



Cwm Taf Morgannwg Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence Strategy Annual Report 2020-2021

1. Introduction	
2. Membership of Violence Against Women Steering Group	
3. Governance Structure	
4. Cwm Taf Morgannwg VAWDASV Strategic Aims	
5. What have we achieved? – Aim 1	
6. What have we achieved? – Aim 2	
7. What have we achieved? – Aim 3	
8. What have we achieved? – Aim 4	
9. What have we achieved? – Aim 5	
10. Implementation Plan 2019-2020	
11. Appendix A - Membership	
12. Appendix B - Governance structure	

Cwm Taf Morgannwg Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy – Annual Report 2109-2020

Introduction

Welcome to the first Annual Report of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg (CTM) Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership. This is the third annual report provided by the Cwm Taf and Bridgend regions but the first as an amalgamated Cwm Taf Morgannwg region

In 2015, the Welsh Government passed the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act (Wales) - VAWDASV

(1) The purpose of this Act is to improve:

- a) arrangements for the prevention of gender-based violence, domestic abuse, and sexual violence.
- b) arrangements for the protection of victims of gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence.
- c) support for people affected by gender-based violence, domestic abuse, and sexual violence.

The Act specified that Local Authorities and Local Health Boards (plus relevant authorities) are required to develop a joint local VAWDASV Strategy and provide an annual update report against this strategy. In Cwm Taf Morgannwg the responsibility for developing and monitoring the VAWDASV strategy has been delegated to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership which is a partnership of relevant authorities and local service providers.

In accordance with the Act, the Cwm Taf Morgannwg VAWDASV strategy must:

- a) Specify objectives which the Local Authority and the Local Health Board consider will, if achieved, contribute to the pursuit of the purpose of this Act.
- b) Specify the periods of time within which the Local Authority and the Local Health Board propose to achieve the specified objectives.
- c) Identify the actions that the Local Authority and the Local Health Board propose to take to achieve the specified objectives.
- d) A Local Authority and a Local Health Board may specify objectives.

For ease of monitoring in Cwm Taf Morgannwg, the objectives, actions and timescales have been incorporated into an implementation plan that is reported upon on a quarterly basis. Any issues or risks raised in relation to delivering the plan are elevated to the Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Bridgend CSP for their decision and/or action. This supports the CSP's to take ownership of VAWDASV at a strategic level and provide leadership to the VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership on the delivery of the plan.

This report highlights the work that the CTM, VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership has undertaken during 2020/2021, in pursuit of the aim to ensure that the people of Cwm Taf Morgannwg are safe from all the harms associated with VAWDASV. The VAWDASV Partnership are acutely aware that this can only be achieved through strong collaboration, with all agencies working together proactively and productively.

Members of the VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership continue to seek opportunities to further develop and improve safeguarding in relation to VAWDASV in Cwm Taf Morgannwg and recognise that this can only be achieved through effective cooperation between Strategic Boards. Therefore, collaboration with partner agencies, Welsh Government and Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board will continue, to enhance practice and to share learning.

Cwm Taf Morgannwg VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership will also endeavor to engage with users of services, whether they are children or adults and offer them opportunities to co-produce strategies, policies etc.

2020-2021 has been a year like no other for the Country, presenting an unprecedented level of challenges. The Cwm Taf Morgannwg region, like all others has had to deal with the vagaries of the Covid-19 pandemic.

VAWDASV services in CTM have met all these challenges head on and despite all the difficulties have continued to provide high quality services that are responsive to the new needs emerging because of the pandemic.

.

Membership of VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership

See Appendix A

Governance structures

In 20-21 the Cwm Taf VAWDASV strategic partnership became the Cwm Taf Morgannwg partnership group however the rest of the governance structure is still arranged around the regions of Bridgend and Cwm Taf, consequently the VAWDASV group reports to two CSP's see **Appendix B**.

