



Southend, Essex
& Thurrock Domestic
Abuse Board

Annual Report 2022 – 2023



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Foreword from the SETDAB Chair



Jane Gardner
SETDAB Chair and
Deputy Police, Fire
and Crime Commissioner
for Essex

Domestic Abuse is a devastating and destructive crime that destroys lives and causes significant harm to victims. It involves controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence and abuse.

It affects an unacceptable number of people, which is why breaking the cycle of domestic abuse is a priority in Southend, Essex and Thurrock and why I am proud to have been the SETDAB Chair for another year. Together we are working incredibly hard to tackle Domestic Abuse in Southend, Essex and Thurrock. In the past year we invested more funding than ever before and continued to develop collaborative initiatives that are doing more to identify, support and protect victims. This investment is beginning to make a difference, with a 7.9 per cent reduction in the number of domestic abuse cases reported in Southend, Essex and Thurrock in 2022/23 compared to the year before. This is a small, but significant reduction and an important start in driving down this type of offending. It is also against the national trend.

In July we successfully secured over £5.4m in funding from the Home Office for 2022 - 2025. This is more than in previous years and reflects the importance being placed by the government on tackling domestic abuse. The money is helping to fund additional Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors (IDVAs) and Independent Sexual Abuse Advisors (ISVAs). It also means we can provide more funding for services such as Synergy rape crisis partnership, The Children's Society, Wilderness Foundation and specialist domestic abuse charities Safe Steps, Changing Pathways and Next Chapter.

In line with the SETDAB ambition to ensure early help is designed into the heart of our response to domestic abuse, we helped fund awareness raising projects around the county. One such initiative was a pilot scheme led by Essex Chambers of Commerce to raise awareness of domestic abuse to Southend, Essex and Thurrock businesses and engage them in helping and supporting any of their staff that are affected. Each year, domestic abuse costs the national economy billions of pounds, so it is vital we work with employers to identify and support victims. We also hear directly from businesses that they increasingly want to support their staff and recognise they have an important part to play in helping them stay safe. The pilot used existing HR portals to deliver information, giving business owners and managers the confidence and knowledge to understand the impact of domestic abuse and improve awareness.

We also recognised the value of offering training to community groups. The J9 Community Domestic Abuse Initiative provides free, hour-long, online awareness raising sessions and equips attendees with the tools to recognise abuse, respond appropriately and help people access the support they need. The funding helped provide a minimum of 72 community sessions across the county with 50 of the sessions specifically targeting Parish Council groups. Sessions were also available for Community Safety Partnerships to host within their communities.

Foreword from the SETDAB Chair Continued

“ In July we successfully secured over £5.4m in funding from the Home Office for 2022 – 2025 ”

During 2022 we began running an updated version of the hugely successful ‘Reflect’ campaign. The campaign’s objective is to drive perpetrators to self-refer to the Change Hub and to raise awareness of the SETDAB website. Using insights from previous campaigns, it focused on groups identified by the Change Project, including intimate partner violence, elder abuse, and abuse in LGBTQ+ relationships. The campaign is making an impact. By March 2023 it reached 3.3m people and led to a 50 per cent increase in referrals over 5 months, meaning 115 more people engaged in preventative services.

While we are delivering impactful interventions and support, we know there is more we can do to improve the services we provide. Over the years domestic abuse services in Southend, Essex and Thurrock have evolved. However, with the introduction of the 2021 Domestic Abuse Act Duties and longer term commitments around grant funding we have been able to rethink the design and delivery of pathways for victims and perpetrators. In 2022 we carried out the SETDAB partnership discovery project the findings of which will inform SETDAB’s future focus as well as directing our commissioning activities. I look forward to working with the board and our partners to undertake these recommendations over the next twelve months.

SETDAB is a powerful partnership driven by the commitment and passion of the many organisations that make up the group. Together we have made a significant difference for our communities and have set clear and ambitious goals for further improvement. As the Chair, I am grateful for the continued support and guidance of our dedicated team and the commitment from our wider members to join together and make a difference.

Who is SETDAB?

Our Vision:

“Working together to enable everyone to live a life free from all forms of domestic abuse.”

The Southend, Essex, and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB) is made up of representatives from agencies and organisations working to join up and better facilitate our vision. The Board is responsible for designing and implementing the Domestic Abuse Strategy for Greater Essex.

SETDAB provides strategic leadership to address domestic abuse by providing a multi-agency framework, common ethos, and co-ordinated approach to innovate, drive change, and address domestic abuse across Essex, Southend and Thurrock.

SETDAB: Southend Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board

SETDARG: Southend Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Reference Group

SETDASDG: Southend Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Strategic Development Group



Our 2020 -2025 Outcomes



Outcome 1: Children and young people can recognise and form healthy relationships.



Outcome 2: People experiencing and at risk of experiencing domestic abuse are supported to be and feel safe.



Outcome 3: Everyone can rebuild their lives and live free from domestic abuse.

