

Dorset Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

Domestic Abuse Bill – Action Plan

DRAFT

This is a working document as is being updated as draft legislation / guidance is finalised and new guidance is released.

The action plan is being coordinated by the CSP.

Current Legislation / Statutory Guidance Available;

- Domestic Abuse Bill (in DRAFT form);
- Draft Statutory Guidance Framework;
- Draft Statutory Guidance on the delivery of support to victims of domestic abuse, including children, in domestic abuse safe accommodation services.

Legislation / Statutory Guidance yet to be published;

- Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (in FINAL form);
- Draft Statutory Guidance – Domestic abuse protection notices and domestic abuse protection orders;
- Draft Statutory Guidance – Claire’s Law.

Domestic Abuse Bill (Draft)											
Action Plan - Formal duties placed on local public bodies as set out in the Domestic Abuse Bill / Domestic Abuse Act 2021											
Link to latest copy of the Domestic Abuse Bill - https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/58-01/124/5801124_en_1.html											
Ref	Source	DA Bill Cross Reference - Part	DA Bill - Reference Point	Issue	Requirement	Action	Notes	Target completion date	Lead agency	Nominated lead officer	Complete Y/N
DAB 1	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 1	N/A	Bill introduces a new definition for domestic abuse	All agencies will be required to work to the new definition	Ensure any existing or new documentation and public facing material reflects the new definition	Details of the new definition can be found in the DA Bill link.	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	All reps	Ongoing
DAB 2	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 2	15	Bill introduces a new Domestic Abuse Commissioner who will encourage good practice, monitor provision and report back to central government	A duty is placed on public authorities to co-operate with commissioner to support them in carrying out their functions.	Agencies must consider and respond to Commissioner's recommendations with any requests as reasonably practicable.	Actions will be developed as and when they come up.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ongoing
DAB 3	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 2	16	Bill introduces a new Domestic Abuse Commissioner who will encourage good practice, monitor provision and report back to central government	A duty is placed on public authorities to respond to Commissioner's recommendations.	Agencies must support DA commissioner with any requests as reasonably practicable.	Actions will be developed as and when they come up.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ongoing
DAB 4	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 3	20 - 54 (48 relates to Statutory Guidance)	Power to issue Domestic Abuse Protection Notice / Domestic Abuse Protection Order and subsequent powers such as remand for breach of order, special measures for witnesses in court	Police will have the power to issue protection notices and subsequent powers such as powers of arrest in breach or orders. Courts have power to issue domestic abuse protection orders.	Dorset Police / CPS to considered Statutory Guidance when made available and share response with agencies	Domestic Abuse Protection Notice (DVPN) / Domestic Abuse Protection Order (DVPO) Statutory Guidance has yet to be published.	Apr-21	Dorset Police / CPS	DCI Jim Beashel / CPS	N/A
						Add any actions coming from the Statutory Guidance to this action plan.	See Tab Below	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	Ongoing

DAB 5	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 4	55	Support provided by local authorities to victims of domestic abuse	LA must assess or make arrangements for the assessment of support needed in its area.	Dorset Council to include needs assessment any ongoing whole systems / commissioning work	Statutory Guidance has yet to be published to support LAs in carrying out these functions	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	N/A
					LA must prepare and publish a strategy for the provision of support and response to domestic abuse in its area; and must monitor the effectiveness of the strategy	Dorset Council to lead and coordinate the development of a local strategy through the Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board	Statutory Guidance has yet to be published to support LAs in carrying out these functions	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	TBC	N/A
						Add any actions coming from the Statutory Guidance to this action plan.	See Tab Below	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	Ongoing
DAB 7	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 4	56	Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards	LA must appoint a domestic abuse local partnership board	Dorset Council to appoint Dorset Community Safety Partnership as its LPB	Statutory Guidance has yet to be published to support LAs in carrying out these functions	Oct-20	CSP	Andy Frost	Y
						Add any actions coming from the Statutory Guidance to this action plan.	See Tab Below	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	Ongoing
DAB 8	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 4	57	Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards	LA must provide an annual report after the end of the financial year setting out how its exercising it's function.	Dorset Council to lead and coordinate the development of a local strategy through the local partnership board and any end of year reports	Statutory Guidance has yet to be published to support LAs in carrying out these functions	Jun-22	CSP	Andy Frost	N/A
						Add any actions coming from the Statutory Guidance to this action plan.	See Tab Below	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	Ongoing
DAB 9	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 5	60 - 62	Special measures to support victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings for offences involving domestic abuse	Special measures to be granted to support victim and witnesses of domestic abuse, including family courts	CPS / Youth Justice / Dorset Police / Children Services to consider implications of changes to court rules	Further advice and clarity is expected, however, nothing published at this current time.	Apr-21	CSP / Youth Justice / Dorset Police / Children Services	TBC	N/A
DAB 10	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 4B	31Q, 31R, 31S, 31T, 31U, 31V, 31W, 31X, 31Z,	Prohibition of cross-examination in person in family proceedings	Prohibition of cross-examination in person in family proceedings	CPS / Youth Justice / Dorset Police / Children Services to consider implications of changes to court rules	Further advice and clarity is expected, however, nothing published at this current time.	Apr-21	CSP / Youth Justice / Dorset Police / Children Services	TBC	N/A

DAB 11	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 7A	85E, 85F, 85G, 85H, 85I, 85J,	Prohibition of cross-examination in person in civil proceedings	Prohibition of cross-examination in person in civil proceedings	CPS / Youth Justice / Dorset Police / Children Services to consider implications of changes to court rules	Further advice and clarity is expected, however, nothing published at this current time.	Apr-21	CSP / Youth Justice / Dorset Police / Children Services	TBC	N/A
DAB 12	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 6	65	Consent to serious harm for sexual gratification not a defence in court proceedings	N/A	CPS / Dorset Police to consider implications and report back any findings to partners	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Police / CPS	DCI Jim Beashel / CPS	N/A
DAB 13	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 6	66, 67	Responding to offences against a person committed outside the UK in court proceedings	N/A	CPS / Dorset Police to consider implications	Further advice and clarity is expected, however, nothing published at this current time.	Apr-21	Dorset Police / CPS	DCI Jim Beashel / CPS	N/A
DAB 14	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 7	69	Polygraph conditions for offenders released on license	N/A	CPS / Dorset Police to consider implications	Further advice and clarity is expected, however, nothing published at this current time.	Apr-21	Dorset Police / CPS	DCI Jim Beashel / CPS	N/A
DAB 15	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 7	70	Disclosure of information held by Police	Police sharing information for the prevention of domestic abuse safely and appropriately	Dorset Police to consider implications	Statutory Guidance has yet to be published. Think this relates to Claire's Law but not clear.	Apr-21	Dorset Police / CPS	DCI Jim Beashel / CPS	N/A
						Add any requirements coming from the Statutory Guidance to this action plan.	See Tab Below	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	Ongoing
DAB 16	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 7	71	Homelessness and domestic abuse	Changes made to Housing Act 1996	Dorset Council to consider changes to legislation and make any necessary amendments to policy	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Council Housing	Fiona Brown / Sharon Attwater	N/A
DAB 17	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 7	72	Granting of secure tenancies in cases of domestic abuse	Changes made to Housing Act 1985	Dorset Council to consider changes to legislation and make any necessary amendments to policy	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Council Housing	Fiona Brown / Sharon Attwater	N/A
DAB 18	Domestic Abuse Bill and Subsequent Domestic Abuse Act	Part 7	73	Secretary of State to issue Statutory Guidance Framework	All agencies will be required to meet the guidance.	Add any actions coming from the Statutory Guidance to this action plan.	See Tab Below	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	Ongoing

Draft Statutory Guidance Framework

Action Plan - Formal duties placed on local public bodies as set out in the Draft Domestic Abuse Statutory Guidance Framework

Link to latest copy of the Domestic Abuse Bill -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/896640/Draft_statutory_guidance_July_2020.pdf

Ref	Source	Statutory Guidance Framework Reference Chapter and Point	Issue	Requirement	Action	Notes	Target completion date	Lead agency	Nominated lead officer	Complete Y/N
SGF 1	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 2 - Understanding Domestic Abuse Point 16 - 22	Domestic abuse will have a new statutory definition which is described in the statutory guidance.	Ensure all public facing and internal documents where information contained detailing what domestic abuse is gets updated to reflect the new definition.	Update websites and public facing documents.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A
					Update internal documents and / or ensure new definition is consider in any future policy updates.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A
SGF 2	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 2 - Understanding Domestic Abuse Point 31	The statutory guidance to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'11 sets out what professionals and organisations need to do to safeguard children.	Professionals working with children must adhere to 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' guidance.	Ensure organisations and professionals are working to the guidance.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2	Apr-21	Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A
	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 2 - Understanding Domestic Abuse Point 32	Courts and responding agencies must take into account youth justice guidelines when responding to cases of teenage relationship abuse, avoid unnecessarily criminalising young people, and identify appropriate interventions to address behaviours that might	Courts, Organisations and Professionals working with children and young people must adhere to guidance in cases of teenage relationship abuse.	Ensure organisations and professionals are working to the guidance.	Refer to Point 32 for links to Statutory Guidance	Apr-21	Dorset Criminal Justice Board?	David Webb	N/A

			constitute or lead to abuse.							
SGF 3	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 2 - Understanding Domestic Abuse Point 33 - 35	Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (APVA) is increasingly recognised as a form of domestic abuse and needs to be well understood amongst professionals and responded to appropriately.	Ensure the issue of AVPA is well understood across agencies and professionals	Rejuvenate previous work on AVPA and ensure this is appropriately shared across all agencies.	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership	David Webb	N/A
SGF 4	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 2 - Understanding Domestic Abuse Point 51 - 55	Economic Abuse is included in the Statutory Definition of Domestic Abuse.	The police and responding agencies should ensure they remain alert to the need to consider and recognise economic abuse when carrying out risk assessments.	All agencies to provide awareness raising of economic abuse across their agencies.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A
SGF 5	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 2 - Understanding Domestic Abuse Point 57 - 61	Individuals can be the victims of multiple and different abusive behaviours because of the way different characteristics, such as immigration status, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic position and sexuality intersect and overlap, particularly in relation to accessing services and support if they are not adequately designed to meet their needs.	Commissioners, service providers and statutory agencies must consider this intersectionality when developing their responses, in order to fully identify the lived experiences of all victim's vis-a-vis the abusive behaviour they experience and ensure that services are provided to victims without discrimination	Service providers and statutory agencies include intersectionality when developing their responses	Refer to the National Statement of Expectations in Chapter 5 of Statutory Guidance Framework.	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A
					Commissioners include intersectionality when developing their work to whole systems	Refer to the National Statement of Expectations in Chapter 5 of Statutory Guidance Framework.	Apr-21	Commissioners in Dorset Council and Dorset Police and Dorset Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	Ian Grant	N/A
SGF 6	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 3 – Impact on Victims - 115	Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may find it difficult to express their feelings, especially if they are non-verbal. Distress could be presented in different ways, including through their behaviours.	Professionals must consider behaviours and take the individual needs of the child into consideration to support them to communicate in a way they feel comfortable.	Ensure organisations and professionals working with SEND are appropriately skilled and trained in domestic abuse and how to respond	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A

SGF 7	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 2 and Chapter 3. 1 - 20	Understanding what domestic abuse is and the impact on victim and family members.	Ensure learning contained in the statutory guidance is embedded in local approaches.	All agencies to ensure learning contained in statutory guidance framework is considered and utilised when developing local responses.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A
SGF 8	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 121 - 126	People and their families experiencing domestic abuse get the right support at the right time.	Using the Statutory Guidance, professionals and organisations are aware of domestic abuse and how to respond safely.	All agencies to ensure learning contained in statutory guidance framework is considered and utilised when developing local responses.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A
SGF 9	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 128 - 129	Schools and colleges can play a key role in preventing and detecting domestic abuse. They can make a difference by training their staff to spot the signs of domestic abuse in children, parents and colleagues so they know what to do if they have a concern and/or how to handle a disclosure	Schools and colleges must have regard to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' – statutory safeguarding guidance. The guidance is clear that schools and colleges should ensure that all staff receive regularly updated safeguarding training, so they can take appropriate steps to identify, protect and support children.	Schools and colleges should consider reflecting domestic abuse in their training following the guidance.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2	Apr-21	Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A
				Every school and college should have a designated safeguarding lead who provides support to staff members to carry out their safeguarding duties and who will liaise closely with other services	Ensure schools and colleges have DSLs in place and response to any cases of domestic abuse appropriately.	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--3	Apr-21	Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A
SGF 10	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 132	Educating young people about domestic abuse through age-appropriate materials is vital in ensuring they can experience healthy relationships.	From September 2020, Relationships Education for all primary pupils and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) for all secondary pupils will be compulsory	Ensure schools and colleges are providing RE for primary and RSE for secondary pupils is in place.	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A

SGF 11	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 134 - 142	Domestic abuse is the most common risk factor identified by social workers in assessments and is a key driver of need for children's social care. Children's social workers are therefore an important partner both in the identification of domestic abuse and the service response – whether by engaging families to keep children safe from harm, finding the best possible care when children cannot live at home, or creating the conditions that enable children to thrive and achieve	Social workers should receive training, so they have the relevant knowledge and skills that are set out in the Knowledge and Skills Statements for child and family social work. The 'Post-qualifying Standard: Knowledge and Skills Statement for Child and Family Practitioners' (KSS) clearly states that practitioners should be able to identify the impact of adult problems, including domestic abuse and the effect it has on children	Ensure training is in place for social workers in children services to be able to identify and respond to domestic abuse.	N/A	Apr-21	Children Services	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A
SGF 12	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 143 - 152	The local authority and its social workers have specific roles and responsibilities to lead the statutory assessment of children in need and to lead child protection enquiries, including children in families with no recourse to public funds. Following acceptance of a referral by the local authority children's social care, a social worker should lead a multiagency assessment under section 17 of the Children Act 1989	Where information gathered during an assessment results in the social worker suspecting that the child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm, the local authority should hold a strategy discussion to enable it to decide, with other agencies, whether it must initiate enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989	Stocktake to ensure existing section 47 pathways cover off domestic abuse.	N/A	Apr-21	Children Services	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A
SGF 13	Draft Statutory Guidance	Chapter 4. 153 - 157	Victims of domestic abuse may also have care and support needs and already have	Under the Care Act 2014, a local authority has duties to make statutory enquiries to safeguarding	Ensure training is in place for adult social care staff so they are able to identify and respond to domestic abuse.	N/A	Apr-21	Adult Services	Andrea Breen	N/A

	Framework - July 2020		involvement with safeguarding agencies. Individuals who have care and support needs may be particularly vulnerable to domestic abuse from intimate partners or family members, who may use the fact that they have caring responsibilities as a cover for their abuse.	concerns where threshold met which includes domestic abuse.	Stocktake to ensure existing section 42 pathways cover off domestic abuse.	N/A	Apr-21	Adult Services	Andrea Breen	N/A
SGF 14	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 158	Safeguarding Adults Boards plan an important role in monitoring the effectiveness of local offer to adults at risk.	Safeguarding Adults Boards must manage MARAC Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (HRDA (High Risk Domestic Abuse) is the local offer)) and domestic abuse data	Safeguarding Adults Boards monitor HRDA and domestic abuse data	N/A	Apr-21	Safeguarding Adult Board	Karen Maher	N/A
SGF 15	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 162	Safe, routine enquiry should be in place in maternity and mental health services, to improve earlier disclosure and support people to get the care that they need	Safe, routine enquiry should be in place in maternity and mental health services, to improve earlier disclosure and support people to get the care that they need	Ensure health professionals receive regular domestic abuse training	N/A	Apr-21	CCG	Liz Plastow	N/A
					Stocktake to ensure routine enquiries are being made for domestic abuse across health services.	N/A	Apr-21	CCG	Liz Plastow	N/A
SGF 16	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 167	Many victims of domestic abuse have to leave their homes and the area where they live.	The Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities states that in formulating their homelessness strategies, housing authorities should consider the particular needs (which may be multiple) that victims of domestic abuse have for safe accommodation. Housing authorities should work co-operatively with other local authorities and commissioners to provide services to tackle domestic abuse, including refuge provision.	Ensure domestic abuse is featured in local homelessness strategy	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Council Housing	Fiona Brown	N/A

SGF 17	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 173 - 175	DWP (Department of Working Pensions) employees are highly likely to come into contact with victims of domestic abuse. Each Jobcentre has assigned points of contact who have undergone training to identify and support the needs of anyone experiencing domestic abuse and will work closely with local services to share knowledge and signpost victims to additional, external support. Job centre staff should be aware that perpetrators may make vexatious allegations of benefit fraud in an attempt to control and abuse partners/former partners	DWP (Department of Working Pensions) employees are highly likely to come into contact with victims of domestic abuse. Each Jobcentre has assigned points of contact who have undergone training to identify and support the needs of anyone experiencing domestic abuse and will work closely with local services to share knowledge and signpost victims to additional, external support. Job centre staff should be aware that perpetrators may make vexatious allegations of benefit fraud in an attempt to control and abuse partners/former partners	Ensure Job Centre staff have received regular domestic abuse training	N/A	Apr-21	????	????	N/A
SGF 18	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 176 - 180	Each year there are over one million calls to the police in England and Wales about domestic abuse, and on average someone contacts the police every 30 seconds for help with domestic abuse. 78% of victims at the highest risk of serious harm or murder report the abuse to the police in the year before they get effective help, on average almost three times each	The College of Policing has developed guidance – Authorised Professional Practice – which sets out principles and standards for officers on investigating domestic abuse.	Ensure Police are working to the Statutory Guidance.	https://www.app.college.police.uk/domestic-abuse-index/ Additional guidance regarding investigations can be found here - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/482528/Controlling_or_coercive_behavior_-_statutory_guidance.pdf	Apr-21	Dorset Police	Jim Beashel	N/A

SGF 19	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 179	Perpetrators of domestic violence can use insecure immigration status as a way to inflict abuse on the victim, for example by way of threats to tell the police. When dealing with victims with insecure immigration status, police should treat all individuals who report domestic abuse as victims first.				Apr-21	Dorset Police	Jim Beashel	N/A
SGF 20	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 181 - 196.	Bail conditions are an important means of supporting the positive action of arrest. They offer protection for the victim and witnesses while criminal offences are investigated or during criminal proceedings. If a suspect breaches bail conditions, they should be swiftly held to account and remanded in custody if appropriate in the circumstances. Bail can be applied for both pre-charge and post-charge	Police to ensure they make use of relevant powers at their disposal. This includes but is not limited to DVPN/DVPOs, Forced Marriage Protection Orders. FGM Protection Orders. Stalking Protection Orders. Restraining Orders. Non - Molestation and Occupation Orders	Further Statutory Guidance will be published in due course. Dorset Police to consider this and share findings with partner agencies.	See Statutory Guidance DVPN/DVPO tab below.	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Jim Beashel	N/A
SGF 21	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 200 - 212	The CPS response to domestic abuse is vital in the overall response to dealing with domestic abuse.	CPS guidance and training to prosecutors on handling cases of domestic abuse applies to all, irrespective of age, and sets out handling on all aspects of offending related to domestic abuse including recognising the lasting trauma that victims and their extended families may face and reminding prosecutors that abuse can be psychological, physical, sexual, economic and emotional.	Ensure CPS staff and Courts have received appropriate domestic abuse training or have plans in place.	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Criminal Justice Board	TBC	N/A

				The CPS, together with the police and HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) are leading efforts to implement a best practice framework (BPF) for use across all magistrates' courts. The framework has been developed by identifying common components from high performing courts and aims to improve the capacity and capability of the criminal justice system to respond effectively to reports of domestic abuse offending, whilst providing a level of service to victims, which increases their safety and satisfaction in the criminal justice system	Regions all have strategic and operational groups which should drive forward adoption of the DA BPF in each local area. They are being supported by a national implementation group – membership of which includes representatives from HMCTS, Police, CPS, Victim Support and specialist domestic abuse support services	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Criminal Justice Board	TBC	N/A
SGF 22	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 214- 215.	Local criminal justice boards (LCJBs) or partnerships manage the criminal justice system at a local level, by joining up local criminal justice agencies to achieve common aims and objectives. Targets are set at a local level to reduce crime, bring more offenders to justice, and increase public confidence in the criminal justice system	LCJBs should be used by senior officers to monitor criminal justice responses to domestic abuse within agencies that have key responsibilities and targets	Stocktake to ensure this is happening	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Criminal Justice Board	TBC	N/A
SGF 23	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 217	The Employers' Initiative for Domestic Abuse (EIDA) is a network of over 300 employers, working together to encourage employers to do more to tackle domestic abuse. EIDA has published a toolkit which provides employers with guidance and information on domestic abuse, to help them better understand the	N/A	Work to ensure employers across Dorset (but statutory and non-statutory) adopt toolkits to help them ensure they are able to respond to cases of domestic abuse from their staff.	https://www.eida.org.uk/	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A

			scope of the problem and subsequently improve the support available to their employee							
SGF 24	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 218 - 221.	Control of, and access to, finances is a significant part of domestic abuse.	The VAWG National Statement of Expectations recommends that local commissioners explore what local banks are doing to identify and support victims of coercive control, including whether they can provide a safe disclosure point for a victim	Undertake work to understand what banks and other financial institutes in Dorset are doing to recognise domestic abuse.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	TBC	N/A
SGF 25	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 4. 222 - 224.	The voluntary sector plays a key role in providing specialist support for victims, their families and perpetrators	The state sector should work closely with the voluntary sector to ensure full and proper combination of expertise to provide holistic support	Ensure VCS are involved in whole systems work.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	N/A
SGF 26	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 5. 225 - 330	Any Commissioning activity is required to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. This is covered under the National Statements of Expectations	Ensure and commissioned services meet the needs of the National Statement of Expectations.	Dorset Council Commissioners, OPCC Commissioners and other Commissioners to ensure full EQIA (Equality Impact Assessment) is undertaken in the preparation and commissioning of any new services.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	N/A
SGF 27	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 5. 231 - 234	Ensure any commissioning work and strategies consider and meet the requirements of the National Statement of Expectations. Alongside this, Commissioners and service providers should utilise other national toolkits to help them develop local response.	Ensure any commissioning work and strategies consider and meet the requirements of the National Statement of Expectations.	Ensure any commissioning work and strategies through whole systems programme consider and meet the requirements of the National Statement of Expectations.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	N/A

SGF 28	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 5. 235 - 240	Local areas should commission safe, effective perpetrator programmes. There are a number of different accreditation schemes and standards operating in perpetrator work	Local areas should commission safe, effective perpetrator programmes. There are a number of different accreditation schemes and standards operating in perpetrator work	Ensure perpetrator offer is considered as part of the whole systems work to how we design and commission services.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Ian Grant	N/A
SGF 29	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 5. 242	Destitute Domestic Violence Concession (DDVC) provides support to victims who have been granted a visa or leave to remain.	N/A	Ensure DDVC is well understood across partnerships, how it can be accessed and ensure this is communicated to the public.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	TBA	N/A
SGF 30	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 6. 243	To provide effective support and protection to victims of domestic abuse it is essential that agencies work together. This includes through strategic planning, co-commissioning and creating joined-up services	N/A	Partners must always consider working together when responding to and designing system, including partnership arrangements such as MASH / HRDA, including the Statutory Guidance Working Together principles set out in Chapter 6.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Strategy Group Reps	N/A
SGF 31	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 6. 249 - 251	Multi Agency Response to high risk cases of domestic abuse	MARAC is not a statutory duty but is seen as good practice. Agencies must ensure any information shared is GDP compliant.	Ensure HRDA (local multi agency response to high risk cases) has adequate GDPR arrangements in place. This includes information sharing protocols and Caldicott Principles are adhered to in decision making to share information.	N/A	Apr-21	HRDA QA Group	Kay Wilson-White	N/A
SGF 32	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 6. 253	Perpetrator Panels.	Perpetrator Panels are not statutory but seen as growing good practice.	Partners to consider benefits of introducing Perpetrator Panel.	N/A	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Jim Beashel	N/A

SGF 33	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 6. 255	Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) are a requirement under existing legislation and responsibility falls to CSPs. Nothing new in the Statutory Guidance. CSPs to refer to the separate DHR Statutory Guidance.	NA	NA	https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-community/community-safety/community-safety-pdfs/domestic-homicide-review-statutory-guidance-2016.pdf	Apr-21	CSP Strategy Delivery Group	Kay Wilson-White	N/A
SGF 34	Draft Statutory Guidance Framework - July 2020	Chapter 6. 256	Operation Encompass is a specialist charity which runs a scheme (also called Operation Encompass) which helps police and schools work together to provide emotional and practical help to pupils affected by domestic abuse. The system ensures that the police report to schools before the start of the next school day when a child/young person has been involved in or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous evening. Appropriate school staff will be made aware and be able to support the child accordingly. Whereas children's social services only intervene in the most serious cases, Operation Encompass enables every child to receive support, regardless of whether or not the incident has been recorded as a crime.	N/A	Review and strengthen the approach in making contact with schools following incidences of Domestic Abuse so that schools are better able to support children and young people.	N/A	Apr-21	Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership	Sarah Jane Smedmor	N/A

Draft Statutory Guidance on the delivery of support to victims of domestic abuse, including children, in domestic abuse safe accommodation services.

Action Plan - Formal duties placed on Local Authority / Local Partnership Boards Statutory, Accommodation Based Support - Guidance

Link to latest Draft copy of statutory guidance on Delivery of Support to Victims of Domestic Abuse, including Children, in Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Services;
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-overarching-documents>

Ref	Source	Statutory Guidance Framework Reference Chapter and Point	Issue	Requirement	Action	Notes	Target completion date	Lead agency	Nominated lead officer	Complete Y/N
LPB1	Draft Statutory Guidance - Delivery of Support to Victims of Domestic Abuse, including Children, in Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Services	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	B1.1. Tier One authorities must appoint a Local Partnership Board (Board) consisting of key partners with an interest in tackling domestic abuse and supporting victims, including their children.	Must include (a) a representative of the Tier One authority; (b) at least one representative appearing to represent the interests of Tier Two authorities within the Tier One authority area. Ensure both housing and community safety knowledge and experience is represented.	Dorset Council to appoint a local partnership board, with representation from community safety, housing and the following sub sections listed below.		Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB2	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	(c) at least one person appearing to the authority to represent the interests of victims of domestic abuse;	LPB (Local Partnership Board) to include victim's voice. Consideration to be given to victim and witnesses board and victim bureau	B1.X Tier One authorities should ensure the Board adequately considers and factors in the voice of victims and service users when making local decisions. Consideration should be taken as to the appropriateness of how this is approached. Local authorities may wish to have direct representation from a victim on the Board or alternatively through a separate dedicated forum specific to hearing the voices and views of victims, a representative of which can sit on the Board. B1.X In doing so, Tier One authorities should ensure that the representative(s) are appropriate in ensuring the voices of victims with a range of relevant protected characteristics and needs are heard.	Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	

LPB3	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	(d) at least one person appearing to the authority to represent the interests of children of domestic abuse victims;	LPB to include children services.	B1.X All Boards must include relevant representation from services and / or organisations that support the needs of children, ensuring the unique needs of children of domestic abuse victims are adequately considered and addressed.	Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB4	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	(e) at least one person appearing to the authority to represent the interests of charities and other voluntary organisations that work with victims of domestic abuse in its area;	LPB to include voluntary and community sector representative	<p>B1.X Representation of local domestic abuse services must be included in the Board. Tier One authorities should work closely with local services, in particular drawing on their expertise and experience of supporting victims, including children, to further understand the varying needs and necessary steps needed to address them.</p> <p>B1.X Representation of such services should adequately reflect the needs of those affected by domestic abuse in the local area, including ensuring the views of specialist domestic abuse organisations working with or providing dedicated support to victims with relevant protected characteristics and unique or complex needs are heard.</p> <p>B1.X Where it is not possible to have direct representation from services providing specialist and dedicated support to victims with relevant protected characteristics or unique/complex needs – for example due to such services serving a national need across multiple local authority areas with limited capacity - Tier One authorities should consider alternative methods to ensuring the needs of these victims are appropriately captured. This could include undergoing training by such services to increase the Boards level of understanding or working closely</p>	Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	

						with other Tier One Boards that has representation of these services.				
LPB5	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	(f) at least one person appearing to the authority to represent the interests of persons who provide, or have functions relating to, health care services in its area;	LPB to include CCG	B1.X To ensure join up of services at a local level, Tier One authorities should consider how best to work with local healthcare and policing and criminal justice services. This includes ensuring appropriate representatives from such services are on the Board. Representatives could include individuals representing the interests of local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) or Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs).	Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB6	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	(g) at least one person appearing to the authority to represent the interests of persons with functions relating to policing or criminal justice in its area.	LPB to include Dorset Police and CPS?	B1.X To ensure join up of services at a local level, Tier One authorities should consider how best to work with local healthcare and policing and criminal justice services. This includes ensuring appropriate representatives from such services are on the Board. Representatives could include individuals representing the interests of local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) or Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs).	Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB7	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	Any other interested parties	LPB to include any other interested parties	<p>B1.X Tier One authorities may wish to include other representation not listed above to support their local approach to tackling domestic abuse. Membership should reflect the specific needs of a local area, for example, in an area with high population of military service personnel, membership could include representation by relevant service welfare representatives.</p> <p>B1.X Tier One Authorities should also consider including housing representatives as well as representation from similar or connected boards such as Community Safety Partnerships and Homelessness Reduction Boards.</p>	Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	

LPB8	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	Tier One authorities should set out a Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Board. The ToR should make clear how and why representatives were selected and the process which bodies can go through to express their interest in becoming a member of the Board	LPB to agree terms of reference using the gov template as appended in the statutory guidance	Where similar Boards or structures are already established; Tier One authorities should decide whether they are already the best approach to meeting the requirements of the duty locally. We do not expect local authorities to make changes if existing structures can adequately meet their duties set out in Part 4, [XX](X) of the Domestic Abuse Act, regulations and further set out in this guidance. B1.X Where authorities opt to use existing structures to deliver this duty, they should undertake a review of the existing associated strategies, needs assessments and commissioning policies. Where appropriate or necessary, these should then be revised in light of the new requirements as soon as possible.	Apr-21	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB9	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	B1.X Tier One authorities are expected to work collaboratively with, at a minimum, neighbouring local authorities by for example, sharing local data and service information. Tier One authorities may wish to work in close partnership and join up to cover more than one local authority area, including working as a regional cluster or across the country.	LPB to work closely with BCP council LPB and other neighbouring local authority areas.	Where Tier One authorities choose to join up, they must ensure the Board adheres to the relevant requirements set out above (Section B1 bullets a-g) – all Tier One areas covered under the joint arrangement must be represented.	Ongoing	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB10	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	B1.X Boards should convene, at a minimum, quarterly to undertake the relevant steps as set out in the local Terms of Reference.	LPB to meet a minimum of quarterly and more often if work requires it to.		Ongoing	Dorset Council	TBC	