Cwm Taf Morgannwg VAWDASV Strategic Aims

The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 required Local Authorities and their relevant partners to develop a local VAWDASV strategy. The Cwm Taf Morgannwg VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership complied with this requirement and developed its aims to be consistent with the VAWDASV National Strategy and to meet local need.

During 2020-2021, Cwm Taf Morgannwg aims were as follows:

Aim 1: Increase awareness of violence against women, domestic abuse, and sexual violence across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg population.

Aim 2: To break the generational cycle of VAWDASV behaviour in families by promoting healthy relationships in children and young people.

Aim 3: Hold perpetrators to account for their actions and support them to change their behaviour.

Aim 4: Ensure services are designed and commissioned to meet the needs of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg population.

Aim 5: Ensure that services are fit for purpose and quality assured.

What have we achieved? - Aim 1

Increase awareness of violence against women, domestic abuse, and sexual violence across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg population.

In a year when people have been unable to leave their homes for long periods of time, communication has been a key activity for VAWDASV services. The message of stay at home was intended to keep the population safe from Covid 19, however staying at home can be very unsafe for those who experience VAWDASV, as they are effectively locked down with their abusers. Social media has been crucial in enabling service providers to inform the public and victims of VAWDASV that services are still operating and how they can be accessed. To promote awareness of service provision the CTM region participated in the National Campaign 'Home shouldn't be a place of fear' providing both national and local contact information to victims.

Close collaboration between the VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership and the Cwm Taf Morgannwg (CTM) Safeguarding Board has meant a wider reach for raising awareness activities in the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region. This has been achieved using the Safeguarding Boards website, face book account and news bulletins.

In 2019-20 a range of publicity materials were developed for a campaign to inform the public that men can also experience abuse, the campaign was never delivered as intended due to Covid. However, as the message was still relevant the materials were redeveloped to be delivered through social media. The campaign went live in June 2020 and has been recirculated on several occasions throughout this financial year. The campaign strap line is any man can.....



In 2019- 2020 the Welsh Government provided the VAWDASV service providers of the region with a grant to engage service users in some community communication activity. The intention of the activity was to extend awareness of existing Welsh Government campaigns by using creative mediums such as art and photography. The Cwm Taf Morgannwg region chose 'This is not love.... this is control' and 'Don't be a bystander' as their inspiration. The culmination of this work was meant to be an exhibition and celebration of the service users' work.

Unfortunately, the exhibition could not go ahead in the way intended. However, all the service users hard work was not wasted as in the 16 days of White Ribbon action individual artistic works were released on social media. A video montage of the work was created and can be viewed at.

<http://www.newpathways.org.uk/white-ribbon-day-2020>

As collaborative activity was more difficult this year individual service providers used the 20-21 community communications grant to raise awareness of their services or

to highlight issues of concern. Some of the activity funded by the grant includes the following.

- The Oasis Centre developed new publicity leaflets.
- New Pathways created new social media messages.
- Llamau undertook sessions with children to raise awareness of what a safe home looks like
- RCT Women's Aid developed online awareness raising sessions for members of local communities.
- SMT developed new messages designed to reach minority groups. To view. <https://www.smt.org.uk/>

As always VAWDASV service providers participated in Safeguarding week. In 20-21 the overall theme of CTM Safeguarding week was suicide prevention so VAWDASV organisations delivered sessions linked to that theme

The activities delivered by VAWDASV agencies were as follows.

- Drive delivered an online presentation on the link between mental health and domestic abuse.
- New pathways delivered a suicide awareness course.
- SMT delivered an awareness raising session around suicide and domestic abuse.
- SMT children and young people circulated their video 'in my house', tackling the issue of CYP abuse to parents and carers.

English: vimeo.com/417954018

Welsh: vimeo.com/417955589

The Cwm Taf Morgannwg region also participated in national awareness raising activity such as White Ribbon Day and Sexual Awareness Week

The main vehicle for raising awareness of VAWDASV amongst professionals In the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region has been through the rollout of the VAWDASV National Training Framework (NTF)

Since the commencement of the National Training Framework **12,231** staff from Bridgend, Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Authorities have completed group 1 training. Figures are not available locally for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB, Welsh Ambulance Service Trust or the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service as they report directly to Welsh Government. From the information available CTMUHB 68% of staff have completed Group 1.

