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Background

Through the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, children and young people are now recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.¹ While this legislative change is welcomed and widely recognised, there is an absence of guidance, clarity and funding to accompany it.

The Commissioner carried out mapping research in 2022, [A Patchwork of Provision](#), which found that just 29% of victims and survivors who wanted support for their children received it. The mapping showed a postcode lottery of support for children and significant regional disparity.

SafeLives estimates that as children start primary school, there will be at least one child in every classroom who has lived with domestic abuse since they were born. The NSPCC estimates 1 in 5 children in the UK will ‘witness’ domestic abuse. Domestic abuse is the most common factor identified at the end of assessment for children deemed ‘in need’ of support from local authority children’s social care.² Domestic abuse was also the most common family characteristic found within Serious Case Reviews, which concerned the most extreme and grievous failures to protect children from harm.³

‘What does the new legislative definition of ‘children as victims’ mean for us?’ is a question that we are regularly asked by who those involved in addressing domestic abuse across England and Wales.⁴ To begin to answer this question, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner’s (DAC) Office conducted a feedback exercise to collate the differing views related to this topic and how the change in the legislation is currently interpreted.

¹ Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Part 1, Section 3 Children as victims of domestic abuse.

² [Characteristics of children in need, Reporting year 2022 – Explore education statistics – GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](#)

³ Dickens et al 2022 Learning for the future: final analysis of serious case reviews, 2017 to 2019, Departement for Education.

⁴ The Commissioner operates in England and Wales, but will consider only reserved matters in Wales, such as criminal justice. With regards to the provision of support for child victims in Wales, there will therefore be some role for the Commissioner, particularly in terms of services that are funded via PCCs and the way in which particularly statutory agencies (i.e. police) understand and support children as victims of domestic abuse.

While these roundtables were insightful, this document only seeks to share the views of participants in their professional roles and does not outline any policy position from the Commissioner. The Commissioner has set children and young people subject to domestic abuse as a key priority. Later in this paper she sets out her vision and aims for children and young people subject to domestic abuse.

Roundtables to discuss children and young people subject to domestic abuse

Using extensive local contacts developed through our Practice and Partnerships team, we held eleven regional online roundtables during June 2023. We invited those working to support children and young people (CYP) subject to domestic abuse from across the statutory and voluntary sectors, with representatives from the police, education, health, social care and the specialist sector in attendance.

Participants were asked to discuss three questions:

1. What does '*children as victims*' mean to you?
2. What works well?
3. What do you need and want the DAC to know?

Participants were able to independently vote, share comments anonymously and establish consensus using the online audience response system *Mentimeter*[™].

How the DAC Office will use the learning from the roundtables

While the roundtables were set up to inform our thinking, and were not intended to be rigorously conducted research, the discussions provided valuable insights worth sharing more widely. Moreover, we received several requests from different organisations asking us to summarise the themes that emerged throughout the roundtables. The purpose of this briefing document is to share the insights that we gathered with local practitioners and government policymakers alike. The round tables provided rich

information from across England and Wales that can inform local change and provide an opportunity for discussions at a national and strategic level about systems and infrastructure specific to children and young people impacted by domestic abuse.

As an office, we are acutely aware that many of the examples of practice described are in pockets or in silo across England and Wales.⁵ While examples can serve to inspire areas to adopt ideas, we know that all stakeholders operate within a much broader multi-agency system, which also needs capacity and support given to it. It is important to recognise these examples usually exist outside of a whole systems approach to domestic abuse and can only have limited impact until the systems and all agencies work together as a whole coordinated community response. The vision and aims of the Commissioner (presented later in this document) serve to address this, by bringing consistency to good practice across the whole of England and Wales.

Themes emerging from the roundtables

What 'children as victims' meant to participants

Participants were asked what their understanding and interpretation of the Domestic Abuse Act definition of 'children as victims' were, how this was being approached by their organisation and what changes they had implemented because of the new definition. Nearly everyone participating said they have always recognised the impact of domestic abuse on CYP and that the Domestic Abuse Act was positive in writing this into law.

Entitlement to services

'Seen as victims in their own right and should therefore have access to services'

One of the most common interpretations was that children and young people as victims of domestic abuse **should be entitled to services**. Views about this were varied, but there was specific reference to:

- recovery and therapeutic services,
- prevention and early intervention, e.g. Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RHSE) in schools,

⁵ We reported in the 'Patchwork of Provision' report that only 29% of victims and survivors of domestic abuse who wanted support for their children were able to get it. Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office (2022)

- Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), including specialist attention to referrals for 16–18 year olds and CAPVA cases,
- support during statutory processes, including in the criminal justice systems when children witness crimes.