LPB1 1	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	B1. X As set out under Part 4, Sections [XX-XX] of the Act Boards should support Tier One authorities by providing advice on the exercise of the following functions:	Assess the scale and nature of the needs for support within relevant accommodation as described in Regulations for all victims and their children, including those that require highly specialist and those that come from out of area (see Section B2)	B1.X Tier two authorities must, so far as reasonably practicable, comply with a request to cooperate with Tier One authorities in exercising their functions under section [XX]. This should include (but is not limited to): I. Providing advice, guidance and knowledge on the local area to support in the completion of a local need's assessment. II. Contribute to the development of a local strategy based on the need's assessments. III. Work in line with the agreed and published local strategy, particularly where commissioning responsibility has been delegated to Tier Two authorities. IV. Passing on relevant data to Tier One authorities for monitoring, evaluation and reporting purposes.	TBC	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB1 2	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	B1. X As set out under Part 4, Sections [XX-XX] of the Act Boards should support Tier One authorities by providing advice on the exercise of the following functions:	Preparing and publishing a whole-area domestic abuse strategy setting out the steps needed to meet the needs of diverse victims and their children, joining up strategies across local areas where appropriate (see Section B3) .		TBC	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB1 3	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	B1. X As set out under Part 4, Sections [XX-XX] of the Act Boards should support Tier One authorities by providing advice on the exercise of the following functions:	Giving effect to the strategy by making commissioning and decommissioning decisions of support within relevant accommodation at a local level (see Section B4) .		TBC	Dorset Council	TBC	

LPB1 4	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	B1. X As set out under Part 4, Sections [XX-XX] of the Act Boards should support Tier One authorities by providing advice on the exercise of the following functions:	Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the strategy, including local delivery of support within domestic abuse relevant accommodation (see Section C1).		TBC	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB1 5	As Above	Part B: Local delivery of support within Safe Accommodation. Section B1: Local Partnership Boards	As above	B1. X As set out under Part 4, Sections [XX-XX] of the Act Boards should support Tier One authorities by providing advice on the exercise of the following functions:	Report on progress and how funding has been used to MHCLG (see Section C2).		TBC	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB1 6	As Above	Section B2: Local Needs Assessments	B2.X Tier One authorities, with support from their Boards, must conduct a local needs assessment to determine the level of need for support within safe accommodation in their area.		Local Partnership Board (LPB) to undertake a needs assessment to determine the level of need of support within safe accommodation in the area.	B2.X Needs assessments are an important precursor to developing local strategies. A full local needs assessment should be conducted at a minimum every 3 years, with a refresh being undertaken on an annual basis to ensure any change in demand or support requirements are adequately captured.	TBC - awaiting gov template	Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB1 7	As Above	Section B2: Local Needs Assessments	As above	Tier One authorities, in consultation with the Board, should take steps to understand the barriers that prevent victims with diverse needs from accessing support within safe accommodation, including those who share relevant protected characteristics. This also includes taking into consideration, but is not limited to, household composition, nationality and the varying levels of support needs and risk.	Needs assessment to identify barriers accessing support to those with relevant characteristics. Needs assessment to include an EQIA		TBC - awaiting gov template	Local Partnership Board	TBC	

LPB1 8	As Above	Section B2: Local Needs Assessments	As above	B2.X Local needs assessments should take into account the need for support and services for victims within the area and for those whose original residence was located out of area. In doing so the assessment should also consider the number and needs level of victims who need to flee the local authority area to access safe accommodation within a different area.	Needs assessment to include links to out of area		TBC - awaiting gov template	Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB1 9	As Above	Section B2: Local Needs Assessments	As above	B2.X In undertaking the local needs assessment, Tier One authorities should use the expertise and knowledge of local specialist services to support in identifying and understanding the level and types of needs, including the needs of children. As well as listening to the voices of victims.	Needs assessment to be shaped by partners of the LPB		TBC - awaiting gov template	Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB2 0	As Above	Section B2: Local Needs Assessments	As above	B2.X Where possible, the Board should ensure personal data of victims does not form part of the local need's assessments. Where data that could risk identifying a victim and/ or a member of their family is collected, the Board must set out clearly how the data is intended to be used. Local authorities must comply with data protection laws	Needs assessment must comply with GDPR and DPA regulations.		TBC - awaiting gov template	Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB2 1	As Above	Section B2: Local Needs Assessments	As above	B2.X Where authorities currently assess the needs for support within safe accommodation alongside need for wider domestic abuse and / or VAWG services, we would encourage authorities to continue this approach, ensuring the elements set out in the form and associated guidance is adequately captured.	Needs assessment to include wider violence against women and girls agenda.		TBC - awaiting gov template	Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB2 2	As Above	Section B2: Local Needs Assessments	As above	B5.X Tier One authorities, utilising the expertise and knowledge of the Board members, must take steps to understand the barriers that prevent victims with certain relevant protected characteristics and/ or multiple complex needs from accessing and using support within relevant safe accommodation.	As per ref LPB17 and LPB19		TBC - awaiting gov template	Local Partnership Board	TBC	