The table below outlines Cwm Taf Morgannwg's progress regarding the VAWDASV NTF in 2020-2021

Group	Numbers completed
1	1735 (LA data only)
2	154
3	0 (no group 3 trainers)
4	12
5	5

It should be noted that prior to the pandemic all Ask and Act training was delivered through face-to-face classroom sessions, because of social distancing and lockdown regulations training had to move to an online platform. The move to online delivery was completed in Q3 this meant that Ask and Act was only delivered in Q4 this year.

Increasing awareness of domestic abuse in professionals employed in primary health care is a role of the Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) project. The service has been provided in Cwm Taf for many years but 2020-21 is the first year of delivery in Bridgend and represents the VAWDASV Strategic Partnerships commitment to ensuring consistency of provision across the region.

Working closely with primary care, the IRIS project aims to increase the identification of victims and perpetrators of abuse and improve the support they receive. This service is commissioned by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and provides training and support to clinicians and administrative staff in the 54 G.P practices throughout Cwm Taf Morgannwg.

Each practice receives specialist training sessions for GPs and clinical staff and separate sessions aimed at frontline, reception staff and administrators. The training focuses on providing information on how to identify domestic abuse through clinical enquiry and how to respond in terms of assessing immediate risk, referral, recording and confidentiality.

Once each practice has received the full training, they become a domestic abuse aware practice. This is recognised and promoted to patients by the displaying of posters and information cards, identifying them as domestic abuse aware. Practices also receive referral forms and information on care pathways for female survivors, male survivors, and perpetrators.

As of January 2021, IRIS was extended to incorporate Bridgend practices and a training plan was initiated. This resulted in the number of practices requiring training to increase from 38 to 54. Within Cwm Taf **38/54** practices are fully IRIS aware i.e., have completed all 3 training sessions.

During 2020-21 a further **162** practice staff and **30** student GPs completed IRIS training.

New Pathways are the key provider of training on sexual violence and related subjects in the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region. During 20-21 all their course were provided online and delivered across South Wales. In this time frame they delivered **102** courses to **1045** people. Some of the courses on offer in Cwm Taf Morgannwg included the following.

Vicarious Trauma - supporting staff and volunteers to recognise and respond to the personal consequences of supporting people who have experienced trauma. This included helping people recognise the signs of vicarious trauma, identify their own protective factors, and develop strategies for protecting themselves.

Suicide Awareness - helping staff and volunteers recognise the signs that somebody might be thinking about suicide; feel more comfortable exploring this; learn how to develop safety plans and when to activate an emergency response.

Sexual Violence - facilitating staff and volunteer to recognise the scope of sexual violence, its impact on people, common responses and coping strategies and the range of support and advocacy services available.

What have we achieved? - Aim 2

To break the generational cycle of VAWDASV behaviour in families by promoting healthy relationships in children and young people

One of the ways to promote healthy relationships in young people is through the Whole Education Approach. In 2019-20 the focus in schools was upon achieving two of the key elements of the whole education approach.

1. Children and young people learn about violence against women, domestic abuse, and sexual violence
2. Staff learn about violence against women, domestic abuse, and sexual violence.

This work was to be continued into 2020-21, however due to Covid the regions work in schools with both pupils and staff has been severely disrupted/halted, either because schools were closed, or external agencies were not allowed on site.

Key Element 1

To provide opportunities for children and young people to learn about VAWDASV, the Welsh Government's VAWDASV Team has commissioned Hafan Cymru to deliver the Spectrum programme across schools in Wales. In Cwm Taf Morgannwg this is one of the main delivery vehicles

All Spectrum sessions

- Promote the importance of healthy relationships and raise the awareness of children, young people, and adults about the issues of Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.
- Are delivered by qualified and experienced teachers. Sessions can be delivered in Welsh or English and all resources are bilingual.
- Are cross curricular and are designed to promote peer discussion, using a range of techniques.
- Use materials that are thought provoking but are not designed to be so emotive as to cause distress, including the concept of "The Safety Zone".
- Are designed to promote discussion not disclosure.
- Conclude with information for young people on where they can access help and support both inside and outside the school.

