



Angus Domestic Abuse

Multi-Agency Good Practice Guidance



Contents

- Introduction3
- Terminology.....4
- Key Messages4
- Trauma Informed Practice7
- What is Domestic Abuse?8
- Typologies9
- Impact of Domestic Abuse.....11
- Enabling Disclosure and Making Safe Enquiries12
- Responding to Disclosure & Safety Planning14
- Intersectionality17
- Domestic Abuse and Children.....17
 - Impact on children and young people being Safe18**
 - Legislation.....20**
 - Good Practice Principles20**
 - Good Practice Principles in Assessment.....21**
 - Support to children and young people.....22**
 - Domestic Abuse and Young Women22**
- Adults at Risk of Harm23
 - Who is an Adult at Risk?23**
 - What is harm?23**
 - Types of Harm24**
 - Consent, Confidentiality and Disclosure25**
- Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)26
- Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC)27
- Domestic Abuse Disclosure Scheme27
- Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse28
 - Who are the perpetrators of Domestic Abuse?28**
- Models of Intervention29
 - The use of shields33**
 - Perpetrators as parents34**
 - Accountability35**
- Legislation36
- Support and Information36
 - Local.....36**
 - National37**
- Resources and References.....38

Introduction

The guidance has been developed by the Angus Violence Against Women Partnership (AVAWP) and is intended to complement existing policies and protocols for professionals in their own agencies while at the same time encouraging multi-disciplinary practice and understanding.



Domestic abuse knows no boundaries and is prevalent in all aspects of society in Scotland.

Domestic abuse is a pattern of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and/or violent behaviour, including sexual violence, by a partner or ex-partner.

Domestic abuse can happen in any intimate relationship but is overwhelmingly experienced by women and perpetrated by men.

In 2018-19 in Scotland in 4 out of 5 (83%) reports made to the police where gender was recorded the perpetrator was male and the victim female.

For the purposes of this guide we will refer to the victims as women and the perpetrators as men, however, the same principles will apply to all victims of domestic abuse.

AVAWP recognises that there are cultural differences amongst and between different minority cultures. This includes many differences regarding accepted Scottish culture. In all cultures, perpetrators will attempt to justify or explain their behaviour in a variety of ways, this may include citing religious writings or beliefs or cultural practices. These religious and cultural justifications often centre on an apparent acceptance of abusive behaviour by men, or, alternatively, on women's lack of rights to challenge such abuse. AVAWP does not accept that there is any justification for the use of violent/abusive behaviour and supports the clear stance of international human rights legislation that violence against women is a breach of women's human rights.

Domestic abuse is complex, the risks can be significant and increase rapidly. This guidance offers good practice principles. However, we also recommend that all agency practitioners and managers undertake domestic abuse training that is based in the Scottish context.

Terminology

- We use the term domestic abuse to denote all forms of abuse (physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, financial, harassment and stalking and online/digital abuse).
- We use the term victim for anyone who is subject to abuse. It is acknowledged that many individuals and organisations prefer to use the term survivor.
- We use the term perpetrator for any current or former intimate partner that inflicts abuse.
- We use the term non abusing parent to differentiate between victim and perpetrator in relation to domestic abuse only. It is acknowledged that not all victims or perpetrators will be the birth parents of any children involved.

Key Messages

- The priority is the safety and wellbeing of victims.
- Specialist agencies and helplines locally and nationally are available to offer support and guidance to victims and professionals.
- Due care and attention must be given to planning and talking to victims. Remember that this can be crucial to safety and avoiding any agency generated risks for the victim.
- If you are in any doubt about safety including for yourself get support from your agency. If the level of concern/dangerousness requires immediate action contact Police Scotland.
- The only person responsible for the abuse is the perpetrator.



- There is a significant correlation between domestic abuse and the impact on the safety and wellbeing of children. Children experience domestic abuse; they are not witness to it and they are victims in their own right. Their safety is paramount.
- Sometimes wider family and community members can be involved in the control and this can be a particular issue in some black and minority ethnic families. This wider control needs to be an aspect of assessments and decision making. Protocols on Female Genital Mutilation, Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage, have been developed. Each protocol contains a section of Operational Instructions followed by broader Guidance for staff.
https://www.angus.gov.uk/social_care_and_health/protect_someone_from_harm/violence_against_women_and_girls/angus_violence_against_women_partnership?page_id=918
- There is evidence emerging from specialist agencies that young people are increasingly experiencing domestic abuse in their own relationships and for some this can be in their first intimate relationship.
- Perpetrators are prevalent in all aspects of society and there is no way to recognise them other than through their pattern of abuse.
- As a professional you may have been impacted directly or indirectly by domestic abuse within your personal relationships. This may have caused a degree of bias when considering the benefits to working with perpetrators. Should this be the case, it is important you share this with your line manager particularly if you think it will impact negatively on your practice. Recognising our own judgements and limitations when working with perpetrators is an important factor to ensure best practice.

- Domestic abuse is a pattern of behaviour, not a single incident and requires a broader assessment.
- Domestic abuse must not be considered according to the number of incidents reported to Police Scotland and should be broader than a focus on physical assault.
- Many victims do not report the abuse.
- Domestic abuse must be understood and assessed according to the individual experience of each victim with a knowledge of the power and control pattern of behaviour by the perpetrator. This will offer the route to safe and effective interventions for victims and children.
- There is a common misconception that anger is the driving motivator for domestic abuse, but it is about power and control.
- The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 which came into force on 1st April 2019 reflects the lived experiences of women, children and young people by addressing controlling behaviours not covered by existing offences and crimes.

It is also the first to put children, now identified as potential victims, into legislation in the form of an aggravation that will allow the courts to impose harsher sentences when children are involved.

- A common social perception is victim blaming and holding the woman solely responsible for the safety and wellbeing of her children. It is important that perpetrators are held to account for their harmful behaviours, including making them visible in agency recordings and action planning in relation to their fathering role. This includes cases where the perpetrator is not the biological father of children in the household.
- One of the most dangerous times for victims is when they try to leave their partners. Separation does not mean safety and the abuse can continue long after the victim has ended the relationship.
- Pregnancy can be a significant time for escalation of abuse and health services in particular play a key role in identifying domestic abuse and intervening in safe ways.
- The root cause of domestic abuse is gender inequality. Domestic abuse often occurs in relationships where a sense of ownership, authority or entitlement are used to maintain dominance. Other factors e.g. poverty, alcohol use, mental health issues may be contributing factors, but they are not the cause of the abuse.

Trauma Informed Practice

Domestic abuse requires trauma informed responses.

Trauma informed practice builds on the foundation of awareness, understanding and responsiveness to the impact of traumatic events. Definitions of a trauma-informed practice vary but guiding principles are trust, safety, choice, collaboration and empowerment.

It is essential in all interactions and interventions not to retraumatise the victim in any way.

NHS Education for Scotland have produced a short video in relation to trauma informed practice which has links to domestic abuse. This could offer a general introduction for multiagency staff.

Opening Doors: Trauma Informed Practice for the Workforce.
<https://vimeo.com/274703693>

NHS Education for Scotland have also produced a short video in relation to trauma informed practice for anyone working with children and young people.

Sowing Seeds: Trauma Informed Practice for Anyone Working with Children and Young People.
<https://vimeo.com/334642616>



What is Domestic Abuse?

In Scotland the working definition of domestic abuse is different to many other countries including other parts of the United Kingdom.

We use the term domestic abuse while other countries and many scholarly articles use the term domestic violence. This is not the accepted term in Scotland as the abuse experience by victims is wide ranging and not always focused on violence.

Additionally, in other countries including other countries in the United Kingdom, domestic abuse is considered in a wider range of family relationships.

