

Safer Lambeth's

Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2011-14



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1 Safer
Lambeth
Partnership

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Foreword

Our vision is for Lambeth to be a safer place, and a borough in which residents don't have to be fearful of, or experience, gender based violence.

Over the last few years we have made great progress in Lambeth in improving our services for those who experience gender based violence – particularly domestic violence. However, we recognise that our approach to all forms of Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) needs to be more integrated and that we need to work together to reduce the number of these crimes in Lambeth and the impact on women and children – the prevalence of VAWG remains too high.

Behind each of these incidents of gender based violence there is a victim or victims for whom the costs can be incalculable. The human and emotional costs of these crimes can not be underestimated. Such violence is a major cause of death and disability and is linked to mental health problems including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder; self-harm or suicide and the misuse of drugs and alcohol. The impact on families and children is immeasurable and early intervention is critical to our approach.

All of this highlights the need to take a highly-focused, integrated approach to tackling VAWG – this Strategy sets out that approach.

As Co-Chairs of the Safer Lambeth Partnership we are clear that addressing and tackling VAWG in Lambeth remains as a firm priority. The Strategy commits us to prioritising resources to prevent violence from happening in the first place, provide effective support to victims when it does occur and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice.

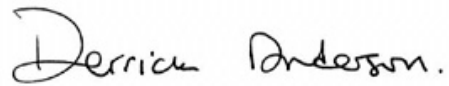
It commits us to work together to change public attitudes and end the 'normalisation' of any forms of gender based violence and ensure that the reporting of these crimes, to the Police or specialist agencies, increases. We will also work to ensure that all professionals can identify victims of VAWG and are equipped to provide the correct response.

There needs to be a concerted effort at local levels to identify women who are the victims of VAWG, and to then provide them with an effective support service in order to ensure that no sectors of society are marginalised. We will work with victims to provide them with practical help and support to escape violence and reduce the number of repeat incidents but we will also support victims who decide not to leave dangerous relationships.

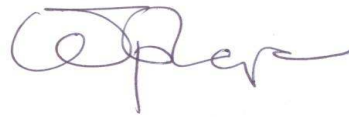
Vast improvements have been made but more needs to be done to ensure that all partners take a victim centred approach to dealing with gender based violence even if, for example, 'no further action' can be taken by Criminal Justice Services. The quality of service provided to those experiencing violence is essential. Conviction rates should only feature as a small part of the measure of any success.

This Strategy demonstrates our commitment to work together to make a change for the better. We have every confidence that this approach will improve our response to VAWG in terms of the support we give to women and children, the number of

perpetrators we bring to justice, and the change in attitudes we can foster to reduce the prevalence of gender based violence moving forwards.



Derrick Anderson, CBE
Chief Executive, Lambeth Council
Co-Chair of Safer Lambeth Partnership



Chief Superintendent Nick Ephgrave
Lambeth Borough Commander
Co-Chair of Safer Lambeth Partnership

Executive summary

This is Lambeth's first integrated Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy and supports the Home Office vision as set out in the document 'Call to End Violence against Women and Girls' published in November 2010.

The principles of this vision are to:

1. prevent violence from happening by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it and intervening early where possible to prevent it
2. provide adequate support where violence does occur
3. work in partnership to obtain the best outcome for victims and their families
4. take action to reduce the risk to women and girls who are victims of these crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice

The Strategy has been developed using the latest figures relating to prevalence of VAWG in Lambeth, a detailed research study and an innovative 'customer insight' report exploring the views of victim-survivors in the borough.

This work has informed us that while our current services deliver quality support and advice in some areas, notably domestic violence, we need to do more to address all strands of VAWG and the relationship between them, to better coordinate our services and to react to a world of rapidly changing technology and attitudes.

In order to do this we have put prevention of VAWG at the heart of this Strategy. Violence against women is rooted in pervasive attitudes, cultures, norms and traditions that have been perpetuated over time and have allowed abusers to act with impunity. We will take the joint action necessary to provide protection and support to those who experience violence but also ensure that we work to transform the cultures and attitudes that perpetuate VAWG.

We are committed to providing school and community based education programmes regarding VAWG as well as awareness raising and a comprehensive training programme for professionals.

The Strategy commits us to providing and supporting an effective network of specialist VAWG services that provide advocacy and support to those who are experiencing, or have experienced, gender based violence. The services delivered will be those that, through successive consultations, survivors have told us that they value most.

We will also ensure that victims of gender based violence are provided with an effective multi-agency response through the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC), Integrated Offender Management (IOM) and other forums. Perpetrators will be managed effectively in order to reduce future harm, and we will ensure that there is an effective criminal justice system response that further reduces risk of harm and that ultimately contributes to increasing victim safety and confidence.

The Strategy contains a range of targets that we are determined to meet over the next 3 years and this is supported by a detailed action plan that will form the work plan of the new VAWG Programme Manager. In order to ensure that we can deliver against this action plan we have protected and increased investment in VAWG

services despite the current financial climate – this demonstrates Lambeth’s real commitment to tackling VAWG in the borough over the next three years.

1. Introduction

VAWG is both a form of discrimination and a violation of human rights. It is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality in society. The United Nations (UN) defines VAWG as “any act of gender-based violence that is directed at a woman because she is a woman, or acts of violence which are suffered disproportionately by women”¹. The vast majority of gender based violence is perpetrated by men against women and girls.

The Safer Lambeth Partnership has a long history of commitment to tackling VAWG and gender based violence in all its forms.

Work on different areas of VAWG e.g. domestic violence (DV) and sexual violence (SV) has traditionally been undertaken separately. Lambeth is currently delivering a range of services but only two areas have had clearly defined strategies - DV and prostitution. These strategies, agreed by the Safer Lambeth Executive, have been delivering excellent results.

However, there is a growing understanding and acceptance that VAWG is best tackled in a unified way. This has manifested itself in a range of national and regional documents:

- HM Government publication (previous administration) “Together we can end violence against women and girls” - November 2009
- Mayor of London’s strategy “The way forward. A call for action to end violence against women and girls” –March 2010
- HM Coalition Government’s publication “Call to End Violence against Women and Girls” strategic narrative– November 2010 and Action Plan- March 2011
- Department of Health “Responding to violence against women and children-the role of the NHS”- March 2010

These documents highlight the overlap between different areas of gender based violence and recommend that a holistic approach is taken to tackling VAWG. VAWG brings together 8 strands of policy under one umbrella:

1. domestic violence
2. sexual violence
3. stalking
4. trafficking for sexual exploitation
5. prostitution
6. female genital mutilation (FGM)
7. forced marriage
8. crimes said to be committed in the name of ‘honour.’

A detailed definition of each of these strands is available at appendix 1.

The Safer Lambeth Partnership has embraced this approach. By holding two VAWG summits in March 2010 and 2011, running consultation events², commissioning prevalence research and seeking the views of victims/survivors of VAWG we have

¹ ‘The Way Forward. Taking Action to end violence against women and girls’, Mayor of London 2010-2013

² Two consultation events were held in September 2010 – a full list of attendees is attached at appendix 3.

built a more accurate evidence base in relation to the scale of VAWG in the borough, identified gaps in service provision and highlighted good practice.

This means that we are now in a position to publish our first VAWG Strategy demonstrating our commitment to a joined-up approach and integrated framework to tackle all forms of VAWG. This supports the principles of the Coalition Government's vision:

- prevent violence from happening by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it and intervening early where possible to prevent it
- provide adequate support where violence does occur
- work in partnership to obtain the best outcome for victims and their families
- take action to reduce the risk to women and girls who are victims of these crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice

The Coalition document differs from the approach of the previous Government in that it moves away from addressing prostitution and trafficking in the VAWG approach. There is an acknowledgement that women face violence in 'the context of commercial and sexual exploitation' but prostitution and trafficking are left outside of the scope of the strategy. The Home Office have advised that there are separate initiatives dealing with those issues, including a review of local effective practice in working with women engaged in prostitution and a new strategy to combat human trafficking to be published in 2011.

Despite this, local consultation responses and the work undertaken to date show that there is considerable support for the current Lambeth approach covering all of the UN defined strands of VAWG. Therefore this strategy includes prostitution and trafficking within its scope.

We are clear that, as with the Mayor's strategy, our approach focuses on women and girls as the vast majority of victims of gender-based violence are female; 94 % of high risk victim referrals to Lambeth's MARAC between April 2010 and March 2011 were female, 90% of the victims of sexual violence in Lambeth between January 2010 and June 2010 were female and 81% of the victims of domestic violence between December 2009 and December 2010 were female³.

The focus of the strategy and action plan on women and girls is therefore a deliberate response to this disproportionate impact. However we recognise that men and boys can also be victims of violence and that there is still a need to address the needs of men and boys who may have experienced and/or be affected by domestic and sexual violence. This strategy, therefore, sits alongside existing policies and procedures that provide protection and redress for all victims of crime.

Much of the provision and action committed to in this strategy will be applicable to men; for example our preventative activity, signposting to appropriate support services and the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). We will also ensure that, where appropriate, all services will consider their approach to men and boys.

³ Safer Lambeth Strategic Assessment –priority crime analysis and control strategy recommendations 2011/2012. The strategic assessment (SA) is a statutory analysis of patterns and trends for crime, disorder, substance misuse and reoffending in the Borough of Lambeth.

In our action plan we also have a specific objective in relation to ensuring that men who are experiencing or who have experienced violence are provided with an appropriate specialist service and we have committed to developing a male referral pathway and to regularly monitor the number of male referrals to our VAWG hub in order for us to plan services appropriately and address any unmet needs. The strategy will be reviewed in three years at which point it will be possible to assess any wider impact on men and boys and identify further strategic activity required to address violence reduction.

As mentioned Lambeth has a long commitment to tackling VAWG and has a strong record in effective delivery across a range of activity, particularly in relation to DV services but also covering the other strands of VAWG. Evidence of this includes:

1. In June 2010 Lambeth were nominated as a regional exemplar for good practice across DV services to be part of a review undertaken by 'Standing Together Against Domestic Violence' for the Home Office. Out of only ten nominated DV partnerships assessed across England, Lambeth were placed as the second best. Areas of particular strength highlighted were:
 - Powerful political and officer support
 - Partnership is effectively entering the next stage of development
 - Clear plans for the future direction of domestic violence, and more widely violence against women and girls, in Lambeth
 - Good leadership across the partnership, including strong council support at a senior officer level.
2. The 'Know the difference'⁴ campaign aimed at reducing rape and sexual assaults in the Borough. The campaign was aimed at men who socialise in Lambeth – particularly Brixton and Clapham – both hot spot areas for this type of crime. It was aimed at encouraging men to ensure that they know the difference between acceptable and unacceptable behaviour, sending a clear and strong message to men that sex without consent is rape and highlighting the legal and social consequences of their actions. The campaign has been recognised as good practice at a national level and, as such, won the silver award in the best community safety campaign category at the Local Government Communications Reputation awards.
3. From 2007-2010 Lambeth Council also worked in partnership with Lambeth Police, Lambeth Crown Prosecution Service and the Gaia Centre partnership on a three year domestic violence Local Area Agreement stretch target. The aim of the target was to reduce the incidence of domestic violence in Lambeth and to increase the safety of those experiencing domestic violence. Lambeth successfully achieved all four indicators which made up the target and excellent partnership working was key to this success.
4. The Lambeth MARAC has been in operation since May 2007. Lambeth's MARAC has been recognised as good practice with ten green principles (meaning all key aspects have been met) being awarded across the ten evaluation principles used by CAADA (Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse) who reviewed the process for the Home Office in 2011. CAADA have also highlighted that Lambeth is considered to be a "high performing" MARAC and this has resulted in CAADA sending professionals from across the UK to observe our MARAC.

⁴ www.lambeth.gov.uk/KnowTheDifference/

5. Lambeth Council coordinate and manage the Gaia Centre for domestic violence. The Gaia Centre was highlighted in the February 2008 National Audit Office report for The Home Office – ‘Reducing the risk of violent crime’ - as an example of “innovative interventions brought about through partnership working” and in 2008 the Gaia Centre won the London region of the Health and Social Care awards, in the 'success in partnership working' category.

We intend to build on this good work and our strong partnerships as the bedrock of our approach to tackling VAWG. However, this strategy is a forward facing document and will focus on our commitments to action and service provision over the next 3 years. Some of this will be a continuation of existing activity/service and some will be new and innovative projects. We will not be explicit about this difference throughout the document – this is not to undervalue previous work in addressing VAWG but rather to recognise its success as providing a platform on which to build ever more successful services for Lambeth in the future.

We are also clear that this strategy is built on a myriad of research documents and other findings into the impacts and unacceptability of VAWG. While we will provide an overview of this in the following chapter it is taken as read that the volume and impact of these crimes is far too high – this Strategy is primarily intended as a working document outlining our approach to tackling this problem rather than an attempt to justify this approach as this has been done more eloquently and effectively elsewhere.

2. Prevalence and Impact

Prevalence of VAWG in Lambeth

The prevalence of VAWG in Lambeth is undeniable and presents major challenges to service providers. The lack of reliable data, however, remains an issue in establishing baselines and monitoring progress. For example, the actual extent of domestic and sexual violence is not fully known as the reported Police incidents do not represent the actual number of incidents - many of them go unreported to the Police.

The low prevalence of so called ‘honour’ based crime ‘is almost certainly a consequence of under reporting’⁵ and wider research informs us that until the government recognised these crimes and forced marriage as VAWG, specialist agencies would have recorded them as domestic violence. Consultation with agencies in Lambeth also suggests they have been classifying forced marriage as domestic violence. This approach is in line with the Government’s definition of domestic violence, however this classification does not allow us to separate out forced marriage and so called honour based violence from domestic violence. It does indicate that many of the agencies with which we work with are well placed for the move to a VAWG approach and some of the changes indicated in this Strategy are in practice already in operation.

The problem of inadequate data is not specific to Lambeth. Despite the inadequacies, the following table presents available data for VAWG in Lambeth, Greater London and England and Wales. However, the majority of data below, unless indicated otherwise, is based on Police reports and therefore, as highlighted above, does not show the true picture in relation to prevalence. It is also important to note that as the data comes from different sources, a direct comparison in relation to Lambeth, London and national data cannot always be made.

	Lambeth	Greater London	England & Wales
Domestic violence	5,011 incidents and 1,880 crimes ⁶ 6,439-this is not Police reported data and is an estimate from the VAWG ready reckoner ⁷	122,049 incidents ⁸ 49,883 crimes	1 million (6% of women) – Home Office estimates
Sexual Offences (excluding rape – rape offenses detailed on page 15)	312 incidents 262 crimes ⁹ 5,754- this is not Police reported data and is an estimate from the VAWG ready reckoner ¹⁰	5967 incidents 5022 crimes ¹¹	51,488 recorded (12,165 rape) ¹²

⁵ WRC Lambeth VAWG prevalence report May 2010

⁶ MPA Violence against women and girls report 2010- data from 12 months to November 2010

⁷ This is the estimate for Lambeth from the Home Office Ready Reckoner tool

⁸ MPA Violence against women and girls report 2010- data from 12 months to November 2010

⁹ MPA Violence against women and girls report 2010- data from 12 months to November 2010

¹⁰ This is the estimate for Lambeth from the Home Office Ready Reckoner tool

¹¹ MPA Violence against women and girls report 2010- data from 12 months to November 2010

	Lambeth	Greater London	England & Wales
Stalking	11,395 (10.4% of female aged 16 and over) – this is not Police reported data and is an estimate from the VAWG ready reckoner ¹³ No Lambeth police crime data available	40, 208 incidents 37,825 crimes ¹⁴	4.4% of women in 2008-09 British Crime Survey
Prostitution	150-180 ¹⁵ estimates from the Lambeth Prostitution Group. 72 women actively involved with Spires Streetlink – the primary street outreach service for street based prostitutes in the borough Average of 17 Police Vice arrests per month (May – Nov 2010)	8,000 (off-street prostitution) estimate ¹⁶	80,000 (Home Office estimate)
Trafficking (proxy)¹⁷	4 No Lambeth police crime data available	712	1,523
Honour-based violence	3 ¹⁸	256 (MPS data)	No disaggregated data
Forced marriages	4 ¹⁹	339 ²⁰	1,618 ²¹
Female genital mutilation	8.35% ²² No Lambeth police crime data available	5.31% ²³ 30 incidents 1 crime ²⁴	1.43% ²⁵ No national police data

Due to the issues with official data, in order to ensure that the priorities identified in this Strategy are informed by the prevalence and impact of VAWG in Lambeth the Women's Resource Centre (WRC) were commissioned to undertake a detailed VAWG prevalence mapping exercise.