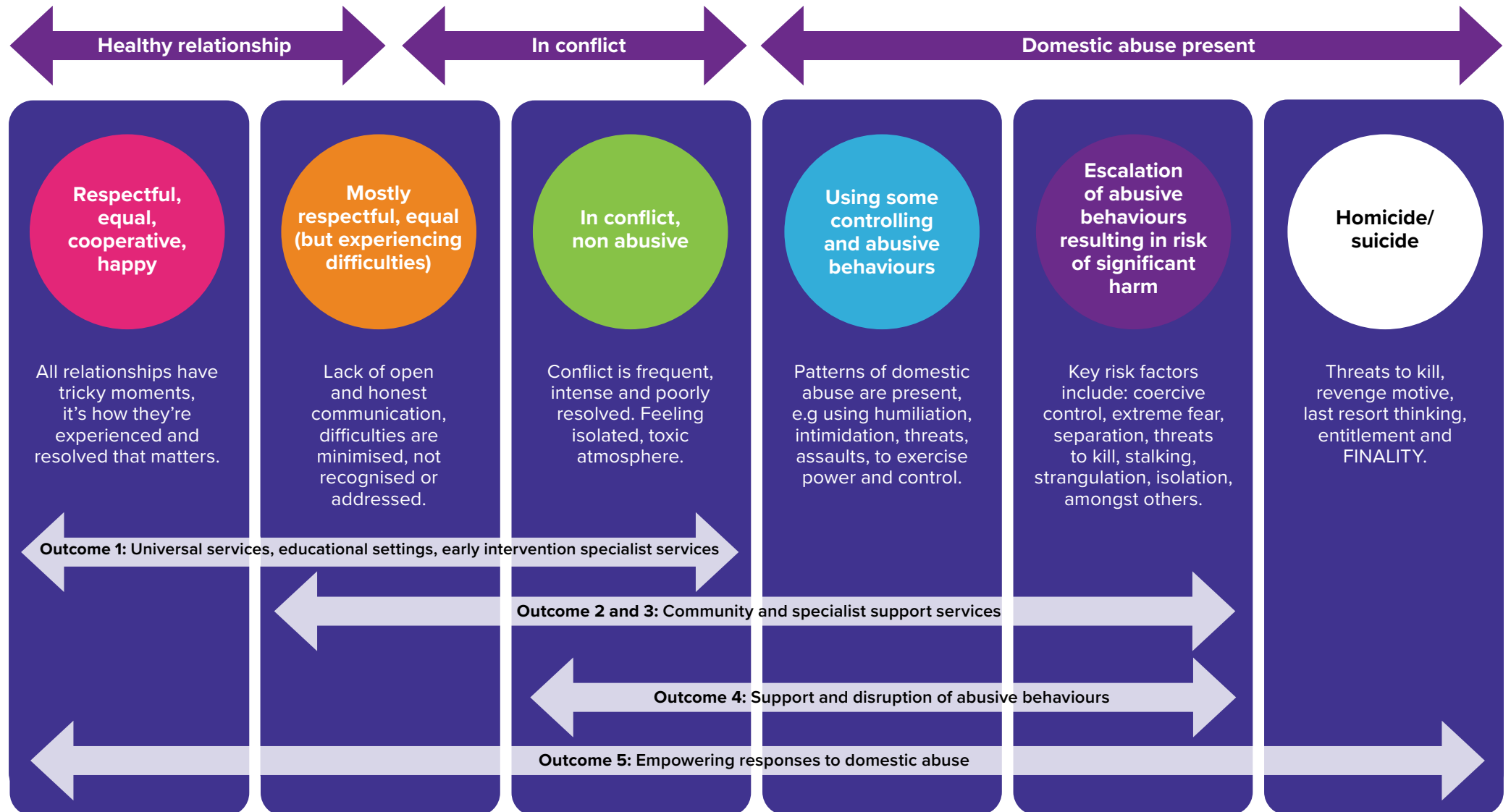


Outcome 4: Supporting and disrupting perpetrators to change their behaviour and break the cycle of domestic abuse.



Outcome 5: Communities, professionals and employers are able to recognise domestic abuse at the earliest opportunity and have the confidence to take action.

Our approach to achieving our vision



*adapted from Parental Relationships Spectrum developed by Stefano Foundation from the model by Dr Mark Farrall, Ignition Creative Learning Limited

SETDAB jointly commissioned DA services 22-23

Jointly commissioned Domestic Abuse (DA) Services

In the fourth year of our jointly commissioned Domestic Abuse (DA) Services, they have reached the following people:

Single Point of Access:



Service Delivery:



Our achievements of 2022–2023

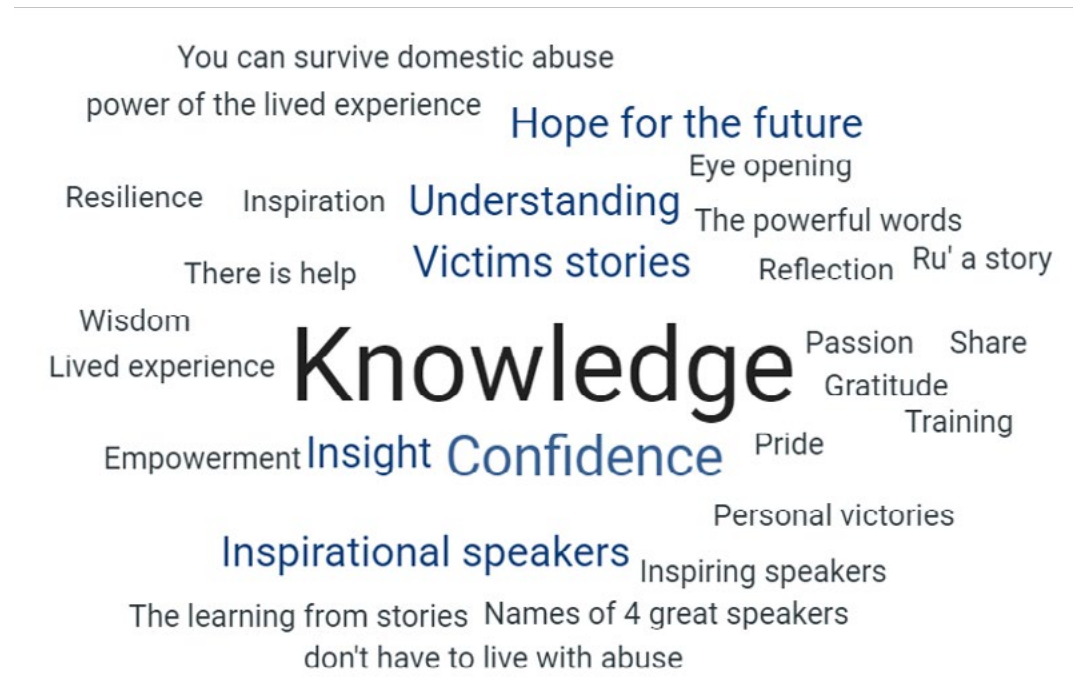
SETDAB Annual Conference 2022

The SETDAB Annual Conference was held on 25th November 2022 in line with The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

The theme was Coercive Control and Stalking as voted for by partners as one of the emergent themes from the SETDAB Domestic Homicide Thematic Review. Over 220 individuals from across the partnership attended from agencies such as substance misuse, probation, Police, housing, children and adults social care and health.

There were also 4 key note speakers; Dr Sue Hills; The Alice Ruggles Trust, Runyararo Garande; Next Chapter, Bal Howard; Bal Kaur Howard Training and Tracy Martinez; The OutHouse.

