeting agreed standards and quality assurance), and survivor focused
 - Skilled and experienced operational team;
 - Commissioning beyond one year, e.g. for three years, including to enable the embedment of the intervention within multi-agency system, testing & learning, and impact measurement.

A comprehensive response to perpetrators should include a range of interventions

Example of a comprehensive response:



ALL INTERVENTIONS MUST BE **INTEGRATED WITH SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS** AND HAVE **BROAD AND EFFECTIVE REFERRAL PATHWAYS AND INFORMATION SHARING, CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE PRACTICE, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND QUALITY ASSURANCE**