

It's in our hands

Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy

2023-2028

DRAFT VERSION FOR REVIEW

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg



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National Context



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Duty

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act 2015

Welsh Government requirement

Regional partnership working

Strategic direction

First national strategy (2016-2021)

Revised national strategy (2022-2026)

Priorities: Prevent, Protect, Support

Action planning

Still being developed through a Blueprint approach via workstreams



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Local Authority Duties



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- Local authorities and Local Health Boards must jointly prepare a local strategy
- Must also specify objectives, timescale for achievement and actions (there is always a separate action plan)
- Must consult such persons as consider appropriate
- Must review and publish the strategy no later than one year after each subsequent ordinary election (therefore May 2023)



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Vision and Aims



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Vision:

People who live, work, study in and visit Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan have the opportunity to live positive, independent lives without being affected by violence and abuse.

Aim 1 - PREPARE

Improve strategic planning and commissioning of VAWDASV services through a more coordinated partnership approach across the region.

Aim 3- PREVENT

Proactively address negative attitudes and behaviours that have the potential to result in VAWDASV, recognising this as everyone's business.

Aim 5 - SUPPORT

Ensure that innovative, flexible and evidence-based services are available to meet the needs of victims experiencing any form of VAWDASV.

Aim 2 - PURSUE

Address perpetrators of VAWDASV by improving intelligence sharing across services and the use of legal powers to disrupt and convict.

Aim 4 - PROTECT

Improve the multi-agency response and support to all victims and their children regardless of risk level and needs.



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Alignment to national strategy



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Principles:

- A comprehensive understanding of VAWDASV
- Tackling male violence
- An equalities approach
- Survivor's voice
- Trauma-informed
- Collaborative working and co-production



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Successes of Previous Strategy



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New One Stop Shop in Cardiff

Commissioned Specialist Provision



**Implemented
the National
Training
Framework**

**Established Universities & Colleges
VAWDASV Steering Group**

**Assisted with development of
Workplace Policies for VAWADSV**

Responded to the Covid-19 Pandemic



**Implemented suite of
perpetrator provision**



- Increased refuge
- Blended delivery
- Extended Health-based IDVAs



**Successfully reaccredited
for White Ribbon**

**Undertaken direct work with schools –
training/publicity, IRIES, Op. Encompass**



**Implemented IRIS
across GP surgeries**

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Engagement



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Partners

- Event 13/7 – successes, gaps, issues
- Agreed vision/aims
- Follow up 1-1 meetings for specialist content



Survivors

- Event 22/11
- AM session for women
- PM session for men
- Feedback included throughout the strategy

We need you - we want to understand your experiences of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

Conversation Cafe

Our vision is that people who live, work, study in and visit Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan have the opportunity to live positive, independent lives without being affected by violence and abuse.

Tuesday 22nd November 2022
9.30 am - 1.00 pm

Grange Pavilion,
Grange Gardens,
Cardiff, CF11 7LJ

This informal event will help you to contribute to the development of the revised Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan regional VAWDASV Strategy. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and a supervised play corner for younger children will also be available. Transport can also be arranged.

Drop-in or stay throughout

If you are interested, speak to your IDVA/ISVA/IPA

Logos for Cardiff Council, GIG NHS, and other partners.



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Consultees



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List of Consultees

Cardiff Council:

All Ward Members

Adults and Children's Services

Housing & Communities

Education and Lifelong Learning

HR People Services

Vale of Glamorgan Council

Cardiff and Value University Health Board

South Wales Police

Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales

National VAWADSV Advisers / Welsh Government

Equality organisations:

- Tai Pawb
- Diverse Cymru
- Race Council Cymru
- Cardiff Gypsy & Traveller Project
- Mankind
- Older People's Commissioner
- Children's Commissioner
- Children in Wales

Universities/Colleges:

- Cardiff and Vale College
- Cardiff University
- University of South Wales
- St David's catholic Sixth Form College
- Cardiff Metropolitan University
- Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama
- St John's College
- Atlantic College