Some flagged that the impact of domestic abuse on **all** children should be recognised, regardless of age, including the impact of domestic abuse during pregnancy.

Changes to practice

‘Children being identified as victims has enabled more consistency in sharing of information’

Participants shared numerous examples of **changes to practice** in statutory agencies and multi-agency responses since the Act came into effect. Examples of promising practice included:

- Changing language to reflect CYP as victims in their own right and making information accessible to CYP;
- Carrying out needs assessments specifically looking at the needs of CYP affected by domestic abuse;
- Creating working groups to bring together multi-agency partners working with CYP victims of domestic abuse;
- Youth participation panels run by specialist DA children’s organisations that inform service development and commissioning of provision;
- Enhanced screening to identify domestic abuse at the front door and specialist independent domestic abuse workers placed in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH);
- MARAC process capturing CYP views and reflecting these in agreed actions;
- Rolling out trauma-informed training across the workforce.

Concerns about the definition of children and young people as victims of domestic abuse in the Domestic Abuse Act

‘Really unsure how to make changes as the numbers are so high.’

However, there were similar **concerns that the new definition raises** in the absence of any new guidance, duties or funding relating to children and young people specifically as victims of domestic abuse.

Key themes that emerged, in response to all of the questions asked, included:

- Funding and commissioning;
- Service provision and interventions for CYP victims of domestic abuse;
- CYP voices;
- National framework of understanding and guidance about good practice;
- Prevention, including RHSE and school responses;
- Social care response;
- Systems change and multi-agency responses;
- Evidence of what works;
- Training and capacity.

We have categorised the feedback we received into the following cross-cutting sections: **What Works Well, Gaps and Barriers, Organisational Needs** and **Next Steps**. There are also two appendices outlining some useful information and interventions that were named in the roundtable.

What works well when supporting CYP victims of domestic abuse?

Trauma-informed, flexible, needs-led interventions

Participants emphasised the importance of interventions being trauma informed and needs led. Some of the key points included:

- **Flexibility** of service to accommodate CYP preferences – e.g., 1-1 or group work or work with non-abusing parent and child, online or face-to-face;
- **Consistency** including trusted adults across agencies;
- Importance of giving **choice** to CYP, who often feel powerless

- **Tailored interventions** to reflect the CYP's age, developmental stage, and respond to other adverse childhood experiences (ACE)s, in addition to the domestic abuse;
- Recognition of **neurodiversity** and Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- Acknowledgement of **intersectional needs**;
- **Creativity** and opportunities to express themselves freely;
- **Social media** as a space that, when used well and safely, can be a great way of engagement, but obviously with some caution due to the associated risk factors;
- **Safe spaces** that are non-judgemental and confidential;
- Ability for CYP to access support at the **right time** for them rather than at point of referral – an open offer where they can return at any time;
- **A range** of services is essential – one size does not fit all;
- Policies and guidance written in CYP friendly **language**.

Prevention

'We can prevent abuse happening and escalating whilst going unknown if we educate our young people on nurturing, consensual relationships from a young age. They can't disclose what they don't know.'

- A **public health approach** which **focusses on preventing** domestic abuse for CYP was promoted, although it was noted that there are few examples of where this is happening, due to a lack of funding, rather than 'investing to save';
- The importance of **tackling perpetrators** and holding them to account was raised as an issue – both to reduce future harm and escalation of risk, and to model to CYP appropriate responses to perpetrators;
- **Understanding where the perpetrator sits in the CYP's life** and their views, wishes and understanding in relation to this person, was also highlighted. One participant stated:

'Identifying abusive & controlling parent / partners and the risk posed - holding them to account for safety of children, their behaviour and providing interventions (dispel the 'myth

of invisible men')'

Types of interventions

Participants described features of interventions that they considered beneficial for CYP. Appendix A includes a list of interventions named by participants as best practice. These included:

- **Independent advocacy** for CYP, especially in the following circumstances:
 - Immediately following an incident;
 - Throughout statutory processes, including Child Protection proceedings and Criminal Justice System;
 - Representation of CYP voices throughout MARAC process.
- The importance of a **whole family approach**, with some referencing this including interventions for the perpetrator, and others emphasising in the context of Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA).
- The need for a range of options for both child and non-abusive parent was highlighted, including *'One to one support services, limited group work, counselling/therapeutic service, CYP IDVA, complimentary Domestic Abuse Parenting services'*.
- There was also mention of providing practical support needed alongside interventions.