¹² Crime in England and Wales 2008/2009, Home Office

¹³ This is the estimate for Lambeth from the Home Office Ready Reckoner tool

¹⁴ The police record stalking as a harassment crime- MPA Violence against women and girls report 2010- data from 12 months to November 2010

¹⁵ Lambeth Prostitution Group Estimate

¹⁶ House of Commons Home Affairs Committee 2008-09

¹⁷ The figures were based on referrals to POPPY, a pilot from the Home Office to support women trafficked to the UK. The figures served as an indication of prevalence in Lambeth.

¹⁸ Domestic and Sexual Violence in Lambeth: overview of the work of SCD2 and the Borough Operational Command Unit – Report for the MPA, November 2009

¹⁹ As last footnote

²⁰ Forced Marriage Unit

²¹ As last footnote

²² Proxy measure-the percentages referred to maternities to women experienced genital mutilation.

²³ Proxy measure-the percentages referred to maternities to women experienced genital mutilation.

²⁴ MPA Violence against women and girls report 2010- data from 12 months to November 2010

²⁵ The percentages referred to maternities to women experienced genital mutilation.

The research methodology combined a range of quantitative and qualitative methods, including collation of key statistical data, a survey, mapping exercise, telephone interviews, focus group and workshops. The final report was produced in May 2010 and, along with a range of other data sources,²⁶ provides a baseline and evidence base for this Strategy.

The findings of this research indicate that, in Lambeth, the major concerns with regard to VAWG are domestic violence, sexual violence and prostitution. Domestic violence and sexual violence are also highlighted as areas of priority for action in Lambeth's 2011 Strategic Assessment. Using proxy measures, based on the demographic makeup of the borough, FGM was also highlighted as likely to be a significant issue in the borough.

According to official data, so-called 'honour'-based crimes are not as frequently experienced in Lambeth as in other London boroughs; neither are forced marriages. However the 2010 Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) annual report highlights the fact that there has been an increase in reports, stating that the greatest increase in recorded HBV and FM was in Lambeth, where one case was recorded in 08/09 and 13 in 09/10²⁷. We will therefore ensure that this trend is monitored and the need for services assessed on an ongoing basis.

Lambeth is not regarded as a hot spot for trafficking of women for sexual exploitation. The trafficking of women and girls, however, is a pan-London issue, as the victims are moved around from one borough to another and as such we will continue to work with pan-London services to address this issue.

As such this Strategy sets domestic violence, sexual violence, prostitution and FGM as the priority areas for the life of the Strategy. The following data further demonstrates the prevalence and impact of these crime types and serves to justify these priorities.

Domestic violence

In Lambeth in 2010/2011 there were 4,772 calls to the police for domestic violence. Of these just under 1,800 were recorded as crimes. It is widely understood however that police reports represent only a fraction of the actual occurrence of domestic violence.

Non-police reporting of domestic violence confirms the high prevalence levels of domestic violence in the borough. In 2010/2011, the Gaia Domestic Violence Centre received over 1000 new referrals for women who live in Lambeth and who are experiencing DV. Data from the National Domestic Violence Helpline shows that in 2009/2010, 3726 calls to the helpline were made from Lambeth residents. This was the highest amount of calls among all London local authorities.

Based on the Metropolitan Police Service statistics, 81% of the victims who reported domestic violence incidents in Lambeth were women, and of the 341 victim referrals to Lambeth's MARAC between April '10 and March '11, 319 were female. Of the total domestic violence incidents reported to the Police 59% of victims were young people aged between 16 and 35.²⁸

²⁶ Police data, Data mapping by the Lambeth Prostitution Group, consultation responses, home office data

²⁷ MPA VAW Report 2010 pg 19

²⁸ Safer Lambeth Strategic Assessment –priority crime analysis and control strategy recommendations 2011/2012

The table below provides data in relation to domestic violence incidents and offences reported to the Police, along with data in relation to our sanctioned detection rates and arrest rates:

LAMBETH BOROUGH	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08	FY 08/09	FY 09/10	FY10/11
Number Domestic Incidents	2563	4784	4461	4982	5156	4770
Number Domestic Offences	2639	2447	1977	2073	1894	1766
Sanctioned Detection Rate ²⁹ (%)	29.7	32.45	42.69	46.74	48.15	48.02
Domestic Violence Arrest Rate (%)	n/a	47.45	68.59	74.82	80.41	83.69

Using the 2008 Office of National Statistics (ONS) mid-year population estimate of 274,500 for Lambeth, the *Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Ready Reckoner* estimates that there will have been 6,439 incidents of domestic violence and 5,754 incidents of sexual assault against women and girls within the last year in Lambeth.

Analysis of the 2010/2011 Lambeth MARAC referrals provides us with further evidence in relation to domestic violence victimisation:

- there were 341 victim referrals
- the majority of high risk victims referred to MARAC have children living with them (341 referrals with 400 associated children);
- 23% of referrals were cases of repeat victimisation (80 out of 341)
- of 341 referrals, 58% (199) were Black Minority Ethnic; 1.7% (3) were LGBT; 7% (24) had a registered disability and 6.4% (22) were male.

Sexual violence

Analysis from the Safer Lambeth Strategic Assessment 2011/2012 highlights that Serious Sexual Offences (SSO) rose by 12% (to 21 Nov 2010) and that Lambeth had the highest number of reports of SSO in its group of most similar boroughs.

Lambeth is currently experiencing a substantial increase in the numbers of sexual offences and rape reported to the Police. The volumes of sexual offences and rape being recorded in London overall are now at historically high levels. In Lambeth there were 81 stranger 1 or 2 sexual offences³⁰ in the period analysed. 56 were stranger 1 offences and in 25 cases the victim and suspect had prior contact with the victim. 55.6% were classified as sexual assaults and 23.5% were rape of a female over 15 years. 75% of male sexual assaults were committed by strangers, while 67% of rapes and sole penetration offences were committed by suspects who had prior contact with the victim.

The below table indicates the increase in rape and sexual offences in the borough over the past few years and the drop in sanctioned detection rate for these offences.

²⁹ A full definition of sanctioned detection rate is included as part of Appendix 2

³⁰ Stranger 1 is where the offender has had no prior contact with the victim. Stranger 2 is where the victim and suspect are briefly known to one another-often within a 24 hour period

LAMBETH POLICE BOROUGH	FY 07/08	FY 08/09	FY 09/10	FY 10/11
Rape Offences	101	145	186	207
Rape Sanctioned Detections	33	32	29	31 (14.9% SD rate)
Other Sexual Offences	313	347	374	335
Other Sexual Offences Sanctioned Detections	65	98	110	79 (23.58% SD rate)

According to the Violence Indicator Profiles for the English Regions (VIPER), Lambeth ranked 329 out of 354 local authorities (354 being the highest) in recorded sexual offences, indicating high prevalence of sexual violence experienced by women and girls.

National NSPCC research³¹ shows that three in every four girls compared to one in ten boys encounter harmful behaviour in teenage relationships. The survey of 13 to 17-year-olds found that nearly nine out of ten girls had been in an intimate relationship. Of these, one in six said they had been pressured into sexual intercourse and 1 in 16 said they had been raped.

In London, and Lambeth, the prevalence of sexual violence against girls is compounded by the gang culture among some young people making the situations more complicated for those girls and young women who are involved in serious youth violence, either voluntarily or involuntarily.

As highlighted in the Race on the Agenda (ROTA) Female Voices in Violence Project, sexual violence and exploitation are significant weapons used against females associated with, or involved in, gang violence.

This use of sexual violence takes place against a backdrop where girls have little peer support, where girls and boys are extremely confused about consent and their own motivations for engaging in sex, and where young people have little to no understanding of coercion³².

Although there is no specific data, it is logical to conclude that young women and girls face similar problems in Lambeth³³.

Prostitution

Lambeth is believed to have the largest on-street sex market in South London, with 20 to 30 sites identified where prostitutes work. There is, unfortunately, inadequate data with regard to the violence experienced by women involved in prostitution. A study by one service provider suggested that over 80% of women involved in prostitution in Lambeth experienced physical or sexual abuse³⁴.

³¹ Partner Exploitation and Violence in Teenage Intimate Relationships: Barter, C, McCarry, M, Berridge, D and Evans, K (September 2009)

³² http://www.rota.org.uk/pages/FVV_ResearchProgramme.aspx

³³ <http://www.rota.org.uk/downloads/FVV%20TRIF%20REPORT%20FINAL%20FINAL.pdf>

³⁴ The figure is based on a study by Trust, an agency providing specialist support and services for women in prostitution in Lambeth. A case file assessment of 45 clients was conducted in 2004.

The WRC research project found no reliable data on the number of women and girls involved in prostitution in Lambeth but the Lambeth Prostitution Group has estimated that approximately 150-180 women are engaged with services at any one time and Spires Streetlink service are currently actively working with 72 women. In order to set a baseline for outcome measurement we will use police data for women coming to notice on the streets as this is the only data that is collected in a standard and routine manner.

FGM

The number of women and girls who have experienced female genital mutilation can only be estimated by proxy, using the percentage of maternities to women with genital mutilation. Based on the proxy measurements, the percentage in Lambeth was the third highest among the London boroughs³⁵.

The high likely prevalence in Lambeth has also been confirmed through our local consultations, and as such we intend to prioritise both increased data capture and awareness raising work.

Impact on Children and Young People

We are concerned about impact that VAWG has on what are becoming increasingly younger women and girls. We are also concerned about some of the inappropriate attitudes that our young people hold in relation to VAWG, particularly in relation to coercive sex and the normalisation of the use of violence in relationships.

A large percentage of the referrals made to Lambeth CYPS Social Care Referral and Assessment Team either have domestic violence as the presenting risk factor or include domestic violence as an element within the family history. We also know that out of the 341 referrals to the Lambeth MARAC in 2010/2011, there were 400 associated children, highlighting the link between domestic violence and safeguarding children.

We know that FGM and Forced Marriage disproportionately affect under 18 year old females and that sexual violence against younger women and girls is increasing with one in three girls reporting that they have experienced unwanted sexual touching at school.³⁶

One of the major costs of this kind of violence is the longer term impact it has on young people and children. Growing up exposed to violence is linked to increased levels of attention deficit disorder; anxiety; stuttering and asthma; reduced educational attainment; increased involvement in anti-social behaviour and street and playground violence³⁷ all of which have clear individual costs but also require public services to address them. Most child maltreatment deaths take place in homes where domestic violence is also occurring³⁸.

We also know from work on children and domestic violence, both here and in the USA, that boys and young men often deal with violence in their household by spending as much time as possible out of the home. This makes them more vulnerable to getting involved in gangs and anti-social behaviour and learning that violence 'works'³⁹.

³⁵ WRC Lambeth VAWG prevalence report May 2010

³⁶ A Different World is Possible, End Violence Against Women Coalition, 2011

³⁷ London Safeguarding Children Board, 2008, Safeguarding Children Abused through Domestic Violence

³⁸ Humphreys and Stanley, 2006, Domestic Violence and Child Protection: Directions for Good Practice

³⁹ Centre for Social Justice, 2009, Dying to Belong, An In-depth Review of Street Gangs in Britain

The Munro Review of Child Protection (2011) further outlines the link between domestic violence and safeguarding children, and the impact that it has on children and young people. The review references how domestic violence may undermine a mother's ability to parent with authority and the importance of working with the non-abusive partner in order to support a safer environment for families to raise their children.

In the priorities section we outline how we will work together with safeguarding children and adults in order to ensure that there is effective partnership working to protect both parties.⁴⁰

Cost of VAWG in Lambeth (Domestic & Sexual Violence only)

The impact of these crimes are clearly most keenly felt by the victims but they also present significant costs to the public sector and the economy as a whole. The following costs for Lambeth are estimates using the Home Office VAWG Ready Reckoner tool⁴¹ and are based on domestic and sexual violence only.

Total costs (not including human and emotional costs)	£25,694,222
Physical and mental health care costs	£5,536,740
Criminal justice costs	£3,487,402
Social services costs	£656,746 ⁴²
Other costs (incl. housing, civil legal & employment costs)	£16,013,333
Human and emotional costs	£82,036,428

The human and emotional costs quantified above should not be underestimated. The fear and reality of violence deny women the most fundamental of human rights: life, liberty, dignity, bodily integrity, and freedom of movement. It is a major cause of death and disability for women⁴³ and is linked to mental health problems including depression; anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); attempted and successful suicide; and misuse of drugs and alcohol.

VAWG has far-reaching consequences for children, families, communities and society as a whole. Women who experience violence suffer a range of health and social problems that prevent them from fulfilling their full potential. This in turn lowers economic production and drains resources from employers and the public sector⁴⁴.

However we quantify these costs it is evident that there is a clear financial, emotional and moral case for addressing VAWG in all its forms. In response to this the Safer Lambeth Partnership has, despite the difficult financial climate, agreed to protect, and expand, the funding available for these services over the life of this Strategy. This

⁴⁰ The Munro Review of Child Protection: Final Report, 2011

⁴¹ <http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/domesticviolence/domesticviolence072.htm>

⁴² These costs are calculated using the Home Office Tool – we consider these Social Services costs to be a significant underestimation

⁴³ WHO, 2005, Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against women

⁴⁴ Ending Violence against women: from words to action, Study of the Secretary-General, 9 October 2006 [http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/Violence against women/launch/english/v.a.w-exeE-use.pdf](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/Violence%20against%20women/launch/english/v.a.w-exeE-use.pdf)

funding will be focused on the areas of priority identified through the above research and other consultation events. Details of specific investment supporting the delivery of the Strategy are outlined in appendix 4.

3. The Experience of Women

Figures detailing the prevalence of VAWG in Lambeth tell only part of the story. Of equal importance is the experience of women who are victim-survivors of this abuse – how they view services and what they want to see in the future.

In order to ensure that these voices are at the heart of the strategy and the development of our response to VAWG we commissioned a detailed customer insight study⁴⁵ to speak to women in order to better understand their experiences of accessing services in Lambeth, as well as their suggestions for service improvements.

Over 100 hundred women were consulted as part of the project and the key findings are set out below.

- Specialist VAWG services are highly valued by women who have experienced violence, and there was a high level of support for co-located VAWG service provision. Women told us that pro-active contact (i.e. where service providers initiate contact rather than waiting for survivors to do this) helps them to feel cared for and supported, and thus remain engaged with services. A full needs assessment on first contact is perceived as useful so long as full information is given as to why the questions are being asked, who will see the answers and the limits of confidentiality.
- Most women informed us that they disclosed details of their abuse to a friend or family member in the first instance. Therefore the response of friends and family is critical in determining subsequent success of help-seeking. Of concern was that the level of knowledge about existing specialist VAWG service provision was low for women who had not experienced violence, meaning that families and friends may not yet be in a position to provide the best advice at the point of disclosure. This can lead to women finding out about what help is available by chance. In some instances this is because women are not naming their experience as abuse, but also because of a low level of awareness of service provision.
- Access to services was often affected by a lack of available childcare, and then compounded by long waiting times. This was particularly true in relation to the availability and accessibility of counselling services.
- Reporting to the Police was generally a positive experience for women who have experienced domestic violence or a sexual violence offence. However, women indicated that improvements were needed for other forms of VAWG, and that this could be supported by more relationship building, through outreach and presentations, with certain communities by the Police.
- Women indicated that they use services across borough boundaries. This is because women frequently live, work and socialise across boroughs and therefore use services in all of them. This is exacerbated for women who have had to move home as a consequence of the abuse. Therefore, one negative experience with a service in another borough acts as a deterrent for approaching that service in Lambeth, and this was particularly relevant for the Police.

