



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

FIFE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PARTNERSHIP (FVAWP)

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## Chair's Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to provide a challenging environment for women, children and young people particularly those experiencing domestic abuse, sexual violence and other forms of violence against women. It has also been challenging for partners working to reduce risk and help survivors recover from their experiences.

This report covers a time when restrictions were easing, services were continuing to adapt to new ways of working and things were beginning to return to a "new normal". However, while crisis support continued throughout, waiting lists for recovery services had reached record highs. Services were offering a range of services, some face to face, some virtual – based on experience and service user feedback on what worked well. Organisations were also facing an unpredictable environment with high levels of staff illness and covid impacting on workers and service users alike.

Partnership working was crucial to continuing high quality support. Most importantly, feedback from victims and survivors suggests that we got that right. Towards the end of the year, with additional resources and staff, specialist organisations were able to report waiting lists reducing.

Fife Violence Against Women Partnership has also worked to address [Coronavirus COVID-19 Supplementary National Violence Against Women Guidance](#) for local authorities and community planning partners, having redrafted the FVAWP Action Plan 2019-22 to reflect the risks, demand for services and range of mitigating actions highlighted in the guidance as we recover from the pandemic. Covid has impacted on the delivery of our action plan across all priority areas as detailed in this report.

It is likely to be years - not months - until we can expect the specific harm of Covid to survivors of violence against women and children to be addressed, as reflected in the Supplementary Guidance. There are opportunities for violence against women to be more widely understood across community partners as we develop recovery plans.

It is more important than ever that we work in partnership to address violence against women

Heather Bett, Senior Manager, NHS Fife

## Equally Safe

Fife Violence Against Women Partnership (FVAWP) has adopted [Equally Safe – Scotland's strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls](#). This framework has been used to self-assess progress locally, identifying strengths and weaknesses and forms the basis of FVAWP Action Plan 2019-22.

*Equally Safe – Scotland's strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls* is the key national driver for Fife Violence Against Women Partnership. The Delivery Plan and local area Quality Standards work to the following four priorities that have been adopted by partners locally:

- a. Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls
- b. Women and girls thrive as equal citizens: socially, culturally, economically, and politically
- c. Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising the safety and wellbeing of women children and young people
- d. Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response

FVAWP provides an annual data return to the Improvement Service on a range of quality standards based on these priorities, partnership working and specific data measuring investment and activity in Fife. This annual report is structured around these Equally Safe Priorities

### Equally Safe Definition of Violence Against Women:

- a. *physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family (including children and young people), within the general community or in institutions, including domestic abuse, rape, and incest;*
- b. *sexual harassment, bullying and intimidation in any public or private space, including work;*
- c. *commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography and trafficking;*
- d. *child sexual abuse, including familial sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and online abuse;*
- e. *so called 'honour based' violence, including dowry related violence, female genital mutilation, forced and child marriages, and 'honour' crimes.*

Violence against women is both an equality and a human rights issue. Women and girls are at increased risk of violence and abuse because they are female. Our shared understanding recognises that violence against women has a significant impact on children and young people's lives, with their safety closely linked to their mother's. Men and boys can also be at risk of violence and abuse and support needs to be available at the point of need.

### National Equally Safe Quality Standards

These standards are self-assessed by partners, signed off by the FVAWP Executive Committee and reported to the Improvement Service who provided a report showing comparative data for Fife 2019/20 and 2020/21 (data for 21/22 is not yet available) compared to the national average in Scotland for 20/21. This information is included for each of the priorities in the report.