Multi-Agency Practice

Participants described opportunities for improvement in multi-agency practice in relation to CYP through the rollout of [Family Hubs](#) and systems approaches such as Women's Aid's [Change That Lasts](#) model. Examples provided included:

- Supervision and reflective practice for practitioners;
- Training for the workforce, e.g. all Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) in all schools;
- Domestic Abuse Champions networks throughout organisations;
- Consistent messaging, communications and language across partners;
- Shared understanding of need and shared objectives;
- Strong communication and information sharing;

- Shared principles, such as openness and transparency, collaboration, etc.;
- Local domestic abuse forums and partnership boards at both strategic and operational levels.

Statutory Agency Practices

Participants suggested ways to improve practice within statutory agencies.

These included the introduction of the following:

- Domestic Abuse Specialist workers for CYP and adult victims placed within statutory settings, such as MASH or Children's Social Care (CSC), policing, etc.;
- Domestic Abuse specialist workers linked to all schools, e.g., to support when safeguarding notifications are received by a school or following RHSE lessons when disclosures are likely;
- Training for all levels of the above organisations by the specialist domestic abuse sector.

Professionals' views about the needs of children and young people subject to domestic abuse

We wanted to know what people thought about how best to engage with children and young people to obtain their views and wishes. We captured short answers for this by using Mentimeter to create word clouds (Figure 1). The top three themes that people felt were most important to young people and how we hear their voices were:

Belief

CYP want to be believed and need to have their feelings validated in relation to their experiences. Language and terminology are key to getting this right so that CYP don't feel like what they are saying is being doubted. They need to feel that people understand what they are going through and why they might or might not behave in certain ways.

Listen

CYP need to not only be heard, but actively listened to in a non-judgemental way. They need to feel able to explore and share their

experiences and what is important to them. They need to be able to trust the people who are listening to them. They also need to be given time by the people listening to them so that they are not rushed or feel like there is another agenda.

'Recognising the impact of interpreting what children are saying but focusing on listening to them and not having an agenda and allowing them to disclose the trauma safely and without time constraints.'

Safe Spaces

CYP need spaces that they feel comfortable in, that are trauma-informed, and that are accessible. There were lots of creative suggestions of how to do this, such as using social media, art groups, creative writing and other ways using digital media. There was some mention of peer support and group activities as well as one-to-one safe spaces, or safe spaces within schools, online or community settings.

Figure 1: Word cloud from a roundtable

We asked: How can we hear the voices of children and young people? What do you think is important to them? We received 67 responses:



What are the gaps and barriers to supporting CYP victims?

Inadequate funding and service provision for CYP victims of domestic abuse

'Funding is needed to adequately support children with fully trauma informed and specific services provided by specialist workers'

Participants referenced a lack of, and issues with, service provision for CYP, including funding challenges.

Services for CYP that were identified as lacking included:

- Therapeutic, trauma-informed services;
- Independent advocacy for CYP;
- Interventions for CAPVA;
- Services to support children who still live with or have contact with the perpetrator;
- Early intervention and prevention services;
- Parenting support and emotional support for non-abusive parent;
- Services for 0–5-year-olds and their non-abusive parent;
- Children affected by domestic homicide.

Another concern was that for funding reasons, interventions with individuals or families are too short to address the children's needs, for example for 8 weeks only. Alongside this, the wider funding landscape for services providing these interventions is too short-term and not sustainable for the organisations.

Problems with existing service provision

'Our children's domestic abuse support service is massively oversubscribed – could be funded x 10 and still not meet need'

Participants identified the following issues:

- Limited **funding generally** for CYP services, including a lack of capacity across all agencies including schools and children’s social care which diminishes ability to safeguard effectively.
- **Long waiting lists**, particularly for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and other mental health support. Referrals are often declined due to not meeting the highest thresholds and waiting lists are long.
- One size doesn’t fit all – service criteria is often too limited or restrictive.
- Commissioning arrangements often specify rigid requirements and are not outcomes focused.
- Statutory services focus attention on crisis only.
- Restricted funding also doesn’t allow for innovation or meaningful evaluation. *‘Commissioners focusing on numbers e.g., 5 children supported rather than change [like] 90% felt safer. Commissioners not measuring the right things’*
- Funding can be targeted at the wrong groups or isn’t based on need. A number of comments referred to restrictions on Part 4 funding⁶ and the disproportionate number of CYP victims who don’t access safe accommodation being disadvantaged from services due to the lack of funding for community-based services, compared to those who do access safe accommodation. *‘Domestic abuse services are usually commissioned from community partnerships who may not work in partnership with children services and education services.’*
- A postcode lottery of services – people can access different types of services and levels of interventions depending on where they live and it is not consistent across geographical boundaries.
- Referral pathways can be tricky to navigate for survivors and their children, including not knowing what is available, not knowing how to access the right support and being passed between services several times without receiving any help.
- Failure to recognise that siblings of CYP referred are also victims and a lack of support for them in addition to the child who has been identified as needing support.