⁴⁵ Seen from the Other Side, Lambeth VAWG Customer Insight Report,, AVA and Eaves, July 2011

- A common theme, and of concern, was that women saw the potential for Children's Social Care involvement as a key barrier to accessing help. Women often felt that Social Workers were not always supportive of them, and that they were often held accountable for the violent behaviour, as opposed to their abusive partner who was perpetrating the violence.
- Women indicated that they are as concerned as to how a service is delivered as they are about what is delivered. Women's views on other services i.e. non-VAWG specialist services, was mainly neutral although in general women felt processed as a 'case' rather than supported and cared for. Women also felt that terminology and jargon used by professionals, in particular statutory agencies, can often be off-putting and alienating.
- Another strong theme was that peer support is very highly valued. Women like services which have a social and peer-led element – they highlighted that rebuilding their lives post-VAWG is hard, takes a long time and is frequently lonely. The availability of support from somebody who has experienced something similar is valued immensely.
- Finally, women were critical regarding the lack of prevention work, feeling that they learned too late what abuse, and abusive relationships, looked like and what the 'warning signs' might be.

The report highlighted four key themed **recommendations**:

1. **Improved Service development** - through the creation of a "one stop shop" VAWG service that can support women around all the 8 strands of gender based violence; to include the availability of child care and the development of a peer support element as part of the service model.
2. **Driving up standards** - through the ongoing delivery of multi agency VAWG training for professionals in order to improve earlier identification and response, including targeted training for Social Care staff.
3. **Improved coordination of service provision** - through the creation of a VAWG Programme Manager role, a VAWG forum, the VAWG one stop service and increased education work aimed at addressing attitudes amongst younger people
4. **Support seeking help** - through helping women to name their experience as abuse by an increased focus on awareness raising campaigns to ensure that women, including friends and family, know what support is available and how to access this.

We will work together to adopt these recommendations and our overarching approach, which is detailed in the next section, reflects this. A full list of recommendations and the full report is available on request.

4. Our Priorities and Commitments

We have used the information that we have gathered through the WRC research, specific consultation events and the customer insight project about prevalence and experiences of women to tailor services to ensure that they meet the detailed and varied needs of Lambeth residents.

Priorities

As previously noted domestic violence, sexual violence, prostitution and FGM have been identified as the areas to which we will concentrate the majority of our resources over the life of the Strategy but our consultation work has informed our exact approach to these areas.

Domestic violence

We recognise that domestic violence can only be effectively tackled by multi-agency working, and this Strategy outlines how we will work together to ensure that the immediate and longer term needs of victims and their children are met, and that those who commit domestic violence are held to account for their unacceptable behaviour.

The Safer Lambeth Partnership, which through its Strategic Assessment 2011/2012, has set domestic violence as one of its key priorities, will lead the delivery of a co-ordinated community response to domestic violence to improve the experience of victims who report it and bring more offenders to justice. We recognise that there is a range of good practice already going on in Lambeth, delivered by an effective partnership of public and voluntary sector organisations. The Partnership seeks to build on this good practice and identify other opportunities for cross-agency and cross department working to further improve our response to domestic violence.

It is essential that victim-survivors are supported to become more confident in their knowledge of services and legal rights and in their dealings with the criminal justice system. This can be termed 'empowerment through knowledge': providing information and options in order that women can make evidence-based decisions. In practice this is far more than knowledge of material/practical options, since many victim-survivors have to move through recognising and naming violence, reframing perpetrators' behaviour and understanding how abuse has narrowed their space for action before they can consider and act on these options. We must ensure that our services are skilled at guiding women through these processes swiftly – providing the empowerment required to expand their space for action⁴⁶.

We will also work with colleagues in the criminal justice system and those developing the borough's 'Integrated Offender Management'⁴⁷ approach to reducing re-offending to ensure that DV perpetrators are targeted, monitored and managed effectively. This will include strengthening links to alcohol services and ensuring that, whenever possible, those arrested for DV offences are subjected to mandatory drug tests in custody suites.

Sexual violence

As highlighted in the 2010 Baroness Stern report "The Stern Review", rape and sexual violence is a serious and deeply damaging crime. It is unique in the way it

⁴⁶ Coy, M & Kelly, L (2010) Islands in the Stream: An Evaluation of Four Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Schemes in London: Trust for London & Henry Smith Charity (p3 of the exec summary)

⁴⁷ For IOM explanation see page 31

strikes at the bodily integrity and self-respect of the victim, in the demands it makes on those public authorities required to respond to it and in the controversy it generates.⁴⁸

The Lambeth Strategic Assessment has placed tackling serious sexual offences as a major priority, highlighting that in the 12 months to November 2010 these offences rose by 12% and that Lambeth had the highest number of reports of Serious Sexual Offences (SSO) in its group of most similar boroughs.

Over and above this we are clear that tackling all sexual violence is a priority, and that this is not just in relation to serious sexual offences and rape. This will include all incidents of sexual violence within intimate relationships (DV) and also sexual violence perpetrated against women involved in prostitution.

We will work together to implement the key recommendations from the Stern Review. This will include working with colleagues to ensure that we have the right policies and procedures in place to respond to victims of SV sensitively and appropriately, building on the good practice policies we have developed for DV.

The Criminal Justice Services are also key to our response and success. There is a substantial body of research on not only the poor prosecution and conviction rates for serious sexual assault, but also on barriers to disclosure. The Cross Government Action Plan on Sexual Violence and Abuse, 2007 shows that 40% of adults who are raped tell no one about it and 31% of children who are abused reach adulthood without having disclosed their abuse. The Mayor of London's Strategy (2010) highlights that, on average, just 10% of rapes are reported to the police⁴⁹. A second problem is the failure of the justice system: there is a conviction rate of just 6%⁵⁰.

However, it is important to recognise and acknowledge that there are a multitude of reasons for this poor conviction rate and this should not be seen as poor performance on behalf of the local Police Sapphire⁵¹ team but rather a reflection of the complex nature of the crime and its prosecution. We will attempt to present a more rounded picture of performance as part of this Strategy.

In order to encourage victim disclosure and to increase confidence we will ensure that we have effective support services in place for victims of sexual violence to access, which will include further developing the partnership approach between the Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs), the Gaia VAWG Centre, the Havens and the London Rape Crisis Centres.

Building on the "Know the Difference" campaign we will raise awareness of the legislation around rape and sexual violence and we will work to address and tackle inappropriate attitudes towards sexual violence in our education and awareness raising work with young people.

We will work with colleagues in Licensing in relation to the new legislative powers available to Local Authorities that surround the licensing of sexual entertainment venues in Lambeth.

⁴⁸ The Stern Review, 2010

⁴⁹ Women's Resource Centre & Rape Crisis, 2008

⁵⁰ Kelly, Lovett & Regan A gap or a chasm? Attrition in reported rape cases – Home Office Research Study 293 (2005)

⁵¹ Each London borough has a dedicated Sapphire team which has specially trained officers to investigate rape and look after victims, ensuring they are provided with the information they need, are kept up to date with the case and referring on to partner agencies where required.

We will ensure that we use the information and intelligence that we have gathered through the Police Victim/Offender/Location/Time (VOLT) analysis to target resources at particular areas both around Police activity but also in terms of publicity and awareness raising i.e. building on the “Know The Difference” campaign.

Prostitution

This Strategy commits Lambeth to a new approach to how we address prostitution. We are clear that prostitution is male violence and one form of commercial sexual exploitation. Acceptance of prostitution is one of a cluster of harmful attitudes that encourage and justify VAWG.

How prostitution is viewed is key to the approach adopted and all resulting activity. The Partnership is concerned that it is the women involved in prostitution who are consistently blamed for the existence and continuation of prostitution. Women’s accounts of involvement in street prostitution are harrowing and involve a range of abusive behaviour by men. Most women become involved in prostitution because of lack of choice and many are groomed, pressured and/or coerced by pimps or traffickers. It is well documented that a majority of women in prostitution are living in poverty, homeless (or are in temporary accommodation) and have already suffered violence and abuse throughout their life. It is the men who buy sex who are exercising free choice, and it is this “choice” to purchase vulnerable women and girls that maintains prostitution and fuels trafficking for sexual exploitation.

70% of those involved in street prostitution have a history of local authority care and 45% report experiencing sexual abuse during their childhoods (Home Office 2006). Many enter prostitution before the age of 18. Once in prostitution, 9 out of 10 surveyed women would like to exit but feel unable to do so⁵².

As such we will develop a MARAC style prostitution meeting in Lambeth to take a victim centred approach to women involved in prostitution. This group will ensure that there is a multi-agency approach to providing protection for women who continue to engage in prostitution and support for those seeking to exit. Women involved in prostitution will no longer be discussed by anti-social behaviour panels and any enforcement activity will be sanctioned by the group and have clear social inclusion objectives.

This Strategy is also clear that there will be an increased focus on tackling the demand side of prostitution across the life of plan. We will be open about this and ensure, through the use of local media, dot matrix boards at roadsides etc, that the buyers of sex are aware of this approach. Those who persist in engaging in this abusive practice will be subject to both the law but also other targeted activity. The Partnership will work to ensure that men who purchase sex are called to account and that the action of these men be recognised as anti-social and consequently diminishing the quality of life of the borough.

This activity will focus on street prostitution in the first instance (see appendix 4 for the kerb crawling escalation procedure) as that is the area that we know most about but we also commit to undertaking a full assessment of the role of brothels and residential properties from which sex is sold over the life of the strategy and develop our approach accordingly.

⁵² Farley et al, 2003

Research undertaken in Scotland in 2008 suggests that arrest of the individual purchasing sex may be the single biggest specific deterrent, likely because of the individuals fear of the informal ramifications of exposing their behaviour, but that the risk of arrest is so low that there is little, if any, general deterrence.⁵³ This has been supported by the experience in Sweden, where the buying of sex has been actively outlawed for over 10 years.

The new approach is fully supported by a policy statement that has been endorsed by the multi-agency Lambeth Prostitution Group – see appendix 5. This statement is based on the Glasgow model that has been used to drive down street based prostitution in that city.

FGM

We recognise the roots of FGM are complex and numerous. The justifications given for the practise are multiple and reflect the ideological and historical situation of the societies in which it has developed. Reasons cited generally relate to tradition, power inequalities and the ensuing compliance of women to the dictates of their communities.

Many women believe that FGM is necessary to ensure acceptance by their community; they are unaware that FGM is not practised in most of the world. It is therefore vital that we engage in education not just of young women who are potential victims but also older community members who may be involved in either undertaking the practice or allowing it to happen through complicity.

There is a need for educational activities among practicing communities to increase their awareness of the health effects of FGM as well as the fact that it is illegal. At the same time, there are children whose families will chose to go ahead with it despite having access to this information. Efforts are therefore required to identify and protect children at risk and to appropriately investigate and prosecute cases where FGM has been carried out. This work will be undertaken in partnership with colleagues in Children and Young People's services.

We will improve data on the prevalence of FGM and the number of children at risk within Lambeth and will work to increase discussion around FGM and the reasons why the practice should be abandoned at community level. We will also support the roll out of the new Government multi-agency FGM guidelines for practitioners, in order to improve support for girls and women at risk or affected by FGM, and work with the Lambeth Safeguarding Children's Board to agree pathways for identifying and protecting them.

We will also work with the Police and the Crown Prosecution Service to develop strategies aimed at improving the reporting, investigation and prosecution of cases of FGM.

Commitments

Overarching approach

Underpinning our work in each of these areas is a support for the Mayor and Government's call to shift to a proactive, integrated approach that puts prevention of

⁵³ Tackling the demand for prostitution: a rapid evidence assessment of the published research literature
Dr Aidan Wilcox, Kris Christmann, Michelle Rogerson and Philip Birch, University of Huddersfield – Home Office Research report 2008

violence against women at the heart of what we do; moving beyond the current primarily crisis driven, reactive, criminal justice-focused response.

The outcome of our consultation events and the survey conducted for the WRC research indicates that the main concern to practitioners in Lambeth is the alarming increase in reported incidents of VAWG among the 14-25 year group.

We are also clear that despite identifying four priority areas we acknowledge the interrelation between all the different strands of VAWG. We join the Mayor of London in recognising the United Nations (UN) call to take 'integrated measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women'. We will adopt this approach in meeting the needs of victims-survivors of the areas highlighted as priorities as well as the other strands of VAWG.

The Mayor's Strategy defines integrated as:

- working to an agreed definition that meets UN standards, including recognising that violence against women is a gender equality and human rights issue
- linking different forms of violence, their underlying causes, short- and long-term impacts and opportunities for learning
- building responses that acknowledge that many men are multiple abusers and many women experience more than one type of violence during their lifetimes
- tackling all forms of violence together in a joined-up way, whilst ensuring that issues specific to particular forms are considered
- mainstreaming violence against women into other policies and strategies
- helping agencies work together to make the best use of resources and deliver what works for victim-survivors
- acknowledging the inter-reliance of the statutory and voluntary sectors and the ongoing contribution of specialised women's organisations
- treating violence against women as a crime whilst doing more for the majority of women who still choose not to report to the police⁵⁴.

In partnership with relevant bodies, including voluntary organisations, we will tackle VAWG as a whole, recognising the links between different forms and the benefits of dealing with them in a coordinated and coherent way. This will improve our response to violence when it happens, and create a sound framework for prevention.

This will involve working closely with the Lambeth Safeguarding Adults' Partnership Board and ensuring adherence to the new Safeguarding Adult protection procedures "Protecting adults at risk: London multi-agency policies and procedures to safeguard adults from abuse". These were published in January 2011 by the Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) and endorsed by the Metropolitan Police, NHS London and the Association of Directors of Social Services and adopted by Lambeth's Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board in February 2011.

This will also include further developing the interface between Children's and Adults' Services. The Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board recognises addressing VAWG, and DV in particular, as a priority. The Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014

⁵⁴ The Way Forward. Taking Action to end violence against women and girls, Mayor of London 2010-2013

further outlines the need to address violence against women and girls, and supports the approach by committing to continuing multi-agency activity to reduce the negative costs and physical and emotional impact of violence against women and girls. This includes the joint commissioning of activity at the Gaia VAWG Centre.

The 2011 Munro review makes a clear recommendation in relation to earlier intervention and local resourcing of “early help” services for children, young people and families; and most importantly support provided to families that do not yet meet the need for social care. This is particularly crucial in improving our responses to VAWG.

The role of Lambeth Children’s Centres and the Multi Agency Teams (MAT) are key to our “early help” role. Children’s Centres and MATs are well placed to provide early identification and prevention as they can play a key role in increasing awareness of the support available to women who may not have yet accessed specialist VAWG agencies. Children’s centres and MATs are a part of the early intervention service and as such are key in the delivery of targeted services.

Earlier intervention and targeted services are key but in a significant number of cases more specialist services are required. Lambeth CYPS Social Care Service has made clear commitments in relation to partnership work, which includes training key social care staff in DV and sustaining funding for a specialist DV Social Worker in the referral and assessment service.

In recognition of the recommendations from the NSPCC’s 2009 report “Children and families experiencing domestic violence: Police and children’s social services’ responses” the DV Social Worker will provide specialist support to social care staff in relation to effective interventions for DV, and will assess and respond to social care domestic violence referrals. There will be a focus on the referrals that do not yet meet the social care threshold with the aim of preventing further escalation and risk of harm.

As highlighted in the Alberti Review, Health is also a pivotal Partner. The Review identified the role and the response of health services in preventing, identifying and supporting women and girls who are victims of violence and abuse and made recommendations on what more could be done to meet their needs. Health colleagues in Lambeth support this approach, and as such provide funding to two health based Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) projects in Guys and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust Hospital - the REACH and Mozaic projects.