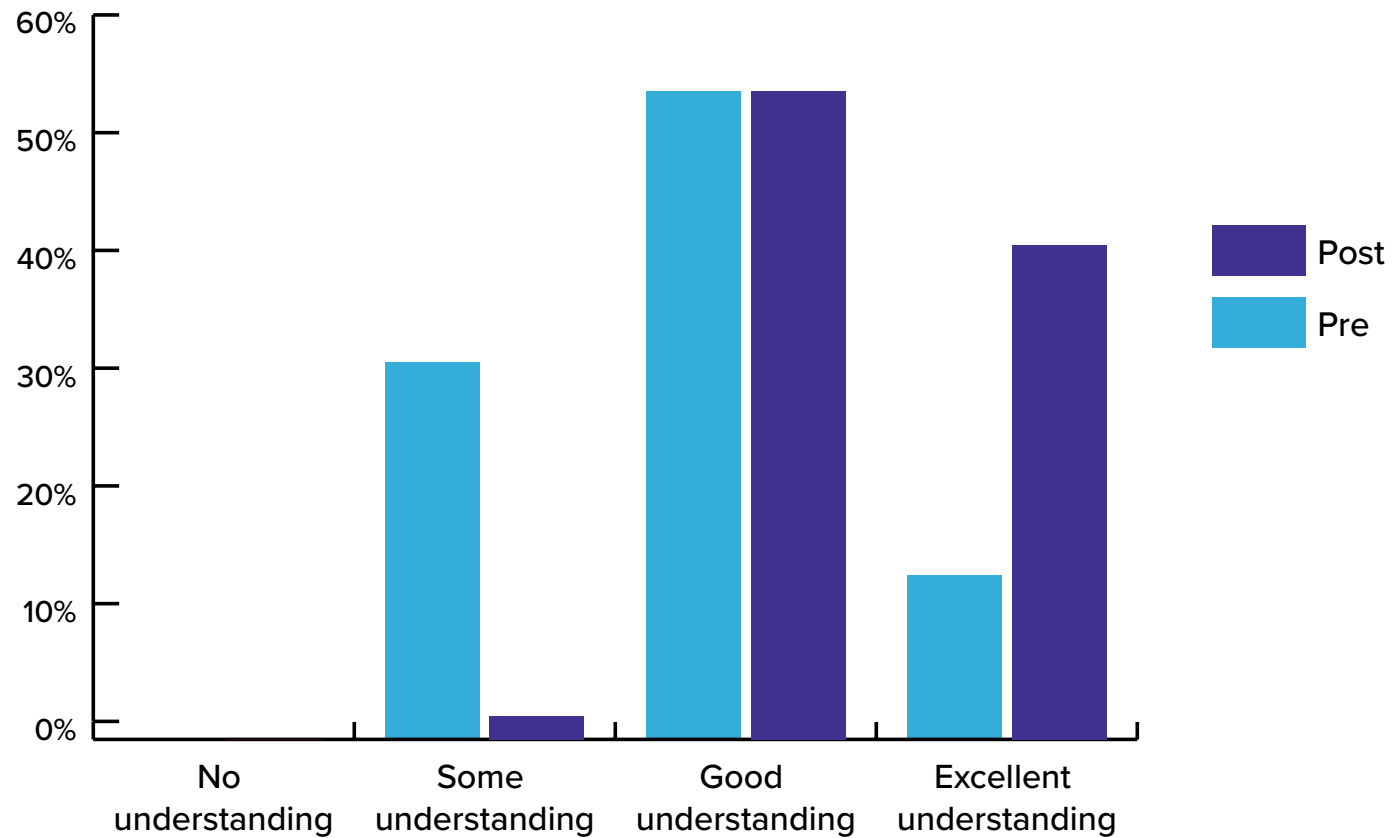
Overall, the feedback was positive with confidence levels increasing across all learning outcomes for this event and 98% participants advising that post event they had good or excellent understanding of coercive control and stalking.



Our achievements of 2022–2023

SETDAB Annual Conference 2022

I have understanding of coercive control and stalking behaviours



Our achievements of 2022–2023

SETDAB #REFLECT Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Campaign 2022

Our 2022 Campaign was launched on 10th August 2022 with the headline “Essex unites to break the cycle of domestic abuse”. The campaign highlighted different types of abuse – from physical abuse, to controlling behaviour, stalking and harassment, and uncontrolled emotions like humiliation or anger aimed at loved ones.

Using posters and social media posts to encourage perpetrators to recognise behaviours they might be exhibiting – asking them if they’re isolating, punishing, or controlling their loved ones, for example – and the emotions they feel after committing the abuse. The

focus is to ask people to reflect on their behaviour and seek help from The Change Project encouraging people to break the cycle of domestic abuse by changing their behaviour.

By March 2023 it reached 3.3m people and led to a 50% increase in referrals over 5 months, meaning 115 more people engaged in preventative services. The campaign will continue throughout 2023/2024.



Our achievements of 2022–2023

SETDAB Stalking Campaign

Throughout the 16 days of action, following the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women, SETDAB partners also relaunched our Stalking Campaign.

The posts had **378** reactions and received positive comments such as: “great work” and “you all do amazing work”.

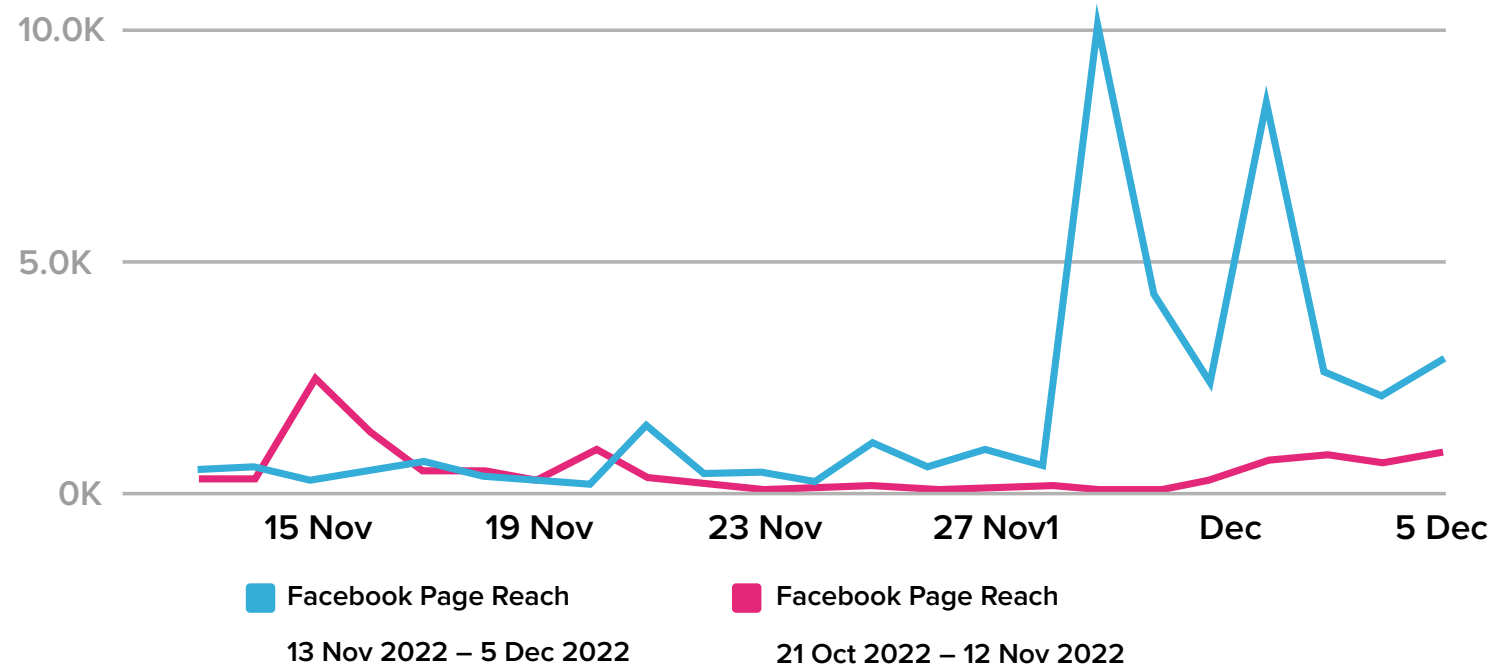
7 direct referrals to Next chapter were made in the week which included stalking as an abuse type.