Third Sector organisations:

- Cardiff Women's Aid
- Atal Y Fro
- Bawso
- New Pathways
- Victim Support
- Llamau
- Safer Wales
- Welsh Women's Aid
- Safe Lives
- The Survivors' Trust
- Safer Merthyr Tydfil
- Hafan Cymru
- Barnardo's
- Church Army
- The Wallich
- Cardiff YMCA
- Salvation Army
- Cardiff Mind
- Gwalia
- Plattform
- C3SC
- Solas Cymru
- GVS

Other Statutory Organisations:

- Probation Service
- South Wales Fire & Rescue Service
- Cardiff & Vale NHS Trust
- Velindre NHS Trust
- Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
- Dyfodol
- British Transport Police
- HM Court Service
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre

Registered Social Landlords:

- Cadwyn Housing Association
- Cardiff Community Housing Association
- Hendre Limited
- Pobl Group
- Linc-Cymru Housing Association
- Taff Housing Association
- United Welsh Housing Association
- Wales and West Housing Association
- Newydd Housing Association



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Commitments



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Introduction

We will:

- Assist the Welsh Government to implement the actions arising from the Blueprint approach and workstreams
- Ensure this strategy aligns with relevant policy and related action plans as these are reviewed and renewed
- Develop and implement a CEDAW City action plan:

CEDAW MOTION RESOLUTIONS:	
Resolutions:	Strategy Content:
To provide advice and information through the community Hubs and Libraries across Cardiff to help women and girls to access all benefits to which they are entitled, including a booklet of rights	These activities will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Child Friendly City team.
To create a programme of activities, informed by women and girls, to empower and engage women and girls, including a 'Rights Fest', 'Equalities Champions' and social impactful projects in Cardiff.	
To ensure there are more Safe Spaces throughout Cardiff, involving women and girls in their creation.	The Council will work with partners leading the Safe Places and Safe Spaces schemes to increase provision, including Council Hubs and Libraries
To deliver a strong VAWDASV strategy and outcomes to increase the safety of all women and girls in Cardiff.	Included in the Strategy in the Executive Summary, Policy and Legislative Context and throughout the document as identified.
To ensure the Cardiff VAWDASV strategy reflects CEDAW and provides clear ambition and deliverables towards ending all forms of violence against women and girls	
To live by example: to continue to place accountability for abuse on those who cause harm, by challenging and changing the culture of sexism and misogyny, through activities and interventions that address harmful behaviours and promote the elimination of discrimination against women to people of all genders.	The Strategy includes a whole chapter on holding perpetrators to account. Early intervention for those who have the potential to cause harm is also addressed in the Strategy . In addition, the Council continues to promote the White Ribbon campaign to encourage men and boys to take a lead on ending violence against women.