⁶ The Domestic Abuse Support in Safe Accommodation Duty, introduced as part of the [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#), placed new duties on Tier 1 local authorities in England relating to the provision of support for victims of domestic abuse within relevant Safe Accommodation: [Delivery of support to victims of domestic abuse in domestic abuse safe accommodation services - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

National and Multi-Agency Understanding of CYP as victims of domestic abuse

'Lack of local/regional/national best practice around what support for children looks like. Lack of clear statutory guidance. Difficult to commission brand new provision without these as guidance.'

'It is empty legislation without funding'

- Participants highlighted an absence of any guidance, duties or funding to accompany the definition of CYP as victims of domestic abuse.
- There were calls for clear national expectations about local partners taking a coordinated approach to supporting CYP as victims of domestic abuse.
- Participants wanted to see buy-in and ownership at all levels of all agencies involved in responding to domestic abuse

RHSE and Schools

'Shrinking resource in the statutory sector poses a real risk to safeguarding.'

- Some participants expressed the difficulty of schools not cooperating with statutory or domestic abuse specialist services, although there was acknowledgement that this is often due to capacity to do anything beyond the educational priorities and mental health and wellbeing of CYP. It was felt that the links between domestic abuse and mental health and wellbeing were sometimes overlooked by schools.
- It was commonly agreed that RHSE in schools is one of the primary ways to tackle domestic abuse and prevent it in the future. It was also acknowledged that increased rollout of RHSE will ultimately lead to a large increase in disclosures of domestic abuse that may not be sufficiently addressed. This highlighted big concerns about a lack of skilled staff, capacity and safe spaces to handle disclosures, especially within schools initially, but also in social care as referrals will also increase. *'Upskilling schools to identify and respond to*

domestic abuse in children, many of whom won't have access to any other services. School may be the only touchpoint for them.'

Children and Young People's Voices and Experiences

Not understanding CYP experiences

- One of the main gaps identified was in the **voices and experiences of CYP themselves being heard**. Most work with victims of domestic abuse is with adults, and CYP are very often represented by the non-abusive parent. Whilst this person knows their child/ren best and should be empowered to advocate for their child/ren, their perspective will be different from hearing from their child directly.
- There is a lack of understanding of the experiences of CYP's continued relationship with the abusive parent and the impact that this has both in the short-term (their emotional response, 'engagement' with agencies and services, unwanted contact undermining their own recovery journey, etc) and in the long-term (their ability to form healthy and stable relationships as adults, impact on relationship with the non-abusive parent, poor mental health in childhood, adolescence and adulthood, etc). *'We now need to question what 'non-engagement' from children means. Need to understand how they are being manipulated by adults and their vulnerability.'*
- Another theme was the need for professionals to **fully understand CYP trauma responses**, which is often misunderstood as misbehaviour, acting out, or mental health or special educational needs (SEN) diagnoses. This can lead to children being unfairly excluded from school: *'Children who exhibit challenging behaviour are labelled as ASB [Anti-Social Behaviour] children or those that are badly behaved and can be excluded from the school's safe environment.'*
- The **cost-of-living crisis** is affecting all victims including CYP.
- **The intersectional needs** that CYP have intertwining with experiences of domestic abuse, accessing services, being able to disclose and their support networks.

Parental Consent and Parental Rights

- Parental consent was considered a potential barrier to accessing specialist services. Discussions explored whether consent should be a requirement for specialist support, or whether services adopted a more universal approach to mitigate this. One organisation described how they changed the name of a specialist domestic abuse intervention to encourage parental consent, by emphasising emotional support in the title and description.
- Discussions also identified ongoing contact between the child and the abusive parent as both a barrier to accessing support, and an additional complexity in supporting children due to the ongoing risk and trauma they experience. This was especially problematic where unwanted contact arrangements are in place and unlikely to change.
- A lot of services stated they do not work with CYP until they are no longer living with the abusive parent, leaving these children without access to support.