Facebook Page Reach

27,317 214.7%

Instagram Reach

319 32.9%



Our achievements of 2022–2023

SETDAB E-Learning Training

SETDAB have a total of **5** e-learning packages available through the Essex Social Care Academy, available to those across the partnership.

Since their launch, our suite of e-Learning packages has seen **3837** total users and each module had the following total number of users:



Domestic Abuse and Older People
364 users



Domestic Abuse Basic Awareness
1577 users



MARAC Basic Awareness
374 users



LGBTQ+ Community & Domestic Abuse
Basic Awareness
333 users



Drug and Alcohol Basic Awareness
1189 users

Our achievements of 2022–2023

Training and Seminars

Following the success of the SETDAB Annual Conference in 2021, SETDAB have rolled out a series of lectures and seminars with focused topics across domestic abuse. Since April 2022 the following lectures have been delivered online:

Dynamics of Domestic Abuse, Mental Health and Substance Misuse	Domestic Abuse and Older People	Domestic Abuse: A Lived-Experience, Male Perspective	Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage	Prescription Drug Misuse
Stalking Training	Coercive Control Training	Veterans Awareness Training	Domestic Abuse and Familial Relationship	Domestic Abuse and Suicide

Overall there have been **712** attendees across all of the lectures who reported positive outcomes for learning across the board. **100%** of attendees stated that the learning from these lectures would have a positive impact on their learning practice.

In addition to the Lecture Series, SETDAB have also provided additional training events hosted by SETDAB and other partner agencies:

Stalking Training	Complex Needs Training	Working with Perpetrators Workshops
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Our achievements of 2022–2023

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)

The DHR process in Southend, Essex and Thurrock was centralised in 2017/18 so that this work is now undertaken by the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board on behalf of all our CSPs (Community Safety Partnerships). The SET DA Team have received **40** notifications of domestic homicides under the new arrangements, **8** of which were received during 2022-2023. Of these 8:

- ◆ 6 cases were commissioned
- ◆ 1 case is under consideration
- ◆ In 1 case further information was received and this case was not classified as a homicide and was not taken forward

SETDAB also produce thematic reviews to identify and cascade learning from domestic homicide reviews and use this to inform other SETDAB workstreams. SETDAB regularly hold learning events for professionals and share findings from this work with other partnership boards to consider shared themes and learning that can be addressed together. For more information please [click here](#).



Outcome 1



Children and Young People Can Recognise and Form Healthy Relationships



Children and Young People Can Recognise and Form Healthy Relationships

What have we done?

A bespoke Outcome 1 Steering Group has been established to lead on this work:

- ◆ In line with the new definition within the DA Act, we have recognised children as victims of DA rather than witnesses and continue to work with partners to address children's needs.
- ◆ Worked with young people to develop short film clips around healthy relationship messages.
- ◆ Continued to promote a consistent approach to delivering a healthy relationships curriculum in schools to support children and young people to understand healthy relationships. Risk Avert have trained 57 schools and 70 professionals in 2022-2023. Additionally, 60 Primary Schools are now signed up to the program.
- ◆ Continued to promote existing resources and programmes for parents to manage inter-parental conflict and prevent the negative impacts on children and young people by utilising trauma perceptive practice.
- ◆ Approximately 300 practitioners have been trained in Non-Violence Resistance (NVR) to work directly with children and young people and their parents during 22/23.
- ◆ Trauma informed group work programme was piloted by Family Solutions and Essex Children's Social Care (CSC) and will be evaluated and shared across the partnership in the coming year.

What we will do:

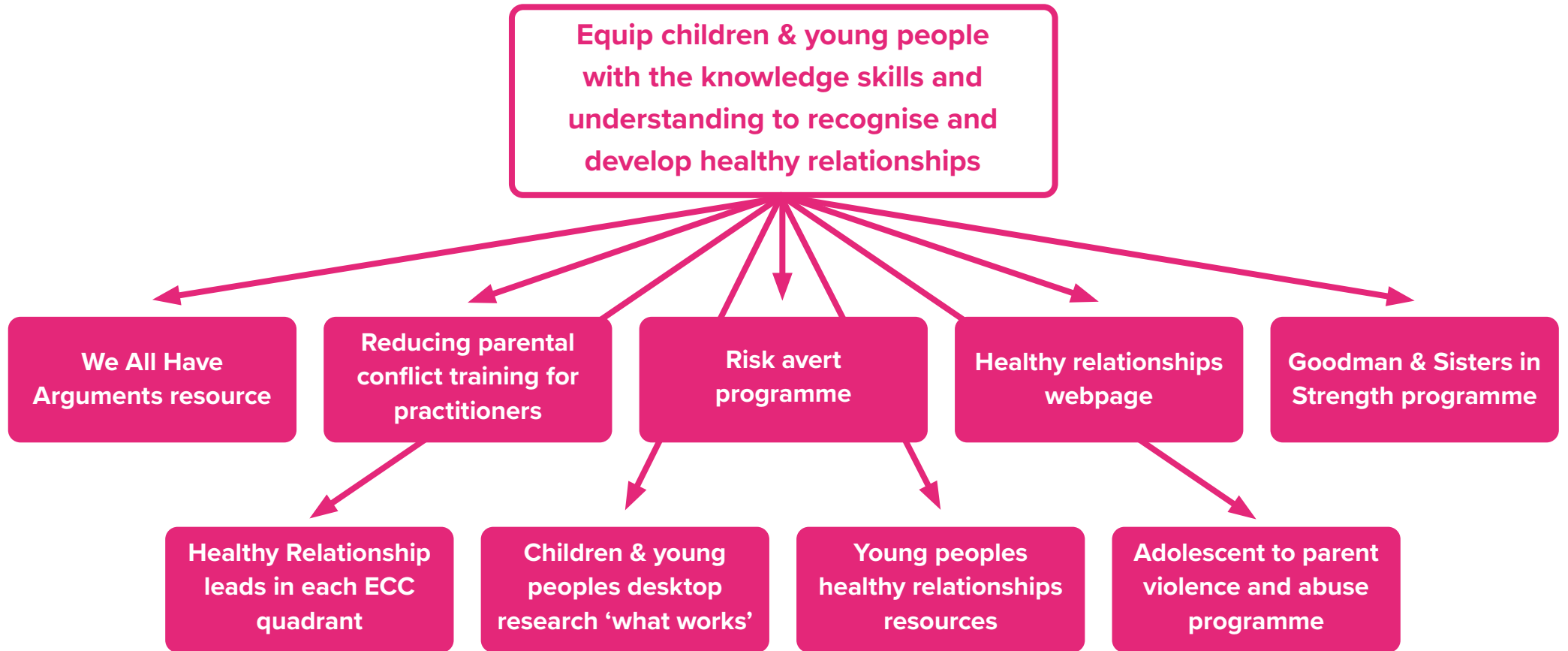
- ◆ We are going to talk to young people about their experiences to influence practice and develop co-design opportunities.
- ◆ We will promote the healthy relationships films that have been produced by young people.
- ◆ We will support the work that Goodman and Sisters in Strength have been doing to establish young people ambassadors within their services.
- ◆ Continue to promote existing resources and programmes for parents to manage inter-parental conflict and prevent the negative impacts on children and young people by utilising trauma perceptive practice.
- ◆ Continue to promote a consistent approach to delivering a healthy relationships curriculum in schools to support children and young people to understand healthy relationships.

Why is this important?

We need to educate and support our children and young people to make informed choices.



Children and Young People Can Recognise and Form Healthy Relationships



Outcome 2



People Experiencing and at Risk of Experiencing Domestic Abuse are Supported to be and Feel Safe



People Experiencing and at Risk of Experiencing Domestic Abuse are Supported to be and Feel Safe

What have we done?

- ◆ Local services have introduced specialist roles such as Children and Young people's IDVAs (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor), Older Person's IDVA, DA Housing Navigators and Housing IDVAs.
- ◆ In discharging their new duties under the DA Act, our Local Authority Partners have worked with DA victims and survivors from marginalised communities to capture their experiences and voices to inform service provision.
- ◆ Continued to promote safe spaces where people can access information and support from services by attending Pride events and local community events.
- ◆ We have established a specific Information Sharing Agreement (ISA) with North Essex GPs who are now engaging in the MARAC process and using our experience with North Essex GPs we are working to expand GP involvement in MARAC across Southend, Essex & Thurrock.
- ◆ We have set up regular communication between safeguarding processes such as MARAC and the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).
- ◆ We secured additional central government funding to support IDVAs, counselling, advocacy, and other support services.
- ◆ Our partners supported the roll out of work based domestic abuse awareness in conjunction with the Essex Chambers of Commerce.

What will we do?

- ◆ We will be working with our commissioners and stakeholders to develop and design a new domestic abuse support model.
- ◆ We will use the feedback from people with lived experience to influence our service design and to consider how we embed lived experience within our partnership and services.
- ◆ Continue to promote safe spaces where people can access information and support from services by attending Pride events and local community events.
- ◆ We will work to expand the GP involvement in MARAC across Southend, Essex & Thurrock.
- ◆ We will maintain and improve communication between safeguarding processes such as MARAC and the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

Why is this important?

It is everyone's responsibility to safeguard victims and children living with domestic abuse.

Outcome 3



**Everyone Can Rebuild Their
Lives and Live Free from
Domestic Abuse**



Everyone Can Rebuild Their Lives and Live Free from Domestic Abuse

What have we done?

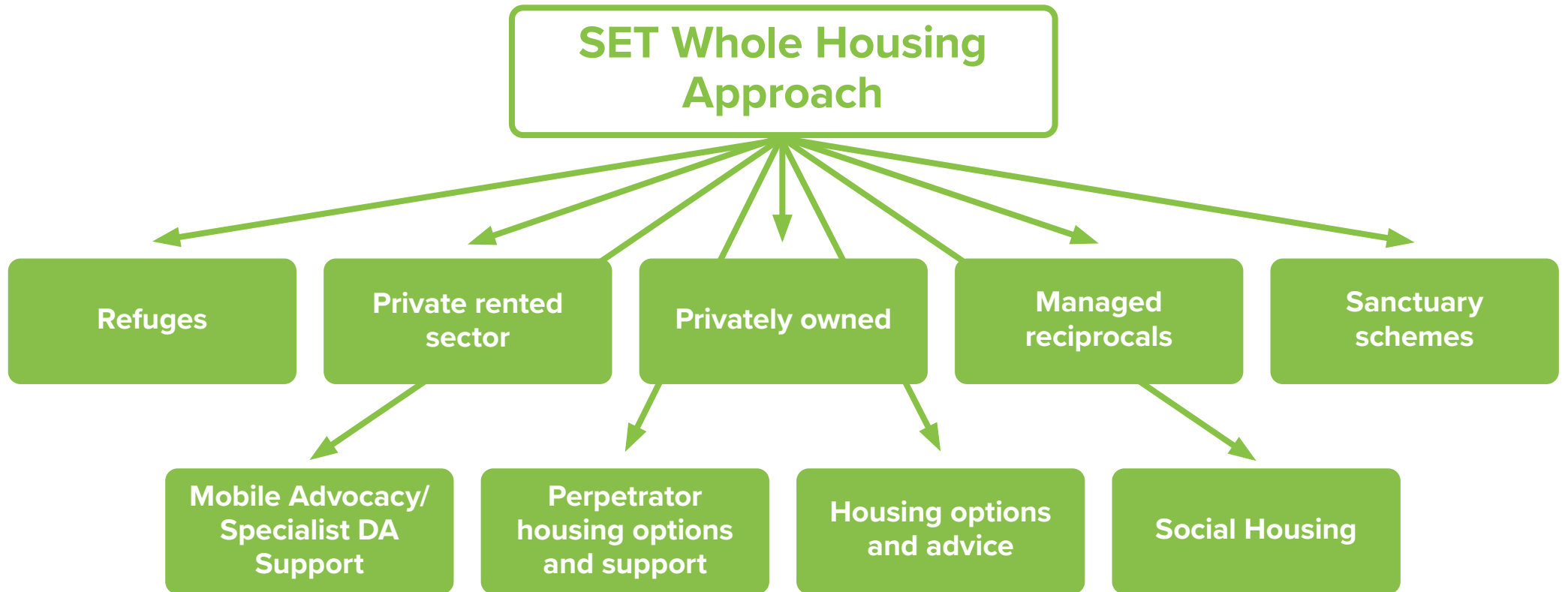
- ◆ Continued to facilitate the housing steering group to drive forward the whole housing approach to domestic abuse.
- ◆ We explored with partners around sanctuary schemes, managed reciprocal arrangements and private sector housing to take forward the whole housing approach to domestic abuse.
- ◆ Our partners have implemented their new accommodation-based duties within the DA Act by establishing specialist posts and pots of funding for housing solutions.
- ◆ We have established a data tool to capture whole housing approach developments.
- ◆ We have designed and launched a specific resource page for private rented landlords on the SETDAB website.
- ◆ Supported and promoted the Changing Futures Programme across Essex which provides support to individuals with complex and additional needs.
- ◆ Cascaded good practice from the recovery refuge in respect of their work with victims of domestic abuse with coinciding substance misuse issues.
- ◆ Across the housing partnership, we have promoted Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance accreditation (DAHA).