During 2020-2021 Hafan Cymru delivered the following sessions in Cwm Taf Morgannwg schools: (primarily in Q3)

Merthyr

- Total Number of sessions = 42
- Total number of pupils in sessions = 320

- Total number of staff in pupil sessions = 42

Rhondda Cynon Taf

- Total Number of sessions = 8
- Total number of pupils in sessions =70
- Total number of staff in pupil sessions = 9

Bridgend

- Total Number of sessions = 6
- Total number of pupils in sessions =55
- Total number of staff in pupil sessions = 6

As Hafan Cymru does not have the capacity to deliver to every class and year group many schools also commission local VAWDASV services to deliver aspects of healthy relationships.

In the Merthyr area of the CTM region, Safer Merthyr Tydfil (SMT) is contracted to deliver healthy relationships sessions in comprehensive schools. The service is funded through a Families First Legacy Fund as part of the Youth Support Resilience Programme. During 20-21 group delivery was suspended as per Covid restrictions therefore no group sessions were delivered in schools. However individual support was offered to young people referred via agencies and 1 group was delivered remotely as requested by the young people.

Number of individuals worked with	28
Number of group sessions	1

Even though organisations have not been able to go into schools they have still worked towards the objective of promoting healthy relationships in children and young people. To this end Llamau have delivered **31** Healthy Relationship sessions delivered across CTM with **405** attendees.

- Merthyr 179
- RCT 146
- Bridgend 80

In addition, Llamau have also delivered their ADAPT programme. Adapt is Llamau's bespoke 6 weeks course for young people aged 13-18 years. Adapt covers the following key areas:

- Healthy friendships.
- Healthy relationships.
- Warning signs of abuse.
- Grooming and exploitation including CCE and CSE.

- Sexual consent and coercion.
- Feeling safe and increasing self-belief.

31 children and young people completed the ADAPT programme in 2020-2020:

- 12 Merthyr,
- 12 RCT
- 7 Bridgend

The Comets & Rockets programme provided by Safer Merthyr Tydfil (SMT) takes a slightly different approach to breaking the generational cycle of domestic abuse. The service supports young people who have witnessed domestic abuse, through group programmes and play therapy, whilst at the same time supporting parents via group programmes. The purpose of the parental work is to increase understanding of the effects of domestic abuse on their children. Parents are also taught how to undertake therapeutic activities with their child to re-build relationships and increase attachment.

In 2020-2021 Comets and Rockets supported **61** children and **16** parents.

Key Element 2

In previous years it was the ambition of the VAWDASV strategic partnership to increase the take up of the NTF group1 e learning amongst education staff. This ambition has been in part achieved; however, it is difficult to determine the exact increase. This difficulty arises from the fact that the Group1 e learning became an open access course in 2020 21. This has increased accessibility, but participants are not monitored, so we do not have the ability to know what departments, organisations participants work in.

Whilst Hafan Cymru could not provide the spectrum programme they have continued to work in partnership with schools and have assisted staff to prepare for disclosures of DA that might accompany the pupils return to school.

During 20-21 Hafan Cymru delivered 2 training sessions to staff from Merthyr Tydfil schools. The sessions incorporated the following topics.

- Awareness of Violence against women, domestic abuse, and sexual violence (VAWDASV), types and definitions - brief overview to refresh staff awareness.
- Understanding of the impact of abuse on Children and young people (CYP) - touching on behaviours/cognitive development
- Indicators of domestic abuse
- Barriers to disclosing abuse.
- Responding to disclosures / raising concerns - understanding Safeguarding issues - including a quick look at the new Safeguarding app
- Review of some of the tools available to use with CYP.
- Awareness of support services

In respect of outcomes participants knowledge increased

The overall rating of the sessions was 87% excellent, 23% good.