Evidence and Data

- The discussion highlighted a lack of evidence of what works to support CYP as victims. This is across both interventions or programmes and statutory responses. Evidence methodology needs to address the quality of interventions as well as quantity.
- Participants stated that data collection about CYP is hampered because there is no consistency of recording CYP as victims across agencies at both the national and the local level – either because they are recording it differently to each other, or they are not recording it at all.
- Professionals identified limited or no tracking of outcomes for CYP victims by agencies.

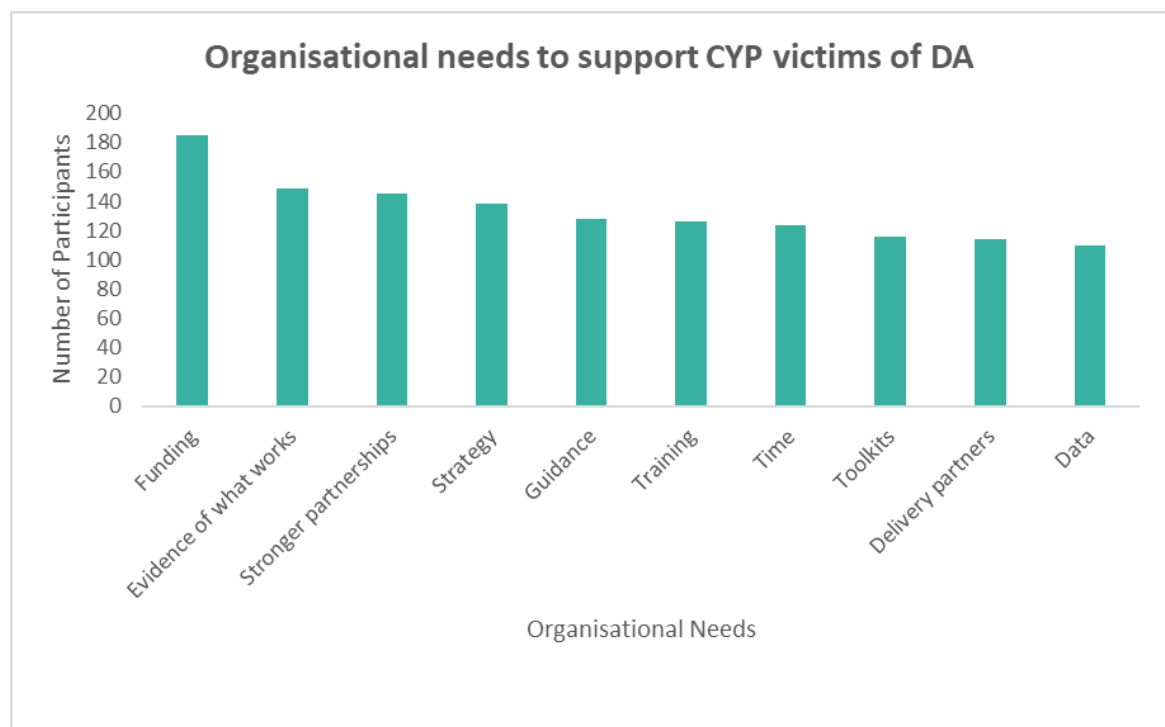
CYP outside of mainstream education

Discussions highlighted the need for support for CYP outside of mainstream education, including:

- CYP who are of pre-school age 0-5 – impact of domestic abuse and support for them and non-abusive parent;
- Those who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or in Pupil Referral Units (PRU) / alternative provision;
- Home educated CYP;
- Missing CYP;
- CYP without school places due to fleeing or being in refuge;
- CYP absent from school due to anxiety and trauma.

Organisational Needs

The bar chart below summarises the results of a ranking exercise carried out with participants to understand what organisations and agencies felt they most needed to support CYP victims of domestic abuse.



The issue that was ranked as most important was funding, followed by evidence of what works and stronger partnerships. A cross-cutting theme was sustainable funding of services where there was already an evidence base:

'Long-term commitment is really needed from everyone – drop 'short-term everything'. There is funding for short term innovation but never funding to continue good things they find. Need access to funding for evidence-based work'

National guidance and frameworks

Suggestions on how national guidance and frameworks could be improved included:

- The need for a common language framework and consistency of understanding in relation to CYP victims of domestic abuse;
- Strategic, operational and workforce guidance on 'children as victims' means in practice across the multi-agency response, but especially for statutory safeguarding partners such as children's social care, schools, policing and health;
- Minimum standards should be developed in relation to good practice, both for the safeguarding response and for interventions to support CYP;
- Linked to this, agencies would welcome examples of what best practice looks like;
- Guidance is needed to help agencies working in Wales to navigate the devolved context (see footnote 4);
- Guidance about how to prevent domestic abuse by taking a public health approach;
- Outlining safeguarding duties, roles and responsibilities for different agencies;
- MARAC guidance is required to ensure that MARAC processes reflect CYP as victims. MARAC guidance needs to read across to child safeguarding protocols and vice versa;
- Practice directives should be developed for social workers and police;
- Provision of clear information is needed about victims' rights for CYP.

Training focussed on the impact of domestic abuse on CYP

Participants described a range of training is needed for any professionals working with CYP including:

- the impact of domestic abuse on CYP;

- Child and Adolescent Parental Violence and Abuse (CAPVA);
- how to be trauma informed;
- Coercive and Controlling Behaviour (CCB).

Evidence of what works

- Practitioners stated that they need to know what support and interventions already exist and what is available where but also need to be able to see evaluation of interventions and practices;
- Commissioners and practitioners want to understand what good or best practice looks like and consists of. This should describe both the quality of interventions and the difference that they make to CYP affected by DA;
- Some people said that there is already a lot of work out there such as data, toolkits and evidence and that we should be focussing on rolling this out rather than stop/start new projects all the time.

Summary and next steps

Five key themes emerged from the discussions with frontline practitioners about the challenges they face while supporting child victims of domestic abuse. These were (1) a lack of professional understanding of domestic abuse, (2) a lack of co-ordinated multi-agency working, (3) a high level of local variation in approach, (4) a lack of knowledge and consensus regarding best practice and (5) a lack of support and funding.

These insights will enable the Commissioner to identify the gaps that need to be filled to ensure that all children can access the right support.

Alongside the Commissioner's 'Patchwork of Provision' mapping exercise, the roundtables have helped to lay the ground for a Theory of Change that we are developing around 'Children and young people as victims of domestic abuse', as an emerging strategic priority for the Domestic Abuse Commissioner over the coming years.

The Commissioner's vision is that:

All babies, children and young people who are subject to domestic abuse should receive an integrated and comprehensive response, rooted in understanding, prevention, effective intervention and long-term support.

Aims:

Aim 1: Improved identification, response to, and shared understanding of, children subject to domestic abuse.

Through integrating the multi-agency child safeguarding response with the specialist domestic abuse and children's sectors, all agencies and organisations have a clear shared understanding of how CYP are affected by DA and the role they play in understanding, prevention, effective intervention and long-term support, for both the child and the non-abusive parent/carer.

This must be done through:

- Coordinated strategic leadership at National Government
- Integrated implementation at a local level throughout the multi-agency response
- Incorporating the voice of the child at every level
- Supporting the child's relationship with the non-abusive parent/carer and holding the abusive parent/carer to account, where abuse takes place in the home.

Aim 2: Improved and increased support service provision for children subject to domestic abuse.

Increased understanding, prioritization, and funding of evidence-based solutions at national and local level to increase capacity so that all children who need it have access to a range of quality, trauma-informed, needs-led, age-appropriate support.

To achieve this vision, over the course of the next year, the Commissioner will undertake work to champion the voice of child victims to better understand how children affected by domestic abuse should be supported. We will specifically look to map the provision of high-quality support services specifically designed for children and we will work to ensure that there is a much stronger cross-sector / cross government understanding of the experiences of children as victims of domestic abuse and the

numbers of children affected. We will also work to ensure that there is clearer guidance for statutory agencies regarding implications of Part 3 of the Domestic Abuse Act.

Appendix A

List of interventions named in roundtables

Below is a list of interventions for children and young people affected by domestic abuse that were mentioned throughout the roundtables. Some are national programmes that are delivered in several places (sometimes the model is used but delivered under a different project name), and others are local services responding to need. The reason we are providing this list is because some people told us that they do not know what exists and would welcome this information. This is not a full list of all interventions that exist, and it doesn't capture all the vital CYP and family support work that many DA and children's sector organisations deliver in safe accommodation and in the community. This list is not an endorsement by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office of any particular programme, and we are not able to verify the quality or evidence base of the interventions.

Name	Owned / Created by	Description	Link
BB4K	PACT (Parents and Children Together), Berkshire / Oxfordshire	Therapeutic support service to assist families healing from trauma. Age-specific groups to respond to the needs of families within age ranges of 3-5 or 5-11 years. The groups are run for both the child/ren and their parent or carer.	BB4K groups - PACT (pactcharity.org)
Building Respectful Families (BRF) Service	SAFE, Thames Valley	Information, advice, training and support for families and professionals impacted by CAPVA	SAFE! - Supporting young people in the Thames Valley who have been harmed by crime (safeproject.org.uk)

CODA (Children Overcoming Domestic Abuse)	AVA (Against Violence and Abuse)	Multi-agency 12-week group programme , community-based setting, for women and children who have experienced DA. Trauma-informed, embedded in attachment-based approach.	CODA - Children Overcoming Domestic Abuse - AVA - Against Violence & Abuse (avaproject.org.uk)
DART (Domestic Abuse Recovering Together)	NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children)	Ten-week group programme for mothers and children aged 7-14, weekly two-hour group sessions. Opportunity for children and mothers to work together and take part in separate groups.	Domestic Abuse, Recovering Together (DART) NSPCC Learning
Day Programme	Natalie Collins	10-week multimedia programme for YP 14+ to raise awareness and provide education about domestic abuse and exploitation.	HOME The DAY Programme
Escape the Trap	Cathy Press	8-week programme aimed at 13-25 year-olds, can be delivered 1-1 or in groups, in any community setting	Escape the TRAP: Teen Dating Abuse Coercive Control Cathy Press
Expect Respect programme and Love Respect website	Women's Aid Federation England (WAFE)	Early intervention educational programme to enhance a whole-system approach.	LoveRespect - Everyone has a right to be safe and happy (Website for YP about healthy relationships)
Flourishing Families	SAFE Foundation, Devon	Separate adults and child group	Therapy - SAFE Foundation

		programmes and 1:1 therapeutic sessions , as well as whole family sessions	wearesafe.org.uk
Healing Together	Healing Together	6-session trauma-informed programme for children aged 5-16, can be 1-1 or group work .	Healing Together Domestic Abuse Programme (healing-together.co.uk)
Mind Of My Own	Mind Of My Own	Inclusive app and digital tools for CYP to share their views with practitioners across different settings	Home - Mind Of My OwnMind Of My Own
Recovery Toolkit	Rockpool	Training and tools for the workforce on trauma-informed practice	Rock Pool Life C.I.C Training In Trauma Informed Approaches
Respect	Respect Young People's Programme (RYPP)	Interventions for families where CYP 8-18 years are abusive or violent to people close to them	RYPP Respect
Safe and Together Model	Safe and Together Institute	Training and tools to embed systems change, predominantly for children's social care – focus on empowering non-abusing parent and holding abusive parent to account	https://safeandtogetherinstitute.com/the-sti-model/model-overview/
Spectrum Project	Spectrum	Healthy relationships education for all school key stages and teacher training	About Spectrum - Spectrum - Sbectrwm (spectrumproject.co.uk)
Talk Relationships	NSPCC (National Society for the	Universal sex and relationships	Talk Relationships:

	Prevention of Cruelty to Children)	education for secondary school aged children, including e-learning, lesson plans and a helpline for teachers	resources to deliver sex and relationships education NSPCC Learning
Tender Projects	Tender	Drama-based healthy relationships education across primary and secondary settings	Schools & Youth Setting Projects - Tender
The Hideout	Women's Aid Federation England (WAFE)	Website and online support for children experiencing or affected by DA	Work in Progress (thehideout.org.uk)
TIME (Trauma-Informed Model of Empowerment)	My Sister's Place, <i>Northumbria</i>	Training and practice tools for practitioners to deliver trauma-informed practice.	https://www.mysistersplace.org.uk/training/time-trauma-informed-training/time-for-frontline-practitioners/
Who's in Charge?	Carole Baker and Cathy Press	9-week child to parent violence (CAPVA) programme aimed at parents whose children are being abusive or violent toward them or who appear out of parental control.	Whos In Charge - Working with: Child to Parent Violence & Abuse
You and me, Mum	Women's Aid Federation England (WAFE)	Facilitation training to deliver a 10-week empowerment programme for mothers with experiences of DA.	https://www.womensaid.org.uk/what-we-do/training/facilitator-training/mum-facilitation-programme/

Appendix B

Useful Information

Documents and Links

Owner / Created by	Title	Type	Link
Action for Children	Patchy, piecemeal and precarious: support for children affected by domestic abuse, 2019	Research Report	patchy-piecemeal-and-precarious-support-for-children-affected-by-domestic-abuse.pdf (actionforchildren.org.uk)
AVA	Hear ME (Mother's Experiences): Adult child to parent abuse, 2023	Research Report	Hear-Me-Report-1.pdf (avaproject.org.uk)
AVA	Hear ME (Mother's Experiences): Adult child to parent abuse, 2023	Guidance for Practitioners	Hear-ME-Guidance-for-Practitioners.pdf (avaproject.org.uk)
AVA	Staying Mum (Women who have experienced DA and child removal), 2022	Literature Review and Peer Research Report	Staying Mum - AVA - Against Violence & Abuse (avaproject.org.uk)
Barnardo's	Not just Collateral Damage – The hidden impact of domestic abuse on children, 2020	Report	Not just collateral damage' Barnardo's Report_0.pdf (barnardos.org.uk)
CAADA	In plain sight: The evidence from children exposed to domestic abuse, 2014	Research Report	In plain sight the evidence from children exposed to domestic abuse.pdf (safelives.org.uk)