### Covid Supplementary Guidance

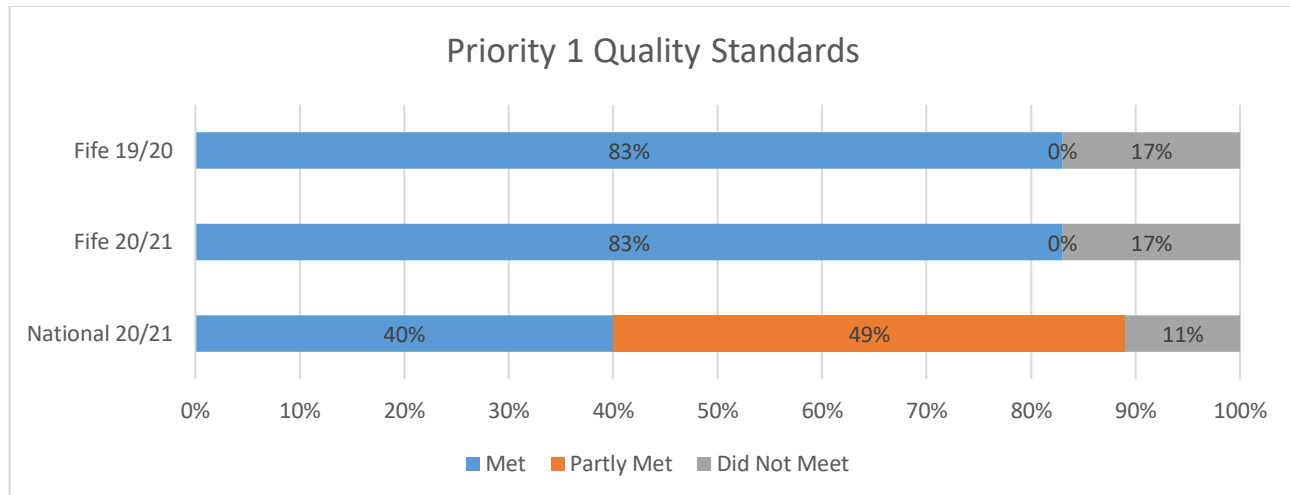
Covid continued to impact on all the work of Fife Violence Against Women Partnership. The updated [Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019-22](#) incorporates [Coronavirus \(COVID-19 Supplementary National Violence Against Women Guidance](#) for local authorities and community planning partners. This guidance recognised that the COVID-19 pandemic has, and will continue to place women, children and young people experiencing all forms of VAWG at increased risk of harm for the foreseeable future. This is due to several factors including (but not limited to):

- women, children, and young people having less opportunity to seek support from their normal social networks such as friends and family while restrictions are in place
- a perception that both universal and specialist services are under pressure creating a reluctance to seek support.
- perpetrators of VAWG potentially using COVID-19 social restrictions as an additional tool of exerting control, abuse and exploitation
- increased financial challenges and dependencies if women are not able to work due to redundancy,
- caring responsibilities,
- illness or other factors.

Appendix 1 – FVAWP action Plan 2019 -22 (revised December 2020) details actions and progress to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The text of the annual report provides a broader context for the work of Partners.

## Equally Safe Priority 1: Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls

- Positive gender roles are promoted
- People enjoy healthy positive relationships
- Children and young people develop an understanding of safe, healthy and positive relationships from an early age
- Individuals and communities recognise and challenge violent and abusive behaviour



### What have we done?

[FVAWP Primary Prevention Strategy for Children and Young People](#) describes how partners will work together within youthwork, early years, schools, College and University. The strategy links with the Curriculum for Excellence Health and Wellbeing Indicators. It is supported by a range of local and national partners. Covid has slowed progress with children and young people being out of school; schools being careful about how many additional people can be in classrooms; and reduced opportunities to engage with young people generally. As a result, we have seen a reduction in the number of sessions delivered by partners face to face. Work has however continued promoting understanding and awareness of gender-based violence, positive, healthy relationships and consent information from early years to secondary S6 with online resources playing a role

**Early years** – Following the Gender Equal Play pilot with Duloch Nursery supported by Zero Tolerance and FVAWP - gender equal resources in the early years setting were promoted and 9 nurseries participated in a “*You Can Be - Book Audit programme*”.

**Primary** - FVAWP has linked in with partners at NSPCC to monitor the delivery of the [Speak Out Stay Safe](#) programme. NSPCC, with support through education have managed to deliver this to over 3000 primary aged pupils during 2021-22.