In Scotland while abuse can and does take place in many family relationships that may require intervention and support this would not be considered under the term domestic abuse.

The only abusive relationships that can be considered as domestic abuse in Scotland are with current or ex-partners (this includes married, cohabiting, civil, divorced, separated etc).

The Scottish Government's Strategy for the Prevention of Domestic Abuse defines domestic abuse as:

“ Domestic abuse (as gender-based abuse) can be perpetrated by partners or ex-partners and can include physical abuse (assault and physical attack involving a range of behaviour), sexual abuse (acts which degrade and humiliate women and are perpetrated against their will, including rape) and mental and emotional abuse (such as threats, verbal abuse, racial abuse, withholding money and other types of controlling behaviour such as isolation from family and friends).

<https://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20150220084722/http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2003/09/18185/26437>

Domestic abuse is a course of conduct by a current or ex-partner that has a pattern of persistent and controlling behaviour which can cause psychological, emotional, physical, sexual and/or financial harm.

Historically, assessment and intervention for many agencies has predominantly been based on risks around physical assaults. This approach is limiting and dangerous as some of the most serious risks can come from perpetrators who have never physically assaulted the victim. For some victims the pattern of surveillance and domination, and threats of physical harm by the perpetrator cause significant trauma and fear.

In many situations domestic abuse will be hidden and the victim may be very fearful of any consequences of disclosure.

Domestic abuse is not an isolated incident nor is it an argument or fight between partners in an equal but possibly unhealthy relationship.

Typologies

In order to know how to respond most effectively it is important to be able to distinguish between the three main typologies of violence. This is based on the work of Michael P Johnson¹.



Intimate Terrorism

Intimate terrorism is perpetrated overwhelmingly by men. Perpetrators demonstrate a pattern of coercive control, which is functional and instrumental. Coercive control may include the use of physical and non-physical violence. The perpetrators pattern should be viewed as a course of conduct, which aims to exert power and control using threats and intimidation, monitoring and undermining the victim's freedom. If physical violence is used it is likely to escalate and can be more frequent and severe than situational couple violence. Victims can experience loss of personal identity, low self-worth and confidence, there is fear of their partner and the potential consequences. Victims may feel trapped and find it safer to continue with the relationship. Intimate terrorism does not always stop when the relationship ends. The perpetrators pattern may change to regain power and control. Tactics may include stalking and harassment, child contact and economic abuse through shared assets.

¹ Johnson, M., 2008. *Typologies of domestic violence*. Massachusetts: University Press of England

Luke and Ryan Hart (2019) via Twitter



As children our father made us afraid of overstepping his boundaries and breaking his arbitrary rules. This destroyed our sense of imagination, creativity and adventure as we lived more constrictive lives to minimise his abuse. We lost our childhoods to domestic abuse. We weren't just 'witnesses'.

Situational couple violence

Situational couple violence is perpetrated in reasonably equal numbers by men and women, however, men usually do more serious damage, and their violence is more likely to introduce fear into a relationship. Violent behaviour is expressive and can be frequent and severe. It may be an isolated incident or there can be a recurring pattern. This type of violence originates from couple conflict, there is no motive for power or control with links to male entitlement. Situational couple violence is caused by the escalation of an argument to the use of verbal and physical violence. The pattern is variable, and factors may include money matters, differing parenting styles, household arrangements, alcohol and substance use, poor communication skills and poor emotional regulation. The impact on those experiencing situational couple violence is not harmless, with physical and psychological harm being reported to varying degrees.

Violent Resistance

Violent resistance is overwhelmingly perpetrated by woman and is correlated to women resisting their intimate terrorist partners or leaving them. Intimate terrorism progresses over a period of time and the victim develops and adapts their coping strategies to manage the perpetrators behaviour. When these coping strategies have been exhausted or have failed to protect the victims, violent resistance is used to regain a degree of control and resist an incident of imminent harm. The violence is expressive.

Intervention based on typologies

This guidance is mainly focused on intimate terrorism which is more recently commonly known as 'coercive control' (Stark 2007)²

Evan Stark argues the key to understanding most abuse is not physical assault, but coercion and control, which 'jeopardises individual liberty and autonomy as well as safety', and is centred on 'the micro-regulation of women's default roles as wife, mother, homemaker and sexual partner' (Stark 2007)

Coercive control/domestic abuse/intimate terrorism are terms that are used interchangeably and that can be confusing. Whatever term is used it relates to a pattern of abuse that is based on power and control. In this guidance we will retain the term domestic abuse.

² *Coercive Control. How Men Entrap Women in Personal Life, Evan Stark, 2007. Oxford University Press*

It is essential to recognise that there are risks where situational couple violence is a factor and risk assessments and interventions need to reflect the safety and wellbeing needs of victims.

Some of the key principles in this guide may be helpful for situational couple violence but it is essential to understand that the differences in motivation and impact for each of these typologies means that different interventions are required to offer safe and effective support.

Critically, in situations of domestic abuse, interventions such as anger management or couple counselling are inappropriate and could increase risks to the victim and children. However, where assessment has taken place and there is no evidence of domestic abuse but rather a case of situational couple violence then anger management or couple counselling could be effective interventions.

