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## DOMESTIC ABUSE - Support

### MARAC

Demand within the MARAC has increased substantially over the past 12 months – mainly through the adoption of Safe Lives best practice which means we have a responsibility to hear Standard and Medium risk domestics in MARAC when they have been heard as High Risk in the previous 12-month period. This has increased the referrals that the police generate. It is estimated that there will be over 2700 cases heard at MARAC in 2022 – an increase of 25% over 2021.

The MARAC process has expanded to cope with this increase. We are regularly having 3 MARAC meetings a week, and this has increased to 4 a week to meet demand.

As part of the ADA process a bid has been proposed to increase the staffing levels in the MARAC by 2 full time members of staff and an additional Detective Inspector. This Detective Inspector will also work closely with the MASH DI to support the increased demand across the partnership in terms of resilience, attendance at safeguarding meetings and demand management.

Moving forward we are looking to strengthen links between the MARAC and MAPPA processes.

Currently there is an ongoing Multi-Agency review regarding the MARAC process with a report being awaited (November 2022.) This will align with the current MAPPA publication and recommendations 'Criminal Justice review – Twenty years on, is MAPPA achieving its objective'.

### DVDS

Between August 2021 and July 2022 there have been 1099 requests for a DVDS. Notts have completed 327 disclosures in this time.

Not all these requests met the criteria for disclosures to be made. In addition, there are also occasions whereby the survivor does not wish to accept the disclosure and time is spent on ensuring all safeguarding is duly met.

Nottinghamshire Police continue to proactively review all DA occurrences to identify where criteria for DVDs is met. The increase in demand across all DA occurrences is seeing challenges and therefore the request under the ADA for this team to be brought under one DI to manage is to be submitted. This request includes all civil orders being brought under one management structure where concentrated focus and attention including identified efficiencies can be met.

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### IDVAs

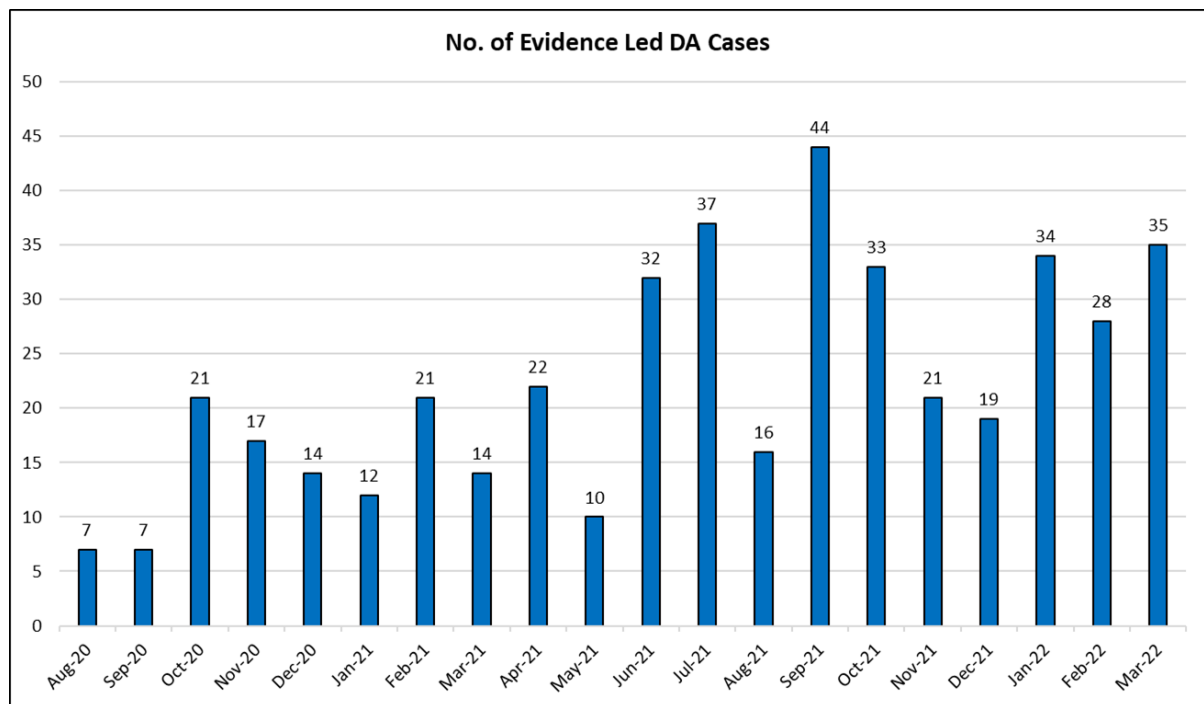
We continue to refer all High-Risk cases for IDVA support via our commissioned services – Notts Women’s Aid, Juno Women’s Aid and Equation. Those of medium and standard with consent are also referred.