And the course overall scored 9.5 on average.

RCT schools intended to run these sessions in September however this proved unachievable, so the sessions have been rescheduled to take place via Microsoft teams in the next financial year.

On offer are 4 training dates accommodating 60 staff members.

What have we achieved? - Aim 3

Hold perpetrators to account for their actions and support them to change their behaviour.

In Cwm Taf Morgannwg there are provisions for perpetrators of domestic abuse. The DRIVE project works across the region with perpetrators whose victims have been deemed high risk. DRIVE targets the perpetrators of domestic abuse to improve outcomes for victims and children. The key objectives are to:

- reduce the number of serial perpetrators of domestic abuse.
- reduce the number of repeat and new victims.
- reduce the harm caused to victims and children.
- intervene earlier to safeguard families living with high-harm domestic abuse.

The DRIVE service has two strands for working with perpetrators:

- I. To support perpetrators to change their behaviour.
- II. To disrupt the perpetrators opportunities for abusive behaviour.

Working with Perpetrators of domestic abuse is always challenging but to do so in a socially distanced way is particularly difficult during lockdown periods, as support workers must be mindful at all times of the risks posed to the victims and children of perpetrators. Which is why every intervention offered by DRIVE to domestic abuse perpetrators is accompanied by support from an IDVA service. The purpose of the IDVA support is to ensure that the safety of those at risk is not compromised by the perpetrator intervention and that the victims are aided to establish lives free from abuse.

Despite the challenges the Drive service in Cwm Taf worked with

- **105** perpetrators
- **110** victims
- **177** CYP

20-21 saw the extension of the DRIVE programme into the Bridgend area, in its first year of establishment and operation, Bridgend worked with

- **29** perpetrators
- **37** victims
- **70** CYP

NB there are more victims than perpetrators. This is because DRIVE often uncover hidden victims during their interventions.

To support the work of perpetrator and victims' services, the CT region has the Family Programme. The Family Programme provides specialist support for families experiencing domestic abuse who wish to remain together.

The aim of the service is to enable the family to live together safely or be supported to separate amicably.

The Family Programme adopts a whole family approach providing interventions for perpetrators, victims, and their children.

The service provides a range of therapeutic interventions and activities that focus upon

- Safety.
- Risk management.
- Behavioural change.
- Impact of domestic abuse on children.
- ACE's.
- Respectful communication.
- Attachment
- Emotional resilience

During 2019-2020 the service has supported:

- **24** families.
- **48** adults.
- **66** children.
- **38** children aged over 3 years +.
- **28** children aged under 3 years.

As a result of the programme families report:

- Feeling safer.
- Having more positive relationships.
- Have a better understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on their children.
- Feeling more empowered in life.

The Oasis Centre (IDVA service), which is managed by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council provides a Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme. This DVPP is offered to those perpetrators who wish to change their behaviour. Access to the programme is on a voluntary basis.

At present the DVPP in RCT is the only one operational in the region. Bridgend's was decommissioned this year and Merthyr Tydfil does not have one. A future piece of work for the region will be to commission a DAPP that is consistent across the region.

Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes are behaviour-change programmes for people who use violence and abuse towards their ex-partners/partner. The primary aim of the DVPP is to increase the safety and wellbeing of survivors and their children.

Perpetrator work must offer perpetrators a realistic opportunity to achieve sustainable change by:

- helping them to stop being violent and abusive.

- helping them learn how to relate to their partners in a respectful and equal way.
- helping them develop non-abusive ways of dealing with difficulties in their relationships and cope with their anger.

Because of the pandemic the DVPP has not been able to deliver its full programme of support, particularly the group work aspects. To encourage the continued motivation of perpetrators to change the service has provided support through telephone calls and what's app contact. Through the year the service has received **37** new referrals, has offered support to **25** and has **12** on a waiting list.