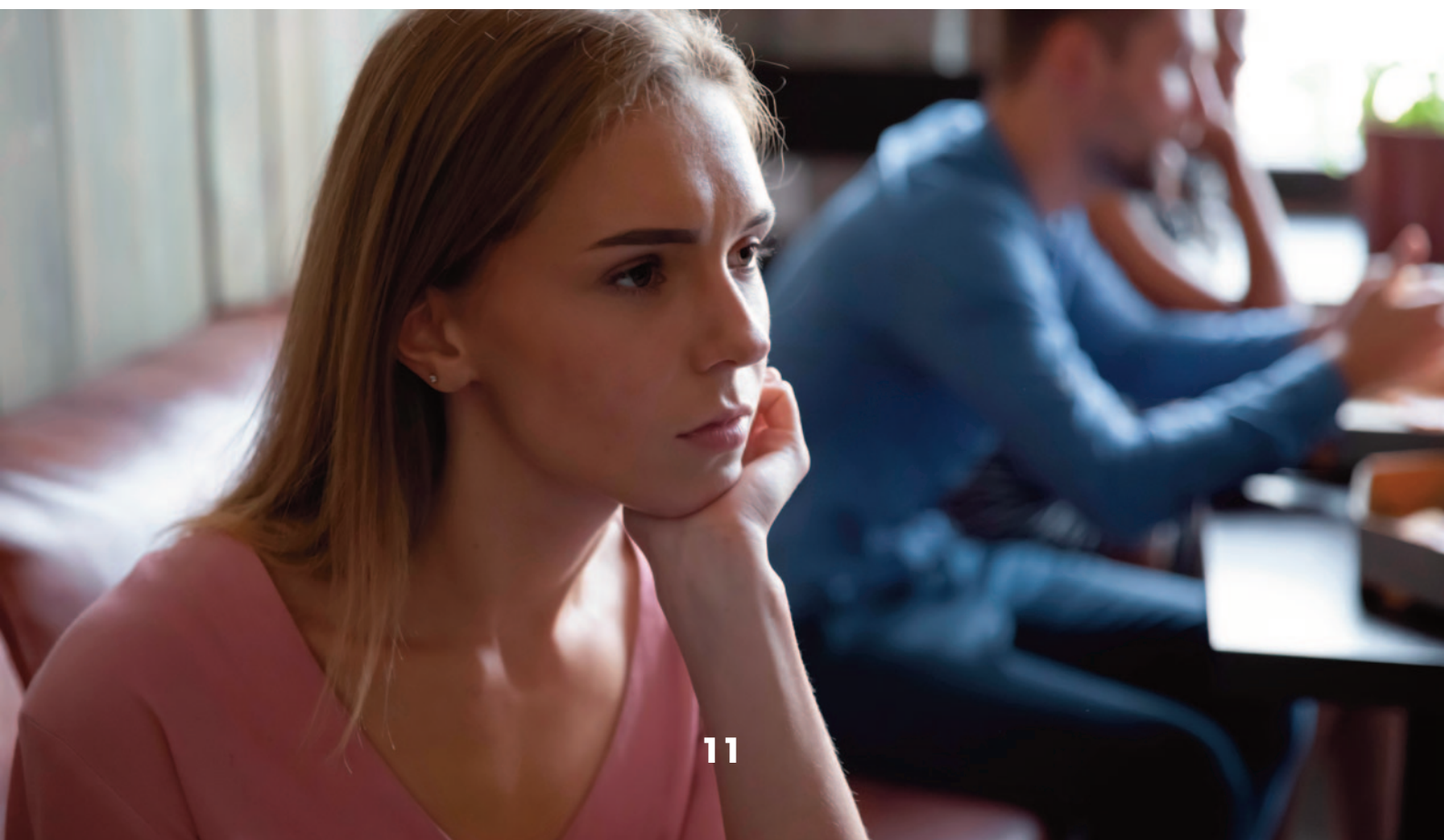
Impact of Domestic Abuse

Victims of domestic abuse can be seriously impacted in a range of ways with direct or indirect consequences.

Physical, emotional, mental and sexual health can all be affected, and these can be acute or chronic in impact.

Some examples include:

- Physical health – chronic pain, fractures, heart conditions, injuries, dental issues
- Mental health – panic attacks, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, self-harm, thoughts of suicide.



- Sexual Health – unwanted pregnancy, pregnancy complications including miscarriage, sexually transmitted diseases, chronic pelvic pain and urinary tract infections.
- Alcohol and substance use can be a significant feature for victims either as a way of coping with the abuse or it can be a feature of the pattern of abuse by the perpetrator.
- Financial abuse e.g. stopping a victim from working, taking out debt in the victim's name, not giving the victim money to pay bills when the perpetrator lives in the same household can all be a feature of the pattern of control. This can have significant impact for the victim in many ways e.g. low self-esteem, ability to leave the house, have friends, provide food, clothing and toiletries for herself and any children. There may also be risks to the tenancy. Where there is a financial element to the perpetrators control pattern this can present to workers as other issues e.g. neglect. Workers need to remain open to the fact that domestic abuse may present in a range of ways that do not initially or obviously indicate domestic abuse as the cause of issues. When presented with other issues it is important to remain open to the possibility of domestic abuse being a factor.
- Digital abuse e.g. using technology to track the victims' movements, demanding the victim sends explicit pictures, monitoring social media accounts can all be aspects of the perpetrator pattern of abuse. The impact for victims will vary but can include limiting victim's choices, self-esteem, mental health and wellbeing.
- Each victim requires a trauma informed approach, individual person-centred discussion and intervention where safety and wellbeing are core.

Enabling Disclosure and Making Safe Enquiries

It is important to understand that women experiencing domestic abuse may be reluctant to disclose what is happening to them for a range of reasons e.g. fear, denial, minimisation, embarrassment, being judged. Where victims have other inequalities e.g. due to age, sexuality, disability, ethnicity or vulnerabilities such as mental ill health, substance use, disclosure may be more difficult.

Building trust with the victim is key to enabling disclosures.

- Domestic abuse can cause fear that may reinforce the need for the victim to act in ways that placate the perpetrator. This may appear to workers that the victim is being uncooperative.



- Always be alert to the possibility that an individual may be experiencing domestic abuse and be prepared to offer support or help to engage with other agencies.
- Be aware of signs that abuse may be taking place - abuse is broad. There might be physical injury e.g. bruises, however it is important to recognise other key signs as physical injury may not be present. Look out for other signs such as controlling behaviour (e.g. partner always present during appointments; won't allow the victim to talk for themselves; has limited access to money; seems isolated from sources of support such as family and friends; is tense and 'clock-watching' etc.). There may also be environmental indicators (e.g. broken furniture, holes in doors/walls, tense atmosphere in the home).
- Enquire about domestic abuse sensitively and create an opportunity where an individual can feel able to talk about their experience(s).
- Take protective measures to ensure that any discussions with women who may be experiencing domestic abuse occur in a safe and confidential environment without disruptions. Consider the issue of children being present as they may later mention the conversation.
- If interpreters are needed, ensure professional interpreters are used - NEVER use family members, children or friends where abuse is known or suspected.
- You may have to ask more than once as many victims either do not identify or will deny they are experiencing abuse, especially if it is not physical, and/or they may be minimising what is going on.

- Keep accurate records of any discussions and record what's said in the victims' own words. Record any interventions and advice offered.
- Never assume someone else will ask at another time as it may be the victim's only opportunity to tell someone about what's happening to them. You may be the woman's first and only contact.
- Be clear with the victim about confidentiality and any information sharing that may need to take place. Consider the victim's rights to privacy as well as your role and agency requirements. Where children are involved their safety and protection needs will influence decisions regarding consent and information sharing.
- Always follow your agency's policies, protocols and procedures.

Responding to Disclosure & Safety Planning

The key message you need to convey is that you know the responsibility for the abusive behaviour lies completely with the perpetrator.

The victim should receive the same level of service and trauma informed approach no matter how many times she has been in contact with your agency.

Leaving is a process and Scottish Women's Aid have shown that on average it can take a woman 7 years from first deciding to act to being able to leave the perpetrator permanently.

Separation can be a long and gradual process that can involve incremental steps and does not only relate to leaving the family home. Victims may be at increased risk when there is a change that interrupts or threatens to interrupt the perpetrator's pattern of abuse e.g. contact with agencies, police involvement, additional phone.

It is important that exploration of the risks of leaving takes place with the victim and any safety plan takes account of these and how to mitigate them. In situations of urgency there may be no time to complete a full written safety plan but that does not prevent verbal plans being discussed and agreed in the short term.

It is essential to take all aspects of safety into account and have as your guiding principle that separation does not equal safety. It is often assumed that a victim choosing to separate will reduce the risks to them and their children. However, evidence from research and surveys of victims indicates that the risk of further violence and harm increases at the point at which a victim leaves a perpetrator.

If the victim chooses not to leave, safety planning is crucial.

Risk assessment and safety planning needs to include level of immediacy for action.

Where possible the SafeLives Risk Identification Checklist should be completed to identify the level of risk posed to the victim. Professional judgement, 'visible high risk' and potential escalation should all be considered.

[https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SafeLives' Dash Risk Checklist %e2%80%93 Scottish Version.pdf](https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SafeLives%20Dash%20Risk%20Checklist%20%93%20Scottish%20Version.pdf)

Local domestic abuse specialist agencies can be contacted for guidance.

Within the context of safety planning the focus needs to be on both the victim and the child(ren).

Safety planning means considering the pattern of abuse by the perpetrator and should go beyond an assessment of risk of further physical attack.

A safety plan needs to reflect each individual' specific circumstances

When supporting the victim to develop their safety plan for themselves and for any children, it is important to recognise the strengths of the victim and acknowledge everything that they are already doing to keep themselves and their children safe.

Existing strengths and effective strategies can form the basis of any plan and the victim needs to be supported to explore this fully. The victim will know the perpetrator pattern of abuse and the risks more than anyone else. This needs to be taken forward with the understanding of the dynamics of abuse and the possibility that the victim may experience barriers to full disclosure and engagement in the process - resistance, denial, minimising and avoidance may feature in discussions.

A photograph showing a person's hand in a light blue sleeve placing a wooden block with the letter 'T' on a dark wooden surface. The blocks spell out the word 'SUPPORT' in capital letters. The blocks are light-colored wood with dark letters. The background is a dark, textured wooden surface.