**Secondary** - There is a national requirement to promote health and wellbeing in schools in line with the Curriculum for Excellence. Education Service lead on this within schools. [Mentoring Violence Programme \(MVP\)](#) continues to be rolled out with a further 5 schools undertaking training in the model. One High School is looking to develop [Equally Safe in Schools](#)

**St Andrew’s University** raises awareness of violence against women with all students in Freshers’ week, using their bystander peer education support programme [StAnd Together](#) which is an adaptation of Mentors in Violence Programme. Got Consent is a student led group who lead workshops to educate and start conversations around the topics of sexual assault, bystander

intervention, and laws and policies in relation to gender-based violence. 80 Leadership workshops were delivered virtually and were attended by over 800 students (mandatory for all student leaders).

Zero Tolerance Under Pressure has not been delivered this year, with staff relocated and moving to other roles, however there are plans to re-introduce this training in the coming year.

## Public Awareness

### Social Media Campaigns

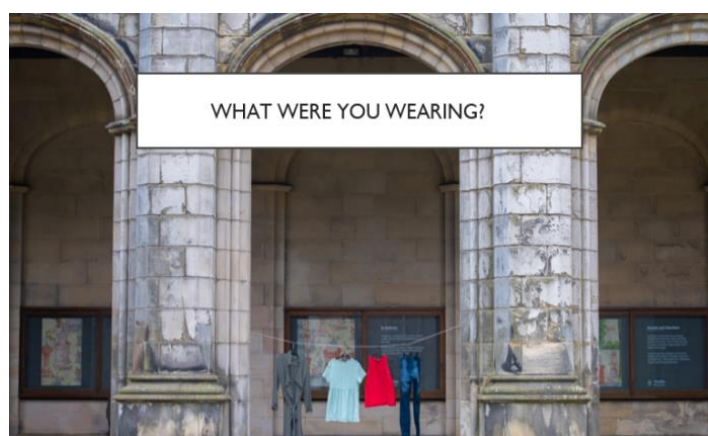
FVAWP has worked with Fife Council Communications Team, Police Scotland, NHS Fife and other partners to highlight violence against women, challenge attitudes and signpost to support agencies. These were linked to national campaigns including:

- 16 days of Action Against Violence Against Women
- International Women's Day
- # [Don't Be That Guy](#)

- FVAWP worked with the Community Safety Partnership to develop a [Women's Safety Campaign](#). This was developed in response to public concern about women experiencing violence when outdoors. Recognising that many women limit their lives and are fearful of men's behaviour. The campaign links to the police campaign *Don't Be That Guy* and asks men to think about how they can help women feel safer. Again, this was supported by Fife Council Communications Team and distributed through partner agencies social media and other formats.



- St Andrew's University co-ordinated '[What Were You Wearing?](#)' supported by Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre. *What Were You Wearing?* is an art exhibition based on student-survivor descriptions of the clothes they were wearing when they were sexually assaulted. It displays recreations of the clothes they were wearing with testimonies of survivors (these were gathered by the University of Arkansas, who created the exhibition).



The installation encourages participants to understand that it was never about the clothing *“if only ending sexual violence was as easy as changing our clothes! Instead, it requires all of us to evaluate what enabled us as individuals and as a society to ask, “what were you wearing?” in the first place”*.

The project was inspired by Dr Mary Simmerling’s poem "What I Was Wearing" which ends with *“if only we could end rape by simply changing clothes. I remember also what he was wearing that night even though it's true that no one has ever asked”*.