Children's Society	Missing the Mark -Why YP experiencing teenage relationship abuse are being left without the support that they need, 2020	Research Report	Templates - A4 - portrait (childrenssociety.org.uk)
Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office	A Patchwork of Provision, 2021	Research / Mapping	DAC Mapping- Abuse- Suvivors_Summary -Report Feb- 2023_Digital.pdf (domesticabusecommissioner.uk)
Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office	Response to Government consultation on Children's social care: stable homes, built on love, 2023	Response to Government Consultation	The-Domestic- Abuse- Commissioner-for- England-and- Wales_-Response- to-Government- consultation-on- Childrens-Social- Care-Stable- Homes-Built-on- Love-1.pdf (domesticabusecommissioner.uk)
Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office	The Family Court and domestic abuse: achieving cultural change, 2023	Report	DAC Family-court- report Exec- Summary 2023_Di gital.pdf (domesticabusecommissioner.uk)
Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office	Understanding CAPVA, 2021	Rapid Literature Review	CAPVA-Rapid- Literature-Review- Exec-Summary- November-2021- Baker-and- Bonnick.pdf (domesticabusecommissioner.uk)

EVAW (Ending Violence Against Women)	It's #AboutTime A Whole School Approach to Ending Violence Against Women and Girls, 2023	Mapping Report	FINAL-About-Time-WSA-report-140723.pdf (endviolenceagainstwomen.org.uk)
Foundations (What Works Centre for Children & Families)	Improving outcomes for children with child protection concerns who have been exposed to domestic abuse, 2023	Report	Improving outcomes for children with child protection concerns who have been exposed to domestic abuse (foundations.org.uk)
HM Government – DfE	Relationships Education, Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, 2019	Statutory Guidance	Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)
HM Government – DfE (Josh McAllister)	The independent review of children's social care, 2022	Report	The-independent-review-of-childrens-social-care-Final-report.pdf (nationalarchives.gov.uk)
HM Government – DfE	Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018	Statutory Guidance	Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (publishing.service.gov.uk)
HM Government – DfE & DHSC	Annex F: Family Hub Service Expectations (DA - chapter 4), 2022	Guidance	Family Hub Service Expectations (publishing.service.gov.uk)
HM Government – Home Office	Domestic Abuse Act, 2021	Legislation / Definition	Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)

HM Government – Home Office	Domestic Abuse Act, 2022	Statutory Guidance	Domestic Abuse Statutory Guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)
NSPCC	The impact of domestic abuse on children and young people from the voices of parents and carers, 2021	Briefing Paper based on helpline data	Helplines briefing: The impact of domestic abuse on children and young people from the voices of parents and carers (nspcc.org.uk)
SAFE Foundation	Flourishing Families, 2022	Report	SAFE launches new Flourishing Families Report - SAFE Foundation (wearesafe.org.uk)
Safe Lives	Insights National Dataset Briefing – children, 2017	Data	Insights National Dataset Briefing 2017 - children.pdf (safelives.org.uk)
UCL	Core outcome sets for family and child-focused interventions, 2022	Research	Core outcome sets for family and child-focused interventions Children and Families Policy Research Unit - UCL - University College London
UNICEF	A Summary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989	Summary Page	UN Convention on the Rights of the Child - UNICEF UK
Victims Commissioner's Office	Children's experience of domestic abuse and criminality, 2020	Literature Review	OVC-Literature-review-2020-1.pdf (cloud-platform-e218f50a4812967ba1215eaecede923f.s3.amazonaws.com)

Women's Aid Federation England (WAFE)	Influencers and Attitudes: How will the next generation understand domestic abuse?	Research Report	https://www.womensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/CYP-WWF-FINAL-SMALL.pdf
Women's Aid Federation England (WAFE)	Nowhere to turn for children and young people, 2021	Report Summary	Nowhere-to-Turn-for-Children-and-Young-People-Report-Summary-Revised-2021.pdf (womensaid.org.uk)



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