



Stakeholder Briefing #13

Covid-19 Pandemic

London (and the UK) has been placed into Tier 5 with notable restrictions on movement (National lockdown). The new restrictions came into force on 6 January 2021. See further information here:

[National lockdown: Stay at Home - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

[Tier posters: Medium, High, Very High and Stay At Home - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

What impact do the rules and restrictions have on the delivery of your services to domestic abuse victims, survivors and their families?

Recorded Data

In the rolling 12 months to December 2020 Hillingdon Police recorded:

- 5723 domestic abuse incidents (a combination of crimes and non-crimes). There has been above average offending recorded in 6 of the last 7 months.
- 3319 domestic abuse offences. There has been above average offending recorded in 5 of the last 7 months.

In the same time period, Hillingdon Police recorded:

- 493 Sexual offences. Of which there were:
 - 199 Rape Offences. In 3 of the last 7 months there has been above average offences recorded.
 - 294 Other Sexual Offences recorded. In 1 of the last 7 months there has been above average offences recorded.

(Source: MOPAC Domestic and Sexual Violence dashboard [Domestic and Sexual Violence Dashboard | London City Hall](#))

HIDVA Service data for medium / high risk data

LBH 14/15	LBH 15/16	LBH 16/17	LBH 17/18	LBH 18/19	LBH 19/20
62%	77% (of 640 referrals)	87% (of 580 referrals)	65% (of 610 referrals)	100% (of 751 referrals)	100% (of 777 referrals)

- In Quarter 1 FY20/21 there were 188 referrals to the Hillingdon IDVA Service, which is an 8% increase compared to FY19/20 (when there were 174 referrals).
- In Q2 FY20/21, there were 210 referrals. In the same period, the HIDVA Service dealt with 167 referrals. This represents a 25.7% increase.
- In Q3 FY20/21 there were 181 new referrals. In Q3 for year 2019-20, there were 191 new referrals received – of which 19 were on-ward referred to the Victim Support IDVA provision.

Operational DA MARAC data

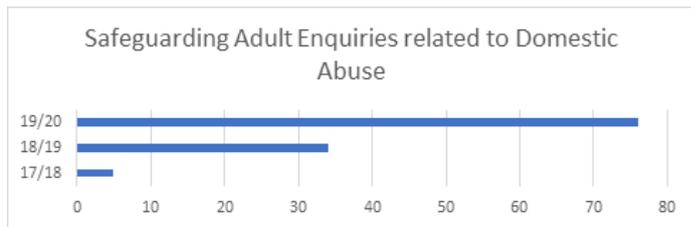
- The SafeLives data for FY 19/20 (April 2019 to March 2020) shows that our local MARAC managed 518 referrals, which is an 11% increase compared to the previous year. This compares to a London average increase of 4%
- In Q1 FY20/21 there were 151 referrals of high-risk cases (including 51 repeat referrals), which represents a 15.3% increase on Q1 FY 19/20 (131 referrals of which there were 29 repeat referrals)
- The Operational DA MARAC is meeting remotely every 2 weeks
- In Q2 FY20/21, there were 163 referrals (of which 53 are repeat referrals). In the same period in FY 19/20 there 116 referrals (of which 27 were repeat referrals). This represents a 40.5% increase in referrals.
- In the rolling 12 months to September 2020 there were 594 cases heard at the MARAC, which is 28% increase. Repeats cases 29%.
- Await Q3 data.

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) - Children

- In Q1 FY20/21 there were 737 police MERLIN reports regarding DA Safeguarding concerns compared to 537 in Q1 FY19/20. This represents a 37% increase
- In Q2 there were 667 MERLINS where DA/DV was an identified safeguarding concern. Of these, 186 related to adults, with 481 relating to relationships, which involved children.
- Await Q3 data.

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) – Adults

Referrals to the Adult Social Care, which are related to domestic abuse over the last 3 financial years are reflected below:



A Daily Adult MASH meeting is now operating (Monday - Friday) at 12 noon. This weekday meeting is supported by a weekly overarching strategic meeting.

DA and Sexual Violence Helpline data

Funded by London Councils, **Women's Aid**, **Refuge (NDAH)**, the **Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC)**, the **Men's Advice Line (Respect)** and **Women and Girls Network's Sexual Violence Helpline (WGN)** are working together to deliver **dedicated helpline services for all victims of domestic and sexual violence**, including men, boys and LGBT callers.