Survivor’s testimonies:

*“Nike shorts and a concert sweatshirt. Seems so normal. It was too, just any other day, except for this. Except for what happened”*

*“Jean shirt, jeans, and Toms. Everyone seems so confused when I tell them this. Like they can't understand what I am saying. They can't understand what I was wearing. It's almost funny. Almost”*

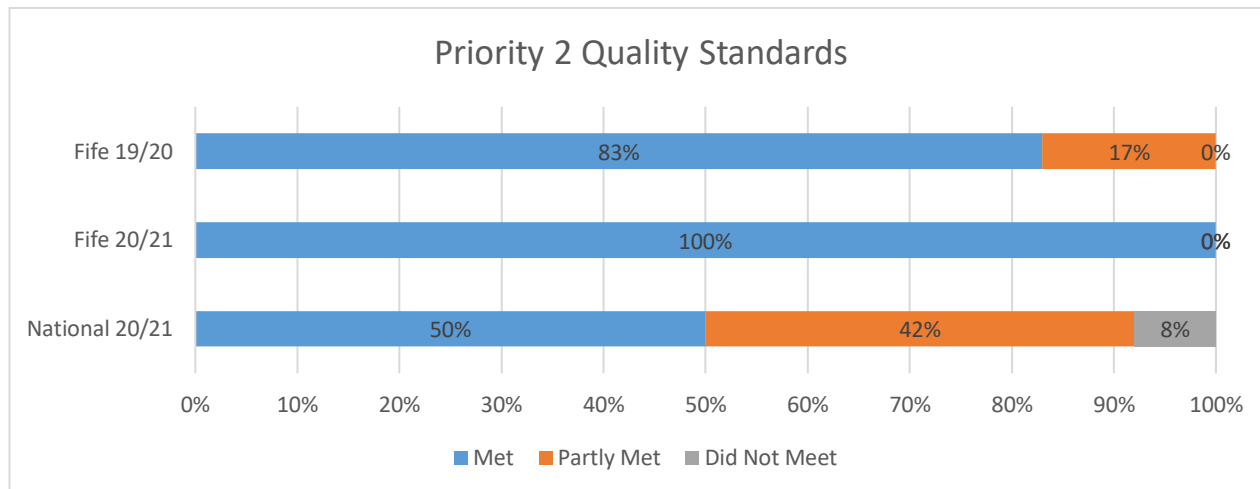
#### Next Steps:

- [FVAWP Primary Prevention Strategy for Children and Young People](#) to be reviewed to reflect the impact of Covid and new opportunities. Continue to deliver primary prevention with input from local and national partners
- [‘What Were You Wearing’](#) – to be taken to other areas of Fife to increase the impact and reach of the exhibition.
- Develop further social media campaigns with support from Fife Council Communications Team
- Zero Tolerance’s [‘Under Pressure’](#) training for trainers to be delivered to those working with young people, with a view to include this training within FVAWP’s annual [training programme](#).



## Equally Safe Priority 2. Women and girls thrive as equal citizens: socially, culturally, economically and politically

- a. Women and girls feel safe, respected and equal in our communities
- b. Women and men have equal access to power and resources



### What have we done?

The work of FVAWP is aligned with Fife Council's Senior Equalities Group, recognising that violence against women is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality. Fife Council's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Outcomes include an outcome about women and girls living free from violence and abuse linking to FVAWP Action Plan. FVAWP recognises specific challenges from Covid for women, children and young people with lived experience of VAWG. The [Coronavirus \(COVID-19 Supplementary National Violence Against Women Guidance\)](#) highlights the importance of ensuring that VAW is considered in Fife's wider recovery plans and additional actions have been added to the FVAWP Action Plan to support this, including in terms of:

- Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessments
- Consulting with survivors to ensure that the recovery systems and services meet their needs
- Ensuring that the inequality of outcomes that women have experienced during the pandemic are recognised and addressed in local recovery and renewal strategies

Fife Council has been accepted onto the Equally Safe Employer Accreditation Programme and is working towards gaining a bronze award, this is led by Human Resources. It is an eighteen-month programme starting March 2022. Substantial preparatory work has been undertaken in terms of updating policies and guidance.

NHS Fife and Fife Council undertake Equality Impact Assessments to review activity and outcomes from an Equality and Human Rights and to advance equality of opportunity in relation to proposed changes to services. The process assesses impact of gender inequality and issues of violence towards woman as a core question.