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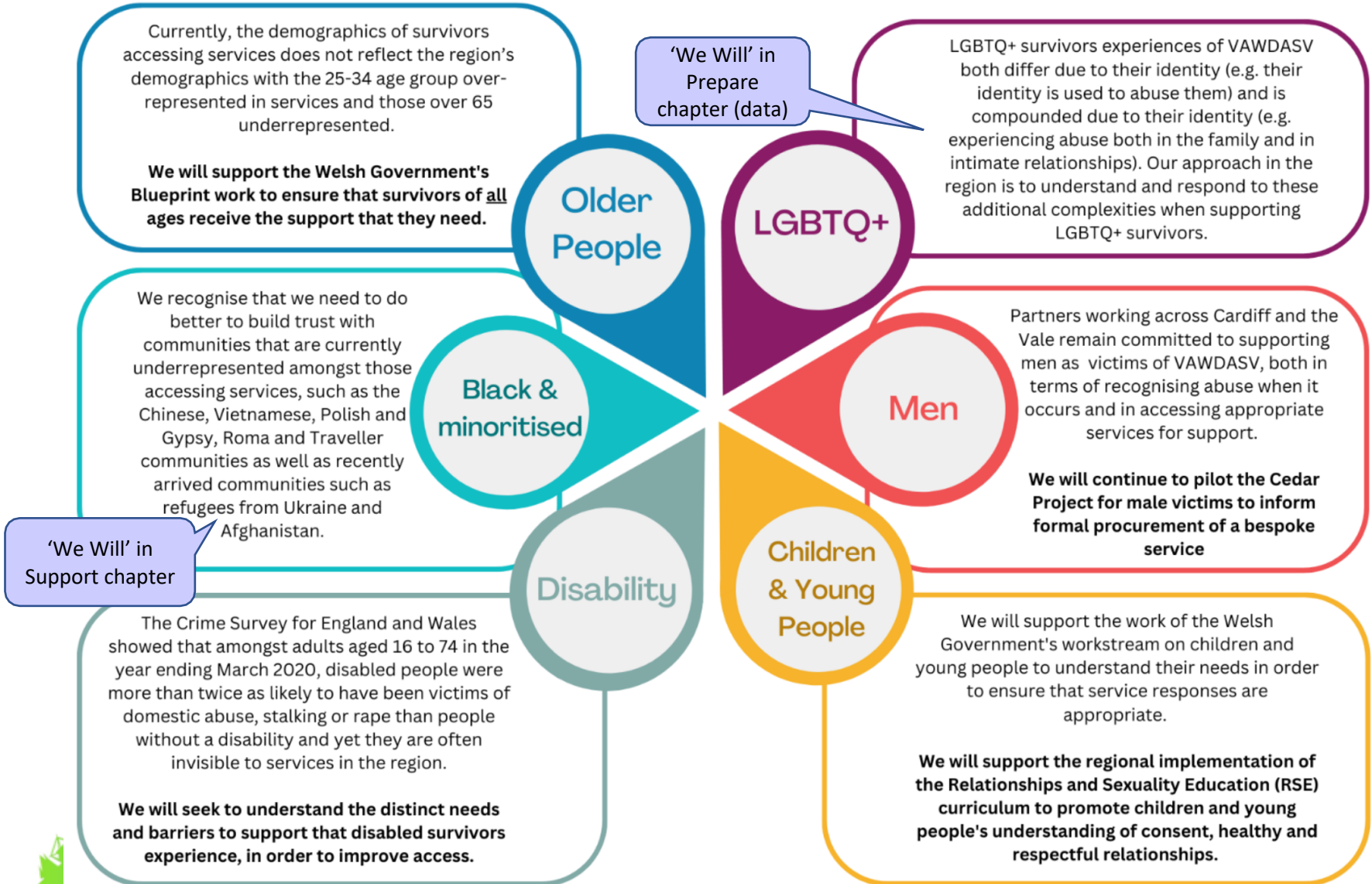
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Commitments (Prepare)



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Commitments (Pursue)



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We will:

- Improve our understanding of sexual violence to develop and enhance our response
- Support partners to implement the new powers originating from legislative changes
- Raise awareness of legislative changes to encourage appropriate reporting, signposting and support



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Commitments (Pursue)