What will we do?

- ◆ Continue to facilitate the housing steering group to drive forward the whole housing approach to domestic abuse.
- ◆ We will explore housing solutions with partners for domestic abuse victims and perpetrators including the provision of safe accommodation under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- ◆ We will continue to raise awareness across the partnership around homelessness prevention options for domestic abuse victims and perpetrators.
- ◆ We will promote the newly formed network of domestic abuse housing leads.
- ◆ We will support the implementation of a flexible funding pot across Southend, Essex and Thurrock.
- ◆ We will work with the Changing Futures Programme across Essex which provides support to individuals with complex and additional needs.
- ◆ Continue to support the work of the recovery refuge in respect of their work with victims of domestic abuse with coinciding substance misuse issues.

Why is this important?

Enables people affected by domestic abuse to recover and live free from abuse.



Outcome 4



Supporting and Disrupting Perpetrators to Change Their Behaviour and Break the Cycle of Domestic Abuse



Supporting and Disrupting Perpetrators to Change Their Behaviour and Break the Cycle of Domestic Abuse

What have we done?

- ◆ Continued to support The Change Hub in the work they do regarding behaviour change interventions for perpetrators of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock.
- ◆ Supported the development of the Essex Police Domestic Abuse Problem Solving Teams (DAPST) by cascading the training available and sharing partnership links.
- ◆ We have utilised the insights and recommendations from the research conducted by Essex Centre for Data Analytics (ECDA) into domestic abuse perpetrators to inform future workstreams and priorities.
- ◆ We secured additional central government funding to support the services provided by Goodman and Sisters in Strength, The Change Hub, and the Change Project.
- ◆ We secured central government funding to develop a targeted perpetrator campaign (#Reflect delivered during 22/23).
- ◆ We have established an Eastern Region DA Perpetrator Group to share good practice.
- ◆ A Multi Agency Stalking Intervention Panel has been established.
- ◆ Additionally during February 2023 a funding bid was submitted to the Home Office to expand our existing commissioned offer (The Change Hub, Sisters in Strength and Goodman) as well as developing a bespoke stalking service and diversionary cautioning response.

What will we do?

- ◆ We will develop a bespoke stalking intervention to target perpetrators and expand the current victim services offer.
- ◆ We will design and implement a diversionary caution pilot to target domestic abuse perpetrators who have come to police attention for the first time.
- ◆ To facilitate relationships between Phoenix Futures and The Change Hub for domestic abuse perpetrators subject to drug testing on arrest.
- ◆ We will be working with our commissioners and stakeholders to develop and design a new domestic abuse support model.
- ◆ We will use the feedback from people with lived experience to influence our service design and to consider how we embed lived experience within our partnership and services.
- ◆ Continue to support and expand the services provided by Goodman and Sisters in Strength, The Change Hub, and the Change Project.

Why is this important?

Perpetrators need to be held to account for their behaviour and offered opportunities to change to prevent future harm.

