

## London Borough of Havering – Debbie DHR Local and National Policy and Practice Recommendations

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Recommendation	No.	Action	By Whom	By When	Progress Update (Red / Amber / Green)
BHRUT to provide an IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) to be available across the Trust.	1	Allocate resources to hire and train an IDVA  <b>Outcome:</b> Improved support for domestic violence victims within the Trust.	BHRUT HR and Training Department.	Within 3 months	BHRUT have created a business plan regarding the need for an IDVA. However the trust are not currently in a position to hire their own Hospital IDVA. They continue to actively seek funding for this position.
Embed IRIS training in GP practices and ensure clinical DA enquiries are utilized at appropriate presentations.	2	Schedule and conduct IRIS training sessions for all GP staff.  <b>Outcome:</b> Enhanced identification and support for domestic abuse victims in GP practices	ICB Safeguarding Lead.	Within 2 months	IRIS project funding is in place until Dec 2025. 217 Clinicians and ARR's have been trained across 33 surgeries resulting in 129 patients referred to Aanchal Women's Aid for support (Jan24- current date).
GPs to seek support from the ICB when completing safeguarding referrals.	3	Develop a protocol for GPs to follow when seeking support from the ICB.	ICB Safeguarding Lead.	Within 2 months	General Practitioners (GPs) continue to contact the Designated Adult Safeguarding Professional

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		<b>Outcome:</b> Streamlined process for safeguarding referrals.			<p>directly for support when required. When invited, the Designated Professional attends GP Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings, where complex cases are discussed, and agreed actions are put in place to support both the adult at risk and the Practice.</p> <p>The North-East London Integrated Care Board (NEL ICB) Primary Care Safeguarding Handbook is updated annually to ensure it remains current. It provides up-to-date contact details for all safeguarding professionals, along with clear referral pathways for safeguarding, domestic abuse (DA), PREVENT, and modern slavery.</p>

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					<p>To support the completion of Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs), a template has been developed to assist GPs in Havering with compiling their chronologies. GPs also receive regular safeguarding updates through newsletters, keeping them informed of emerging issues, policy changes, and best practice guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, the Designated Professional delivers annual half-day training sessions to GPs in Havering to strengthen their understanding of safeguarding responsibilities and promote effective multi-agency collaboration.</p>

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Collect specific data on ethnicity and faith for service users.	4	<p>Implement a data collection system to capture ethnicity and faith information.</p> <p><b>Outcome:</b> Better understanding of service user demographics.</p>	VAWG Strategic Group.	Within 4 months.	<p><b>March 2025</b> – currently MARAC and IDVA referrals request data on ethnicity. The ethnicity categories are specified by Safelives and a quarterly data report is submitted from the MARAC. The categories are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asian/Asian British</li> <li>• Black/Black British</li> <li>• Mixed/Mixed British</li> <li>• White British</li> <li>• White other (including travelling community)</li> <li>• Any other.</li> </ul> <p>The above information remains the same, however conversations at meetings such as the MARAC steering group, have requested that SPOC's share the importance and need to capture this data when completing referrals.</p>

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					Additionally, ethnicity information is collated by Havering Women's Aid and also Cranstoun, who too provide services to victims of DA.
Review current provision of DA awareness training to ensure it is standalone and includes cultural nuances.	5	Conduct a review of existing DA training programs and update them to include cultural nuances.  <b>Outcome:</b> More effective DA awareness training.	VAWG Strategic Group.	Within 6 months	Training packs for DASH RIC and DA awareness include information on specific forms of DA, such as so called HBV, as well as additional barriers that can be posed for victims from different backgrounds.
VAWG strategic group to review community engagement programs and implement a women's group community development role.	6	Assess current community engagement programs and develop a plan to implement a women's group community development role.  <b>Outcome:</b> Improved engagement with marginalised communities.	VAWG Strategic Group.	Within 6 months.	The VAWG innovation hub (lead by Met police) is being used to share information or services in the community that can support with VAWG. Community engagement is spread across the borough, to support others to have access from various communities.

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CSP to lobby MOPAC and local councils for bespoke services for Sikh women regarding Domestic Abuse and support “by and for” groups	7	Develop a lobbying strategy and engage with MOPAC and local councils.  <b>Outcome:</b> Increased support for Sikh women experiencing domestic abuse	CSP	Within 3 months	A formal letter will be drafted and issued by the VAWG Strategic Partnership following the publication of the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)
The Home Office to ensure the collection of specific data on ethnicity and faith is mandatory for service users.	8	Advocate for policy changes at the national level to mandate data collection.  <b>Outcome:</b> Comprehensive data collection on service user demographics.	The Home Office	Ongoing	A formal letter will be drafted and issued by the VAWG Strategic Partnership following the publication of the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)