In respect of sexual abuse, New Pathways worked with **281** people from the CTM region as part of SARC and ISVA services. This specialist advocacy and support enables victims to achieve best evidence, make informed decisions about their choices in the criminal justice system and be supported to remain engaged within the criminal justice process. SARC and ISVA services working closely with the police and criminal justice agencies ensures that perpetrators are held to account for their actions.

Towards the end of 2020-21 the Welsh Government VAWDASV team provided all regions of Wales with a capital grant to establish and equip remote evidence centres for victims of VAWDASV. Remote evidence centres will make it possible for VAWDASV victims to provide evidence at trial without attending court. Witnesses will give evidence via a live video link with the court.

It is hoped that providing evidence in this way will result in more prosecutions if victims are less intimidated by the process and environment. In CTM the grant has facilitated the establishment of 4 remote evidence centres. All the regions of Wales are working together to develop the protocols and procedures necessary to run the centres and it is hoped they will become operation in the summer of 2021.

What have we achieved? - Aim 4

Ensure services are designed and commissioned to meet the needs of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg population

Throughout 20-21 the CTM VAWDASV Strategic Partnership has worked on its strategic objective to create consistent and effective services across the geographic areas of the region.

Whilst regional procurement of services has not been possible due to the local authorities' different interpretation of procurement procedures and timescales of contracts, greater consistency of service provision has still been achieved. This consistency has been achieved using methods other than procurement such as adopting agreed role profiles and service specifications. Accreditation awards help services to achieve the same quality standards.

Where differences or gaps are identified they are addressed as soon as resources become available, in ways that are acceptable to all.

As a result of working in this way for several years all the regions that make up Cwm Taf Morgannwg have the following provisions

- Refuge provision
- Move on accommodation.
- IDVA provision
- Tenancy support/outreach work
- Recovery programmes
- CYP services
- Drive
- IRIS
- ISVA provision
- Access to SARC

In 19-20 it was identified through gap analysis and evidence of need that the BAME population in CTM were underrepresented in service provision and that there were no service for Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation.

This gap in provision was consistent across the region. In 20-21 a small amount of VAWDASV revenue grant was utilised to fund a pilot project, delivered by BAWSO to work in BAME communities across CTM. Initially to scope out the levels of need and address any need that may be presented.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the service did not commence until Q4. However, in that single quarter BAWSO engaged more women than anticipated, therefore a decision was made to extend the pilot into 2021-22 and to seek additional funding to expand the staffing of the project.

The CTM region has been working along side the Office of The PCC and the other regions of South Wales to develop a whole systems approach to working with perpetrators of domestic abuse. This programme of activity will go forward into 2021-

22, where it is hoped that the collaboration of regions can more effectively commission perpetrator interventions.

Throughout the year, despite covid issues, and barriers to service delivery local providers have continued to provide essential services to the victims, perpetrators and families experiencing VAWDASV.

Below is a selection of data and information from VAWDASV services in Cwm Taf Morgannwg

Refuge provision. In 2020-2021 the three refuges accommodated the following

RCT = 138.
Merthyr = 38.
Bridgend=94

Floating Support services across the region, provided support to

RCT = 135
Merthyr = 148.
Bridgend 167

NB Bridgend's data represents a calendar year rather than the financial year this will change going forward and enable all services to report on a consistent basis.

The data in the next 2 tables is the combined total of the Assia Service, DART, and Oasis Centres (IDVA services of Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and RCT) work with high and medium risk victims of domestic abuse.

People accessing the service directly - NB Oasis only deals with high risk		
Target Group	Breakdown by high/medium/low risk	Total number of beneficiaries
Women	High Medium	1576 322
Men	High Medium	182 25
TOTALS		2105

People reporting that they have been provided with the information and advice they need to access services and support and are able to make informed choices		
Target Group	Breakdown by high/medium/low risk	Total number of beneficiaries
Women	High Medium	822 239
Men	High Medium	140 87
TOTAL		1288

In addition to their SARC and ISVA work New Pathways also provides a sexual abuse counselling service to adults and children. During 2020-2021, New Pathways received referrals for counselling for:

460 adults.