Questions to consider:

- What does the victim need to be safe?
- What do the children need to be safe?
- What is the best way for the victim to draw up a safety plan, who can help and who will have access?
- What are the victim and children already doing that helps with safety and wellbeing?
- What have they tried in the past that didn't work?
- What are the risk indicators for escalation in the pattern of abuse by the perpetrator?
- How might the perpetrator react to any actions taken as part of a plan e.g., changing a phone number?
- Who can be included in a safety plan and how can they be contacted and by whom?
- What are the available options for action?
- Are there any additional vulnerabilities or cultural aspects that may impact successful safety planning and how can they be mitigated?
- What can workers do to help?
- Does the victim have information about local and national support?
- Are any referrals needed?
- How will safety plans be monitored and supported?
- Consider risks associated with communication/correspondence e.g. the perpetrator finding letters/leaflets/text messages/phone call logs etc.

Safety planning is not a one-off process and it requires time and a trauma informed approach to achieve effective collaborative working with victims. Workers need to consider the power imbalance inherent in the worker role and promote the rights and choices of the victim.

In all aspects of working with individuals and families where domestic abuse is a factor, worker safety needs to be considered and appropriate measures put in place.

If you are concerned about the immediate safety of any victim, child or worker then contact should be made with Police Scotland and your own agency.

Intersectionality

In 1989 Kimberlé Crenshaw coined the term 'intersectionality' to help explain oppression of African American women. Since then our understanding has further developed.

Intersectionality is



the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Oxford languages)

How we are perceived by others often based on specific individual aspects of our identities e.g. ability, age, sexuality, race etc that can influence us in many ways including how we are treated and our ability to access services. This can lead to discrimination and oppression.

In our approach to domestic abuse, our own perceptions need to be challenged when considering every victim, child and perpetrator. This will allow an effective person-centred, holistic, trauma informed response, which will enable a better understanding of barriers to support, complex traumas and potential perpetrator control tactics.

Mental health and substance use

The impact of wider issues such as mental health, substance use and socio-economic status must be considered. None of these issues cause domestic abuse but they can be factors for victims and/or perpetrators.

Toxic trio and comorbidity are terms that might have been used previously but over time we have learned that they have limitations as they do not reflect the complexity of how these issues interact for individuals and in the wider family context.

By taking an approach that considers intersectionality, we can improve outcomes and prevent 'silo' approaches where one issue is prioritised over the other or is completely ignored e.g. a mental health worker not screening for domestic abuse.

Domestic Abuse and Children

Under Getting It Right For Every Child, all professionals must work together so children and young people get the right support, at the right time, from the right people.

Children and young people are not witness to domestic abuse; they are victims of it; regardless of whether they are the target of the abuse. Living in a household where they see and experience intimidation, control, violence and



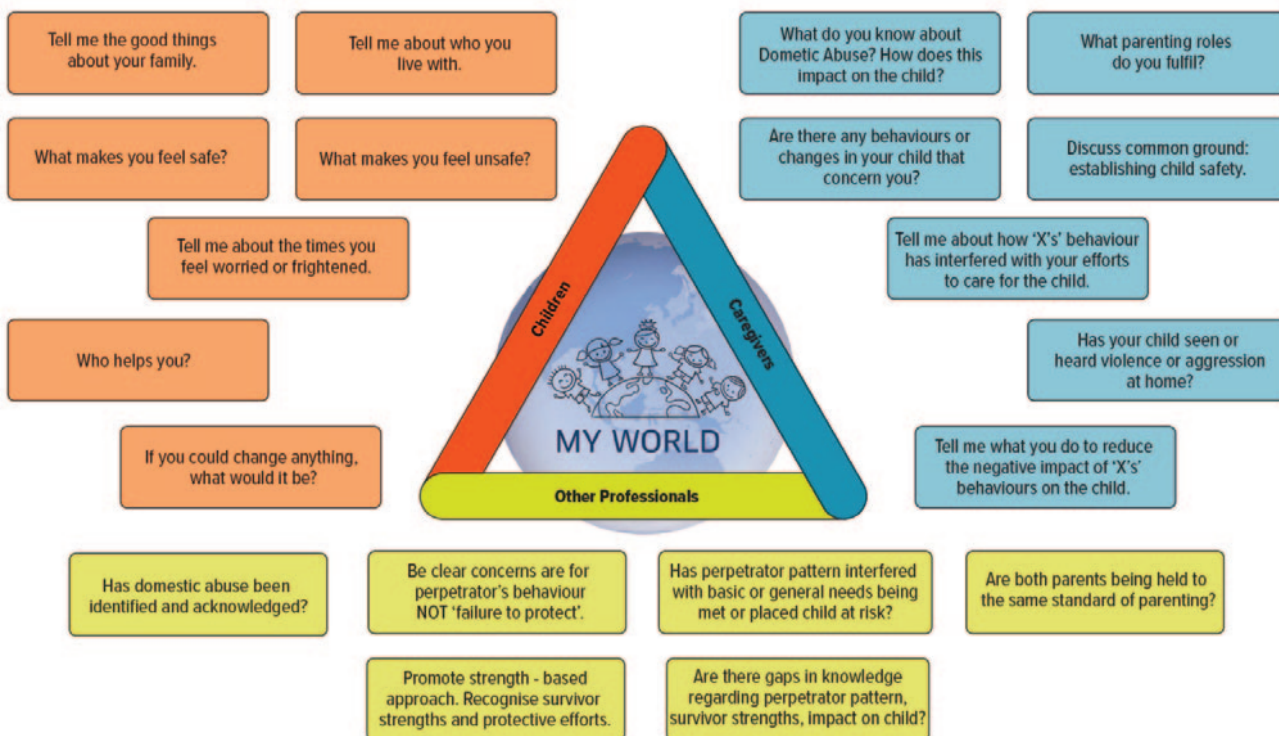
fear is traumatic and being a victim of domestic abuse can have a lifelong negative impact on children and young people's mental, emotional and psychological health; and their social and educational development. It can also impact on their ability to form healthy and safe relationships throughout their adult life.

Impact on children and young people being Safe

- Perpetrators may physically harm the victim's children as a form of abuse
- Children and young people sometimes intervene to protect the non-abusing parent/carer
- Children can be used by the perpetrator to abuse the victim, for example the perpetrator may force or encourage children to verbally or physically abuse their parent/carer or siblings; and/or monitor the non-abusing parent's behaviour and actions
- Children and young people's understanding of personal safety can be compromised
- A perpetrator of domestic abuse is not a positive role model. This can negatively affect children and young people's emotional development and their capacity to sustain healthy relationships in their lives
- Living with the perpetrator of domestic abuse can result in children and young people becoming socially isolated, for example through fear of abuse occurring while they are out or through the perpetrator controlling the family's finances and social opportunities. This means a reduction in protective factors for children and young people

- Living with domestic abuse can make children and young people feel anxious, fearful and stressed about what might happen next
- The victim, in order to keep everyone safe, may have to invest a significant amount of time and effort ensuring that the perpetrator's needs are fully met. This often results in them not having the energy or emotional capacity to fully meet the children's needs and can result in emotional neglect
- Children and young people can sometimes aim their negative feelings about the abuse towards the victim and blame them for the negative impact on their lives
- Domestic abuse is a recognised Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE), having a long-term impact on a child's outcomes
- Education will be disrupted if there are frequent school moves as a result of moving to a new house on a regular basis because of domestic abuse
- Children and young people who are victims of domestic abuse may display behavioural challenges, which can result in them being regularly removed, or ultimately excluded from school or local groups
- Children and young people may be unable to participate in or experience many 'normal' childhood activities such as sleepovers, friends coming to their house, birthday parties

Angus Domestic Abuse Good Practice - Discussion prompts for Domestic Abuse concerns



Remember - Domestic Abuse is a parenting choice

Adapted from the original Scottish Government My World Triangle resource, available from www.gov.scot/policies/girfec

Discussion with children and young people is important as well as the discussions you have with victims, other professionals and where possible the perpetrator. See the discussion prompt above to help guide your conversations.

