



**Shetland Domestic
Abuse Partnership**

**Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership
Strategy 2013-2016**

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On behalf of the
Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership**

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Foreword

On behalf of the Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership I am pleased to introduce our 2nd Domestic Abuse Strategy.

Domestic abuse and gender-based violence can impact on any one of us – in our personal lives, our work places and our communities. It can affect anyone regardless of sex, race, class, age, religion, sexuality, income, lifestyle or where they live. The impact can be far reaching and devastating, leaving injuries that are emotional, physical, psychological, sexual and financial and can result in death.

Since the first strategy was introduced in 2009 the Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership has increased awareness raising of domestic abuse and gender-based violence through training and campaigns and improved how we work together to meet the needs of those facing this alarming issue.

We all have a responsibility to respond to domestic abuse and gender-based violence in a co-ordinated and robust way. It is well understood that at least two thirds of incidents still go unreported and many people who experience domestic abuse and gender-based violence do not access the support they need.

No organisation can single-handedly tackle domestic abuse and gender-based violence. This Strategy has been developed in partnership with a wide range of agencies, whilst acknowledging the valuable work that is already being done throughout Shetland, however we wish to build on it by outlining the key areas of work that remain to be put in place. The Partnership is committed to tackling both the cause and effect of domestic abuse and gender-based violence throughout Shetland, and aims to identify ways to prevent it from happening, but where this is not possible, to protect those affected.

We will work to ensure that this issue continues to be a key priority throughout Shetland. By working together we hope to generate the resources and create and sustain the services needed to make a real difference to people experiencing domestic abuse in Shetland. We hope to drive home the message that domestic abuse and gender-based violence in any form is unacceptable and we will not tolerate it in our community.

Claire Derwin
Chair – Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership

Introduction

This Strategy will set out how the Partnership will continue to address and prevent domestic abuse and gender-based violence in Shetland over the next three years, by building on the progress made by the previous Domestic Abuse Strategy, which was implemented between 2008 and 2011.

The National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland¹ (hereafter referred to as the National Strategy) sets out the definition as:

“Domestic abuse (as gender-based abuse), can be perpetrated by partners or ex partners and can include physical abuse (assault and physical attack involving a range of behaviour), sexual abuse (acts which degrade and humiliate women and are perpetrated against their will, including rape) and mental and emotional abuse (such as threats, verbal abuse, racial abuse, withholding money and other types of controlling behaviour such as isolation from family or friends).”

In accepting this definition it must be recognised that children are witness to, and may be subject to, the abuse and that there is some correlation between domestic abuse and the mental, physical and sexual abuse of children. It must also be recognised that, particularly among minority ethnic communities, other family members may be involved in, or may participate in, the abuse.

In tackling domestic abuse and gender-based violence, it is necessary to take account of the specific experiences of particular groups of women and to ensure that any action/provision is relevant and appropriate to them. The Strategy must also be sensitive to the particular needs of women and children who experience other forms of discrimination, for example women and children from minority ethnic groups or women with a disability.

The National Strategy also recognises that children who witness, or are used in, the abuse of their mothers can experience stress and fear and may suffer a range of adverse effects, including physical injury, poor health and an array of psychological difficulties.

However the National Strategy goes on to state: *“the existence of violence against men is not denied, nor is the existence of violence in same sex relationships, nor other forms of abuse, but domestic abuse requires a response which takes account of the gender specific elements and the broader gender inequalities which women face. Domestic abuse is associated with broader gender inequality, and should be understood in its historical context, whereby societies have given greater status, wealth, influence, control and power to men. It is part of a range of behaviours constituting male abuse of power, and is linked to other forms of male violence.”*

¹ National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland, Scottish Government, Edinburgh, November 2000

It is difficult to know how many people suffer domestic abuse and gender-based violence, but research shows that it is widespread, under reported and that the level of repeat victimisation is high. Domestic abuse and gender-based violence is associated with broader inequalities in society, is part of a range of behaviours constituting abuse of power and is linked to other forms of violence such as rape and child abuse. It occurs in all social groups and is likely to escalate in frequency and intensity over time and may increase at specific points in a person's life such as redundancy, separation, divorce, being in debt and, in the case of women, during pregnancy. It can be perpetrated by partners or ex-partners and can include physical abuse, sexual abuse and mental/emotional abuse.

The Scottish Government (formerly the Scottish Executive) remains committed to tackling domestic abuse through the implementation of “*Preventing Domestic Abuse – A National Strategy*”(Crown Copyright, 2003), which sets out the responsibilities and aims for local authorities, police, health boards and voluntary organisations.

The Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership, in working together towards equal opportunities and social justice, challenges all forms of domestic abuse and gender-based violence – whether emotional, physical and/or sexual – as totally unacceptable.

Gender-Based Violence

The Scottish Government defines gender-based violence as *“a function of gender inequality, and an abuse of male power and privilege. It takes the form of actions that result in physical, sexual and psychological harm or suffering to women and children, or affront to their human dignity, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. It is men who predominantly or exclusively carry out such violence, and women who are predominantly the victims of such violence. By referring to violence as “gender-based”, this definition highlights the need to understand violence within the context of women’s and girl’s subordinate status in society. Such violence cannot be understood, therefore, in isolation from the norms and social structure and gender roles within the community, which greatly influence women’s vulnerability to violence.”*

There are various types of gender-based violence and these can be divided into six clear groups– domestic abuse, harmful traditional practices, sexual harassment and stalking, commercial sexual exploitation, childhood sexual abuse and rape and sexual assault.

The Purpose of this Strategy

The purpose of this Strategy is to effectively address domestic abuse and gender-based violence in Shetland and to provide consistent and co-ordinated services to those who experience it.