Public Protection are continuing to work closely with our commissioned services. Women’s Aid are co located with us at Mansfield Police Station which works well.

We also have a dedicated IDVA for Police Officer/Staff victims that we can refer to and ensure that colleagues who are victims of DA are given appropriate support – see below.

### Evidence Led prosecutions

We continue to increase the use of Evidence Led prosecutions with a general positive trend in the numbers of DA Evidence Led prosecutions as shown below:



This data does not include CPS Direct cases and so the reality is that we prosecute even more cases under Evidence Led criteria. We are working on getting this data from CPD Direct.

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In total between Jan 2021 to Dec 2021 we approached CPS on 298 occasions regarding evidence led DA and secured charges in 101 cases.

Training has been given to all officers regarding Evidence Led prosecutions and the gateways for inclusion of Res Gestae and Hearsay evidence.

Similarly, a DA conference with CPS and other partners including forces around the region is scheduled for January 2023 which will include training for DA specialists regarding various aspects of DA investigation. This will also include further input on Evidence Led prosecutions.

### **Civil Orders**

We continue to support victims with the used of Civil orders including DVPN/DVPO. In 2022 (1<sup>st</sup> Jan – 31<sup>st</sup> Aug) we have had 120 DVPNs issued resulting in 113 DVPOs being granted. Over the same period, we have had a total of 23 breaches of DVPN/DVPO.

We are regularly referring victims to agencies such as NCDV (National Centre for Domestic Violence) and DV Assist who can work with them to secure a non-Molestation order/prohibitive steps orders/occupation orders etc.

We are working with DV assist to agree an information sharing agreement to make this process even easier for our victims.

Nottinghamshire Police have applied to be a pilot force for the new DAPO created by the Domestic Abuse Bill 2021, and we are currently awaiting the result of our application. As above this will form part of the ADA bid going forward.

### **Non Commissioned Support Services**

We have worked hard to build and maintain relationships with other third sector agencies that work with survivors of Domestic Abuse.

We have worked with Broxtowe Women's Project (BWP) on a report for the PCCs office regarding the experiences survivors of Domestic Abuse have had with the Police and looking at how these experiences could be improved.

Similarly, we have had good interactions with Nottinghamshire Independent Domestic Abuse Services (NIDAS) and are looking to continue to build these relationships.

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### **Staff IDVA service**

Nottinghamshire Police now have a bespoke IDVA service for staff that are victims of Domestic Abuse.

The service is run by an organisation called Hestia and information on how to refer is available on the intranet.

A meeting has taken place on 26/09 at FHQ and will result in further Comms. It was an opportunity for representatives from Hestia to present to staff. This was attended by several DSs from PP and CID. The representatives from Hestia also met with officers from PSD to understand the processes and demand for DA within the PSD department and embed referral practices ensuring all employee victims of DA are accessing the support. There has been positive feedback from all parties with networking taking place.

### **HBA/FGM/FM**

In the 12 months from 01/09/2021 to 31/08/2022 we had 94 Honour based violence crimes recorded within Nottinghamshire and 47 Honour based non crimes. This is an increase of 19% and 27% respectively over the same period in 2020/2021.

This may have been impacted by Covid but may also be due to an increasing confidence in reporting these incidents to the Police.

Officers from PP have undertaken engagement events including a Kurdish women's group and an hour's interview on local radio station – Radio Dawn – talking about FGM, Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse.