

**Torbay Strategy
Against Domestic Abuse**

2008-2011: Summary

**Speak
out
break
free**



Torbay exposing domestic abuse

Vision

To make Torbay a safer place for adults, young people and children, where domestic violence and abuse is not tolerated, excused or ignored; where all agencies work in partnership to create a supportive environment for victims/survivors, children and young people which meets their diverse needs, and where perpetrators of domestic abuse are brought to justice for their actions.

Aim

To instill confidence in victims of domestic abuse to seek help and advice from services and agencies across Torbay and to ensure that those services and agencies are suitably equipped to provide the appropriate support.

Key Strategy Focus Areas

- Support Services for Victims/ Survivors
- Training and Awareness
- Support for Children/ Young People
- Provision for Perpetrators

Background Information - Torbay

- There are on average 272 incidents of domestic abuse in Torbay each month.
- 86% of victims in Torbay are female.
- 1,010 children were recorded by police as being present at incidents from April to December 2008.
- 40% of children on the Child Protection Register are living in households where domestic abuse is a significant concern.
- Alcohol and/or drugs are involved in approximately 50% of domestic abuse incidents in Torbay.
- 20% of all domestic abuse incidents (crime and non crime) reported in Torbay are Very High Risk.

The Cost to Torbay

- The cost of dealing with a domestic abuse disclosure in Torbay is a minimum of £838 per day.
- Annually this amounts to a cost to agencies of £305,870.
- Research estimates the cost of domestic abuse to be £60 per household per year, based on police, criminal justice system, housing, refuge, social services and health costs.
- As a minimum estimate 7,800 women are likely to be victims of domestic abuse in Torbay a year (6-10% of the adult female population). This amounts to a total cost to Torbay Householders of £3,720,000 per annum.

The Cost of Domestic Abuse Services

Tackling domestic abuse has been recognised as a key priority within both the Corporate Plan (2007-11) and Local Area Agreement for Torbay. Funding for the delivery of core domestic abuse intervention services, outlined below, is dependent on multi-agency collaboration and commitment, which requires strategic leadership and direction from the Local Strategic Partnership.

The strategy has identified the following as core intervention services, mostly commissioned from the voluntary/ community sector, requiring statutory agency 'mainstream' funding.

- Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVA) for MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference)
 - IDVAs for Specialist Domestic Violence Court
 - Outreach support services for women
 - Outreach support services for men
 - Children’s support in refuges
 - Children’s support in the community
 - Community Perpetrator programme
 - Training and awareness raising
 - Survivor reference group (SEEDS)
 - Modus (web-based database data collection system)
 - Specialist diversity and minority community work
 - Partnership infrastructure.
- Torbay’s core service provision has been funded from a number of sources, spend for 2009 is outlined below, however these are time limited income streams which enable the development and pump priming of services but do not provide the sustainability that is key to maintaining minimum standards of service delivery for clients within Torbay.

Service	Posts/service capacity	Cost	Source of funding
IDVA for MARAC	1 Post	£30,000	£10,00 Area Based Grant £20,000 Home Office (TBC)
IDVA for SDVC	1 Post	£30,000	£15,000 Domestic Abuse LAA Pump Prime £15,000 Home Office (TBC)
Women’s Refuge	14 Units	£145,600	Supporting People Grant
Domestic Abuse Floating Support Service for women & men (incorporating Women’s Safety Work to support IDAP)	50 Units	£120,000	£15,000 Probation Service £15,000 Domestic Abuse LAA Pump Prime £90,000 Supporting People Grant
Pattern Changing Programme for abused women.	2 Programmes	£8,100	£8,100 Domestic Abuse LAA Pump Prime
Children & Young People in Refuge	Minimum 1 Post	£30,000	Supporting People Grant (09/10) £15,000 Supporting People Grant (10/11)
Children & Young People in Community	2 programmes	£6,960	£6,960 TBC
Community Perpetrator Programme	1 Programme	£10,000	£10,000 TBC
Multi Agency D.A. Training	9 x DV Awareness 3 x Risk Assessment 3 x How Perpetrators Operate	£9,500	£8,000 Police Authority £1,500 Domestic Abuse LAA Pump Prime
SEEDS Survivors Group	1 project	£5,440	£1,000 Supporting People £4,440 TBC
Infrastructure	1 Domestic Abuse Manager	£45,000	£45,000 Domestic Abuse LAA Pump Prime
Publicity, Campaigns, Communications.		£3,500	£3,500 TBC
Modus database		£700	£700 Area Based Grant
Diversity	Engagement. Awareness Raising & Training	£2,000	£2,000 TBC
MARAC Administration		£2,000	£2,000 Area Based Grant
Total Spend			£448,200
Total Shortfall			£61,900

Torbay's aspirations for minimum levels of service delivery by 2011

- Accommodation-based refuge provision will have increased from 7 to 14 units.
- Victims will be able to receive support in a wider variety of locations through the provision of specialist domestic abuse floating support.
- Staff based in refuges will support women residing in these locations and will offer support to those moving on from refuge provision.
- Very high risk victims of domestic abuse will be referred to the MARAC by a range of agencies using a common risk assessment framework.
- A minimum of 2 MARAC IDVAs will be in place to support these victims to reduce the risk factors they face.
- The South Devon Specialist Domestic Violence Court will be fully accredited by the Home Office and supported by the services of a minimum of 2 SDVC IDVAs, who will support and advise victims throughout their criminal justice system journey.
- Domestic abuse floating support services will be able to support men and women experiencing domestic abuse.
- Women who have experienced domestic abuse will have access to Domestic Abuse educational programmes.
- Male abusers will have access to programmes that enable them to recognise and take responsibility for their behaviour.
- Members of the BME and LGBT communities will be supported to report incidents and access services appropriate to their needs.
- Members of the BME and LGBT communities will have access to information and advice appropriate to their needs, based on national evidence of Best Practice and in consultation with local specialist organisations.
- Those advising victims of domestic abuse and those addressing their housing needs will have full awareness of the dynamics of abuse and will be able to refer victims to the most appropriate support services available.
- Colleagues working in Torbay Council Connections, Supporting People Referral Hub and Children Centre Clusters will have access to Domestic Abuse awareness training.
- Staff within the Safer Communities Torbay partnership will be trained in dealing with Domestic Abuse.
- Supporting People service providers will have access to Domestic Abuse awareness training.
- Children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse will be supported to access a range of services to meet their diverse needs.
- Children living in refuges in Torbay will have access to designated children's workers.
- Colleagues in partner agencies i.e. Torbay Care Trust, Probation Service, Police, Children's Services, Housing, CPS, HMCS and the Community and Voluntary sector will have identified strategic leads, empowered to work together to deliver key outcomes.

This document can be made available in other languages and formats. For more information telephone 01803 841577.