In 2011/2012 NHS Lambeth will also commission a programme to enhance health and wellbeing in schools, alternative education providers and targeted youth settings. The purpose of this programme is to develop and implement a model of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE), emotional health and wellbeing and substance misuse education in Lambeth schools. This will include sessions on domestic violence and sexual violence.

We recognise the role that primary health care services can play, and we know from research that both victims and perpetrators of VAWG may make their first disclosure to their General Practitioner (GP). In order to support GPs and improve the response, we will be rolling out the IRIS (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety) project in 2011. The project will provide a bespoke VAWG training package to GPs, and will provide direct domestic violence advocacy to any patients who disclose that they are experiencing abuse - building on the success of REACH and Mozaic.

In order to ensure our approach is truly integrated we will convert the DV coordinator post into a VAWG Programme Manager as a priority. This post will coordinate the day to day delivery of this Strategy. This post will be located with the Community Safety division of the council and will provide borough-wide leadership for, and coordination of, the approach outlined in this Strategy.

This post will work with partner agencies across the three strands that build on the successful model currently employed in Lambeth's provision for DV:

- Prevention and earlier intervention
- Provision of services
- Protection and Prosecution

As previously mentioned the Safer Lambeth Partnership has highlighted tackling VAWG as one of the major priorities for 2011-14. In practice this means, despite this being one of the most difficult financial climates in the public sector for years, we have committed to protecting and expanding the funding for these services over the life of this strategy.

The following sections detail the services that we commit to making available in the borough over the next three years and the following section will outline how we will measure success as well as some of the more detailed work required in order to ensure we meet our strategic priorities.

Prevention and earlier intervention

Lambeth is committed to providing school and community based education programmes as well as awareness raising and a comprehensive training programme for professionals. Our aim is to change the attitudes that contribute to VAWG, to increase public understanding and to encourage earlier identification and intervention from all those who come into contact with victims of VAWG.

VAWG Training and Awareness Officer

A VAWG trainer and awareness raising post will be located within the Community Safety division to coordinate, arrange and deliver a range of training and education programmes and events aimed at raising awareness of VAWG and its impacts. Target audiences will include young people, social care professionals, voluntary sector organisations, schools, health professionals, victim-survivors, potential perpetrators and the general public.

Work with Children's Centres

Working with Children's Centres and the Multi Agency Teams (MATs) to support earlier intervention. Children's centres and MATs are well placed to participate in awareness raising activities and early intervention, and will host training and education programmes and events.

Development of a VAWG communications strategy

This will include awareness raising events such as activity around White Ribbon Day and International Women's Day and other activities including advertising campaigns highlighting Lambeth's approach to sexual violence and prostitution and the consequences of engaging in this activity.

Lambeth multi-agency VAWG training programme

Provision of free Lambeth multi-agency VAWG training which will include a range of jointly funded specialist training around particular topics/themes e.g. FGM. Continued funding for a specialist DV social worker as part of the Referral and Access team in Children and Young People Services (CYPS) to ensure effective early intervention.

Domestic violence training for CYPS staff

Domestic violence training to be incorporated into the CYPS staff training programme in order to further ensure Social Workers and staff who work with young people are able to identify and respond to domestic violence effectively.

Targeted work with schools and colleges

Targeted work to address negative attitudes that support VAWG, including education events focused on the links between gang involvement, serious youth violence and sexual attitudes and belief amongst young people - this will include the NHS Lambeth health and wellbeing programme in schools.

Implementation of the IRIS (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety)

IRIS is a General Practice based domestic violence and abuse (DVA) training support and referral programme. The key aspects of the programme are the delivery of training and education to GP surgeries, clinical enquiry by GPs, the development of care pathways and an enhanced referral pathway to specialist domestic violence services.

Work with Licensing in relation to Sexual Entertainment Venues

Working with partners involved in licensing to ensure that the new sexual entertainment venue licensing legislation is adhered to, and that VAWG is a key consideration in the granting of any new licences in the borough.

Provision of services

Lambeth is committed to providing and supporting an effective network of specialist VAWG services that provide advocacy and support to those who are experiencing, or have experienced, gender based violence.

One stop shop for victims-survivors of VAWG

Through a joined up commissioning approach we will maintain and expand the Gaia Centre. This will include the provision of Gender Based Independent Violence Advocates to pull the work together of the current IDVA and ISVA provision, outreach and casework support, the workers supporting the sanctuary scheme as well as providing links to a range of specialist provision in the borough. The Centre will also coordinate the peer mentoring/support service that we intend to develop in the borough in response to the Customer Insight feedback from victim-survivors in the borough.

The Gaia Centre young women's service will also undertake outreach work in schools, youth settings and colleges to address the links between serious youth violence, gangs and the exploitation of young women and girls. Young women and girls who are at risk of gender based violence from gang involvement and/or gang exploitation will be provided with a support service at the Gaia Centre.

This will mean that all victims of VAWG will access the Gaia Centre as a first point of contact, and the Gaia Centre would then triage victims into the most appropriate specialist services in the borough based on the needs of the victim.

We will empower this service to work closely with, but also challenge, statutory agencies - recognising that the current commissioning arrangements can make institutional advocacy fraught with tension for insecurely funded schemes.

This service will prevent confusion and, in some cases, competition between providers and referral agencies and provide holistic provision to ensure that victims-survivors are supported through the whole of their recovery.

We will ensure that this service is responsive to the needs of all Lambeth residents and that the provision is suitable both for the diverse population of the borough but also recognises the profile of the victims of the different VAWG elements and responds appropriately.

In order for the Gaia Centre to develop further and build on partnership working we recognise that larger premises are required. We are committed to securing this space and ensuring that it also provides space for children that allows for all people who require the service to visit it whenever they need to, and that a lack of child care does not act as a barrier, which is again in response to key recommendations in the Customer Insight project.

Where men are identified as victims they will also be referred to the service and the support workers will provide the same service to them as to female victims. However, due to the sensitive nature of the work they will be seen at an alternative venue in order to recognise the feedback from stakeholders that female victims prefer to be seen in a single sex environment.

Creation of a VAWG Forum

We will transform the current DV Forum into a wide ranging VAWG forum to share good practise, to raise awareness of VAWG and to enable practitioners to stay up to date with local, regional and national policies that impact on the sector.

The forum will meet every two months and will be managed by the VAWG Programme Manager. A quarterly VAWG e-newsletter will also be produced and disseminated to forum members, to further support partnership working across the sector.

Peer mentoring service

The findings of the Customer Insight project have led us to make a commitment to commission this service. Women have told us that the support they receive during crisis is often excellent but it is the time after this initial period that they are often in need of support and wider social engagement that traditional services are not able to provide.

Refuge Provision

Refuges are provided as part of a wider national network of services. The future intention is to re-commission the current domestic violence refuges in the borough in partnership with other boroughs to ensure that women who need to flee their local area are able to do so.

Officers have met with representatives from the GLA, London Councils and a range of other local authorities to discuss greater cooperation around the provision and commissioning of refuge spaces. This is vital as these services are commissioned as a regional/national resource and it was important to ascertain that others are not withdrawing their funding from the network before we commit to using our funding in this way.

There is continued support for the current system from a range of local authorities but also recognition that greater joint working/commissioning would be desirable. However, it is agreed that true joint commissioning would be impossible in the short term due to the current structures, commissioning timetables and available data.

In order to provide confidence in the current and future range of service provision there will be work undertaken by the GLA/London Councils to map exactly what services are available in term of numbers, specialism and level of service. The GLA/London Councils will also collate information on current referral patterns and service utilisation to provide a detailed picture of the match between available provision and demand. This will allow for easier identification of unmet need and for local authorities to make informed decisions regarding commissioning new services and picking up unmet need.

However, while this work is being undertaken there was broad agreement that boroughs should, as far as possible, seek to protect existing provision to prevent the system from breaking down.

As such, this Strategy commits to retaining the current pattern of refuge provision in order to demonstrate Lambeth's on-going commitment to this pan-London resource.

It is important that all refuges in the borough will, subject to all the relevant safety and risks assessments having been carried out, accept Lambeth women. This is to ensure that women who wish to remain in the borough, and for whom it would be safe to do so, are able to.

Providers will provide additional training to staff to facilitate the acceptance of women who are fleeing sexual violence outside of the context of domestic violence: this is based on the premise that the woman needs a safe place to live and needs the support on offer. We will also work with refuges and wider housing providers to promote more effective and timely move on from refuge provision. Refuge accommodation should be used to provide short-term crisis accommodation and should not be used as a longer-term housing solution.

Supported housing

In addition to the provision of refuge accommodation we recognise the need for specialist supported housing projects to meet the specific needs of those experiencing VAWG.

In order to meet the needs of those involved in street based prostitution we will re-commission and re-model 3 existing schemes to create a 3 step model to assist women exiting prostitution. This will create a new service known as the Chrysalis scheme, consisting of 31 units of specialist accommodation and providing services ranging from 24 hour on site support to visiting support in semi-independent flats.

We will also overhaul our whole supported housing pathway to ensure that the needs of victim-survivors are met. This will include an assessment centre, female only supported housing and a range of specialist services to meet specific needs such as drug and alcohol misuse. This means that victims of VAWG will be able to access the full range of supported housing in the borough in a consistent and timely manner.

Wider housing issues

We will continue to provide a jointly funded sanctuary scheme that will enable women and men at risk of DV to remain safe, with appropriate support, in their own homes. We will also expand the sanctuary scheme to work with women who have experienced other forms of gender based violence.

We will work closely with colleagues across the council and Lambeth Living to ensure that those with council tenancies who are at risk are able to move easily. We will also liaise with colleagues in similar boroughs to attempt to establish a reciprocal arrangement for people for whom it is not appropriate to remain in Lambeth.

Court diversion scheme for women involved in on-street prostitution

We will continue to fund a Court Diversion Scheme for women arrested in Lambeth. This scheme is funded through the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) and their diversion workers case manage this client group, offering assessment, interventions, key work, referrals and ongoing support. The service works closely with other partner agencies including the Police, Camberwell Green Magistrates Court and the CPS to deliver the scheme.

The aim of the scheme is to identify need and provide women with a comprehensive long term support package to address current issues, increase stability and identify exit strategies; rather than short term punishment through a custodial or community sentence which will do little to resolve the individual's needs.

The service will link with other existing services operating in the borough to provide advice and support on:

- Health
- Substance use
- Welfare, legal and benefits rights
- Housing
- Specialist counselling
- Education, training and employment

We will ensure that this service links with the VAWG one stop shop in order to provide a joined up service across all of the VAWG strands.

Outreach services for women involved in on-street prostitution and other vulnerable women

We will continue to support street outreach services delivered by a range of providers in order to meet the needs of the diverse range of women who are either engaging in street based prostitution, other street activity or are sleeping rough.

We will also ensure that shift patterns are coordinated between these services and the Police to capitalise on the potential for joint working.

Local Metropolitan Police Sapphire Team

We will work with our local MPS Sapphire Team to ensure that all the support services that they require to provide a full and appropriate response to the needs of victims of rape and sexual violence are working in partnership with each other and the Police. This will include the VAWG Programme Manger attending Sapphire team meetings in order to assess the partnership response to their clients and identifying unmet needs or areas that require development.

Increased provision within health services

We will continue to work with Health partners to support the funding of current VAWG advocacy services operating within A&E, Maternity and GMU at Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital.

We will ensure that all primary and community health services in the borough are fully briefed on this VAWG Strategy and that a full training programme is available to allow those professionals working with victims to be in a position to identify abuse and respond accordingly.

As highlighted earlier, the roll out of the IRIS (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety) general practice-based domestic violence and abuse (DVA) training support and referral programme will be a key element to support our work within Health.

We will also continue to work with the Havens - specialist sexual assault referral centres (SARC) in London for people who have been raped or sexually assaulted. These services are jointly funded by the Police and Health.

We will also work with wider Health services to respond to violence against women and children – the role of the NHS, March 2010 (The Alberti Review).

Alcohol services

We recognise the role that alcohol plays in relation to VAWG – particularly DV and sexual violence. We are clear that alcohol is not the cause of VAWG, however it does intersect with intimate partner violence in a variety of ways and can lead to worse outcomes for those involved.

We need to ensure that our specialist Alcohol services and our VAWG services are equipped to work together effectively to recognise and respond to the issues they are presented with. We will provide a cross specialism training programme to ensure that alcohol specialists, and where necessary substance misuse (SMU) specialists, and VAWG staff receive the appropriate training in VAWG and vice versa.

We will develop a single point of contact/link worker in both sets of services for the other to refer to and support women who use substances to access refuge provision and other supported housing schemes and seek appropriate support from SMU teams when necessary.

We will also increase the focus on alcohol within the Integrated Offender Management Team to ensure that they are fully equipped to address issues underlying incidents of VAWG.

Addressing and monitoring the needs of men and boys

We will work together to ensure that men and boys who are experiencing or who have experienced violence are provided with an appropriate specialist service. To support this we have committed to developing a male referral pathway. We will also monitor the number of male referrals to our VAWG hub, which will enable us to plan services appropriately and address any unmet needs.

We also recognise that some men may present as victims of violence, however on further assessment they are in fact identified as the perpetrator. To ensure that, as a partnership, we are able to identify who the primary perpetrator is, and to then respond appropriately, we will work closely with Respect⁵⁵. Respect has published a toolkit for professionals working with men experiencing domestic violence. The purpose of this toolkit is primarily to support and inform work with male victims of domestic violence, and it also includes guidance in relation to identifying who is the victim and who is the perpetrator.

Links to wider regional services

We will continue to work with regional and national services to ensure that victims-survivors have access to the broadest range of support possible. This will include but not be limited to:

- **Spires** – is a charity working with homeless and disadvantaged people offering a range of centre based and outreach services. Services include Spires Streetlink, a specialist project supporting street based prostitutes in Lambeth and surrounding areas.
- **Scarlett Centre** – funded by London Councils and providing advice and drop-in support to women who are affected by DV, rape, sexual assault, prostitution as well as homelessness, mental health and substance misuse.

⁵⁵ Respect is the UK membership association for domestic violence perpetrator programmes and associated support services.

- **Rape Crisis Centres** - commissioned by the GLA to deliver a service to all London residents.
- **FORWARD** - The Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development is an African Diaspora women's campaign and support charity that provides education, training and support services around FGM.
- **The Sojourner Project** - a pilot scheme for women with no recourse to public funds, who entered the UK on a spousal or partner visa and are eligible to apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) under the Domestic Violence Rule. The project is run by Eaves and funded by the Home Office, and will be operational to at least 31 March 2012. Eaves will be working in partnership with a range of other voluntary providers to co-ordinate support, accommodation and subsistence for women and their dependents throughout the country.

Protection and Prosecution

Lambeth is committed to ensuring that high risk victims are provided with an effective multi-agency response through the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), that perpetrators are managed effectively in the community in order to reduce future harm, and that there is an effective criminal justice system response that contributes to victim confidence.

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

We will maintain and strengthen our MARAC for high risk victims of DV, including male victims. We will continue to coordinate the MARAC, and to convene the meetings on a monthly basis. We will work to implement the recommendations from the CAADA Quality Assurance review to ensure that the Lambeth MARAC is effective in its approach and delivery.

We will also extend the MARAC style approach to dealing with women, and men where required, who are involved in prostitution. This will be called the Lambeth Prostitution Group (LPG). The multi-agency LPG will meet once every two months to discuss individuals involved in prostitution who have been identified as requiring a multi-agency response.

The MARAC will link closely with the Gaia Centre in order to ensure that all victim-survivors who are referred into the process have access to the full range of advocacy and support services.

We will consider, as appropriate, adopting the MARAC style approach for other areas of VAWG.

Links to Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

IOM is an overarching framework for bringing together agencies in local areas to prioritise interventions with offenders who cause crime in their locality. Local IOM arrangements will work best if they are not restricted to statutory or local criminal justice agencies, but involve a wide range of social agencies, including the voluntary sector, who have a role to play in tackling risk factors associated with crime and offending.⁵⁶

IOM does two basic things:

- It manages a selected and locally defined cohort(s) of offenders who are in the community regardless of whether they are subject to statutory supervision or not
- It applies to this cohort the same kind of multi-agency approach, using pooled resources and interventions, as the PPO, DIP, Diamond and MAPPA programmes.