The Strategy aims to:

- Raise public awareness of domestic abuse, gender-based violence and its consequences
- Challenge attitudes towards domestic abuse and gender-based violence

- Protect and provide support to those who experience or are affected by domestic abuse and gender-based violence
- Provide a co-ordinated and consistent approach by all agencies who provide services which support those affected by domestic abuse and gender-based violence
- Support and develop a range of services for those who have experienced domestic abuse and gender-based violence

In tackling domestic abuse and gender-based violence this Strategy is committed to promoting equality, ending discrimination and social exclusion, recognising and addressing the specific issues facing those from minority ethnic groups, those with disabilities and other groups facing additional forms of discrimination and exclusion.

All forms of domestic abuse and gender-based violence can have a devastating effect on people's lives. There may be a need for more than one agency to be involved and this requires good partnership working between the agencies in order to work efficiently and offer the best support to those who have been affected by domestic abuse and gender-based violence.

National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland

In November 2000, the Scottish Partnership on Domestic Abuse prepared the "National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland"². The main aim of the Strategy is "to take all practicable measures towards the elimination of domestic abuse, including a clear acknowledgement that the responsibility for abuse lies firmly with the perpetrator".

The National Strategy focuses on women, as it is often women and their children who experience or are affected by domestic abuse. Although this is widely acknowledged, this Strategy is written for the whole community regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

The National Strategy sets out a requirement for a national prevention strategy rooted in primary and secondary prevention, and as a result "Preventing Domestic Abuse – A National Strategy" was developed in 2003.

² National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland, Scottish Government, Edinburgh, November 2000

Domestic Abuse & Gender-Based Violence – Facts & Figures

Scotland

- At least 1 in 5 women in Scotland will experience domestic violence in their lifetime.
- The number of reported incidents of domestic abuse steadily increase each year.³
- A domestic abuse incident is recorded every 10 minutes in Scotland with 51,926 incidents reported in 2009-10.⁴
- In 2009-10, 82% (41,927) of all domestic abuse incidents were violence against a woman committed by a man.⁵
- In a 2005 study of young people's attitudes, 1 in 5 young men believe that women often 'provoke violence'.⁶
- In 2011-12 there were 1,274 incidents of rape and attempted rape recorded by the Police in Scotland, a 13% increase from the previous year.⁷ However the recorded number of incidents of sexual assault (2,906) was a 10% decrease on the previous year.
- In 2011-12 there were 567 offences associated with prostitution recorded by the Police in Scotland, which was a 2% decrease on 2010-11.

United Kingdom

- A woman dies every 3 days in the UK at the hands of a partner or former partner.⁸
- The cost to the NHS in England and Wales for physical injuries is around £1.2 billion a year and mental health care is estimated at an additional £176 million.⁹
- 70% of incidents of domestic violence result in injury, (compared with 50% of incidents of acquaintance violence, 48% of stranger violence and 29% of mugging).¹⁰
- Domestic violence is estimated to cost victims, services and the state a total of around £23 billion a year.¹¹
- 19% of women and 12% of men have experienced stalking or harassment at some point in their lifetimes¹²
- 37% of cases of aggravated stalking (with violence additional to the stalking) against women were by an intimate, 59% by other known persons and 7% by strangers¹³
- In such cases amongst men, 8% were by an intimate, 70% by other known persons
- 400 cases of forced marriage are reported to the Forced Marriage Unit each year 85% of victims are women, 15% are men; 30% of all cases involve minors¹⁴

³ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/11/23112407/3>

⁴ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/330575/0107237.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/11/23112407/3>

⁶ <http://www.healthscotland.com/documents/476.aspx>

⁷ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00396557.pdf>

⁸ Scottish Women's Aid

⁹ The Cost of Domestic Violence. Equalities Unit, Home Office. Sylvia Walby (2004)

¹⁰ Dodd, T. et al (2004) Crime in England and Wales 2003-2004. Home Office. London (from 'Statistics on Domestic Violence': www.womensaid.org.uk)

¹¹ The Cost of Domestic Violence. Equalities Unit, Home Office. Sylvia Walby (2004)

¹² Walby, S. & Allen, J. (2004) Domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking: findings from the British Crime Survey'. Home Office Research Study 276. London.

¹³ Walby, S. & Allen, J. (2004) Domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking: findings from the British Crime Survey'. Home Office Research Study 276. London.

- Police estimate that 12 women are killed in honour killings each year in the UK although this is likely to be an under-estimate¹⁵
- 66,000 women in the UK are affected by FGM¹⁶
- Evidence suggests that many dancers begin working in lap dance clubs through lack of real choice
- It is estimated that there are 4,000 victims of trafficking for prostitution and sexual exploitation in the UK.¹⁷
- 70% of those in street prostitution became involved as children or teenagers.¹⁸
- 85% reported physical abuse in their family and 45% reported sexual abuse in their family.¹⁹

Globally

- Women aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, motor accidents, war and malaria, according to World Bank data.²⁰
- In a survey of women involved in prostitution in five countries, 92% said that they wanted to leave prostitution immediately.²¹

¹⁴ Forced Marriage Unit. www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage

¹⁵ House of Commons Home Affairs Committee (2008) 'Domestic violence, forced marriage and 'honour'-based violence'. Sixth Report of Session 2007-08, Volume 1. House of Commons, London.

¹⁶ Dorkenoo, E., Morison, L. & MacFarlane, A. (2007) 'A statistical study to estimate the prevalence of female genital mutilation in England and Wales summary report'. Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development (FORWARD).

¹⁷ UK Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking (2007). Home Office and Scottish Government.

¹⁸ 'Paying the Price' (2004) Home Office. London. www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/paying_the_price.pdf

¹⁹ 'Paying the Price' (2004) Home Office. London. www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/paying_the_price.pdf

²⁰ Unifem (2003) Not a minute more: Ending Violence Against Women. United Nations Development Fund for Women. New York. <http://www.un.org/women/endviolence/docs/VAW.pdf>

²¹ Farley, M. Baral, I., Kiremire, M. & Sezgin, U. (1998) 'Prostitution in five countries: violence and posttraumatic stress disorder'. *Feminism & Psychology*, Volume 8 (4):405-426.

Domestic Abuse

The National Picture

In the Scottish Government's "Domestic Abuse Recorded By The Police In Scotland 2009-10" Statistical Bulletin²², there were 51,926 incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the Police in 2009-10, compared to 53,931 incidents recorded in 2008-9. This equates to a decrease of 4% from 2008-9. Out of the 51,926 reported incidents, 32,066 (62%), led to the recording of a crime or offence, and of these 68% were reported to the Procurator Fiscal (21,660).²³

Northern Constabulary recorded 1,126 incidents of domestic abuse in 2009/10, and there was a 1.25% increase to 1,140 incidents in 2010/11.²⁴

It should be recognised that the statistics presented cover only the incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the Police and that not all incidents of domestic abuse come to their attention.

The Local Picture

It is difficult to know exactly how many people suffer domestic abuse in the UK, but research shows that it is widespread, under reported and that the level of repeat victimisation is high. Therefore it is fair to assume the same can be said for Shetland.

What we know locally is that:

- In 2011 the Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline received 26 calls from Shetland
- There were 102 reported incidents of domestic abuse to Northern Constabulary (Shetland Area Command) during 2011-12

There is a substantial increase in the number of calls during 2010; however this could be attributed to the increase in the number of basic domestic abuse awareness-raising training courses being offered, and the distribution of awareness-raising materials throughout the Shetland community.

In Northern Constabulary's 2011 Community Consultation Survey (Shetland Area Report)ⁱ 97% of Shetland residents described the area within a 15 minute walk from their home as "very safe" or "fairly safe". This is the same as the overall Force level result and is the same as reported in Shetland in the 2009 survey.

The survey found that only 38% of respondents thought that public protection, which incorporates domestic abuse along with the protection of children and vulnerable adults, was a major or minor concern in Shetland.

²² <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/330575/0107237.pdf>

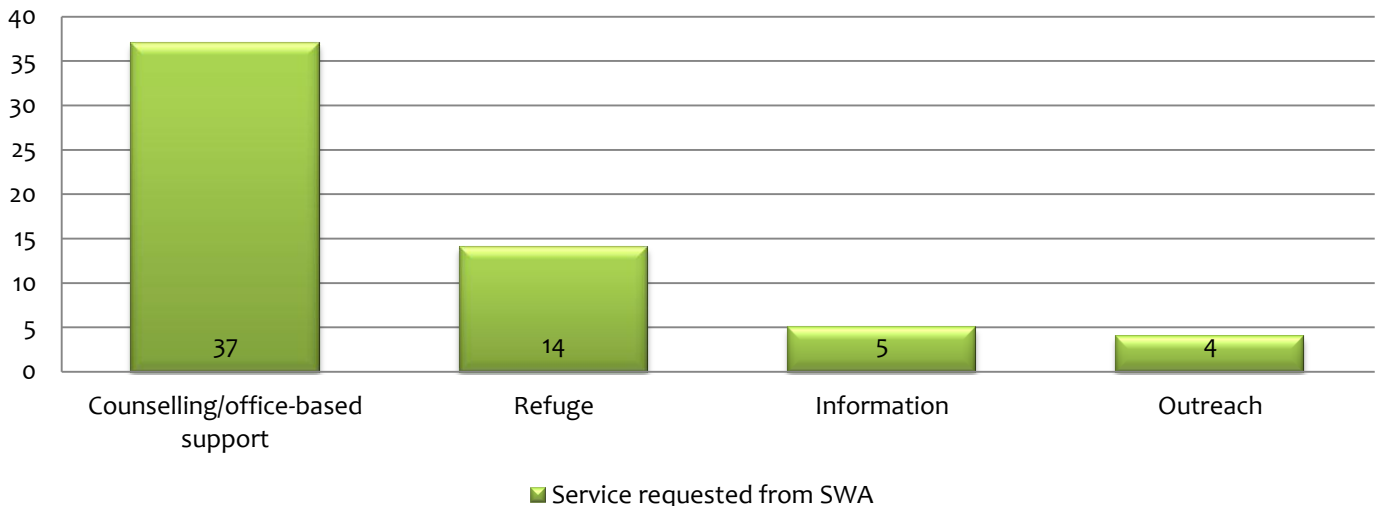
²³ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/TrendDomesticAbuse>

²⁴ <http://files.northern.police.uk/community-consultation/2011/cc-shetland-2011.pdf>

Shetland Women's Aid

Between April 1st 2011 and March 31st 2012, 51 women accessed Shetland Women's Aid. Out of the 51 women, 32 stated that their nationality was *Shetland*.

The following table illustrates the type of service requested from Shetland Women's Aid during this period:



Their clients ranged in age from 18 up to 70, with the largest proportion of women (21) falling into the 41-50 age group. Out of the 51 women, 31 had dependent children, while the remaining 20 women had no dependent children. Out of the 51 women, 18 of them stated that they were co-habiting with their abuser when they first accessed the service. Most clients (24) stated that their husband was the abuser, followed by their ex-partner (12) and partner (10), however there were instances where one client was abused by her father, another by her son and 3 were abused by friends. The “primary” type of abuse experienced by their clients was psychological (35), physical (10) and sexual (6) although the majority of women had experienced more than one type of abuse.

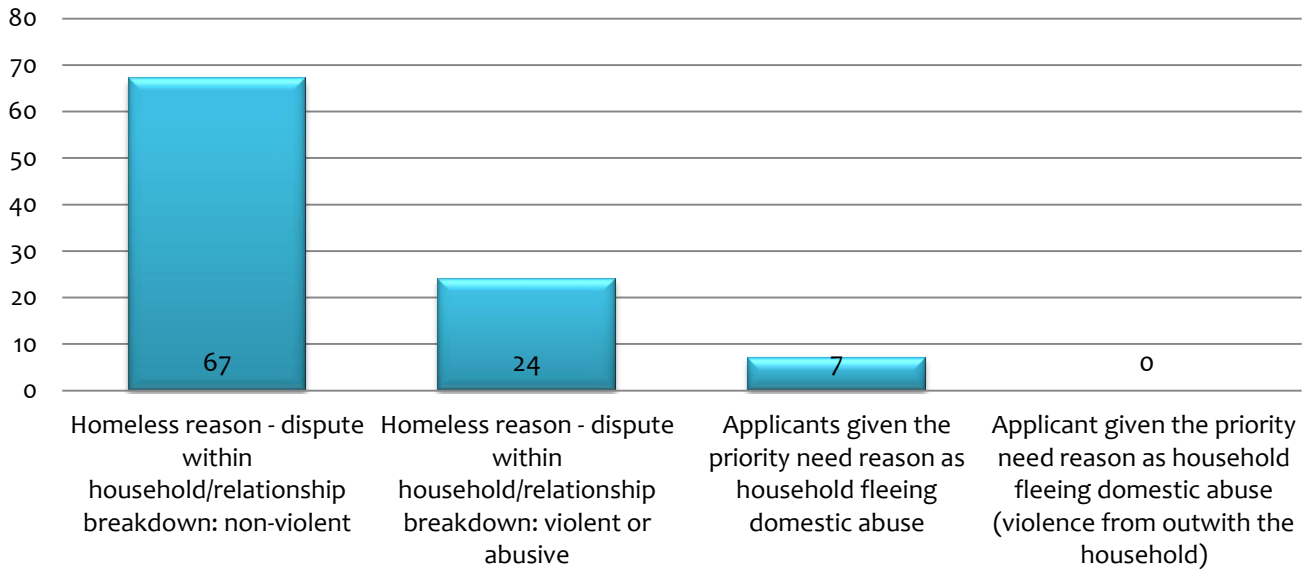
Shetland Women's Aid also has a refuge, and during the reporting period they were able to offer 4 women accommodation in the refuge; however they had to turn away 10 women. The 4 women accommodated stayed for as long as they needed to before they were rehomed into a permanent tenancy. 10 women were turned away from refuge because it was full, however all of these women were offered support to access alternative emergency accommodation through Shetland Islands Council's Housing Service.

The Children & Young Peoples team at Shetland Women's Aid offer a range of preventative education in schools and youth groups throughout Shetland and between April 1st 2011 and March 31st 2012 outreach workers delivered 30 sessions to a total of 312 children and young people.

During the same period, 38 children and young people attended weekly counselling sessions with counsellors from the Children's & Young People's Service.

Shetland Islands Council Housing Service

The following table illustrates the number of applicants presenting to the Housing Service as homeless/priority need during 2011/12:



Source: SIC Housing Service AVD Homeless System

Community Alcohol & Drugs Services Shetland (CADSS)

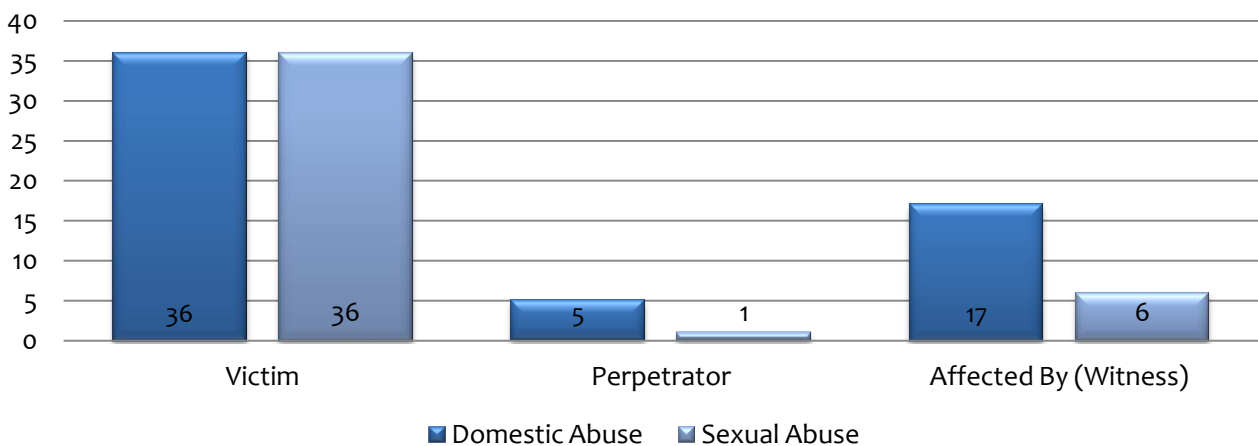
CADSS is an independent voluntary organisation that exists to develop and deliver a range of services to those affected by alcohol and/or drug use in Shetland.

Domestic abuse has been an issue for many CADSS clients in different ways:

- People experiencing or having experienced domestic abuse by a substance user
- Substance users that drink and/or take drugs as a result of domestic abuse
- Young people witnessing domestic abuse

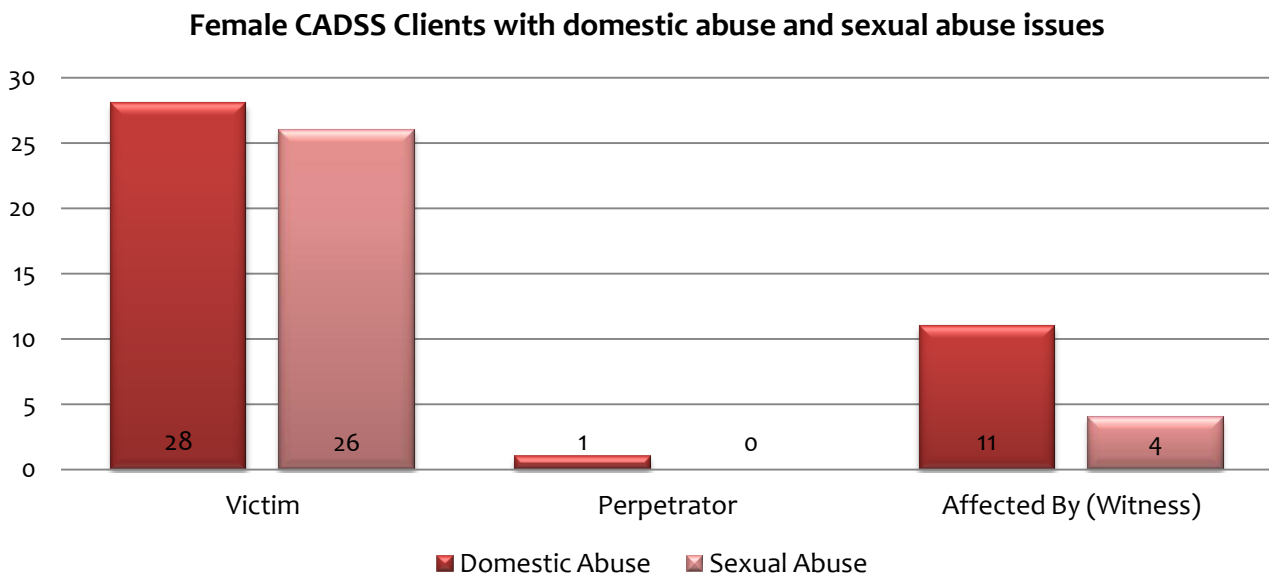
The following chart illustrates the number of CADSS clients (out of a total of 259) who have brought up domestic or sexual abuse as an issue between April 1st 2011 and March 31st 2012:

CADSS Clients with domestic abuse and sexual abuse issues



Source: CADSS

While this chart illustrates the number of female CADSS clients (out of a total of 99) who have brought up domestic or sexual abuse as an issue between April 1st 2011 and March 31st 2012:



Source: CADSS

Harmful Traditional Practices

Harmful traditional practices are forms of violence which have been committed primarily against women and girls in certain communities and societies for so long that they are considered or presented by perpetrators as part of accepted cultural practice. The most common are:

- Forced Marriage
- Honour-Based Violence
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Other forms of harmful traditional practices include female infanticide, dowry-related violence and son preference.

Sexual Harassment & Stalking

Everyone has the right to live in strong and safe communities without fear of harassment or victimisation. There are no clear cut definitions of stalking or harassment, however, generally, stalking and harassment means intentional behaviour, involving more than one incident, which causes fear, upset or annoyance to its victim. The concept of stalking in particular conveys the idea of persistent and unwanted intrusion into the victim's life, through the perpetrator following, watching, telephoning or otherwise contacting the victim.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) includes a wide range of often linked sexual activities which (typically) men profit from or buy from women and which objectify and harm women.

It includes prostitution, phone sex, internet sex/chat rooms, stripping, pole dancing, lap dancing, peep shows, pornography, trafficking, sex tourism and mail order brides.

The women involved are often on low incomes, substance users and victims of other forms of gender-based violence. Based on a lack of alternatives and often on coercion, such activities are rarely a 'free' or 'vocational' choice.

The Scottish Government includes prostitution, pornography and other forms of involvement in the 'sex industry' in its definition of violence against women. It considers that the exploitation of women through these forms of 'entertainment' legitimises negative attitudes towards women and is inextricably linked to gender inequality and sexual violence.

Childhood Sexual Abuse (Adult Survivors)

Childhood sexual abuse is *“when any person exploits a child ... in any activity intended to lead to the sexual arousal or other forms of gratification of that person or any other person(s), including organised networks. This definition holds whether or not there has been genital contact and whether or not the child is said to have initiated, or consented to, the behaviour.”*²⁵

In common with other forms of gender-based violence, men are the main perpetrators of childhood sexual abuse. Women do also abuse, although research over many years suggests they form only around 10% of offenders. It is often committed by someone known to and trusted by the child, such as fathers, step-fathers, other family members or friends rather than strangers. Childhood sexual abuse can take different forms. It may include physical sexual abuse, showing them pornography or talking to them in an explicit way. It can be physical and emotional abuse and it often involves serious and very degrading assault. It breaches the personal boundaries to which all children are entitled and involves a misuse of power.

Many children do not tell anyone about the abuse. In one study, almost three-quarters (72%) of sexually abused children did not tell anyone about the abuse at the time, 27% told someone later. Around a third (31%) still had not told anyone about their experience(s) by early adulthood.²⁶

Rape & Sexual Assault

The definition of rape changed from the 1st December 2010 with the introduction of the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009. In Scotland, rape can only be committed by men – because of the changes to the definition the victim of rape can be a woman or a man.

