JULIE GRADY

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Manager



VAWDASV (Wales) Act 2015

The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 placed a number of duties on local authorities and statutory organisations to develop regional strategies, comply with the National Training Framework, including a duty to Ask and Act, and to ensure that this agenda is referenced across Education services.

Our regional Strategy therefore identifies how these duties are being be tackled in the region and how it will support the National Strategy to Prepare, Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Support, those effected by VAWDASV





- The scheme was launched on 3rd August 2015, following a service level agreement between the Safer Vale Partnership and the Vale of Glamorgan Council Building Services and Maintenance team.
- From 1st April 2016 a contract was awarded to VOG Fire & Security to install CCTV and Intruder alarms.
- Training is given by specialist services (Atal Y fro) and the VAWDASV Manager to ensure that contractors have a basic awareness of Domestic Violence and have the ability to recognise signs which might need to be raised and signposted.
- This service is available to any victim of Domestic Abuse residing in the Vale of Glamorgan, with the consent of the owner of the property, (none to date have been declined)

- Wherever possible and safe to do so, victims should be supported to stay in their existing home with additional security measures if necessary. As well as offering practical solutions to prevent unwanted access, they can offer peace of mind to victims.
- Such provision is often referred to as 'Target Hardening' and can include security measures on the fabric of the building such as external locks on gates, security lighting, fencing and CCTV, or internal measures such as window locks, fireproof letterboxes, bogus caller buttons and community alarms.

Local statistics reveal that Victims of Domestic abuse are often women from a family environment, the number of women who have been supported by Atal Y Fro are as follows:-

2016/17

Refuge = 19 women and 12 children

Second Stage = 20 women 24 children

Dispersed Housing Project = 3 women 6 children TOTAL = 84

2017/18

Refuge = 13 women and 15 children

Second Stage = 9 women 7 children

Dispersed Housing Project = 5 women, 2 men and 10 children TOTAL = 59

2018/19 (to date)

Refuge = 12 women and 11 children

Second Stage = 6 women and 8 children

Dispersed Housing Project = 3 women and 6 children TOTAL = 46 (189)

- Target Hardening gives the victims and their family the opportunity to remain within the family home with additional safety features installed, refuge and second stage can be very unsettling for a family
- Overall target hardening measures reduce repeat victimisation and also increases women's confidence and sense of safety, It is important that target Harding measures are offered within a wider framework of support alongside regular risk assessments
- Whilst Target Hardening is the priority it is also a preventative measure and a deterrent of other crimes such as burglary
- Once Target Hardening is installed we go back to the resident and complete a quality control questionnaire. How it has made the client feel now it is installed.

Statistics from April 2016 to date

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01/04/2016 - 31/03/2017 - 66 Referrals - 23 CCTV (High Risk)
Q1 - 10 Q2 - 10 Q3 - 18 Q4 - 26

01/04/2017 - 31/03/2018 - 61 Referrals - 19 CCTV (High Risk)
Q1 - 14 Q2 - 17 Q3 - 13 Q4 - 17

01/04/2018 - To date - 44 Referrals - 16 CCTV (High Risk)
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Success Story's

Our client LW reported her perpetrator LD for attending at her home address in breach of an Order. Images were obtained by police and shown to the perpetrator whilst he was in custody who then pleaded guilty to the offence, he was sentenced to 20 weeks custody

IDVA

'The feedback from our clients has been so positive and it really makes a difference to how they feel, remaining safe in their home'

Service Users

- 'Everything has been amazing I am so grateful'
- 'I am very grateful for your service and as a result I feel a lot safer'
- 'Really pleased with all aspects of support and target hardening measures'
- 'The counsel employee was especially helpful'



Thank you Any Questions

