

# Safer Slough Partnership VAWG+ Strategy

## Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-2020

<p><b>Preventing Violence &amp; Abuse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise Awareness of VAWG across all sections of society to support early identification.</li> <li>Social norms, behaviours and practices tolerating VAWG amongst communities continue to shift in recognition of its unacceptability.</li> <li>Focus on prevention and early intervention for both victims and perpetrators (causal factors).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provision of Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transform services to improve early access for those individuals experiencing multiple disadvantages.</li> <li>Transform services to provide support at an earlier stage so that fewer victims reach crisis point.</li> <li>Needs led interventions.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Partnership Working</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs led intervention for victims, perpetrators, and children enable and delivered through a multi-agency VAWG partnership.</li> <li>Multi-agency sharing of information to enable development of an evidence base to support a needs assessment.</li> <li>More employers introducing policies to support staff who may be victims of VAWG.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pursuing Perpetrators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in reoffending.</li> <li>Partnership intervention to tackle perpetrators.</li> <li>Improve confidence and access to the Criminal Justice System for victims of VAWG.</li> <li>Greater focus on changing the behaviour of perpetrators through disruption, based on strong evidence of what works, and centred on victim safety.</li> </ul>
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## Local Problem Profile – What We Know

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Crime Survey for England and Wales reports that nationally 4 out of 5 victims did not report partner abuse; such that local police figures of reported domestic abuse are likely to largely underestimate the true extent of the problem.</li> <li>Slough based research carried out by Imkaan and Warwick University identified that the diverse cultural landscape of Slough may result in people affected by domestic abuse experiencing multiple barriers in accessing support. These barriers may contribute and compound secondary abuse. Culture can be used as an excuse to collude with abuse.</li> <li>The current financial landscape requires the development and enhancement of community led responses to domestic abuse within Slough.</li> <li>The effects of domestic abuse have long term impact on the wellbeing and development of children throughout early and later life.</li> <li>Coercive control is often prevalent and disguised. It can be as damaging as physical violence, harder to recognise, and as a result more difficult to respond to.</li> <li>There are multiple offenders who have repeatedly abused both the same victim and different victims.</li> </ul>
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## The Slough Response

<p><b>Education &amp; Awareness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slough will build resilience within the community, educating residents, schools, politicians, and practitioners, on abuse and harmful practices, and how to access services and support.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provision of Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slough will ensure victims of domestic abuse and their families have access to appropriate services, according to their needs.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community &amp; Partnership Working</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiagency partners, both statutory and voluntary, will work together to ensure effective information sharing, provision of service, awareness raising, and consistent processes and procedures.</li> <li>Multiagency partners will work with the community of Slough to develop and enhance community based responses to domestic abuse and the wider VAWG+ agenda.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Changing the Behaviour of Perpetrators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slough will hold domestic abuse perpetrators to account through positive police intervention, prosecutions where appropriate and possible, perpetrator programmes, and signposting to support agencies. Victim safety will be at the centre of any activity undertaken.</li> </ul>
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