²⁵ Edinburgh & Lothians Child Protection Committee (2003) as quoted in Scottish Government *“Yes You Can! Working with Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse”* Edinburgh.

²⁶ Cawson, P. et al. (2000) *‘Child maltreatment in the United Kingdom: a study of the prevalence of child abuse and neglect.’* London: NSPCC.

The definition that states that a rape must be 'by force' implies that a violent struggle must have taken place and for many women this is not the case. The threat of violence or death is often used by rapists to force women to comply. In fact, the law only requires that threats of physical violence were made.

Sexual assault covers other forms of frightening and distressing sexual violence. There is a misconception that rape and sexual assault are usually carried out by strangers and involve force, yet in most cases, assaults are carried out by someone known to the victim. This includes sexual partners, casual acquaintances, family members, colleagues and others. Most rapes are committed indoors, usually in the home.

Unlike other crimes, victims are often held responsible for sexual violence. Recent surveys have shown high levels of blame relating to alcohol intake, style of dress, flirting and sexual history.

The many myths about sexual violence, combined with the low prosecution rate, means that women often minimise what has happened or think they may be blamed or that they are to blame for the assault. They may try to conceal it and be reluctant to disclose through shame or fear.

The Partnership is dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic abuse and other forms of gender-based violence.

Further information on gender-based violence can be found at NHS Scotland's National Gender-Based Violence and Health Programme website: <http://www.gbv.scot.nhs.uk/>.

Shetland's Single Outcome Agreement

Shetland's Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) 2012-2015 contains the following local outcome relating to domestic abuse:

- Shetland stays a safe place to live, and we have strong, resilient and supportive communities

However, by achieving the actions set out in our Action Plan we will also have a positive impact on a number of other outcomes, namely:

- All our children have the best start in life and we have improved the life chances for any children, young people and families at risk
- Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens
- We have tackled inequalities by ensuring the needs of the most vulnerable and hard to reach groups are identified and met, and that services are targeted at those most in need

The Four P's

Our overarching priorities are accompanied by the Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership's Action Plan, which is renewed annually. The cross cutting national themes of Prevention, Protection, Provision and Participation underpin the Partnership's priority areas for action.

Prevention

Primary prevention is aimed at raising awareness, challenging attitudes and helping to prevent violence.

Secondary prevention aims to help women and children who have experienced abuse to make changes and choices that help them to be safe.

Protection

We aim to protect those most at risk.

Provision

We aim to provide support services to people affected by domestic abuse.

Participation

We aim to be an inclusive Partnership that listens to the voices of those affected by domestic abuse.

Our Priorities

Priority 1

To raise awareness and understanding of domestic abuse and gender-based violence.

The Scottish Government and CoSLA's National Joint Strategy, "Safer Lives: Changed Lives"²⁷, stresses the importance of taking forward work across the four P's – prevention, protection, provision and participation, and to achieve this, the following strategic aims and objectives have been agreed by the Partnership.

Prevention

Aim – to increase awareness and challenge attitudes to domestic abuse and gender-based violence

Protection

Aim – to develop inter-agency working to increase the ability to protect

Provision

Aim – to provide accessible services to those people affected by domestic abuse

Participation

Aim – to have an inclusive interagency Partnership

²⁷ Safer Lives: Changed Lives – A Shared Approach to Tackling Violence Against Women in Scotland, Scottish Government & CoSLA, Crown Copyright 2009

Current Service Provision

Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership

The Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership (SDAP) is a formal multi-agency approach to addressing domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women. The Partnership sits within the Shetland Community Safety & Resilience Board (CSRB), one of the key strategic partnerships for community planning in Shetland.

Representation on the Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership includes:

- Anderson & Goodlad Solicitors
- Community Alcohol & Drugs Services Shetland
- Hjaltland Housing Association
- NHS Shetland
- Police Scotland
- Shetland Islands Council
 - Adult & Child Protection
 - Adult Services Social Work
 - Children & Families Social Work
 - Community Care Social Work
 - Community Safety
 - Criminal Justice Social Work
 - Housing Service
 - Schools Service
- Shetland Women's Aid
- Shetland Youth Information Service
- Victim Support Shetland

Due to the cross cutting nature of violence against women, there are a number of publications and initiatives which have strong links to this Strategy:

- Children's Services Plan
- Criminal Justice Service Plan
- National Domestic Abuse Delivery Plan for Children & Young People
- NHS Domestic Abuse Strategy & Guidance for Staff
- Northern Community Justice Authority Area Plan 2011-2014
- Shetland Adult Support & Protection Procedures
- Shetland Local Policing Plan 2013-2014
- Shetland Child Protection Procedures
- Shetland Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2012/13

Please note that this list is by no means exhaustive.

Our Achievements

Over the lifetime of the first Domestic Abuse Strategy (2008-2011) the Partnership achieved:

- The development and delivery of basic awareness-raising training and gender-based violence training, which was made available to all public sector and voluntary sector staff
- The development of an identity (“branding”) for the Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership, and the subsequent production and distribution of awareness-raising materials, for example, posters, flyers, adverts etc, which challenged attitudes to domestic abuse and promoted the support available for survivors
- Gathered local statistical data
- Built links with the Child Protection Committee, Adult Protection Committee and the Community Safety Board
- Established a strong interagency framework that had not existed successfully before and this gives a platform to build on
- Provided a forum for informal interagency discussion and learning
- The implementation of routine enquiry within key services across NHS Shetland

Monitoring & Evaluation

The Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership is committed to reducing incidents of domestic abuse throughout Shetland, but to do this effectively it is important to monitor our progress, and regularly carry out self-assessments to ensure that all partners are effectively engaged in the process.

An Action Plan has been developed which details the various activities to be taken forward over the next 3 years by the Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership. The Plan addresses the priorities highlighted in this Strategy and explains the actions to be taken locally to tackle domestic abuse throughout Shetland.

Progress in delivering this Action Plan will be monitored annually by the Partnership and a review of the Plan will be carried out in 3 years.

The results of this will be reported through the:

- Shetland Community Safety Board
- And from there, to the Shetland Partnership.
- And the appropriate committees of:
 - Shetland Islands Council
 - Police Scotland
 - NHS Shetland
 - Individual voluntary sector agencies

The Strategy will be subject to review to ensure that the aims and objectives are always realistic and achievable.

Biography

Scottish Executive: *'Preventing Domestic Abuse. A National Strategy'* (Crown Copyright 2003)

Scottish Government & CoSLA – *Safer Lives: Changed Lives. A Shared Approach to Tackling Violence Against Women in Scotland* (Crown Copyright 2009)

Glossary

CADSS	Community Alcohol & Drugs Support Service
COPFS	Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service
CJSW	Criminal Justice Social Work
CSA	Childhood Sexual Abuse
CSE	Commercial Sexual Exploitation
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GIRFEC	Getting It Right For Every Child
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
SADP	Shetland Alcohol & Drugs Partnership
SDAP	Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership
SWA	Shetland Women's Aid
VAW	Violence Against Women
VIA	Victim Information & Advice
WYFY	With You For You

Appendices

Appendix 1: Support Services Directory

Service	Description	Contact
Direct Support for victims & perpetrators		
Local Services		
Advocacy Shetland	Advocacy Shetland is an independent voluntary organisation that helps people to have their voices heard. We listen to you and help you to have your views and opinions heard, if you have problems dealing with different organisations.	01595 743929
Anderson & Goodlad	Our Firm is located in central Lerwick and we offer a large range of legal services, including all aspects of family law and formal protective measures. Our experienced Court Solicitors will guide you through what we understand can often be daunting legal processes and will provide you with full advice as to your options. We are presently the only local providers of Civil Legal Aid in Shetland.	52 Commercial Street Lerwick Shetland ZE1 0BD T: 01595 692297 F: 01595 692247 E: solicitors@anderson-goodlad.co.uk W: www.anderson-goodlad.co.uk
CADSS	The Community Alcohol & Drugs Services Shetland (CADSS) is an independent voluntary organisation that provides a range of free confidential services to those affected by alcohol and/or drug use in Shetland. We offer support, information, practical help and training. We work in partnership with many organisations to help people rebuild their lives and create	01595 695363

	healthier futures.	
Citizens Advice Bureau	The Citizens Advice Bureau is an independent, local charity that provides advice and information to people in need, by ensuring that individuals do not suffer through lack of knowledge of their rights and responsibilities, or of the services available to them, or through an inability to express their need effectively.	01595 694696
Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS)	The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) is responsible for the prosecution of crime in Scotland, the investigation of sudden or suspicious deaths, and the investigation of complaints against the police. We work closely with our partners in the criminal justice system to help make Scotland a safer place.	01595 692808
Gilbert Bain Hospital		01595 74300
Hjaltland Housing Association	Hjaltland Housing Association is the main independent housing agency in Shetland. We aim to provide quality and affordable housing for people in housing need, including those with special needs.	01595 694986
Police Scotland	From April 2013 there will be a single Police Service for Scotland	In an emergency dial 999 For all non-emergency calls, dial 101
Rape & Abuse Line (Dingwall)	The Rape & Abuse Line is a registered charity that offers a confidential freephone	0808 800 0123 (Female) 0808 800 0122 (Male)

	<p>helpline to people who have survived rape or abuse however long ago the experiences were. They also offer support to the family or partner of the person who has been affected. In some parts of the Grampian and Highland areas of Scotland we can offer free face-to-face support.</p>	
Reporter to the Children's Panel	<p>The Reporter's role is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive referrals for children and young people who are believed to require compulsory measures of supervision. • Draft grounds for referral and decide whether the child needs to be referred to a Hearing. • Provide administration to Children's Hearings and keep a record of proceedings at Hearings. • Maintain the independence of Hearings and support fair process. • Conduct Children's Hearings court proceedings. • The Reporter's primary function is to receive referrals for children and young people who are believed to require compulsory measures of supervision. The Reporter then decides whether the child needs to be referred to a Children's Hearing. 	0300 200 2200
Sexual Abuse Survivors	<p>The Sexual Abuse Survivors Group is a Shetland-based, friendly support network for</p>	<p>0774 709 7160 E: sasurvivor56@aol.com or s_a_survivors@hotmail.com</p>

	<p>survivors of sexual abuse. They also offer a group for parents of children who have been abused by other people and a self-help group for partners of sexual abuse survivors.</p>	
<p>Shetland Islands Council Duty Social Work (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) Duty Social Work (Out of Hours) Housing Service Out of Hours (Homelessness)</p>		<p>01595 744421 01595 695611 01595 744360 01595 695611</p>
<p>Shetland Women's Aid</p>	<p>Shetland Women's Aid is a registered charity which offers counselling, advice and support to women, children and young people. We also provide refuge accommodation to women and their children who are being, or have been, physically, emotionally or sexually abused.</p>	<p>01595 692070</p>
<p>Victim Support Shetland</p>	<p>Victim Support is the lead voluntary organisation in Shetland helping people affected by crime. It provides emotional support, practical help and essential information to victims, witnesses and others affected by crime. The service is free, confidential and is provided by volunteers through a network of community-based victim and youth justice services and court-based witness services.</p>	<p>07541 858465</p>