The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014 have key messages in relation to domestic abuse.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-guidance-child-protection-scotland/pages/2/>

- The impact of domestic abuse on a child should be understood as a consequence of the perpetrator choosing to use a pattern of abuse, which may or may not include violence, rather than of the non-abusing parent's/carer's failure to protect
- When undertaking assessment or planning for any child/young person affected by domestic abuse, it is crucial that practitioners recognise that domestic abuse involves both an adult and a child victim
- Every effort should be made to work with the non-abusing parent/carer to ensure adequate and appropriate support and protection is in place to enable them to make choices that are safe for both them and their child
- At the same time, staff should be maintaining a focus on the perpetrator and monitoring any risk resulting from ongoing abuse
- Agencies should always work to ensure that they are addressing the protection of both the child and the non-abusing parent/carer
- Protection should be ongoing and should not cease if and when the abuser and the non-abusing parent/carer separate. Separation often triggers an escalation of abusive behaviour, increasing the risk to both the child and their non-abusing parent/carer
- Any decisions made regarding contact by social work services and/or the civil courts should be based on an assessment of risk to both the non-abusing parent/carer and the child

Legislation

The Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011 identifies domestic abuse as a ground for referral. A child can be referred to the Children's Reporter if the child has, or is likely to have, a close connection with a person who has carried out domestic abuse. A child is taken to have a close connection with the person if:

- The child is a member of the same household as the person or
- The child is not a member of the same household as the person, but the child has significant contact with the person.

<https://www.scra.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/3.Childrens-Hearings-Scotland-Act-2011.pdf>

Good Practice Principles

- Professionals should adopt a strengths focused approach. They should acknowledge and ask about the strategies already used by the non-abusing parent/carer to protect their child. This will encourage the victim to be honest and for the professional to get a fuller picture of both risk and protective factors on which they can base their assessment and planning.
- Professionals must engage with perpetrators and hold them to account for the harm they are causing to children and young people. If this is not possible, efforts to engage and outcomes of these must be recorded in case-notes and reflected throughout reports.
- The domestic abuse perpetrator and his behaviour are the source of the risk and safety concerns for children and young people, not the adult victim.
- Separation can increase risk and this also increases risk to children and young people
- For good practice to be undertaken in domestic abuse cases the Safe and Together Model Principles and Critical Components should be applied.
<https://safeandtogetherinstitute.com/safe-together/safe-together-overview/assumptions-principles-critical-components/>

Good Practice Principles in Assessment

- Knowledge of child development and the impact of domestic abuse on children
- Availability of different tools for identifying risk and the appropriate action to take
- Use of effective approaches to support children, young people and non-abusing parents/carers, and addressing behaviours with perpetrators
- An understanding that professional involvement can increase risk and action is taken to mitigate against this risk. This should be in partnership with victims
- It is important to support the non-abusing parent and child whilst ensuring the source of the harm - the perpetrator - is visible and accountable. This will ensure better outcomes for victims, children and young people
- In some instances, children will have to live apart from the non-abusing parent to keep them safe.
- As stated in the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, every effort should be made to work with the non-abusing parent to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the child or young person. To do this effectively, it is essential that risk and safety assessments include the perpetrator's behaviour/pattern of coercive control

If you are concerned that a child or young person may have been harmed or may be at risk of harm, it is essential that you share your concerns.

All cases of suspected or alleged child abuse should be notified to Children and Families Localities Teams/Investigations Team.

If you consider a child(ren) or young person to be in IMMEDIATE danger, DO NOT wait, call Police Scotland on 999

Support to children and young people

For those children and young people who require a Child's Plan, it is essential that parents/carers and the child or young person are partners in the plan and fully understand how it will support them and help to keep their family safe.

In supporting children and young people, you should:

- Empower the victim to protect themselves as best they can
- Enable them to protect the children
- Listen to what children have to say and what they want. Also take account of what they don't say
- Allow children to take things at their own pace, respect their feelings
- Challenge in a positive way (they are not to blame for the perpetrator's behaviour)
- Develop a personal safety plan with the child, which reflects their age and understanding
- Provide support and services which take account of children's cultural/ethnic needs
- Provide resources to minimise disruption to the child's life
- Provide services to help them recover from the experience of abuse e.g. confidential services
- Involve children in shaping and supporting services

Domestic Abuse and Young Women

In Angus in 2019, specialist domestic abuse services noted an increase in support to young women experiencing domestic abuse within their own relationships. Young people are less likely to report abuse within their relationships.

For young women, it is important to know the difference between a healthy relationship and a controlling/abusive one and this should be explored with individuals when relevant and safe to do so.

Adults at Risk of Harm

All agencies have an essential role to play in ensuring that adults at risk are protected from harm, mistreatment or neglect. Agencies have a responsibility to assess the risk of harm, mistreatment or neglect and to work together alongside the adult at risk. This includes where the risk is related to domestic abuse.

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 introduces measures to identify and protect adults at risk of harm.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2007/10/contents>

The measures contained in the Act complement measures in pre-existing legislation.

Who is an Adult at Risk?

Under section 3 of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 “Adults at risk” are adults over 16 years of age who:

- are unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests
- are at risk of harm, and
- because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, are more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected.

All three elements of the definition must be met. The presence of a particular condition does not automatically mean an adult is an “adult at risk”.

An adult aged between 16 to 18, may still be legally defined as a child if they are subject to a current supervision requirement issued by a Children’s Hearing. It is essential that these young adults receive appropriate support from both Children’s Services and relevant adult based services.

What is harm?

Under Section 53 of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 “harm” includes all harmful conduct and, in particular, includes:

- conduct which causes physical harm
- conduct which causes psychological harm (for example: by causing fear, alarm or distress)
- unlawful conduct which appropriates or adversely affects property, rights or interests (for example: theft, fraud, embezzlement or extortion)
- conduct which causes self-harm, “conduct” includes neglect and other failures to act, which includes actions which are not planned or deliberate, but have harmful consequences

Types of Harm

The following are the main types of harm that may be relevant to Domestic Abuse:

- **Physical Harm** - actual or attempted physical injury inflicted non-accidentally to an adult at risk (including spitting, hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking), misuse of medication or drugs (including depriving someone of prescribed or non-prescribed drugs, or giving the person dangerously large amounts of drugs and/or alcohol) and inappropriate restraint or sanctions



- **Sexual Harm** - including inappropriate intimate contact, rape, sexual assault, sexual acts or human trafficking to which the adult at risk has not consented, could not consent or was pressured into consenting. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence¹ for someone to have sexual relations with an adult in their care who suffers from mental disorder
- **Psychological Harm** - including emotional harm, threats of abandonment or harm, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks

- **Financial or Material Harm** - including theft, fraud, exploitation, scams, pressure in connection with wills, property, inheritance, financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.
- **Neglect and Acts of Omission** - including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, social care or educational services, failure to share appropriate information, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating

Consent, Confidentiality and Disclosure

All professionals who have contact with adults at risk have a responsibility to refer concerns/anxieties/disclosures to the appropriate agency. However, it should be recognised that, at times, this may pose a dilemma for staff who may feel that by so doing this could alienate the individual and/or the family and the potential for preventative work. To do nothing or to promise confidentiality and then report the concern is not acceptable. If you have a duty to report, you do not ask for consent but inform the individual that the information will be reported.