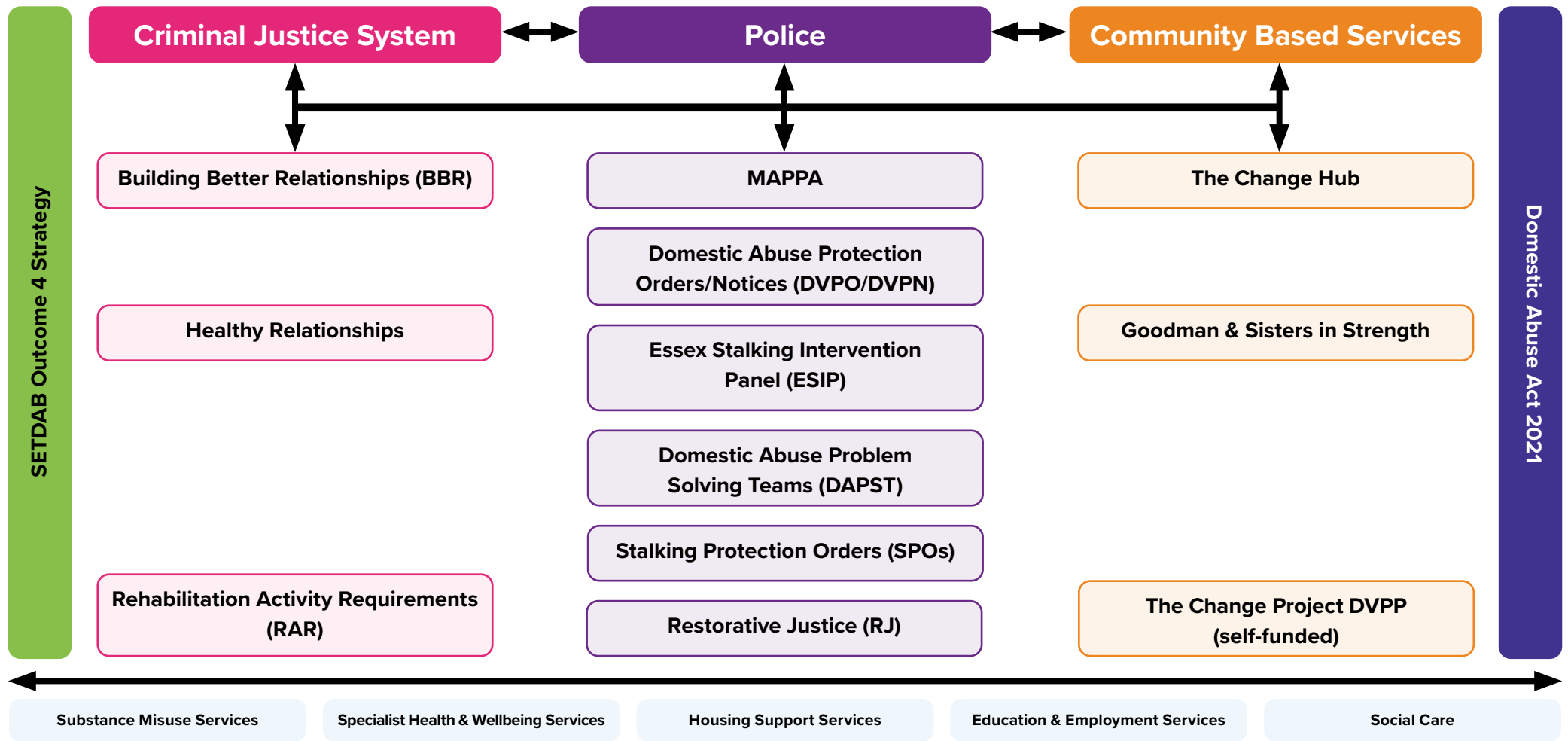


Supporting and Disrupting Perpetrators to Change Their Behaviour and Break the Cycle of Domestic Abuse

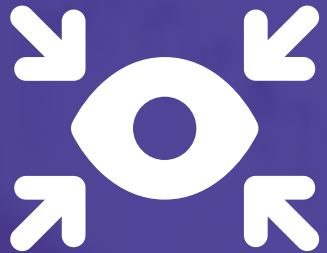
SETDAB Perpetrator Menu of Interventions

- ◆ Whole system approach to tackling perpetrators
- ◆ Clear and effective inter-agency referral routes
- ◆ Effective perpetrator identification and tailored interventions

- ◆ Identify and monitor demand for services
- ◆ Identify funding opportunities to expand the menu of interventions
- ◆ Highlight & share best practice



Outcome 5



Communities, Professionals and Employers are able to Recognise Domestic Abuse at the Earliest Opportunity and Have the Confidence to Take Action



Communities, Professionals and Employers are able to Recognise Domestic Abuse at the Earliest Opportunity and Have the Confidence to Take Action

What have we done?

- ◆ Established a new partnership communications group and communications strategy.
- ◆ Reissued our service availability campaign at key points during the year, reissued our Stalking Campaign during 2022 and developed and launched our #Reflect Campaign.
- ◆ Delivered our annual conferences, with the most recent events having a focus on Coercive Control and Stalking in 2022.
- ◆ Developed a specific landing page for DA and older people on the SETDAB website.
- ◆ Completed our third Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) thematic review and shared learning with our partners.
- ◆ Developed a specific landing page for DHRs on the SETDAB website.
- ◆ Completed a review of the centralised domestic homicide review process for SET and had agreement from all partners for SETDAB to continue leading this work.
- ◆ Worked with the Home Office on the development of the national DHR repository.
- ◆ Continued to promote our virtual learning and development offer.
- ◆ Developed and delivered a series of monthly lectures and training events.
- ◆ Continued to promote domestic abuse awareness within the business sector, encouraging healthy working environments, e.g., the work of J9 and Alpha Vesta.

What will we do?

- ◆ The bespoke Outcome 5 Communications Group will continue to lead on our communications and campaigns work.
- ◆ #Reflect Campaign will continue throughout the year and we will look to develop a new campaign during 2023-2024.
- ◆ Deliver our annual conference in November 2023.
- ◆ We will complete and share our fourth thematic review into DHRs.
- ◆ Continue to promote our virtual learning and development offer.
- ◆ Continue to develop and deliver our series of monthly lectures and training events.
- ◆ Continue to promote domestic abuse awareness within the business sector, encouraging healthy working environments, e.g., the work of J9 and Alpha Vesta.
- ◆ We will work with our local safeguarding boards to design and deliver shared learning from our reviews.

Why is this important?

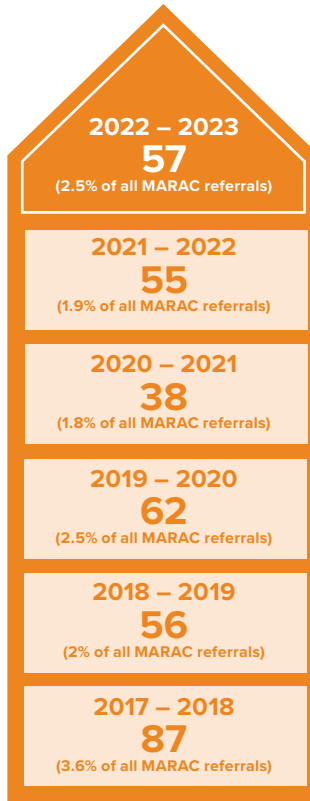
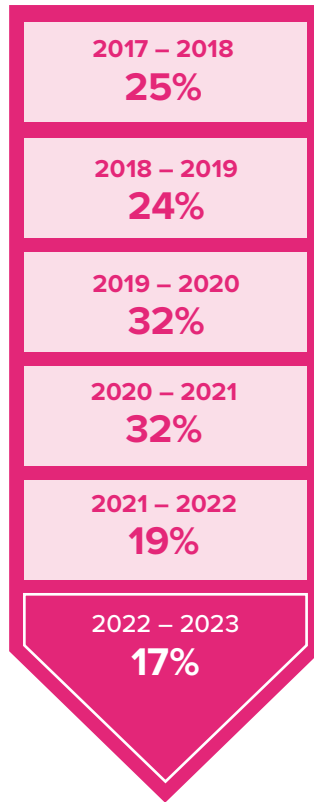
People affected by domestic abuse need to be able to access appropriate services to increase safety and reduce harm.