Service	Description	Contact
Direct Support for victims & perpetrators		
National Services		
24-hour Domestic Abuse Helpline	This national helpline provides support to people who have experienced domestic abuse; it is free and confidential and is available 24hours a day, 7 days a week. They will also be able to refer you to local support groups.	0800 027 1234 E: contactsdahelpline@yahoo.co.uk W: www.famouspeople.org.uk
Abused Men In Scotland (AMIS)	AMIS works with any man over 16 concerned about domestic abuse, regardless of sexuality, age, dis/ability or ethnic origin, by providing an opportunity to talk things through with someone who understands many of the difficulties men on the receiving end of domestic abuse can face. We offer support and information to men who are or have been victims of domestic abuse. We help callers find further information or services if needed and seek out and co-operate with other organisations that can provide support for men who have experienced domestic abuse.	0808 800 0024 (Helpline open every evening 7pm-10pm) W: www.abusedmeninscotland.org
AMINA MWRC (Muslim Women's Resource Centre)	Amina MWRC is committed to promoting the welfare of Muslim women. We place the needs of	0808 801 0301 http://www.mwrc.org.uk/

	Muslim women at the heart of our service. We work to ensure that Muslim women from all backgrounds are given the advice and support they need to enable them to live better and safer lives, free from discrimination and abuse. We work to ensure that these women are confident to raise issues that are important to them and their life.	
Broken Rainbow UK	Broken Rainbow UK provides support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people experiencing domestic abuse.	0300 999 5428 (Mon 2pm-8pm, Wed 10am-5pm, Thurs 2pm-8pm)
Childline (24 hours)	If you are worried about anything, it could be something big or something small - don't bottle it up. It can really help if you talk to someone. If there is something on your mind, ChildLine is here for you.	0800 1111 (24 hours)
Civil Legal Assistance Office	Under Part V of the Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986 we can employ solicitors to provide civil legal assistance direct to clients and address unmet legal need.	0845 123 2353
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Domestic Abuse Project	Information for lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people, who are, or think they may be, experiencing domestic abuse	W: www.lgbtdomesticabuseproject.org.uk

Men's Advice Line	Trained advisors will be offering confidential information, practical advice and emotional support to men. Anyone worried about friends or family and frontline workers can also call the helpline for advice. The helpline will provide a key source of information on the scope and severity of abuse experienced by men and what support men need.	0808 801 0327 (freephone) (Mon - Fri 10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm) E: info@mensadvice.org.uk W: www.mensadvice.org.uk
Men's Aid	Men's Aid is a registered charity, based in Milton Keynes to provide free practical advice and support to men who have been abused.	0871 223 9986 (Mon-Sat 11am-9pm) W: www.mensaid.com
NSPCC	Our vision is to end cruelty to children in the UK. We campaign to change the law, provide ChildLine and the NSPCC helpline service, offer advice for adults, and much more.	0808 800 5000
Rape Crisis Scotland Helpline	The Rape Crisis Scotland National Helpline provides crisis support for anyone in Scotland affected by sexual violence at any time in their lives.	08088 01 03 02 (every day from 6pm – 12)
Respect Phonenumber	Will offer anyone, male or female, who is worried that their own behaviour towards a partner is abusive, a chance to get support to stop and change. Staff	0808 802 4040 (Mon – Fri 10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm) E: info@respectphonenumber.org.uk W: www.respectphonenumber.org.uk

	can also deal with enquiries from frontline workers who work with abusers as well as concerned friends and family.	
Scottish Legal Aid Board	The Scottish Legal Aid Board manages legal aid in Scotland. We are a non-departmental public body responsible to the Scottish Government. Legal aid is help towards the costs of legal advice and representation, for those who qualify, paid for out of public funds. It is designed to help individuals on low and modest incomes gain access to the legal system.	0845 122 8686 W: www.slab.org.uk
Shakti Women's Aid	Shakti Women's Aid, based in Edinburgh, offers support, advocacy and information to all black/minority ethnic women, children and young people experiencing and/or fleeing domestic abuse from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • partners / husbands • ex-partners • other family members. <p>If you think you or someone you know might be suffering from domestic abuse, you can contact us for help on 0131 475 2399. If you are not sure if you are suffering from</p>	0131 475 2399 W: www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

	domestic abuse and you want to find out what domestic abuse is or what kind of support is available, please follow the links on our website to find out more information.	
Trauma Counselling Line Scotland	This is a national telephone counselling service for adult survivors of childhood abuse.	08088 020406
The White Ribbon Campaign UK	The White Ribbon Campaign is the UK branch of the global campaign to ensure men take more responsibility for reducing the level of violence against women.	www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk
The Zero Tolerance Charitable Trust	Zero Tolerance is a charity working to tackle the causes of men's violence against women. Too many women in Scotland, and around the world, experience violence from men – most often men they are close to and/or who are in a position of power over them. We believe that men's violence against women is caused by gender inequality, and that it helps this inequality to continue.	www.zerotolerance.org.uk
Your Right Scotland	No-one should ever be emotionally or physically forced into marrying someone they do not want to. If you are worried that this might be happening to you or	W: www.yourrightscotland.org T: 0800 027 1234 (free 24-hour helpline)

	someone you know, support is available. Remember that this is not your fault and you are not alone. Do not be afraid to speak out.	
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Appendix 2: United Nation's Definition

The UN General Assembly uses a definition of violence against women which includes any act of violence by men which results in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.

Included in this definition is physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including where such violence is inflicted upon children and young people in the household, culturally-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, and violence related to exploitation. It also includes physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution.

The UN definition as adapted above is used in "Preventing Violence Against Women – Action Across the Scottish Executive".²⁸

²⁸ Preventing Violence Against Women – Action Across the Scottish Executive, Scottish Executive, Edinburgh, October 2001