59 children.

RCT Women's Aid provides a variety of support services for those who have experienced domestic abuse within the RCT areas, outlined below is some of the activity data of this service:

SAFE project

Referrals	594
Drop in via telephone, web and online	202
Group programmes- online	122
Legal appointments	74
PPN follow up standard/ medium risk	1478

Safer Rhondda Centre

Referral's adults	393 (36 male)
Referrals young people	52
Drop in (online and telephone)	287
Group programmes	Included in SAFE data
CYP engaging with one-to-one online support	33

What have we achieved? - Aim 5

Ensure that services are fit for purpose and quality assured.

In respect of core standards, the situation remains the same as last year; all VAWDASV organisations within Cwm Taf Morgannwg have either achieved a recognised core standard or are actively working towards one.

Cwm Taf Morgannwg does not have a local set of performance indicators, as it was felt pertinent to wait for the introduction of the national indicators. Unfortunately, the introduction and implementation of these has been delayed by the pandemic. It was agreed by the VAWDASV partnership that each provider would submit some standard.

performance data, however, this has not been progressed this year.

In the financial year 19-20 the MARAC Quality Assurance Group developed a set of proposals to achieve change and greater effectiveness in the MASH to MARAC processes. This work necessitated working across the CTM Safeguarding Board and the Cwm Taf CSP. In early 2020 the CTM safeguarding Board approved the suggested proposals for change. However, in 20-21 the implementation of the work was put on hold as the priority activity was to keep delivering services and keep people safe.

This work recommenced in the autumn of 2020 but at this point had to consider that Bridgend had now joined the region and had its own MARAC and operating procedures. Activity was undertaken to scope the differences and similarities of the two MARAC's. It is perceived by the task group that Cwm Taf should adopt some of the methods of Bridgend. As a result of this scoping work a new model of delivery will be presented to the CTM Safeguarding Board and the CT CSP during the next financial year

Implementation Plan 2021-22

Through the delivery of the 2020-21 VAWDASV implementation plan, several new actions have emerged along with actions that will be carried forward into 2021-22. implementation plan. These include the following:

- Build on the existing achievements of the current CTM Commissioning Strategy, through the identification of gaps in service provision and meeting them through a regionally agreed approach.
- Learn lessons from the new and emerging working practise so that innovation is not lost in future commissioning of services.
- Develop and deliver a programme of campaigning activity based on local needs, particularly when we have evidence of underrepresentation of groups within local service provision.
- Continue to engage with the Engagement, Participation and Communication subgroup of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board to increase the dissemination of VAWDASV campaign messages.
- Continue to work towards consistency of approach to delivering healthy relationship awareness across Cwm Taf Morgannwg schools.
- Continue with the implementation of all levels of the VAWDASV National Training Framework.
- Consider how to support and deliver Ask and Act after the Welsh Government ends in March 2022.
- Continue to work in partnership with, other regions and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to develop and deliver a range of perpetrator interventions.
- Adopt and implement the VAWDASV National Core Performance Indicators.
- Implement agreed changes to the MASH domestic abuse discussions and MARAC processes.
- Maintain the IRIS service within Cwm Taf and continue the roll out to all GP Practices in Bridgend
- Launch the 4 remote evidence centres within CTM.

Appendix A

VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership Membership

The following organisations are represented on the Cwm Taf Morgannwg VAWDASV Regional Strategic and Commissioning Partnership (for some organisations several departments are represented).

Organisation
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Bridgend County Borough Council
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
South Wales Police
Welsh Ambulance Service Trust
South Wales Fire and Rescue
National Probation Service
New Pathways
Safer Merthyr Tydfil
BAWSO
RCT Women's Aid
Llamau
Police and Crime Commissioners Office

Appendix B

Governance structure Bridgend



Governance structure Cwm Taf