SETDAB Performance Data 2022-2023

MARAC referral numbers



MARAC Non-police referral numbers

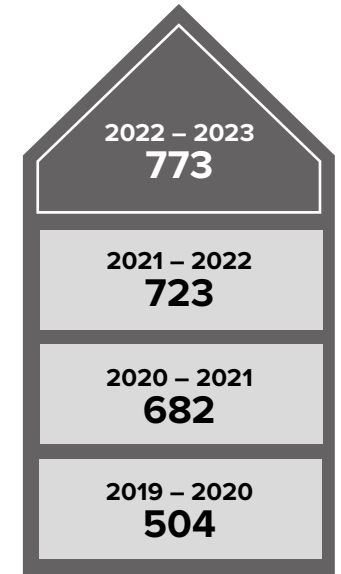
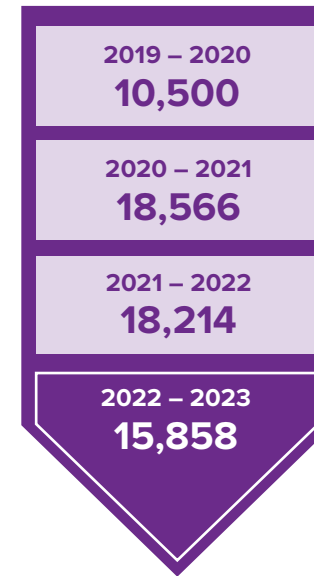


Number of 16-17yo high risk victims

Number of Police DA incidents



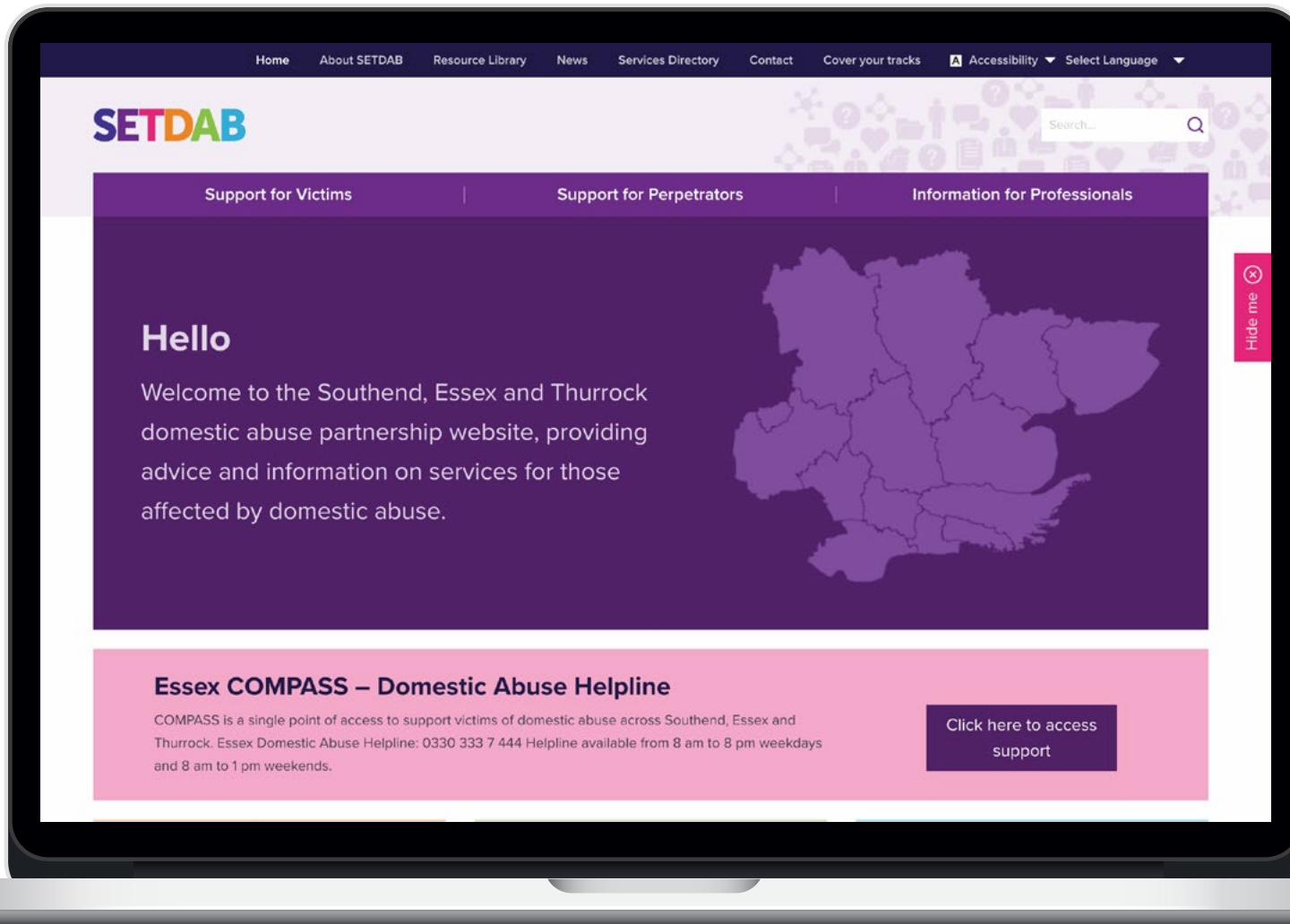
Visitors to the SETDAB Website



Subscribers to the SETDAB newsletter

Details of Our Website

www.setdab.org



Glossary

BBR

Building Better Relationships

CJS

Criminal Justice System

CSC

Children's Social Care

CSP

Community Safety Partnerships

DA

Domestic Abuse

DAPST

Domestic Abuse Problem Solving Teams

DHR

Domestic Homicide Review

ECDA

Essex Centre for Data Analytics

EPUT

Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust

ESIP

Essex Stalking Intervention Panel

GP

General Practitioner

ICB

Integrated Care Board

IDVA

Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

ISA

Information Sharing Agreement

ISVA

Independent Sexual Abuse Advisor

LGBTQ+

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Questioning

MAPPA

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

MARAC

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

NDTMS

National Drug Treatment Monitoring System

NHS

National Health System

COMPASS

Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline



COMPASS is a single point of access to support victims of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock.

Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline:
0330 333 7 444

Helpline available from 8 am to 8 pm weekdays and 8 am to 1 pm weekends.

Contact us via the online forms at
www.essexcompass.org.uk



Ending
Violence
in Essex



Essex County Council

PFCC
POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX



For a brighter future,
free from abuse.