FVAWP and partners have strengthened links with equality groups with the support of Fife Centre for Equalities. FVAWP Priority 3 working group has been looking to enhance support for those with additional vulnerabilities. Specialist services have supported service users to inform FVAWP of what changes to services in third sector and statutory sectors have meant for them.

FVAWP has liaised with Community Planning Managers to highlight the need to take a gendered approach and to specifically consider VAW in renewal planning with varying success.

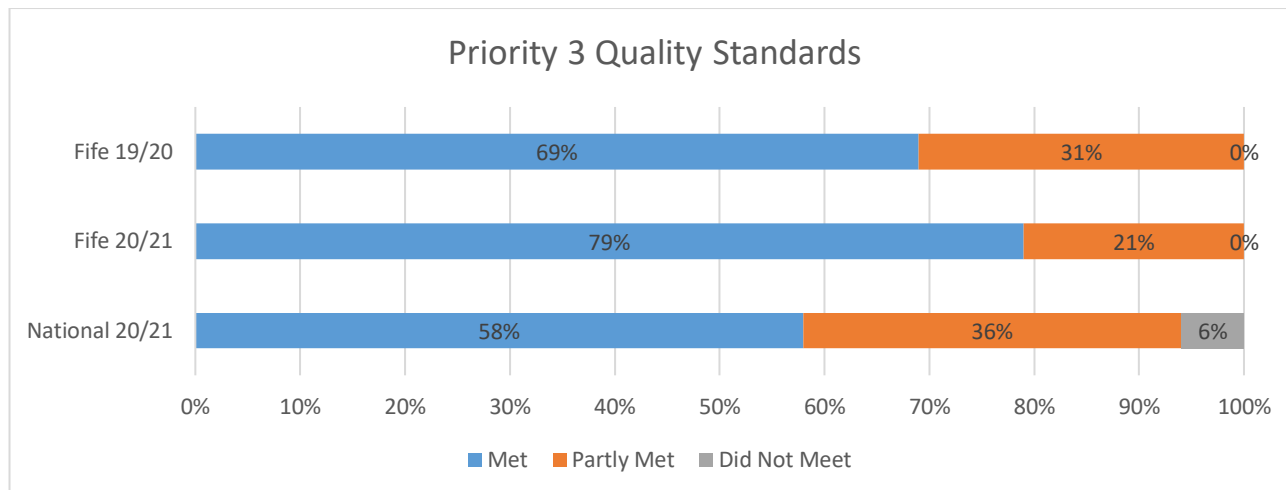
### Next Steps

- Fife Council to undertake *Equally Safe at Work* Bronze Accreditation

- Promote a gendered approach and the needs of women and children with lived experience of violence against women in community planning
- Share the views of those with lived experience across the partnership and local planning

### Equally Safe Priority 3. Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people

- Justice responses are robust, swift, consistent, and co-ordinated
- Women, children and young people access relevant, effective and integrated services
- Service providers competently identify violence against women and girls and respond effectively to women, children and young people affected



**Covid 19** restrictions continued to impact on women and children living with domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women, creating an environment whereby risks were heightened within local communities. Lockdown disrupted normal coping strategies adding to the challenges faced by many survivors. This year has once again required partner organisations across statutory and third sectors to work incredibly hard and flexibly to support victims and survivors. Services provided support in a range of ways depending on covid restrictions and individual service user circumstances.

Although crisis support continued throughout the year, some agencies stopped taking referrals for periods of time for recovery / therapeutic services because waiting lists had become unmanageable. Other services cut back on the promotion of some of their services. In mid-December 2021 there were the following waiting lists, representing a considerable wait for some service users.

- Fife Women’s Aid women’s support 229 and children and young people 136
- Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Service 156
- KASP 107
- Saje 196

There are always concerns that when a client makes contact with the service that they are ready to engage. If this person then has to wait 6-8 months (or longer) to be allocated a counsellor we may have then lost them.

Kingdom Abuse Survivor’s Project

To manage these capacity issues, short-term intervention services were developed by a number of partners. Additional funds were released by the Scottish Government to Fife Women’s Aid, Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre and Kingdom Abuse Survivor’s Project to specifically address waiting lists.