LPB2 3	As Above	Section B3: Strategies	B3.X Tier One authorities must prepare and publish a local strategy based on a robust need's assessment, the first of which should be published by XXXX 2021 as set out in regulations. Thereafter, Strategies must be reviewed every three years.	B3.X Strategies do not need to follow a specific format; however, Tier One authorities should ensure the strategy clearly sets out its overall and holistic approach to deliver a rounded offer of support to victims in safe accommodation. This includes detailing plans and approaches working across Tier One and Two with partners, including other services within the authority, specialist domestic abuse providers, PCCs, housing and health bodies (not limited to). It should also set out - column to the right and below:	<p>LPB to create a strategy that includes needs identified;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The support needs identified as part of the local Needs Assessment, with a clear breakdown of the differing needs of victim groups such as, but not limited to, those from BAME backgrounds or who identify as LGBT [for a fuller list see section B5]. • The current available provision of support for victims in the local authority area, highlighting any gaps identified. 	<p>B3.X As well as setting out how the LA, in consultation with the Board, aims to address the needs identified from the local needs assessment, strategies should also clearly set out how authorities plan to spread awareness of Domestic Abuse and the support available to victims.</p> <p>B3.X Strategies should, as far as possible, be linked to and / or joined-up with other relevant areas, such as (but not limited to): Violence Against Women and Girls, Modern Slavery, Community Safety, Victims Strategy, Housing and Homelessness Reduction, Safeguarding and Troubled Families.</p> <p>B3.X Tier One authorities must consult with the Board, Tier Two authorities within the area and such other persons as they consider appropriate, before publishing their strategy.</p> <p>B3.X Tier One authorities must also consult with those set out above on revised versions of the strategy before publishing.</p> <p>B3.X The mechanism for which Tier One authorities choose to consult with should be made clear and include an up to date version of the strategy as well as adequate time for organisations to review and feedback – the timeframe of which should be clearly set out.</p> <p>B3.X Tier One authorities should set out a clear process which organisations and individuals can use to raise concerns in regard to the local strategy and the authority's approach in addressing the needs identified.</p>	TBC - awaiting gov clarification on dates	Local Partnership Board	TBC	
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LPB2 4	As Above	Section B3: Strategies	As above	As above	Strategy to include how it aims to address the Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The steps that will be taken to ensure the needs identified are adequately addressed. Tier One authorities should make clear how they plan on making available support services that meet the needs of all victims based on relevant protected characteristics and unique or complex needs identified, including sex, race, gender, language, religion, sexual orientation, age, state of health and disabilities. • This must include how they will address the barriers faced by victims with relevant protected characteristics and / or multiple complex needs, such as those listed under Section B5. • How the support needs of children within safe accommodation will be adequately met. • A clear approach to how victims crossing LA boundaries will be accommodated, and services not restricted by the victim's locality (in line with guidance on the disapplication of local connection for domestic abuse victims set out in the Statutory guidance on social 	As above	TBC - awaiting gov clarification on dates	Local Partnership Board	TBC	
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					housing allocations for local authorities in England). This could include accepting referrals nationally via the National Domestic Abuse Helpline as well as putting in place agreements with neighbouring authorities. • The level of funding being committed to deliver on the areas set out in the strategy.					
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LPB2 5	As Above	Section B4: Giving Effect to Strategies	B4.X Tier One authorities should ensure support is commissioned (directly and / or through de-commissioning) in safe accommodation to meet the needs of victims and their children in line with their local strategy as soon as reasonably practicable and in line with local authority procurement rules and commissioning cycles. B4.X This should be done in partnership with the Board and in partnership with relevant Tier Two Authorities.		LPB to consider strategy and use this to support commissioning services.	B4.X In commissioning services, authorities must ensure they adhere to sections A2 and A3 of this guidance. B4.X Local Authorities must ensure that no commissioned services under the duty include locality restrictions, and that victims are not turned away from accessing support commissioned under this duty on this basis due to where they originally resided B4.X We expect all services commissioned to be gender-informed by acknowledging that domestic abuse is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality. Services must adhere to the law under the Equality Act for single sex provisions. This includes services being aware of how best to offer support to transgender victims who may seek support, and being aware of services that they might refer a transgender victim onto if they are not able to offer provision	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB2 6	As Above	Section B4: Giving Effect to Strategies	As above	B4.X The services and support commissioned must reflect the particular needs of all victims in the area. For example, there must be adequate and appropriate support within the area to support victims with particular needs such as disabled victims, those from a BAME background, those who identify as LGBT and male victims [not limited to].	Commissioning activity must consider needs assessment and ensure access is available to all people and ensure any barriers are overcome.	B4.X Tailored support is vital to ensuring victims receive the right and appropriate types of support. Commissioning authorities should recognise that only making a 'one size fits all' provision available across the authority is unlikely to be the right approach. B4.X Where authorities believe [based on the local needs assessment] there to be a low level of demand for particular specialist support for victims with specific or complex needs, they should clearly detail within their strategies how they will ensure appropriate support is available should a victim present with these needs in their area. B4.X This could include working	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work	Dorset Council	TBC	

						collaboratively with neighbouring authorities to agree a joint approach, for example by pooling funding to commission support services which covers a wider geographic print than a standalone Tier One authority area.				
LPB2 7	As Above	Section B4: Giving Effect to Strategies	As above	B4.X Commissioning authorities should ensure that the process for commissioning does not exclude smaller voluntary organisations, including those that are run 'by and for' groups with particular characteristics such as victims from BAME backgrounds, those identifying as LGBT or disabled victims [not limited to].	Commissioning to go through robust procurement procedures.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB2 8	As Above	Section B4: Giving Effect to Strategies	As above	B4.X When commissioning services, authorities should consider how best to involve the Local Partnership Board, taking into consideration that some Board members may have a conflict of interest. It is advised that domestic abuse safe accommodation service providers should not be involved with local commissioning decisions in relation to this duty.	Commissioning to go through the LPB so they can help shape offer.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB2 9	As Above	Section B4: Giving Effect to Strategies	As above	B4.X Where possible, commissioning should be conducted on a long-term basis to encourage consistency and security for victims and their children. Unless there is good reason not to, commissioning should at a minimum reflect the period covered under the local strategy (3 years).	Offer to have a minimum of three years contract period unless good reason not to.	B4.X Where it has been agreed to delegate commissioning decisions to tier two authorities, Tier One authorities must ensure adequate funding to fulfil these decisions is passed down.	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB3 0	As Above	Section B4: Giving Effect to Strategies	As above	B4.X Tier One authorities and Board members should consider the potential to pool funds wherever possible to enable efficient commissioning of domestic abuse support services which deliver value for money. This includes pooling funds and commissioning services across multiple Tier One areas.	Dorset Council to ensure any commissioning is fed into partners wider work on taking a whole systems approach.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work	Dorset Council	TBC	

LPB3 1	As Above	Section B4: Giving Effect to Strategies	As above	B4.X In commissioning support services under this duty, Tier One authorities must ensure that services come within the definition of relevant accommodation as defined [see section A3] and should ensure delivery of support within these meets agreed and recognised quality standards. Including MHCLG's Quality Standards, the Women's Aid National Quality Standards and Imkaan Accredited Quality Standards.	Commissioned services to meet MHCLG, Women's Aid and Imkaan Accredited Quality Standards.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work	Dorset Council	TBC	
LPB3 2	As Above	Section B5: Supporting all victims and their children	B5.X Victims and their children with relevant protected characteristics as per the Equalities Act 2010 must be able to access the support that they need. Under this duty, we expect authorities to ensure the appropriate and adequate support within safe accommodation that meet the needs of all victims including those with relevant protected characteristics and / or multiple complex needs and who's support needs may not be able to be met within generic domestic abuse safe accommodation, such as victims who identify as (in notes):	B5.X Commissioning authorities should consider the needs and specific barriers of victims that may fall into more than one protected characteristic and / or unique and complex needs.	Any work undertaken to assess need, develop strategy and commission services to ensure it consults with relevant partners via LPB and that an EQIA is undertaken alongside this.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Asian and Minority Ethnic • Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and / or Transgender • Disabled – including but not limited to, deaf or hard of hearing, visually impaired, Autistic, wheelchair users and those with learning difficulties • Male • Young (aged 16-18 – including care leavers) and older victims (over 65) • People with an offending history <p>Those presenting with complex needs (including those with mental health and/or substance misuse needs and those facing multiple forms of abuse within the family such as honour based violence and forced marriage)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious and/or spiritual, particularly if facing barriers as a result • Having insecure immigration status • From isolated and/or marginalised communities, including where there is limited English proficiency. • Victims who have no choice but to move away from their local areas, communities and friends to escape their perpetrator to stay safe and receive the support they need. • Children of victims (including adolescent male children) within safe accommodation. • Victims with children, including large families and those with older 	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	