IOM in Lambeth will link with the MARAC to identify DV perpetrators who will then be targeted by the IOM Team. The exact activity will be based on the individual case and will be fully risk assessed to ensure that it does not put the victim in further danger. The intention is to systematically hold perpetrators to account in a way not previously done. This will include enforcement action and monitoring but also linking

⁵⁶ Integrated Offender Management - Key Principles. Home Office/Ministry of Justice - March 2010

with treatment services for drug and/or alcohol problems if they are co-existing factors.

We will make specific funding available to the Probation Service to commission a Probation Officer able to deliver a perpetrator programme through the IOM model. The DV Probation Officer will work in partnership with the Gaia Centre to ensure that victim safety is at the very centre of our response and approach to working with high risk perpetrators.

Joint work with the courts and Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)

We are committed to working closely with the courts and the CPS to ensure that victims are given all the necessary support to help them through the often difficult process of prosecution.

Joint work with Lambeth Borough Police

Throughout the Customer Insight project women have provided positive feedback in relation to the service that they have received from Lambeth Police, and from the Community Safety Unit in particular. They have also highlighted that they see the Police as playing a pivotal role in stopping the violence from happening again, be this by activating a criminal justice system response or by signposting and/or referring to a specialist agency.

This re-enforces to us that a positive initial response from the Police is of significant importance and we are therefore committed to continue to work in close partnership to ensure that the good practice identified is implemented across all VAWG strands.

Domestic Violence Homicide Reviews

As part of the Government's approach to tackling VAWG, the Government committed to implementing statutory Domestic Violence Homicide Reviews whenever a person aged 16 or over has died as a result of domestic violence. This legislation became a statutory responsibility on 13 April 2011. We will work with Safer Lambeth to implement and undertake these reviews in Lambeth, in line with the Government's statutory guidance.

Implementation of the Standard Operating Kerb Crawler Procedure

We will focus on tackling the demand side of prostitution. This will involve sending a clear message to the buyers of sex in order to ensure that they are fully aware of this approach. Those who persist in engaging in this abusive practice will be subject to both the law but also to other targeted activity as outlined in our Standard Operating Kerb Crawling Procedure. This approach will include regular kerb crawling arrest activities led by the Lambeth Police Vice Team.

We will also work closely with the Police in relation to the implementation of Section 14 of the Police and Crime Act 2009 which makes it an illegal offence to purchase sex from someone who is subject to force.

Links with wider strategic changes

One area where the recent coalition document contains interesting commitments is the implementation and enforcement of legislation. The duties under the Equality Act which, from April 2011, continues the requirements set out by the Gender Equality Duty. This introduces a requirement for public authorities to have due regard, when exercising their functions, to the need to foster good relations between men and women and are clearly key to the delivery of this Strategy. Other commitments include:

- Pilot and fully evaluate domestic violence protection orders (DVPOs) in Wiltshire, West Mercia and Manchester for 12 months from June 2011
- Explore with experts and practitioners how best to introduce the provisions of the Welfare Reform Act 2009 which allows victims of domestic violence claiming Jobseekers Allowance an automatic 13 week deferral of job-seeking activity to allow them to get into a stable situation before seeking work
- Consider the case for the implementation of Section 60 of the Family Law Act 1996 to enable third parties to allow for a 'prescribed person' to apply to the civil court for a domestic violence injunction on someone else's behalf
- Consult on revising the current definition of domestic violence to include younger victims
- Work closely with Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to ensure that effective practice in relation to stalking is shared between all police forces and CPS regional areas

We will keep a close watch on developments in this area to ensure that Lambeth victims and services are able to take full advantage of the avenues of legal recourse open to them.

5. Delivering the Strategy and monitoring progress

We are aware that much of the work to deliver the commitments outlined in this Strategy will be down to the joint working and rigorous information sharing across agencies. These actions are detailed in the plan at the end of the Strategy.

We are mindful that many of the outcomes associated with the measures and services in this Strategy can be difficult to interpret and open to challenge e.g. does an increase in referrals to the Gaia Centre represent a worrying increase in VAWG overall, or a success in education and awareness raising campaigns in prompting those who may have previously suffered in silence to come forward?

We are determined that there are clear metrics and targets established in order to monitor progress in delivering the aims of the strategy and identifying areas that need a partnership response to improve. We will be clear what the data is designed to monitor and commit to providing annual performance updates via a VAWG performance dashboard on all targets. This will allow clarification of outcomes and any qualitative information that may be required as explanation to be presented in detail e.g. a decrease in the number of cautions of men attempting to buy sex may be because the numbers committing this offence are falling as the message gets through about the new approach to prostitution.

Several of the indicators listed cover areas for which data is not currently collected on a routine basis and the first task is to establish a robust baseline. We see this identification of data gaps as a major role for the Strategy and consider the setting of baselines to be an appropriate first stage within a three year Strategy.

As part of the data collection and performance monitoring methodology we will also gather information in relation to the gender breakdown of incidents/offences/referrals. If patterns continue as they are now, i.e. the largest percentage of victims being female, this will allow us as a partnership to evidence and justify our female gendered response to VAWG in Lambeth. However, if patterns alter in relation to the gender profile of victims we will then be in an informed position to review our gendered response to VAWG.

The operational delivery of the Strategy will be the responsibility of the Strategic Lead for the VAWG theme within the Safer Lambeth Partnership – see appendix 6 for a full governance map. This will be the Assistant Director for Community Safety within the London Borough of Lambeth. It will be the responsibility of the VAWG Programme Manager to support the Assistant Director and also ensure that relevant Boards such as the Children and Adults Safeguarding Boards are fully informed about progress against strategic objectives.

The VAWG Strategy Group will meet on an annual basis to review progress against the delivery of the Strategy while the Social Inclusion Board and the Safer Lambeth Executive will receive progress reports every 6 months.

Where it is required to share personal information in order to effectively deliver the Strategy this will be done under Lambeth's Overarching Information Sharing Protocol which was endorsed by the Lambeth First Performance Board

We will develop Purpose Specific Information Sharing Agreements (PSISA) where these are required to specify what information is to be shared, how it will be shared and who it will be given to.

Outcomes/targets

Reduction in the % of Domestic Violence MARAC cases which result in repeat victimisation (formerly NI32)

This indicator will measure the success of our multi-agency approach in responding to high risk and repeat victims of domestic violence, and in preventing repeat victimisation and further harm. This will demonstrate the effectiveness of services and enforcement procedures, in reducing domestic violence. We will use percentages rather than overall numbers in order to ensure comparability. These figures relate to cases including both men and women and can be presented as such when required.

Period	No of victim referrals	Repeat victim referrals	Repeat Rate %
Apr 07 – Mar 08	47	6	13
Apr 08 – Mar 09	156	44	28
Apr 09 – Mar 10	307	60	20
April 10 - Mar 11	341	80	23

While there was a significant 5% reduction in one year between 2009 and 2010 this has been the result of considerable work and we realise that it will be impossible to continue this rate of reductions indefinitely – indeed the rate of repeat victimisation has begun to creep up again over recent months. Therefore we have set a target of a 3% reduction over the life of the strategy:

- 2011 – 22%
- 2012 – 21%
- 2013 – 20%

Number of children with a Child Protection Plan where Domestic Abuse is a factor in the household

This is a new indicator that will allow us to measure the number of children that are known to Lambeth CYPS social care who are subject to a child protection plan where domestic abuse has been identified as a risk factor. This will then enable us to set a baseline for 2012/2013. The VAWG Strategy Group will then agreed a target for subsequent years.

Police arrest rates in DV cases

This indicator will measure the ability of the Police to respond robustly to reports of DV Crimes. The overall target for arrest rates in DV cases is set centrally by the Metropolitan Police Service and has been set at 77% for 2011/12.

The baseline for the last five years is detailed below:

LAMBETH BOROUGH	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08	FY 08/09	FY 09/10	FY 10/11
Domestic Violence Arrest Rate (%)	n/a	47.4	68.59	74.82	80.41	83.4

As the local Police are currently exceeding the central target we will work with the Metropolitan Police to seek agreement for a local target to be set in future years. This will be reviewed by the VAWG Strategy Group.

Increase percentage of sanctioned detection rates for DV

This indicator will measure the ability to hold perpetrators to account when there is evidence that a crime has been committed. This is not simply an indicator for the Police but also a measure of other services ability to provide support to enable them to help the Police take action.

The base line for DV sanctioned detection rates in Lambeth is listed below:

LAMBETH BOROUGH	FY 05/06	FY 06/07	FY 07/08	FY 08/09	FY 09/10	FY 10/11
Number Domestic Offences	2639	2447	1977	2073	1894	1766
Sanctioned Detection Rate (%)	29.7	32.45	42.69	46.74	48.15	48.2

The overall target for sanction detection rates in DV cases is set centrally by the Metropolitan Police and has been set at 47% for 2011/12.

Increase in number of VAWG perpetrators managed by IOM ..&.. Decrease in repeat offending of VAWG perpetrators managed by IOM

These indicators will measure the effectiveness of IOM in managing the perpetrators of VAWG. It is intended that we measure the number of offenders that the service is working with in order to test the referral patterns and accessibility of the service and the percentage reoffending rates for similar offences within 12 months to measure its efficacy.

IOM is a new service so we will need to set a baseline for both of these targets before we can consider the target. This will be considered by the VAWG Strategy group at its annual review meeting.

Increase percentage of sanctioned detection rates for sexual offences other than rape

This includes 'screened in' Sexual Offences that do NOT fall within the remit of SCD2 or SCD5, including sexual assault, sexual abuse of a child, indecent images, grooming, exposure and voyeurism.

This indicator will measure the ability to hold perpetrators to account when there is evidence that a sexual offence other than rape has been committed. This is not simply an indicator for the Police but also a measure of other services ability to provide support to enable them to help the Police take action.

The baseline for sanctioned detection rates in Lambeth is listed below:

LAMBETH POLICE BOROUGH DATA	FY 07/08	FY 08/09	FY 09/10	FY 10/11
<i>Other Sexual Offences</i>	313	347	374	335
<i>Other Sexual Offences Sanctioned Detections</i>	65	98	110	79
<i>Sanctioned Detection Rate (%)</i>	20.77	28.24	29.41	23.58

The overall target for sanction detection rates in sexual offences is set centrally by the Metropolitan Police and has been set at 23% for 2011/12.

We will also report on the sanctioned detection rate for Sexual Offences that fall within the remit of SCD2 in order to monitor local performance although no target has formally been set.

Increase number of cases of those arrested for street based prostitution referred for a mandatory drugs test through Inspector's Authority

This indicator will measure the use of Inspector's Authority to authorise a mandatory drug test for a woman arrested for street based prostitution. Should they test positive women will be legally obligated to attend drug treatment services. We hope that by increasing the number of tests we can increase the number of individuals helped to access drug treatment.

During 2010/11 this has averaged around 2 per month. We aim to increase this to:

- 2011/12 – average of 5 per month
- 2012/13 - average of 8 referrals per month
- 2013/14 – average of 10 referrals per month

We will monitor this target closely as it may be that as street prostitution reduces over the life of the Strategy these figures need to be revised.

This will be reviewed by the VAWG Strategy group at its annual meeting.

Increase the activity focused on those buying, or attempting to buy sex

This indicator will measure our commitment to a zero tolerance approach and focus on the demand for prostitution. At present very few arrests for kerb crawling happen without special operations due to difficulty of securing sufficient evidence. We intend to increase focus in two ways.

Firstly we will set a target of issuing 20 kerb crawling warning letters per month and secondly commit to undertaking a specialist operation once every 6 weeks during this period with a target of arresting 10 individuals during each operation.

As these are new targets we will need to assess the success of our approach after the first year. This will be reviewed by the VAWG Strategy Group with a view to extend or revise the target.

Decrease the number of women arrested by the Police Vice Team for street based prostitution

This indicator will be used as a proxy for the reduction of overall numbers of women on the street. In order to be arrested for loitering/soliciting an individual has to have received 2 cautions within the previous 3 month rolling period.

On average there were 17 such arrests per month between May and November 2010. We aim to decrease this to:

- 2011/12 – average of 15 per month
- 2012/13 - average of 12 per month
- 2013/14 – average of 10 per month

Increase the number of individuals moving on from the Chrysalis supported housing scheme for women involved in street prostitution

This is a newly commissioned service and a baseline will be established during 2011/12. The VAWG Strategy Group will then agree a target for subsequent years.

Increase the number of VAWG referrals to the Gaia Centre

This indicator will measure the impact on the work to publicise our services, particularly around the changing and expanded role of the centre to cover all the VAWG strands, and the take up rate of the new service.

At present the Gaia Centre receives an average of 60 referrals per month. Once the new service is commissioned we aim to increase this to:

- 2011/12 – average of 80 referrals per month
- 2012/13 - average of 90 referrals per month
- 2013/14 – average of 100 referrals per month

Increase the number of VAWG referrals to the Gaia Centre from primary and community health services ...&... Increase the number of DV referrals to the MARAC from primary and community health services including drug services

These indicators will measure the success of our work in training and providing information to primary and community health services regarding the effective identification of, and response to, VAWG.

These are a new indicators and a baseline will be established during 2011/12. The VAWG Strategy Group will then agreed a target for subsequent years.

Safeguarding Adults Outcomes

We are not in a position to set targets relating to Safeguarding Adults due to a lack of robust baseline data. Our intention is to attempt to monitor our success in awareness raising around DV (this is the only VAWG strand monitored in referrals) while at the same time decreasing both prevalence overall and the percentage of repeat referrals demonstrating the success of communications and our support services respectively.

In order to provide baseline data for this we will monitor two data sources:

1. Safeguarding referrals in the period where “Category of abuse: domestic violence” has been ticked AND the question “Have there been previous safeguarding issues regarding the person at risk” is answered “Yes” OR the question “Have there been previous safeguarding issues regarding the person who may have caused harm” is answered “Yes”
2. Completed safeguarding work in the period where the outcome for domestic violence was “Substantiated” or “Inconclusive” and there was at least one other safeguarding referral for that person at risk in the previous 2 years

There are a number of issues relating to each indicator so we will report against each quarterly and assess at 6 months and 12 months. This will allow us to ascertain whether the two indicators tell us the same or something different and, if different, whether one is more useful or reliable than the other.

We will then be in a position to present the VAWG Strategy Group with baseline information and seek to a set a target for subsequent years.

These ‘hard’ outcomes will be reported against on a quarterly basis but there is also a comprehensive range of activities that will be undertaken if this Strategy is truly to achieve its objectives. This activities are detailed in the below action plan that will be used to create a full work plan for the new VAWG coordinator.

Lambeth VAWG action plan

Prevention

- Increase public awareness of VAWG; reduce the tolerance and prevalence of VAWG; increase public knowledge of the support available; move towards earlier intervention.

Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Measurement	Lead Agency	Completion date
<p>1. Ensure all Lambeth residents, especially victim-survivors are aware of Lambeth's commitment to zero tolerance to VAWG and have access to information and referral routes in to services.</p>	<p>Develop a partnership cross agency communications plan which will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Annual awareness raising days i.e. WRD and IWD 3. Targeted campaigns to raise awareness of services and appropriate referral routes across all equality strands. 4. Targeted campaign at the potential buyers of sex to ensure they are aware of Lambeth zero tolerance approach – with links to the GLA campaign. 5. Re-visit sexual violence awareness campaign 6. Publicity campaign around the change in focus of the Gaia centre as a VAWG hub <p>Communications in reference to what services are available for male victims.</p>	<p>Public more informed about what constitutes VAWG and that they are not confused by professional jargon as to what abuse is.</p> <p>Public more informed about prevalence of VAWG in Lambeth.</p> <p>Public more aware of services available in Lambeth, regionally and nationally</p> <p>Victims access services more quickly leading to earlier support and interventions and reduction in further harm.</p>	<p>Communications plan produced and actions completed</p>	<p>Safer Lambeth</p>	<p>Plan ready by September 2011</p> <p>Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>

Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Measurement	Lead Agency	Completion date
<p>2. Ensure the Coordination and delivery of the VAWG approach across Lambeth</p>	<p>Creation of a VAWG Coordinator post within LBL Community safety Division</p> <p>Creation of a multi-agency VAWG forum with a focus on best practise development and lobbying</p> <p>Creation of multi-agency VAWG practitioners group</p> <p>Development of VAWG web pages on the Safer Lambeth/LBL website</p> <p>Lambeth Prostitution Group maintained</p>	<p>Improved coordinated response</p> <p>VAWG agencies better linked up</p> <p>Increased awareness within partnership with regards to prevalence of VAWG in Lambeth.</p> <p>Increased awareness of staff when responding to disclosures of VAWG.</p> <p>Improved service provision to victims of VAWG</p>	<p>VAWG Coordinator in post</p> <p>6 VAWG forums per year</p> <p>4 VAWG practitioners group meetings per year</p> <p>VAWG information pages on Safer Lambeth/LBL website</p> <p>4 LPG meetings per year</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-ACS and Safer Lambeth</p>	<p>July 2011 for Coordinator</p> <p>Website updated by Jan 2012 in line with new VAWG service</p>

<p>3. Ensure staff are able to identify and respond appropriately and effectively to individuals who are experiencing VAWG, those who are perpetrating VAWG and children who are witnessing VAWG.</p>	<p>Delivery of multi agency VAWG training to members of the statutory, voluntary and community sector.</p>	<p>Increased awareness of staff when responding to disclosures of VAWG</p> <p>Improved service provided to victims of VAWG from service providers</p> <p>Increased confidence of staff when responding to disclosures of VAWG</p>	<p>VAWG trainer and awareness raising officer in post</p> <p>VAWG training programme delivered -24 sessions per year</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-ACS</p>	<p>Trainer in post by September 2011</p> <p>Annual through the life of the Strategy</p>
<p>4. Ensure that staff who are working with children are able to identify VAWG in order to improve earlier intervention and appropriate support</p>	<p>Delivery of multi agency VAWG training to members of the statutory, voluntary and community sector.</p> <p>Delivery of VAWG identification and response training to professionals i.e. CYPS early intervention and Multi Agency Team and Lambeth Community Health staff</p> <p>Review the implementation of the Barnardo's Domestic Violence Risk Identification Matrix (DVRIM) model</p>	<p>Earlier identification and interventions from staff working with children</p> <p>Reduction in harm to those experiencing VAWG as a result of earlier intervention</p>	<p>Increased referrals from CYPS to specialist VAWG hub</p> <p>4 VAWG identification training sessions per year</p> <p>Risk identification tool embedded into practise</p> <p>Commence quarterly monitoring of Common Assessment Framework (CAF) forms where VAWG has been identified as a factor</p>	<p>Lambeth Council- CYPS and Lambeth Council-ACS</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>

<p>5. Develop, implement and deliver a VAWG prevention and awareness raising programme in Lambeth aimed at young people</p>	<p>Deliver VAWG education training programme in Lambeth Schools</p> <p>Development of lesson plans to ensure sexual coercion is covered as part of the Sex and Relationship Education curriculum</p> <p>Train school staff in identification and response to VAWG</p> <p>Identify resources to assist schools, youth services social workers to address and respond to VAWG</p> <p>Develop referral procedures to ensure that young people who are experiencing VAWG are referred to appropriate services.</p> <p>Consider the development of a group work programme for young people who have, or who are at risk of perpetrating VAWG.</p>	<p>Increased awareness in schools regarding how to respond to disclosures of VAWG</p> <p>Earlier interventions from schools and improved signposting to specialist VAWG agencies</p> <p>Improved emotional health and improved relationships between children who attend the school programme</p> <p>Safer and healthier young people.</p>	<p>VAWG trainer and awareness raising officer in post</p> <p>SRE lesson plans developed</p> <p>VAWG resource pack for schools developed</p> <p>2 schools worked per year</p> <p>Young persons referral guidance and protocol developed</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-ACS and CYPs and NHS Lambeth-Teenage Pregnancy Team</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>
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<p>6. Implement HM Government guidelines for identifying and responding to suspected forced marriage and honour based violence and female genital mutilation</p>	<p>Forced Marriage and honour based violence training delivered FGM training delivered Key statutory partners to disseminate forced marriage and FGM multi agency guidelines to members of staff Monitor the upward trend in FM /HBV and FGM and assess the need for specific services on an ongoing basis</p>	<p>Improved response to victims of forced marriage and honour based violence in line with the “one chance rule”. Increased awareness of staff when responding to disclosures of forced marriage and HBV and FGM Reduction in further harm and repeat victimisation.</p>	<p>2 ACS/LSCB Forced Marriage training sessions per year 2 ACS/LSCB FGM sessions per year Roll out of Government FGM guidelines</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-ACS and CYPs</p>	<p>March 2012</p>
<p>7. Consultation with service users to ensure that survivors of VAWG are involved in, and consulted on the development of service planning and delivery in Lambeth.</p>	<p>Peer mentoring service commissioned Development of VAWG service user group VAWG Service User group to be actively engaged in the development of VAWG policy reviews and service planning</p>	<p>Service Users feel involved and able to contribute to the development of VAWG service provision.</p>	<p>Embed feedback from VAWG Customer Insight Project and future service user consultations into practice Service users on the interview panel for the new VAWG One Stop Shop Peer mentoring service commissioned and representatives attending VAWG Operational Group VAWG service user group established VAWG service user group to meet three times a year</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-ACS</p>	<p>December 2011</p>

<p>8. Develop and implement VAWG champions in each key agency</p>	<p>VAWG champion to act as a single point of contact in relation to VAWG in their own agency. Deliver briefing and information sharing meetings VAWG champion forums per year.</p>	<p>Increased levels of specialism with regards to responding to VAWG in each key agency Improved access to information via single point of contact in each agency. Improved multi agency response</p>	<p>Recruitment of one champion per agency 3 briefing sessions delivered to network of champions</p>	<p>Lambeth VAWG Strategic Group</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>
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Provision

- Provide access to co-ordinated, high quality and effective services; Make VAWG a high priority; Allocate sufficient resources; Improve efficiency through coordination and information sharing; Train and equip staff to improve service standard

Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Measurement	Lead Agency	Completion date
<p>9. Ensure that all victims of VAWG have an effective support service through the provision of an effective one stop shop for VAWG in Lambeth</p>	<p>Re-launch and expand Gaia Centre as Lambeth's VAWG hub partnership model.</p> <p>Relocate the Gaia centre to larger premises including child care provision area</p> <p>VAWG support service to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender based advocates • Caseworkers • Peer support project • Children's support service • Sanctuary scheme <p>Ensure closer links with the Prostitution Court Diversion scheme</p> <p>Ensure service links in with services commissioned by other grant funding organisations i.e. London councils</p>	<p>Victims are able to access multi agency support easily and effectively and in one place</p> <p>Improved level of service provided to victims.</p> <p>Interventions result in a reduction in further harm to victim and associated children.</p> <p>Stronger and safer and healthier families</p> <p>Increase in service provision resulting in more innovative services available for victims.</p> <p>Improved case management and recording systems</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p> <p>Improved emotional health for children</p> <p>Children are healthier and safer</p> <p>Children are encouraged to achieve</p>	<p>Contract for new VAWG service let</p> <p>New premises identified-which includes space for child care area</p> <p>Increase in referrals to Gaia Centre – see targets section</p> <p>All services in place and being delivered</p> <p>Reduction in repeat victimisation</p>	<p>VAWG Partnership/Safer Lambeth</p>	<p>New service commissioned by January 2012</p>

Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Measurement	Lead Agency	Completion date
<p>10. Ensure that children who are experiencing and/or witnessing VAWG are safeguarded in line with London and Lambeth safeguarding procedures</p>	<p>VAWG training incorporated into Lambeth Safeguarding Children's Board training programme i.e. FGM/ Forced Marriage and DV as a serious child protection issue</p> <p>Embed findings from the Lambeth Safeguarding Children's Board DV Audit.</p> <p>Implement the London Safeguarding Children's Board VAWG procedures into front line practice.</p> <p>Training regarding how to engage with victims and perpetrators of VAWG in order to safeguard children delivered to social care staff.</p>	<p>Improved awareness of VAWG as a child protection issue.</p> <p>Staff respond to VAWG as a child protection issue effectively and in partnership.</p>	<p>4 LSCB DV training sessions per year</p> <p>2 ACS/LSCB Forced Marriage training sessions per year</p> <p>2 ACS/LSCB FGM sessions per year</p> <p>Specialist DV/VAWG social worker in post in CYPs social care Referral & Assessment team</p>	<p>Lambeth Safeguarding Children's Board and Lambeth Council-ACS and CYPs</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>

<p>11. Ensure that health professionals are able to identify and respond effectively to victims and perpetrators of VAWG</p>	<p>Victims who access Lambeth health based services are referred to appropriate VAWG services</p> <p>Undertake a mapping exercise to find out the current situation regarding which health services identify and respond to victims and perpetrators of VAWG- focus on reproductive and sexual health services, GUM services, Abortion services</p> <p>Undertake a mapping exercise to identify what information these services have to signpost to VAWG services.</p>	<p>Victims who access health based services are able to access immediate and appropriate VAWG support</p> <p>Staff at NHS Lambeth are able to refer victims of domestic violence to the in house IDVA service following a disclosure via routine enquiry</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p> <p>Earlier identification and intervention of VAWG by health professionals</p>	<p>Commissioned health based Advocacy service</p> <p>NHS Lambeth staff trained in the delivery of routine enquiry</p> <p>Develop a VAWG reference leaflet of services available in Lambeth for VAWG for health staff</p> <p>Increase in referrals from primary and community health services to Gaia Centre – see targets section</p>	<p>NHS Lambeth</p>	<p>Health based advocacy service commissioned – October 2011.</p> <p>Training and increases in referrals ongoing through the life of the Strategy</p>
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<p>12. Ensure that vulnerable adults who are experiencing VAWG are safeguarded in line with "Protecting adults at risk: London multi-agency policies and procedures to safeguard adults from abuse".</p>	<p>Support the LSAPB to implement the London Safeguarding Adults' Board procedures into front line practice</p> <p>VAWG is addressed as a key safeguarding issue in the Safeguarding Adults training programme</p> <p>Delivery of multi agency VAWG training to staff who work with adults to ensure VAWG is identified and appropriate response is provided</p> <p>Where there is safeguarding and VAWG is identified an appropriate referral is made to VAWG hub</p> <p>Where there are high risk concerns in relation to safeguarding and DV is identified an appropriate referral is made to MARAC</p>	<p>Effective service provided to victims of VAWG who are also assessed as being a vulnerable adult.</p> <p>Improved multi agency approach from Safeguarding and VAWG services.</p>	<p>Performance monitoring of Safeguarding Adults statistics where there is VAWG present - see targets section</p>	<p>Lambeth Safeguarding Adults' Partnership Board</p>	<p>Ongoing through the life of the Strategy</p>
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<p>13. Re-commission funding provision to Lambeth Refugees</p>	<p>Review and re-commission Refuge provision in Lambeth</p> <p>Re-commissioned refuges accepting Lambeth women, where appropriate and safe</p> <p>Access to refuges expanded to VAWG victims, where appropriate and safe</p> <p>Work with other London boroughs to ensure that there is adequate Refuge provision across London.</p> <p>Appropriate support service in place for children living in Lambeth refuges</p>	<p>Immediate access to emergency accommodation for victims and associated children who are at risk of harm.</p> <p>Improved emotional health of victims and associated children.</p> <p>Stronger and safer and healthier families</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p>	<p>Contract for new Refuge services let</p> <p>All services in place and being delivered</p> <p>Referral and move on rate monitored as part of contract monitoring arrangements</p>	<p>Lambeth Council- ACS</p>	<p>April 2011</p>
<p>14. Ensure that appropriate Supported Housing solutions are available for victims of VAWG that need them</p>	<p>Reconfigure supported housing schemes to provide a three step pathway for women exiting prostitution.</p> <p>Reconfigure the all supporting housing in the borough to provide an effective 'Pathway' approach that is more responsive to the needs of the victims of VAWG.</p>	<p>Immediate access to emergency accommodation for victims</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p>	<p>Monitoring of number of referrals received for victims of VAWG</p>	<p>Lambeth Council- ACS</p>	<p>April 2011</p>

<p>15. Ensure that young people who are involved in or at risk of serious youth violence are provided with an appropriate intervention in relation to VAWG</p>	<p>Review findings from the Race on the Agenda research "Female Voice In Violence" project. Provision for young girls and young women who are at risk of and/or are involved in serious youth violence and who are also experiencing VAWG at VAWG hub model Scope the provision for young boys and young men who are at risk of and/or are involved in serious youth violence and who are also perpetrating VAWG</p>	<p>Improved emotional health of young people Stronger and safer and healthier families Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p>	<p>Referrals from Young and Safe for young women to VAWG hub Embed findings from the Race on the Agenda research "Female Voice In Violence".</p>	<p>Lambeth Council CYPs - Young and Safe and Lambeth Council-ACS</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>
<p>16. Ensure that men who are experiencing or who have experienced domestic violence/SV/ FM/HBV/prostitution/trafficking are provided with an appropriate specialist services</p>	<p>VAWG hub delivering a service to men from an alternative venue. Referral map for male victims developed to include information about signposting to pan London specialist services</p>	<p>Improved and more effective response to male victims Improved awareness of men as victims Increased safety and a reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation.</p>	<p>Male victim referrals to VAWG services monitored on a quarterly basis 100% of male victims referred to MARAC are offered a pro active support service Male victim referral map produced</p>	<p>Lambeth VAWG Partnership</p>	<p>March 2012</p>

<p>17. Work with key partners on the development of a Human Resources policy for staff who are affected by VAWG and for staff who are perpetrating VAWG.</p>	<p>Development of a Lambeth Council HR VAWG policy Encourage other key partners to develop a HR policy</p>	<p>Improved response to employees who are victims of VAWG Improved response to employees who are perpetrators of VAWG Safer and healthier employees Perpetrators of VAWG are held to account for their behaviour.</p>	<p>Lambeth Council HR VAWG policy launched and implemented</p>	<p>Lambeth VAWG Partnership</p>	<p>March 2012</p>
<p>18. Develop and implement monitoring and reporting systems in partnership with key VAWG service providers-gathering data on all VAWG strands</p>	<p>VAWG service providers to record and monitor VAWG data on a consistent basis Development of a VAWG data set and monitoring dashboard Work with agencies to implement consistent VAWG monitoring systems</p>	<p>Increased awareness of the prevalence of VAWG including the number of victims that are accessing specialist services. Intelligent commissioning based on an accurate data set. Services meet the need of the community taking into account all equality strands.</p>	<p>Implementation of Paloma at VAWG hub VAWG dashboard produced on a quarterly basis VAWG service providers to produce data reports on a quarterly basis</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-ACS and VAWG Partnership</p>	<p>Monitoring to commence in October 2011 Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>

<p>19. Ensure that victims of VAWG are aware of how to access appropriate specialist services.</p>	<p>Development of a VAWG referral map, which addresses all equality strands.</p> <p>Coordinate outreach services for women involved in street based prostitution</p> <p>Review all treatment services to ensure there is equitable access for all groups e.g. for women involved in prostitution</p>	<p>Victims are able to access appropriate specialist services easily.</p> <p>Professionals are able to signpost victims of VAWG to appropriate specialist services.</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p>	<p>Referral map produced and rolled out</p>	<p>Lambeth Council/ VAWG partnership</p>	<p>March 2012</p>
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Protection and Prosecution

- Ensure that people experiencing VAWG are supported to lead safer and healthier lives. Increased safety; a valuing of their voices; accessible, high quality and comprehensive support services; coordinated responses of a consistent standard; specialist support for children; reduced isolation.
- Ensure that perpetrators of VAWG are held to account for their unacceptable behaviour. Held accountable by effective and early interventions; appropriate penalties; clear messages that VAWG is wrong; support to change behaviour

Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Measurement	Lead Agency	Completion date
20. Re-commission the partnership Sanctuary Scheme as part of the Gaia VAWG Centre	<p>Installation of sanctuary schemes</p> <p>Each victim referred to the scheme is allocated a VAWG caseworker.</p> <p>Sanctuary worker based between VAWG hub and housing offices to improve response of housing officer and risk assessments</p> <p>Widen eligibility criteria to include victims of VAWG beyond DV.</p>	<p>Victims of VAWG are safer in their homes.</p> <p>Victims are provided with an appropriate support service to support a healthier and safer future</p> <p>Reduction in homelessness as a direct result of VAWG.</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p>	<p>Contract for service let</p> <p>Service in place and being delivered</p> <p>Scheme to accept VAWG victims</p> <p>Installation of 15 sanctuary schemes per year</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-HRE and Lambeth Council-ACS</p>	<p>Commissioned January 2012</p> <p>Ongoing throughout the life of the Strategy</p>
21. Review options for survivors of VAWG who have no recourse to public funds in line with national recommendations and local guidelines.	<p>Embed findings from the Home Office 2009/2010 pilot into assisting victims of VAWG who have entered to UK on a spousal visa and who have no recourse to public funds.</p> <p>Scope the development of good practice guidelines in partnership with Lambeth Council No Recourse to Public Funds team to ensure victims who have no recourse to public funds are provided an appropriate service.</p>	<p>Improved partnership response to victims of VAWG who have no recourse to public funds</p> <p>Victims who have no recourse to public funds are supported to access appropriate funding which will increase options for improved safety</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p>	<p>Recommendations from the Home Office review implemented in Lambeth</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-ACS</p>	<p>April 2012</p>

Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Measurement	Lead Agency	Completion date
<p>22. Ensure that victims of VAWG and perpetrators of VAWG who have substance misuse issues receive a coordinated response</p>	<p>Develop a VAWG and substance misuse and joint protocol to focus on responding to both victims and perpetrators.</p> <p>Delivery of VAWG and substance misuse training sessions</p> <p>Link worker in Substance misuse team for VAWG services</p> <p>Link worker in VAWG team for substance misuse services</p> <p>Increase the use of mandatory drug testing in custody suites using Inspectors authority for both DV perpetrators and those arrested for street prostitution</p> <p>Ensure that the resources available through IOM are used to ensure that perpetrators access appropriate treatment services</p> <p>Train VAWG providers in the delivery of brief intervention work</p> <p>Undertake a detailed mapping of referral and access routes in to SMU services to ensure that women engaged in street based prostitution have equitable access</p>	<p>Improved links working between substance misuse and VAWG services in dealing with victims and perpetrators.</p> <p>Increased awareness of staff when responding to disclosures of VAWG/substance misuse</p> <p>Increased confidence of staff when responding to disclosures of VAWG/ substance misuse</p>	<p>VAWG and substance misuse joint protocol produced</p> <p>4 VAWG and substance misuse training sessions per year in partnership with DAAT</p> <p>Link workers identified</p> <p>Number of tests in custody suites – see targets section.</p> <p>Number of perpetrators engaged with IOM – see targets section.</p>	<p>VAWG partnership</p>	<p>March 2012</p>

<p>23. Ensure that high risk victims of VAWG are identified and are responded to using an effective and robust multi agency framework</p>	<p>Coordinate and deliver the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference for high risk domestic violence victims</p> <p>Victims referred to the MARAC are allocated an Independent VAWG Advisor.</p> <p>Scope multi agency response to VAWG victims (not DV) and consider expansion of MARAC model</p> <p>Undertake a MARAC style case conference for women who are continually coming to notice of the Police due to prostitution.</p> <p>Coordinate outreach services for partner agencies working with street based prostitutes.</p>	<p>High risk victims are provided an effective multi agency response</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p> <p>Effective partnership management of high risk victims</p> <p>Effective referral threshold and criteria to ensure appropriate partnership management of high risk victims</p> <p>Increased partnership response in dealing with high risk offenders and high risk victims via MAPPA and MARAC</p>	<p>MARAC coordinator in post</p> <p>12 DV MARAC meetings per year</p> <p>Lambeth Prostitution Group MARAC style meetings held</p> <p>100% of victims referred to the MARAC are allocated an Independent VAWG Advisor</p> <p>Emergency MARAC meetings held when required</p> <p>Feedback from MARAC Quality Assurance embedded</p> <p>VAWG high risk victim information sharing protocols in place</p>	<p>Safer Lambeth</p>	<p>MARAC coordinator in post by March 2011</p> <p>Meetings ongoing through the life of the Strategy</p>
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<p>24. Development and implementation of protocol between Lambeth housing providers and Lambeth VAWG services.</p>	<p>Develop good practice guidelines for housing providers to ensure appropriate procedures are followed in response to victims and perpetrators of VAWG.</p> <p>Develop domestic violence procedures in partnership with Lambeth Living</p> <p>Develop VAWG good practise housing procedures in partnership with housing providers</p> <p>Work with ASB and housing staff to identify and respond appropriately to DV</p>	<p>Victims who approach housing providers are provided with an appropriate and effective response</p> <p>Housing providers are able to support victims to be safer and hold perpetrators to account by following evictions processes.</p> <p>Victims of VAWG are safer in their homes.</p> <p>Reduction in homelessness as a direct result of VAWG.</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p>	<p>Housing advocate in post (as part of sanctuary scheme)</p> <p>Lambeth Living DV procedure implemented</p> <p>VAWG good practise housing procedures developed</p>	<p>Lambeth Council-HRE and ACS</p>	<p>March 2012</p>
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<p>25. Ensure that Lambeth Police hold perpetrators of VAWG to account and respond effectively to victims of VAWG</p>	<p>Work in partnership with Lambeth Police to ensure sanctioned detection targets are achieved</p> <p>Work in partnership with Lambeth Police to ensure arrest rates are achieved</p> <p>Lambeth Police to deliver Operation Athena days in partnership with VAWG partnership</p> <p>Lambeth Police to refer VAWG victims to VAWG services</p> <p>Lambeth Police to refer high risk and repeat victim to the MARAC</p> <p>Lambeth Police to continue to deliver domestic violence repeat victim project in partnership with consideration to expand to all VAWG repeat victims</p> <p>Increase number of men attempting to buy sex issued with an ASBO, caution and conviction.</p>	<p>Victims have increased confidence in the Police response to VAWG</p> <p>Increase in VAWG reports to the Police</p> <p>Improved partnership response to repeat victims of VAWG.</p> <p>Perpetrators of VAWG are held to account for their behaviour</p> <p>Victim safety is at the heart of the criminal process and victims feel that their views are taken into consideration in the progression of criminal cases</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p> <p>Reduction in repeat perpetration of VAWG</p>	<p>Police sanctioned detection rate - see targets section</p> <p>Police arrest rate - see targets section</p> <p>Increased ASBOs, cautions and convictions for kerb crawling and buying sex.</p> <p>Delivery of two Operation Athena days per year</p> <p>Lambeth Police to continue to refer high risk victims to MARAC on a monthly basis</p> <p>Lambeth Police to refer repeat VAWG victims to Gaia on a monthly basis</p>	<p>Lambeth Police and Lambeth Council-ACS</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout life of the Strategy</p>
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<p>26. Perpetrators of VAWG are brought to justice via criminal courts</p>	<p>CPS to allocate a specialist prosecutor to lead on the VAWG agenda in Lambeth.</p> <p>Develop work with Camberwell Green Magistrates Court with regards to the implementation of the DV London Mainstreaming Model.</p> <p>Develop joint working between the police, community safety officers and voluntary sector providers to collect evidence to bring pimps to justice and where appropriate support pimps to enter drug treatment services.</p>	<p>Victims have increased confidence in the CPS response to VAWG.</p> <p>Victim safety is at the heart of the criminal process and victims feel that their views are taken into consideration in the progression of criminal cases</p> <p>Increased number of offenders brought to justice</p> <p>Coordinated court response in dealing with cases of VAWG</p>	<p>CPS VAWG specialist prosecutor identified and in post</p> <p>Review of the implementation of the London Mainstreaming Model</p>	<p>Safer Lambeth</p>	<p>April 2012</p>
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<p>27. Use IOM Model and Probation service to manage/monitor and address VAWG perpetrators</p>	<p>Ensure that perpetrators court mandated to attend the Probation Service Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme Accelerated (IDAPA) are monitored and that appropriate sanctions are in place if orders are breached.</p> <p>Explore the commissioning of community perpetrator programme as part of IOM</p> <p>Ensure that agencies understand the nature and purpose of community based perpetrator programmes</p> <p>Develop IOM information sharing agreement between the Police and Probation to ensure effective risk management of VAWG perpetrators subject to an IOM conditions.</p> <p>Ensure that victims whose partners/ ex partners are subject to a Probation IDAP condition are referred to a Women's Safety Officer.</p> <p>Increase referrals to IOM Team and community based perpetrator programme</p>	<p>Probation Service are better informed to manage perpetrators of VAWG in partnership with the police</p> <p>Perpetrators of VAWG are held to account for their behaviour</p> <p>Victims are informed and involved in the progression of a criminal court case</p> <p>Reduction in further risk of harm and repeat victimisation</p> <p>Reduction in repeat perpetration of VAWG</p> <p>Increased awareness of community programmes available for perpetrators of VAWG</p>	<p>IOM accept DV/VAWG perpetrators as part of cohort</p> <p>IOM VAWG information sharing protocol produced</p> <p>Reduction in repeat offending-see targets</p> <p>Reduction in repeat victimisation rates-see targets</p> <p>100% of victims whose partners/ ex partners are subject to an IDAP condition are referred to a Women's Safety Officer.</p>	<p>Safer Lambeth</p>	<p>IOM target – April 2011</p> <p>Review perpetrator programme commissioning – October 2011</p> <p>Police – Probation protocol March 2012</p>
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6. Report appendices

- Appendix 1 - Definitions of the 8 VAWG Strands
- Appendix 2 - Glossary of Abbreviations
- Appendix 3 – Consultation Attendees
- Appendix 4 – Investment Profile
- Appendix 5 – Draft Kerb Crawling Escalation Policy
- Appendix 6 - Prostitution Policy Statement
- Appendix 7 – Governance Structure

Appendix 1 – Definitions of the 8 VAWG Strands

Domestic/intimate partner violence – a pattern of coercive control, which includes combinations of physical, sexual, psychological and financial abuse by a current or former partner. In extreme cases this includes murder.

Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) – involves the complete or partial removal or alteration of external genitalia for non-medical reasons. It is mostly carried out on young girls at some time between infancy and the age of 15. Unlike male circumcision, which is legal in many countries, it is now illegal across much of the globe, and its extensive harmful health consequences are widely recognised – see below for further information.

Forced marriage – a marriage conducted without valid consent of one or both parties, where duress is a factor.

‘Honour’ based violence – violence committed to protect or defend the ‘honour’ of a family and/or community. Women, especially young women, are the most common targets, often where they have acted outside community boundaries of perceived acceptable feminine/sexual behaviour. In extreme cases the woman may be killed.

Prostitution and trafficking – women and girls are forced, coerced or deceived to enter into prostitution and/or to keep them there. Trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation and exploitation of women and children for the purposes of prostitution and domestic servitude across international borders and within countries (‘internal trafficking’).

Sexual violence including rape – sexual contact without the consent of the woman/girl. Perpetrators range from total strangers to relatives and intimate partners, but most are known in some way. It can happen anywhere – in the family/household, workplace, public spaces, social settings, during war/conflict situations.

Stalking – repeated (i.e. on at least two occasions) harassment causing fear, alarm or distress. It can include threatening phone calls, texts or letters; damaging property; spying on and following the victim.

Definitions taken from the Mayor’s Strategy - *The Way Forward: Taking action to end violence against women and girls 2010 – 13*

Further information on FGM

Female genital mutilation (FGM), also known as female circumcision or female genital cutting, is defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as "all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons".

The World Health Organisation has classified FGM into four types:

- Type 1 – Clitoridectomy involves the partial or total removal of the clitoris (a small, sensitive and erectile part of the female genitals) and, in very rare cases, only the prepuce (the fold of skin surrounding the clitoris).
- Type 2 – Excision: partial or total removal of the clitoris and the labia minora, with or without excision of the labia majora (the labia are the 'lips' that surround the vagina).
- Type 3 – Infibulation: narrowing of the vaginal opening through the creation of a covering seal. The seal is formed by cutting and repositioning the inner, or outer, labia, with or without removal of the clitoris.
- Type 4 – Other: all other harmful procedures to the female genitalia for non-medical purposes, e.g. pricking, piercing, incising, scraping and cauterising the genital area.

These practices are often carried out without any anaesthetic, by people with no medical qualifications. Instruments used can include glass, stones, razor blades and knives. FGM is one of the most traumatic things that can ever happen to a woman.

It is estimated that approximately 100-140 million African women have undergone FGM worldwide and each year, a further 3 million girls are estimated to be at risk of the practice in Africa alone.

The age at which the practice is carried out varies, from shortly after birth to the labour of the first child, depending on the community or individual family. The most common age is between four and ten, although it appears to be falling. The World Health Organisation has classified FGM into four types. As well as the term Female Genital Mutilation, there are a number of other terms or names used to describe the practice, perhaps most common, female circumcision or female genital cutting (FGC). Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development (FORWARD) chooses to use the term Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), as do we, due to the belief that it is the term that most accurately depicts the true nature of the practice.

Depending on the degree of mutilation, FGM can have a number of short-term health implications including severe pain and shock, infection, urine retention, injury to adjacent tissues and immediate fatal haemorrhaging. Long-term implications can include extensive damage of the external reproductive system, uterus, vaginal and pelvic infections, cysts and neuromas, increased risk of Vesico Vaginal Fistula⁵⁷, complications in pregnancy and child birth and difficulties in menstruation. In addition to these physical consequences there are considerable psycho-sexual, psychological and social consequences of FGM.

⁵⁷ Fistulas are holes that are created between the vaginal wall and the bladder (vesicovaginal fistula VVF), and holes created between the vaginal wall and the rectum (rectovaginal fistula RVF). Fistula has severe physical and social consequences and is one of the most degrading morbidities resulting from pregnancy and childbirth. As these holes are formed as a result of pregnancy and child birth the term Obstetric fistula is commonly used as an umbrella term. It can be caused by obstructed labour due to FGM type 3 or FGM type 4, where cuts are made into the vagina, or by child marriage and early pregnancy. For this reason FORWARD at its strategic review in 2002 formally adopted the challenge of addressing child marriage, an issue contributing to and associated with Fistula and FGM.

Appendix 2 - Glossary of Abbreviations

BAME	Black Asian Minority Ethnic
CJS	Criminal Justice System
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
FGM	Female genital mutilation
FORWARD	Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development
GLA	Greater London Authority
GLADA	Greater London Alcohol and Drug Alliance
GoL	Government Office for London
IDAP	Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advocate
ISVA	Independent Sexual Violence Advocate
LA	Local Authority
LCJP	London Criminal Justice Partnership
LDA	London Development Agency
LPG	Lambeth Prostitution Group
LSCB	Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board
MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MPA	Metropolitan Police Authority
MPS	Metropolitan Police Service
NHS	National Health Service
NOMS	National Offenders Management Service
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
NTA	National Treatment Agency
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PTSD	Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
RCC	Rape Crisis Centre
SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centre
SDVC	Specialist Domestic Violence Court
UKBA	United Kingdom Border Agency
VAW	Violence Against Women
VCS	Voluntary and Community Sector
WRC	Women's Resource Centre
YOS	Youth Offending Service

Sanctioned Detection Rate Definition

An incident will be recorded as a crime (also known as a notifiable offence) for offences against an identified victim if, on the balance of probability:

- (a) the circumstances as reported amount to a crime defined by law (the police will determine this, based in their knowledge of the law and counting rules)
- (b) there is no credible evidence to the contrary

A crime is deemed to be detected (and will be recorded as such) when all conditions of 1 to 3 listed below are met:

(1) A crime (i.e. notifiable offence) has been committed and recorded

(2) A suspect has been identified and has been made aware that they will be recorded as being responsible for committing that crime and what the full implications of this are

3) One of the below methods of detection must have been applied:

- an offender has been charged or summonsed
- the offender has been cautioned by the police
- The offender admits the crime and asks for it to be taken into consideration by the court

Appendix 3 - Consultation attendees

On 14 & 16 September 2010 Lambeth held two wide ranging consultation events in order to reality check the findings of the WRC research and identify priorities for the VAWG strategy as well as highlighting gaps in service provision and areas of good practice.