**FRASAC** was one service that stopped taking new referrals for counselling. They highlighted that their waiting list continued to grow despite three new support workers starting in the spring of 2021. The demand for Early Intervention and Crisis also grew and generated a long waiting list for this service which was initially intended to be support that could be received very quickly. This reflected the increasing number of referrals including those with immediate needs, poor and declining mental

health, suicidal ideation/attempts. All staff provided some crisis support, resulting in long wait times for longer term support.

Recruitment has been difficult for partners, with vacancies taking some time to fill, staff then need training and induction before they can support victims and survivors.

**Groupwork** delivery was severely affected by covid restrictions – some organisations successfully delivered programmes virtually which worked well for some service users. Other programmes were adapted to reduce face to face contact. Cedar reported challenges in maintaining group consistency with high levels of covid affecting families' attendance.

I'm so happy that a course like this exists. It felt so safe and the conversation and sharing of experience felt natural even though it was tough. I will sincerely miss my group! Going forward I think that there is still a place for online groups beyond the pandemic. I don't think I could have or would have attended were it face to face due to childcare difficulties and general anxiety.

Saje Service User

Referrals continued to be very unpredictable adding to the challenges for those delivering services. At times this could be linked to changes in Covid restrictions and for example there was an increase in referrals for children and young people coinciding with children returning to schools. As organisations attempted to resume services as restrictions of the second lockdown eased, they were hampered by high levels of covid affecting both staff and service users.

### **New Methods of Service Delivery**

Agencies adapted to rapidly changing situations, offering help and support in a range of ways. Partners learnt new ways of working - enhancing the services on offer. Going forward many agencies are looking to offer a mixture of face to face and virtual support, recognising the potential benefits of both and individual preference of service users. Some service users preferred online support finding it helped reduce social anxiety, removed the need for public transport, and eased childcare. Others expressed the need for their support to be face-to-face.

It was a learning experience for all.

Staff were asked to cope with rapid change. Helping service users with new support needs within a new working environment including virtual support, working from home, and less peer support.

### **Service User Feedback**

Covid has undoubtedly been a particularly difficult time for many women and children living with the threat of domestic abuse, sexual violence and other forms of violence against women. It was particularly important to seek service user's views as services changed to respond to restrictions and additional need. The following suggests that the interventions have been effective and hugely valued by service users.

#### **Fife Women's Aid**

*"Refuge was the first time my family have felt safe. We have never felt as safe as we did in refuge"*

*"We would not be where we are today without the support. In fact, I hate to think what would have happened to us"*

*"I hated other groups before, where I felt forced to answer questions that I didn't know the answer to and felt everyone was staring at me and this was different: I could turn off the camera and I liked that"*

*and no one picked on me to answer. Having other people that are in the same boat as me I felt less alone. I especially loved the breakout groups. Everyone was honest. If someone was having a crap day they straight up said it."*

### **Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre**

*"I have less irrational anxiety about my safety. When I was referred to FRASAC the threat to me wasn't ongoing but with FRASAC support I have less of a fear of men in a general setting for example home workers."*

*"Having a space where I can talk has helped my thoughts be less jumbled in my head. I have articulated them, so it feels less overwhelming. Helps me be more certain about what I can do in situations."*

*"For the first time I have felt properly heard, believed and understood. It has been a long journey and I have a ways to go but being listened to and respected and made to feel I was worth helping has turned my life around."*

### **Kingdom Abuse Survivor's Project**

*"I was stuck in this place I was so angry, lost, sad, didn't know how to get my head out of it... I didn't know where to start that was the problem too! I knew I had to sort myself out as everyone was turning against me. I felt I needed to sort myself out the lockdown inadvertently helped me as I made contact with KASP! I made huge life changes So much has changed in past 6/7 months and I have with help from KASP worked on myself and made changes!"*

*"I just remember the loneliness...the terror etc ..etc ... And the pain physical, mental and emotional pain. The feeling of being a trapped animal just wanting a human being to can and unlocked the cage door and let me out and to show me it is safe to come out although the cage door is open"*