- In FY 19/20, there were 19,249 calls to the service of which 625 calls were received by people who live in Hillingdon. This is the 5th highest level of calls in London (out of the 33 areas including the City of London Area).
- In Q1 FY20/21, there were 3265 calls to the service of which 76 calls were received by people who live in Hillingdon. This is the 7th highest level of calls in London.
- In Q2 FY20/21, there were 373 calls from people who identified as Hillingdon residents. This is the 5th highest call volume in London. Overall, there were 9932 calls to the service.
- Await Q3 data.

Other key areas of work – Linked to the DA Strategy 2018 –2021

The Council's Website's DA Pages have been updated. See: [Domestic abuse - Hillingdon Council](#)

Domestic Abuse Bill.

- **Provision of Safe Accommodation for DA Victim**
 - This include providing safe accommodation and counselling and therapeutic services. See attached Frequency Asked Questions sheet.
- **Home Office Scheme – Ask for ANI**

ANI = Action Needed Immediately

The launch of the scheme took place on Thursday 14 January.

Ask for ANI is a codeword scheme developed by the Home Office to provide a discreet way for victims of domestic abuse to signal that they need emergency help from the safety of their local pharmacy.

The posters currently developed by Home Office are designed to be displayed in pharmacies to let customers know that they can use the codeword in the pharmacy to ask for help. There is a desire that the information raising awareness of the codeword is targeted to reduce the risk of perpetrators becoming aware of the codeword, therefore wider awareness-raising materials for display in the wider community are not being provided.

Attached is partner Q&A document.

The list of pharmacies currently participating in this scheme in Hillingdon Borough is available for partners upon request. There is coverage in Uxbridge, Northwood (x 2), Pinner, Ruislip (x4), Hayes (x3), Northwood and West Drayton.

- **'White Ribbon' Campaign 202/21.** Reserve the Date for the 2021/22 event: 25th November 2021.

- **The local focused Employers' Initiative and Safe Spaces Scheme is well underway.** Using Central Government funding the Hillingdon Women's Centre, Belina GRoW and The Sharan Project are leading on this project with the support of Hillingdon Council until March 2021.
 - This funding will enable the project team to provide training and supporting products free of charge.
This short-term initiative is the foundation of the LBH's longer-term project plan.
 - Register your interest and /or access to the newsletter here:
[Workplace Safespace Training |](#)

 - A progress report of this project is available upon request.

- DA awareness sessions for local multi-agency professionals (public and voluntary sectors) continue to be conducted - currently in a remote format. These awareness sessions are sponsored by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and the local Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). Training Programme Brochures have been produced and circulated. The next training sessions (remote) are 5.3.21 (LSCB Level I DA) and 26.3.21 (SAB Level I DA).

- Metropolitan Police launches a Predatory Offender Unit. The Unit aims to tackle offenders who pose a significant risk to adults and children
 - See: [Launch of Predatory Offender Units leads to 160 arrests for... - Metropolitan Police](#)

- Check out Standing Together Against Domestic Violence's In Search of Excellence Report: An (Updated) Guide To Effective Domestic Violence Partnerships and the Coordinated Community Response
 - Further information can be found here: [In Search of Excellence — Standing Together](#)

- NHS Digital Adult Social Care Annual survey is conducted by Councils with Adult Services Responsibilities (CASSRs) and is accessible here:

[Personal Social Services Adult Social Care Survey, England 2019-20 - NHS Digital](#)

- Home Office consultation on its updated Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy

The consultation can be found

here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/violence-against-women-and-girls-vawg-call-for-evidence> and submissions can be made directly to the Home Office or via an online survey.

The deadline for responses is 11:45pm, 19th February 2021.

Local IDVA and MARAC Services – Reminder

As a reminder Hillingdon IDVA service and that provided by Victim Support remains operational. There will be remote contact with victims.

Referrals to Hillingdon IDVA Service can be made by the following NEW contact details: E-mail: hidvas@hillington.gov.uk and stewart@hillington.gov.uk Tel: 07874620954

The DA MARAC will operate remotely every 2 weeks. Referrals can be made to Tim Moriarty – timothy.moriarty@met.pnn.police.uk Tel: 0208 2461798

Our ASK

Please:

- i) Do let us know if your Organisation / Agency is receiving an increase in referrals of DA cases.
- ii) Provide us with any information or resources you think maybe useful.
- iii) Please let us know if you are interested in free online training. What specific subject areas in tackling domestic abuse are you interested in.

The Stakeholders' Briefings can be found in the Council's website DA Pages accessed via <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/abuse> In the left side of the screen there is a section marked Stakeholder Briefing, click on the link and you will go to the current and previous briefings.

Please send your updates or comments to gcampbell1@hillington.gov.uk

The next briefing will be provided in February 2021.

15 January 2021