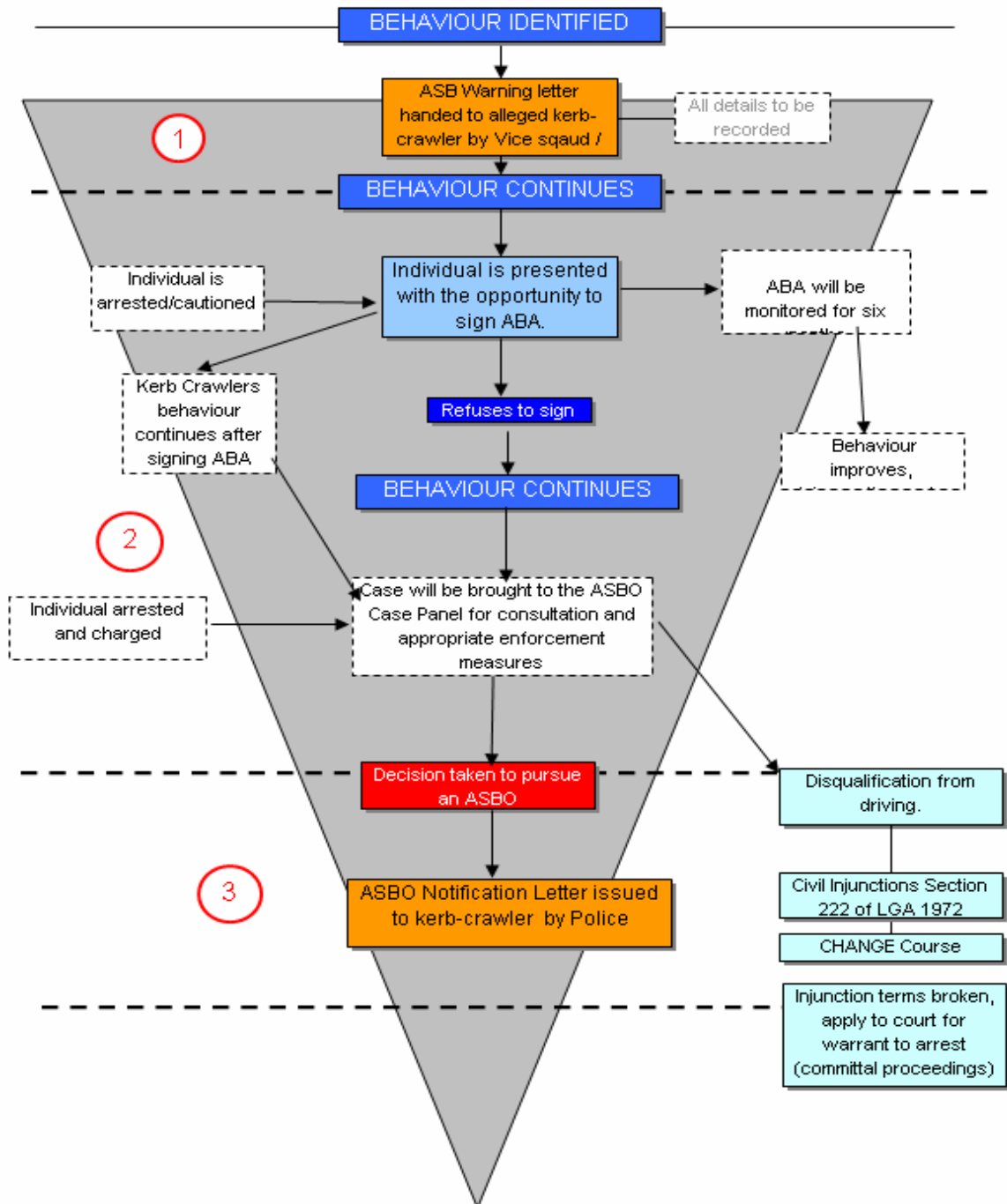
Attendees on both days were supportive that DV and sexual violence should be the main priorities in Lambeth. Prostitution and FGM were highlighted as other areas that require significant attention.

List of attendees:

Name	Job Title	Organisation
Alison Robert	Outreach and Development Manager	Brook
Amanda Addo	Director	Spires
Anna Tapsell	Chair of LCPCG	LCPCG and LWA
Aysev Ismail	Community Safety Co-ordinator	ACS - London Borough of Lambeth
Bryony Mitchell	Assistant Director - Refuge Services	Solace Women's Aid
Carole Macauley	Domestic Violence Advocate	Mozaic Women's Well Being Project
Caroline Murphy	Project Manager - Solas Anois	Solace Women's Aid
Christine Bynoe	Referral & Assessment Team Manager	CYPS - London Borough of Lambeth
Dr Comfort Momoh, M.B.E	FGM/Public Health Specialist	Guys and St. Thomas' Hospital
Cynthia Young	Social Worker	Mawbey Brough Health Centre
Deborah Clark	Nurse Manager - Sexual Health Outreach	Mawbey Brough Health Centre
Dee Kemp	Practitioner Manager: TOPAZ	ACS - London Borough of Lambeth
Desirée-Ann Brown	Deputy Social Work Team Manager	CYPS - London Borough of Lambeth (St. Thomas' Hospital)
Ego Ahaïwe	Young Women's Development Worker	Lambeth Women's Project
Eileen Henry	Practitioner Manager - Safeguarding Adults	ACS - London Borough of Lambeth
Idoya D'Cruze	Area Services Manager	Lambeth Living
Ila Patel	Asha	ASHA
Jade Holvey	DV Coordinator	ACS - London Borough of Lambeth
James Lee	Senior Strategic Commissioning Manager	ACS - London Borough of Lambeth
Jane Edwards	Services Delivery Manager	Women and Girls Network
Janet Eweka	Duty Manager	ALD Team - ACS - LBL
Janet Jorden	Team Manager	Care Management - LBL
Jatinder Chana	Housing Manager	ASHA
Jean Carpenter	Director	Flipside
Jehan Chaudhri	Lambeth Healthy Schools SRE Co-ordinator	NHS Lambeth
Julia Dwyer	National Advocacy Manager	Refuge
Juliet Agyemang	Sexual Bullying Coordinator	Brook
June Pilgrim-Ndure	Project Manager	Lambeth Women's Aid

Kathleen Ditchfield	Practitioner Manager	TOPAZ TEAM - London Borough of Lambeth
Kevin Sheedy	Head of Lambeth Youth Offending Service	CYPS - London Borough of Lambeth
Melissa Altman	National Advocacy Manager	Refuge
Mulkaht Zubair	FGM Project Worker	Africa Advocacy Foundation
Nicole Biros	IDVA at Mozaic	Mozaic Women's Well Being Project
Nisan Kesete	Best Practice Development Officer - Lilith Research and Development	Eaves Housing
Pamela Mazava	Women's Service Manager	Spires
Railu Mustapha	FGM Project Volunteer	Africa Advocacy Foundation
Rukayat Suleiman	FGM Project Volunteer	Africa Advocacy Foundation
Samantha Popely	Senior Service Delivery Manager	Victim Support
Sandra Anlin	Domestic Violence Project Officer	ACS - London Borough of Lambeth
Shaila Mahomed	Youth & Violent Crime Co-ordinator	ACS - London Borough of Lambeth
Sophie Woods	Policy and Performance Officer	Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board
Tracy Sherman	Detective Inspector	Lambeth Police - Sapphire

Appendix 4 – Kerb crawling escalation policy



Appendix 5 - investment profile

Funding Source	Amount	Frequency	Areas Covered
Mainstream – ACS and HRE	£210,000	Annual	VAWG Programme Manager - £53,000 Trainer Post - £42,000 Gaia Centre Posts - £115,000
Ex Supporting People (Supporting People no longer exists as a named grant and is included in the general formula grant)	£910,658	Annual	Refuge Contracts - £565,073 Match funding for Home Office Projects - £65,000 New Gaia Centre - £280,585
LAA Performance Reward Money	£275,000	One-Off	New Gaia Centre - £122,222 per annum for 2.25 years
Home Office match funding	£55,000	Annual	MARAC Coordinator (40%), ISVA (50%), IDVA (50%)
Specific IOM Resource	£80,000	One-off	Probation officer within IOM Team to work with DV perpetrators
HRE – Sanctuary Scheme	£70,000	Annual	Sanctuary Scheme as part of the re-commissioned Gaia Centre
Police	tbc	tbc	tbc
CYPS	tbc	tbc	tbc
Other non-recurrent funding	£40,000	One off	MARAC Officer
Total per annum for the life of the Strategy	£1,367,880 per annum for life of the Strategy £120,000 non-recurrent funding	NA	NA

NB – This table does not include Police resources for general and VAWG specific activity e.g. the SAPHIRE or Vice Teams. It is also not an exhaustive list of funding for VAWG projects in the borough e.g. REACH and Mozaic – it is simply a list of the funding provided directly by the partnership that comes under the auspices of this Strategy

Appendix 6 - Prostitution policy statement

The Safer Lambeth Partnership recognises street prostitution as a significant social problem in the borough, which affects women, families and communities. As with other social problems the Partnership has a lead role to play in tackling the causes and the impact of prostitution. The Partnership is therefore publicly stating its commitment to taking action on this issue, which blights the lives of many Lambeth women.

The majority of women involved in prostitution are residents of this borough who find themselves socially excluded and unable to participate in the life of the borough. Their views are not heard and their needs are not addressed. This Partnership is determined to take a proactive and radical approach to women involved in prostitution and to social exclusion. This Partnership supports the development of a strategic, long term approach through the Violence against Women and Girls Strategy and in the context of the Partnership's Objectives and other policies such as Social Inclusion, Equality and Community safety.

Violence, experience of abuse, homelessness, poverty and drugs are at the root of street prostitution in Lambeth. The Partnership absolutely rejects the view of prostitution as work, which merely requires legalising and regulating. The Partnership absolutely rejects the argument that prostitution is a civil right – no woman wants the right to be sexually exploited, abused and demeaned.

Women are often involved in prostitution because of their need to fund drug use and because they have no other viable or legitimate means of earning the amount of money which they require. There is overwhelming evidence that the money which women make in prostitution primarily goes straight to those supplying drugs and that women themselves do not benefit apart from ensuring their own and their partner's drug supply.

The Partnership is particularly concerned that it is the women involved in prostitution who are consistently blamed for the existence and continuation of prostitution. Women's accounts of involvement in street prostitution are harrowing and involve a range of abusive behaviour by men. The Partnership will work to ensure that men who use women in prostitution to be called to account and that the action of these men be recognised as anti social and consequently diminishing the quality of life of the borough.

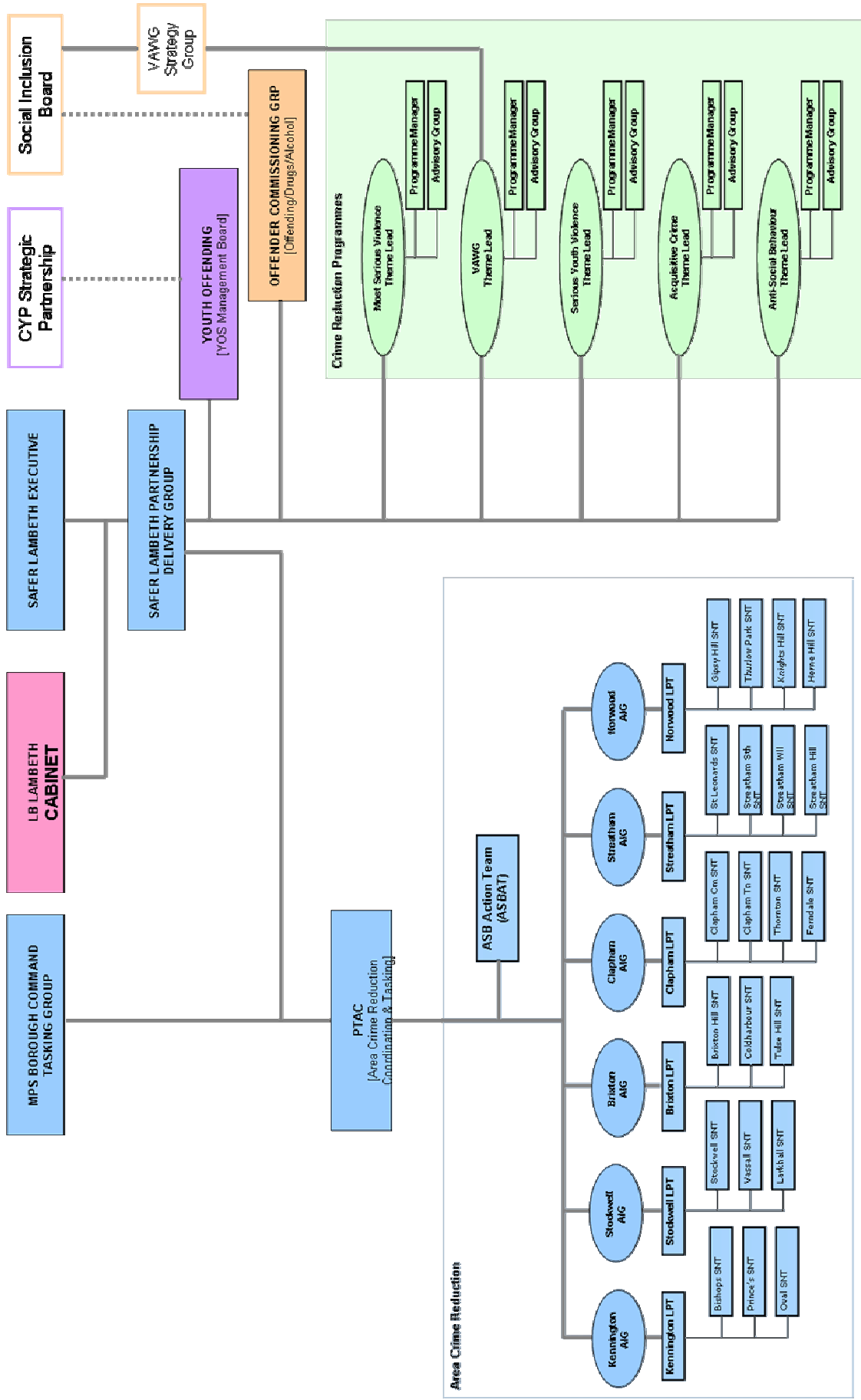
The Partnership is committed to working towards eliminating street prostitution in the borough whilst providing support to, and opportunities for, women involved in prostitution and their children. It is the view of the Partnership that prostitution is one form of commercial sexual exploitation.

The Partnership will seek to minimise the harm done to women involved in prostitution and their families whilst also seeking to reduce the number of women entering prostitution and increase the number who leave. The Partnership recognises and acknowledges the complex issues surrounding prostitution and the need for public agencies to work together in addressing the situation in Lambeth. The key elements of this approach will be

- Respect for women involved in prostitution
- Concern for women's safety and well being

- Recognition of the harm done to women and their families through prostitution
- Recommending that Partnership services take a non-judgmental and confidential approach to women involved in prostitution and ensure that attitudes to prostitution do not adversely affect the service which women receive e.g. child care, housing allocation
- Preventative strategy, particularly aimed at young women which recognises that young women are victims of sexual exploitation
- Concern about men's use of prostitution and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation
- Interagency working with other public, private and voluntary sector agencies.

Appendix 7 - Governance



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