						adolescence boys (12+) • Pregnant victims				
LPB3 3	As Above	Section B5: Supporting all victims and their children	As above	B5.X Local authorities should also consider their Public Sector Equalities Duty under the Equalities Act 2010 and must have due regard or think about the need to: • Eliminate unlawful discrimination • Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't • Foster or encourage good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't	Any work undertaken to assess need, develop strategy and commission services to ensure it consults with relevant partners via LPB and other groups. All work to ensure that an EQIA is undertaken alongside it.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB3 4	As Above	Section B5: Supporting all victims and their children	As above	B5.X As set out at B3.X, Tier One authorities should also clearly set out in their strategies an agreed approach to addressing the barriers identified to ensure all victims are able to access the support they need when they need it.	As above		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB3 5	As Above	Section B5: Supporting all victims and their children	As above	B5.X Tier One authorities, in giving effect to their strategies, should have in place an approach to meeting the needs of victims and victims outside of their local area. Local authorities should work collaboratively with other local authorities to put in place support which allows victims easy movement from one area to another whilst ensuring their safety.	LPB and Dorset Council to work closely with BCP council/LPB and other LPBs of neighbouring counties to ensure it meets the needs of victims outside of Dorset.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	

LPB3 6	As Above	Section B5: Supporting all victims and their children	As above	B5.X Tier One authorities should ensure support services are provided in locations and ways which are accessible to all victims and their children. This should reflect needs identified as part of the needs assessment and can include, but is not limited to, having in place translation services, British Sign Language interpreters and wheelchair access.	Dorset Council to ensure that accommodation and support is accessible.	B5.X Where gaps in such support has been identified, commissioning authorities should explore the use of training for services already commissioned to ensure needs are being adequately met. For example, by offering training to support staff within the area to build confidence in supporting victims with particular needs, such as those who do not speak English as their first language.	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB3 7	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	Section C1: Monitoring and Evaluating	C1.X Tier One authorities, should have a clear approach to monitoring and evaluating local delivery against approaches set out within their local strategies.	LPB to monitor local delivery and will set out how this is done in strategy.	MHCLG has developed a standardised reporting form for Tier One authorities to report back to government on steps taken in meeting the duty. A standardised approach will create consistency in the type and level of data collected at both local and national level. The standardised form can be found at Annex X of this guidance/ here.	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB3 8	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	C1.X In doing so, authorities should review how local decisions and actions have impacted the needs assessments and victims' journeys within their area. For example, how have barriers identified as part as the Needs Assessment been addressed?	As above		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB3 9	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	C1.X Local monitoring and evaluation should include the collection and analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data. Tier One authorities should ensure that the outcomes of victims accessing support are considered in their evaluation, to ensure the support made available adequately meets the level and nature of need within the area.	As above	C1.X Tier One authorities should also continue to capture whether victims are unable to access the support they need, including the reasons behind this, and the planned steps in addressing these barriers.	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB4 0	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	C1.X Evaluations should be undertaken on an annual basis in line with reporting requirements set out below.	As above - ensure annual report is undertaken.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	

LPB4 1	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	C1.X Tier One authorities should also publish their evaluation and monitoring approaches and outcomes.	Dorset Council in consultation with LPB to report back to MHCLG of evaluation and monitoring work - annually.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB4 2	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	Section C2: Reporting	C2.X Tier One authorities must report back to MHCLG on the progress of meeting their duty in line with the standardised reporting format (Annex X / here).	Dorset Council in consultation with LPB to publish results of evaluation and monitoring work - annually.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB4 3	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	C3.X Tier One authorities will need to complete and submit an annual report as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year to the Secretary of State. MHCLG would expect this to be within 3 months following the end of the financial year and therefore expect reports to be submitted by June. The information provided as part of these reports will need to demonstrate how local authorities have executed the functions required under the duty. Data and information to be collected includes	a. Whether a Local Partnership Board has been established, setting out the members of the Board and how often they convene	C3.X Where appropriate, tier two authorities should cooperate with Tier One authorities in the completion of the reporting template.	TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB4 4	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	As above	b. Evidence that adequate needs assessments have been undertaken by detailing when and how they undertook the assessment as well as providing a clear breakdown of the needs identified within the local area.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	

LPB4 5	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	As above	c. Evidence that local strategies are in place and working effectively. Tier One authorities will need to demonstrate that strategies were published on time and detail how the approaches set out has supported victims accessing services within their area.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB4 6	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	As above	d. Evidence that local commissioning decisions have been informed by local needs assessments and strategies. In doing so Tier One authorities will need to provide data to demonstrate that the number and type of commissioned support services reflect identified needs.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB4 7	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	As above	As above	e. A clear breakdown of how allocated funding has been spent against the delivery approaches set out in local strategies and demonstrates value for money.		TBC - will follow on from clarification to above work and timescales	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	
LPB4 8	As Above	Part C: Reporting and National Oversight	Section C4: Oversight and National Steering Group	Tier One authorities will be accountable in the delivery of the duty to MHCLG. MHCLG will establish a Ministerial led National Expert Steering Group.	Dorset Council to support National Domestic Abuse Commissioner and MHCLG in their work. C4.X In doing so MHCLG will develop and publish a Terms of Reference to make clear the role and remit of the Group. This will include setting out the desired delivery outcomes, as well as expectations on which	C4.X The Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC) will form part of the Group and where appropriate, other departmental ministers will also attend to ensure join up and cross government working. C4.X MHCLG will use the data provided by local authorities as part of their reporting requirements, to monitor the progress of delivery of this new duty. C4.X MHCLG will also use the	TBC	Dorset Council / Local Partnership Board	TBC	

					<p>bodies will form the Group's core members, to ensure the right level of knowledge and expertise is in place.</p>	<p>information provided to form an accurate picture of how the duty is being delivered on the ground as well as to identify areas of best practice and common areas of challenge. A summarised report will be submitted to the National Steering Group for review.</p> <p>C4.X The ministerial led National Steering Group will aim to meet at a minimum twice a year and will discuss progress of the delivery of domestic abuse support services within safe accommodation, drawing upon and reviewing evidence Tier authorities reported to MHCLG.</p> <p>C4.X The group will specifically consider as a standing agenda item, whether the support needs for all victims in safe accommodation are being met.</p> <p>C4.X A report summarising progress across the country will also be published.</p>				
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