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 does not specifically address domestic abuse; however, where the victim of domestic abuse appears to meet the definition of an adult at risk, intervention under The Act should be considered. Action under this legislation may offer a way into establishing the full circumstances of the case and allow for consideration of the required legal protective options and measures available under all associated legislation.

The Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 provides the means to protect those with incapacity, for example, through financial and welfare guardianship.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2000/4/contents>

The Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 sets out duties in relation to people with mental disorders who are subject to ill-treatment or neglect. These acts cover people whose disability or illness is adversely affecting their ability to protect themselves and who are subject to harm, exploitation or neglect.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2003/13/contents>

Any member of staff in Angus who know or believe an adult is at risk of harm must report the facts and circumstances to the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership and follow their agencies procedures. Staff have a duty to co-operate with the Council and each other to enable or assist the Council making inquiries. Information on health, financial or other relevant matters can be requested to enable the Council to decide whether it needs to do anything to support and protect an adult at risk of harm.

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) operates in the majority of Local Authorities in Scotland.

MARAC is a local meeting where representatives from statutory and non-statutory agencies meet to discuss individuals at high risk of serious harm as a result of domestic abuse. The meeting provides a safe environment for agencies to share relevant and proportionate information about current risk, after which the Chair will summarise and ask agencies to volunteer actions to reduce risk and increase safety. In order to ensure the risks to victims (and their families) and the management of perpetrators are jointly and comprehensively assessed and addressed.

SafeLives have identified 9 core agencies for an effective MARAC:

- 1 Local Police
- 2 Idaa (Specialist service working with victims)
- 3 Criminal Justice Social Work
- 4 Children and Families Social Work
- 5 Education
- 6 Health (including the physical and mental health of adults and children)
- 7 Substance Misuse Services
- 8 Housing (including homeless)
- 9 Adult Support and Protection

The primary focus of the MARAC is to safeguard the adult victim. However, the MARAC will also make links with other agencies to safeguard children and manage the behaviour of perpetrator. At the heart of the MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim, but all may have insights that are crucial to their safety. Ensuring that the victim is supported throughout, and their needs are represented at MARAC is crucial to managing risk, improving and maintaining safety, and reducing repeat victimisation.

Referrals are required to meet one of the following criteria:

- 1 Visible high risk - score of 14 or more on risk assessment (see the Safelives (Scotland) risk assessment link in the disclosure and safety planning section)
- 2 Professional judgement – score of under 14 with the Safelives risk assessment, however, it is felt meets the criteria for MARAC

3 Potential for escalation

4 Repeat referral

<https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SafeLives%27%20Marac%20Overview%20Scotland.pdf>

For further local information or to make a referral please contact the Tayside MARAC Coordinator : taysidemarac@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC)

Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) meetings were introduced nationally in 2013, in accordance with Priority 4 of the Scottish Government Equally Safe strategy, which seeks to ensure perpetrators 'receive a robust and effective response'.

A MATAC is a regular local meeting where information is shared about domestic abuse perpetrators who pose the highest risk. The aim of MATAC is to effectively tackle offending by perpetrators who present the greatest risk of harm, in order to achieve positive outcomes for victims and their families.

This is achieved by:

- Effective partnership working which will identify those domestic abuse perpetrators who present the greatest risk of harm.
- Multi-agency information sharing to support intelligence development and pro-active enforcement action against identified perpetrators.
- Using tasking and coordination to pro-actively investigate identified perpetrators using relevant and legitimate tactics.

Police Scotland chairs MATAC and is represented through Domestic Abuse Investigation Units who cover Tayside Division and ensure victim safety, maintain an overview of divisional response and undertake complex or protracted investigations.

Domestic Abuse Disclosure Scheme

The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) (referred to as Claire's Law in England) aims to provide a way of sharing information about a partner's abusive past, with a potential victim. It gives people at risk of Domestic Abuse the information needed to make an informed decision on whether to continue the relationship.

The Scheme has 2 main aspects:

Right to Ask - Applications submitted by anyone concerned about the abusive past of their own partner, or the partner of a friend, family member, colleague etc.

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/disclosure/>

Power to Tell - DSDAS also gives Police Scotland the power to tell individuals that they may be at risk in their current relationship. This means that Police Scotland have the power to disclose information to a person, even although it was not asked for.

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/disclosure-scheme-for-domestic-abuse-scotland>

Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse

Who are the perpetrators of Domestic Abuse?

A perpetrator can be anyone. They come from different backgrounds, they have experienced different upbringings and have different personalities and employment status. Perpetrators can have mental health issues, be involved with substance use and/or experience of trauma. These factors should be acknowledged as part of their pattern of domestic abuse and should be



included in their care plan to improve their well-being. However, these factors should not be used to minimise their personal responsibility of causing harm to the victims. Domestic abuse cuts through both social and economic structures. A perpetrator may use their social and economic privilege as part of their pattern of abuse. What perpetrators do have in common is their use of domestically abusive behaviours to exert power and control within their intimate relationships.

Perpetrators may present with professionals as hostile and aggressive or charismatic and charming. Professionals should not assess a perpetrator's risk of harm on how he presents within a professional context. Perpetrators can be very skilled at grooming and manipulating situations to minimise their behaviour and place blame on others. Their account can be believable, and they may have gone to great lengths to cover up their abusive behaviour. Professionals should remember that a perpetrator's pattern is functioning to meet their needs in a dysfunctional way, which causes harm to others.

Initial presentation of perpetrators may look like:

- Hostile towards support services
- Lack consciousness of their domestically abusive behaviour
- Relate escalation/severe incidents to substance use
- Relate their abusive behaviour to anger problems
- Suggest the victim is the problem
- Follow ridged and strict boundaries and rules
- Can use employment as an avoidance strategy
- Can present well and engage superficially

Models of Intervention

Engagement

When responding to reports of domestic abuse, it is essential that professionals make greater efforts to engage with perpetrators. Professionals should be aware that perpetrators have remained invisible and have been viewed as problematic and challenging within domestic abuse procedures until recently. The change in practice will be somewhat new for them too.

Professionals should aim to build a working relationship with the perpetrator in order to identify their pattern of abuse, document it and share this information with other relevant professionals. Should your role require you to work in partnership with the perpetrator in the longer term and intervene to encourage positive behavioural change, your level of contact to build a working relationship should reflect this.

All professionals trying to contact a perpetrator should be mindful of the power imbalance within the working relationship and how this will be perceived by perpetrators. A key aspect of the feminist model of domestic abuse is an imbalance of power and control within an intimate relationship between men and women. It is imperative to consider this within the professional working relationship, particularly if you are a female worker. Furthermore, a perpetrator may be in denial of their behaviour, and a professional interfering in their life with a degree of power and disturbing their equilibrium is not going to be welcomed. Therefore, acknowledging this whilst working in partnership with the perpetrator to reduce the risk of harm to women and children is vital.

The perpetrator may be unresponsive to your invitation to engage. Consider what you are willing to do to encourage contact. Ask yourself, if the victim was being avoidant, what would I do next? Would you just stop trying? Remember the perpetrators pattern of abuse is the sole risk of harm. If you do not contact them and build a relationship, how will your practice work towards reducing harm and who will be responsible for changing their behaviour?

Consideration of risk assessment to self and others

- Gather as much information as possible about the perpetrator prior to your first meeting
- Consider the need for a second worker to be present in initial meetings
- Consider the setting, especially if the line of questioning will evoke or heighten the perpetrators emotions



- Explain that you will be discussing difficult and sensitive information and agree on a time out if required
- Ensure victims and their support networks are aware of meetings and have a safety plan in place
- Engagement and intervention with perpetrators should be undertaken in a suitable setting with other adults in proximity
- Do not challenge or undertake focussed work during home visits
- Home visits should be used to observe family interaction and emotional atmosphere
- Follow agency lone and home visit risk assessment policy and guidance

Building a working relationship with a perpetrator is essential if you want to shift the responsibility of harm and hold them to account. Professionals should make an effort to contact the perpetrator and if this is achieved via a telephone call or meeting with you, the context and tone of the initial conversation is very important. Your approach should remain non-judgemental, be open and honest about your role and responsibilities, use non jargon language and tell them why it is important you work together to achieve a shared goal. From each interaction with a perpetrator you will gain useful information from their disclosures and expressed views, this will give you insight into their abusive pattern and the impact this has on the victims.

Initial contact should aim to assess the perpetrators risk of harm. This can be achieved by speaking with them to gain their account of the recorded incident. Although the perpetrator may focus on his actions which have come to light, professionals should remain mindful that there has been a pattern of abusive behaviour and this is unlikely to be an isolated incident. Professionals should remain curious and attempt to discuss the perpetrators relationship with the victim and any children in a wider context using the perpetrators prompt card (see engaging with perpetrators as parents' section).

Hints and tips for perpetrator interview:

- Get consent
- Inform the perpetrator that you are aware the information being discussed is of a sensitive nature
- Discuss confidentiality and the need to share certain information
- Ask specific questions
- Avoid yes/no questions
- Use the following phrases to obtain more information Can you explain?
Can you help me understand?
- Use language that they will understand
- Be inquisitive, do not think you have/know all the answers from the paperwork

Questions to obtain information in relation to relationship timeline/perpetrator pattern

These questions will offer insight into the perpetrator's world, thinking pattern, and their awareness of their abusive behaviour and hostility towards the victim:

- When and how did you meet?
- What worked well in the beginning of the relationship?
- How has the relationship changed over time?
- What attracted you to your partner?
- Do you use violence often to problem solve?
- What are you like when you get angry/upset?
- How do you express emotions?
- How do you and your partner resolve arguments?
- Do you think your partner is frightened of you?
- Do you think your partner wants you to change, if so what?
- Do you like your partners family? How often do you see them?
- Do you like your partners friends? How often do you see them?
- Plan sessions appropriately to allow the perpetrator time within it to calm down and explore his emotions from the discussion. Highlight the positive aspects from the meeting and acknowledge that he may be feeling negatively towards the victim - ask how will he manage this? How will his behaviour reflect this?

The use of shields

Professionals should also note and consider the shields used within the perpetrator's accounts. There are three shields perpetrators use to explain and justify their abusive behaviour. These are minimisation, denial and blame.



**I hardly touched her
I only threw something
It wasn't as bad as she said**



**I just lost control
I have a bad temper which I can't control
I am not really a violent man
I didn't mean to hurt her**



**I was drunk
I was acting in self-defence – she hit me first
I was under a lot of pressure**

The shields allow us to diminish personal responsibility and reduce our negative emotions associated to failure, guilt and shame.

Therefore, it is somewhat understandable that perpetrators will use these to their advantage when discussing their abusive behaviour. It is important for professionals to acknowledge this as a protective measure and begin to challenge a perpetrator's account on a gradual basis to avoid them becoming defensive and disengaging. This will be achieved more easily if you have managed to build a working relationship.

Key questions after initial contact

Have I assessed the risk of harm? What has happened and what actions can I take as a professional to reduce the risk of future harm?

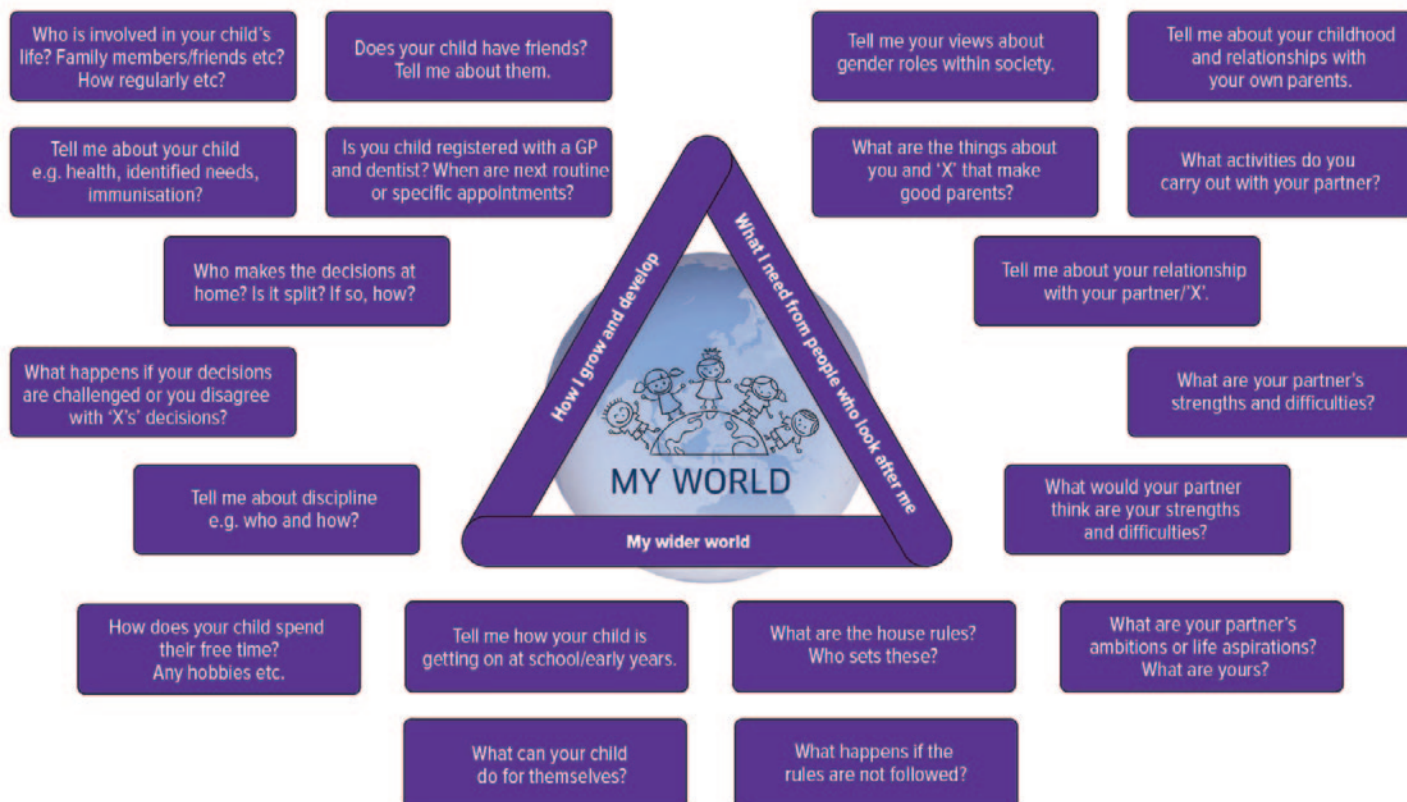
Does this require me to undertake direct intervention with the perpetrator, do I need to refer to another service?

Have I reflected over my practice and how this work has impacted on me personally?

Perpetrators as parents

Many perpetrators are fathers or undertake a fathering role within their intimate relationship. Quite often their stereotypical, traditional beliefs and values in relation to the role of women leads to distorted thinking about the fathering role and their responsibilities for children. This can be used to their advantage and be included as part of their perpetrator pattern of abuse, using children as a target of further abuse of the victim and/or direct abuse of the children.