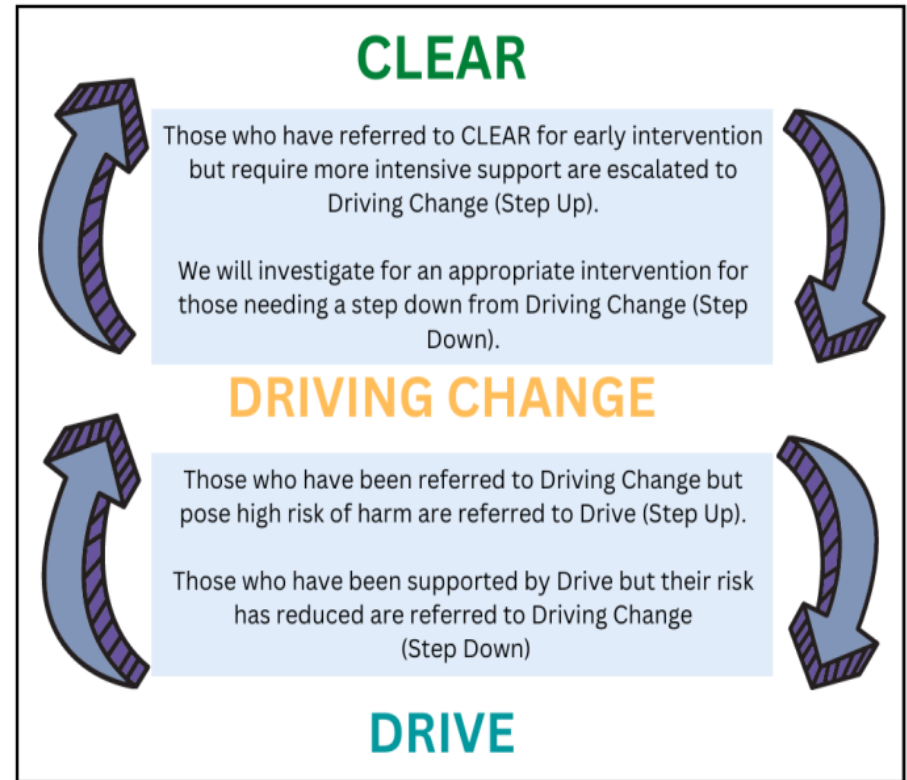


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We will:

- Continue to place accountability for abuse on those who cause harm
- Tackle perpetration by supporting the Welsh Government's relevant Blueprint workstreams
- Explore accredited and evidence-based programmes that address harmful behaviours related to all forms of VAWDASV and support efforts to secure interventions



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Commitments (Prevent)

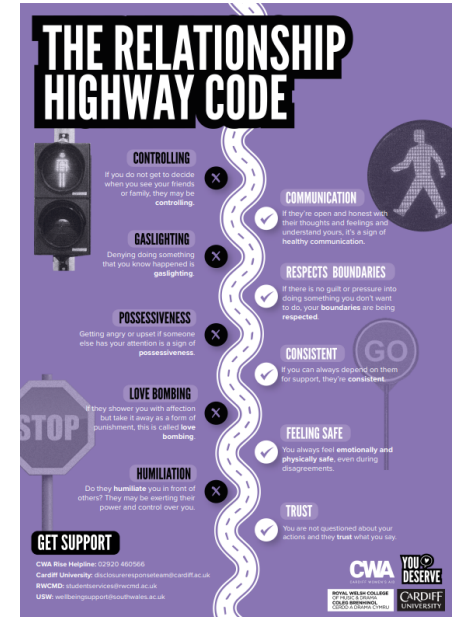


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We will:

- Encourage more schools to embrace the whole school approach to VAWDASV
- Continue to work with universities and colleges to strengthen their response to students experiencing VAWDASV
- Use every opportunity to challenge victim-blaming attitudes and raise awareness of support services
- Continue to ensure the workforce is skilled to identify, refer and support victims and perpetrators
- Support partners to continue to reapply for the White Ribbon status



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Commitments (Protect)



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In 2022 we commissioned SafeLives to undertake an independent review into the operation of MARACs in the region to ensure that we continue to provide the best support and protection to survivors.

We will:

- Implement the agreed recommendations from the review of MARACs
- Strengthen our safeguarding response to honour-based abuse and FGM by developing clear pathways of support
- Continue to ensure that children subject to safeguarding are given specialist support to recover from the abuse and trauma they have suffered
- Work with the Regional Safeguarding Board to implement recommendations from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse report
- Assist partners to update workplace policies to include workplace sexual harassment
- Work with the Welsh Government to implement actions arising from the Blueprint workstream
- Ensure there are more safe spaces throughout Cardiff, involving women and girls in their creation

4 in 5 women in Wales had experienced sexual harassment in the workplace[14]



1 in 5 of employed women take time off work because of domestic violence.[15]



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Layers of Responsibility



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