Angus Domestic Abuse Good Practice - Discussion prompts for engaging with perpetrators



Remember - Domestic Abuse is a parenting choice

Adapted from the original Scottish Government My World Triangle resource, available from www.gov.scot/policies/girfec

It is vital that professional engagement reflects a model of shared parenting standards and sets out clear expectations of perpetrators as fathers. For professionals to become more 'father inclusive' they should hold high expectations for men as fathers/fathering role and **when it is safe to do so:**

- Engage with perpetrators in the context of pre/postnatal family services including health visitors, medical and dental and educational professions to value the fathering role and support/increase parenting skills
- Arrange appointments/ undertake home visits when both parents are home

- Shape children's plans to be inclusive of perpetrator roles, responsibilities and give them direct actions
- Acknowledge and respond to absent fathers and the impact this has on family dynamics
- Acknowledge and document within professional assessments that the information held is not wholly accurate without perpetrator engagement
- Professionals should offer separate and dedicated time for information sharing and action setting with perpetrators if required
- Recognise the perpetrator's contributions, both positive and negative
- Identify how the perpetrator pattern directly impacts on the children
- Discuss the concerns/needs of the children with both perpetrator and victim
- Assess how the perpetrator pattern directly impacts on the ability of the victim to carry out her mothering role
- Make greater efforts to document the correlation between perpetrator pattern and parenting concerns.
- Offer direct support through parenting sessions to both perpetrator and victim
- Care plans and case management is focussed around the perpetrator's pattern and seeks to include him at every opportunity
- Ensure that perpetrators are offered support in relation to their substance use, own experiences of trauma and mental health issues and any other aspect of vulnerability
- Speak to perpetrators about fathering and encourage them to play an active role

Accountability

- Has the perpetrator been able to articulate the abusive behaviours he uses as part of his pattern?
- Has the perpetrator gained an understanding of the shield he uses to deny, minimise his actions and blame others for his behaviour?
- Has the perpetrator been able to recognise how his pattern impacts on the victims and accept the harm this has caused them?
- Can the perpetrator explain in depth the changes (new skills/strategies) he has made and the impact this has had on the victims?
- What other evidence is there that confirms a change in the perpetrators behaviour and that he has reduced/stopped causing harm to victims?

Legislation

Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2007/10/contents>

Children (Scotland) Act 1995

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/36/contents>

Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2011/1/contents>

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2018/5/contents/enacted>

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2011/13/contents>

Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2011/15/contents/enacted>

Homelessness etc. (Scotland) Act 2003

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2003/10/contents>

Housing (Scotland) Act 1987

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1987/26/contents>

Protection from Abuse (Scotland) Act 2001

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2001/14/contents>

The Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2000/4/contents>

The Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2003/13/contents>

Support and Information

The following specialist services offer a wide range of support and information:

Local

Angus Women's Aid (AWA): **01241 439437**

Email: info@anguswomensaid.co.uk

Website: www.anguswomensaid.co.uk

Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (WRASAC),
Dundee and Angus: **01382 201291**

Email: support@wrasac.org.uk

Website: www.wrasac.org.uk

Victim Support Angus: **01241 878507**

Tayside Domestic Abuse Service Mobile: **07714 474112**

Angus Council Housing: ACCESS Line: **03452 777 778**

National

Scotland's Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline:

Freephone **0800 027 1234**

Email: helpline@sdafmh.org.uk

Web chat at www.sdafmh.org.uk.

The helpline is there to support anyone with experience of domestic abuse or forced marriage as well as their family members, friends, colleagues and professionals who support them.

National Rape Crisis: **08088 010302**

Email: support@rapecrisisScotland.org.uk

Website: www.rapecrisisScotland.org.uk/

Childline: **0800 1111**

Website: www.childline.org.uk

Shakti Women's Aid: **0131 475 2399**

Local contact **01382 207095**

Email: info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

Website: <https://shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/>

Amina, The Muslim Women's Resource Centre, Free Helpline: **08088 010 301**

Local Contact: **01382 787450**

Email: info@mwrc.org.uk

Website: www.mwrc.org.uk

Hemat Gryffe Woman's Aid (Glasgow): **0141 353 0859**

Scottish Women's Rights Centre: **08088 010789**

Scottish Women's Aid: **0131 226 6606**

National LGBT Domestic Abuse Helpline: **0300 999 5428** or **0800 999 5428**

Support for Male Victims of Domestic Abuse

Respect, Men's Advice Line (Scotland): **0808 8010327**

Email: info@mensadviceline.org.uk

Website: www.respect.uk.net

Survivors UK provides help for men who have been sexually abused or raped:

0203 598 3898

Helpline: **0808 800 5005**

Email: help@survivorsuk.org.

Website: <https://www.survivorsuk.org/>

AMIS: For any man who lives in Scotland and is over 16 years old, inclusive of transgender and non-heterosexual men who are in abusive relationships.

03300 949 395

Email: support@amis.org.uk

Email can be preferable for many men who cannot call, including those with hearing impairments

Website: <https://abusedmeninScotland.org/>

Advice/support for perpetrators: Respect: **0808 802 4040**

Resources and References

Scottish Government and COSLA (2016), Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls, available at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/equally-safe-scotlands-strategy-prevent-eradicate-violence-against-women-girls/>

Scottish Association of Social Workers. Domestic abuse and child welfare: a practise guide for social workers (2020).
https://www.basw.co.uk/system/files/resources/Domestic%20Abuse%20and%20Child%20Welfare_0.pdf

Scottish Government Domestic abuse: statistics 2018 -2019
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/domestic-abuse-scotland-2018-2019-statistics/>

Significant Case Reviews in Scotland 2015-2018
<https://www.careinspectorate.com/index.php/low-graphics/40-publications/public/performance-and-quality-reports/5064-learning-from-significant-case-reviews-march-2015-april-2018>

Safe and Together Institute
<https://safeandtogetherinstitute.com/what-we-offer/e-courses/>

Domestic abuse; a good practice guide for social landlords (2019)
<https://womensaid.scot/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Domestic-abuse-guidance-for-social-landlords-FINAL.pdf>

Public health Scotland. Gender based violence, Domestic abuse – What health workers need to know (March 2019)
<http://www.healthscotland.scot/publications/gender-based-violence-domestic-abuse-what-health-workers-need-to-know>

The Improvement Service, Elected Members Briefing Note. Why Adopt a Gendered Analysis of Violence and Abuse (2018)
https://www.improvementservice.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/8335/em-briefing-gendered-analysis-vawg.pdf

Hard Edges Scotland Summary Report(June 2019)
<https://lankellychase.org.uk/resources/publications/hard-edges-scotland-summary-report/>

The Case for a Gendered Analysis of Violence Against Women, Lesley Orr, 2007
<https://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/3000/https://www.gov.scot/resource/doc/925/0063070.pdf>

Marac Overview – Scotland (February 2019)
<https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SafeLives%27%20Marac%20Overview%20Scotland.pdf>

Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS)

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/disclosure-scheme-for-domestic-abuse-scotland>

Good Practice Guide on Domestic Abuse and Protection of Children, North Lanarkshire Council

Good Practice Guide – Domestic Abuse & Protection of Children, Fife Council 2018

Coercive Control. How Men Entrap Women in Personal Life, Evan Stark, 2007. Oxford University Press

A Typology of Domestic Violence, Michael P. Johnson, 2008. North Eastern University Press

Engaging with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence, Practical Techniques for Early Intervention. K Iwi and C Newman 2015, Jessica Kingsley

Angus Justice Services have a range of resources available to professionals working with perpetrators. This material can be used to support relationship building and intervention for change. To access these resources or to discuss perpetrator intervention please email: AngusCriminalJustice@angus.gov.uk

If there are any questions regarding the Guidance or how to access support please contact the Protecting People Angus Business Support Team who will direct you to the right person to help: ProtectingPeopleAngus@angus.gov.uk

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