### **Saje**

*"I know from personal experience how hard it's to take that first step in the door but everyone was so welcoming from reception to councillor which made it less scary and so much easier to return and through time I self-harmed less and became strong enough to fight the suicidal thoughts and report my abuser."*

*"A better understanding of what happened to me and knowing I'm not alone. I have a voice again which I felt I haven't had for 2 years"*

### **NHS Gender-Based Violence Service**

*"I haven't been able to talk to anyone really. You just don't know what's out there or who to talk to. It was (friend's name) who mentioned you guys, she told me about you and I'm just so relieved there's someone to talk to."*

*"I was raped by my ex-boyfriend. I got support from my worker in the team and she was so good. Really listened to me and helped me to get additional support in place. When she started, I was really lost and unsure about what I needed or how to help myself."*

### **Safe Space**

*"I can honestly say if it had not been for safe space I wouldn't have been able to go through with the court and there's definitely a high chance I wouldn't be here at all"*

*"I know from personal experience how hard it's to take that first step in the door but everyone was so welcoming from reception to councillor which made it less scary and so much easier to return and through time I self-harmed less and became strong enough to fight the suicidal thoughts and report my abuser."*

## Cedar

*"It has made me more confident. I smile and laugh again when I had almost forgotten how to. I now don't say sorry for no reason. I'm loving life again, I can see a future for my kids and I."* (mother)

*"I am happy and feel better than when I first came and it was fun"* (child)

**Resources** have been discussed throughout the year. Some specialist services received additional national funds to address and reduce waiting lists. The partnership has looked to support agencies under most pressure and to identify additional funds.

An ongoing challenge is the short-term nature of funding with most specialist services involved in funding applications including to the Delivering Equally Safe Fund. Local organisations had mixed fortunes with these competitive funds.

**Fife Suite** (forensic examination for adult victims of rape and sexual assault) NHS Fife and partners including Police and FRASAC, have developed processes for self-referral which went live 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – allowing victims to have a forensic examination (within a critical timeframe) without having to make decisions about reporting the assault to the Police.

**Alcohol and Substance Misuse** has worked with Scottish Drugs Forum and Fife VAW Partnership to ask women with lived experience what the barriers are to accessing and staying engaged with services. MARAC reviewed cases where women were at high risk of domestic abuse to ensure we have a better understanding of how service design can disadvantage some service users

**Join the Dots** a new Fife Women's Aid Service for children and young people based on a model of additional and intensive support was launched providing opportunities to explore the impact of domestic abuse and support recovery.

## Learning and Development

FVAWP delivered training throughout 2021-22 as part of the Multi-agency [Training Framework](#). This was accessed by partners across statutory and third sectors with a wide range of staff attending. FVAWP Training Programme can be accessed through [FVAWP webpages](#).

Training was delivered through a variety of platforms including e-learning, webinars and blended learning options. With the help of our partners, we adapted more courses to the webinar format including 'Domestic Abuse and the Protection of Children', 'MARAC', and 'Engaging Safely with Male Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse'. We have recently started to introduce some 'in-person' learning opportunities again and hope to continue our training programme with a blended approach to suit all learners.

This year we had numerous and varied learning opportunities across a variety of different platforms, including single-agency training, and the courses offered were completed by over 1500 participants (see appendix 3). The high standard of training could not be delivered without support of partner organisations. A high level of satisfaction in the training was maintained despite the remote delivery method, with attendees identifying:

- an increase in understanding of the issues
- improved knowledge of good practice
- increase in knowledge of services and resources

All courses evaluated extremely well. Feedback on some of the courses from participants includes:

MARAC:

*"Really good seminar, that deepened my knowledge of MARAC and the process that takes place, as well as finding out a few additional agencies that I will be adding to my list. Thank you"*

Domestic Abuse and Protection of Children:

*"Really enjoyed the course and hearing all about the work being done with woman, children and perps to change these behaviours and make life a happier / more enjoyable experience for all."*

Identifying Stalking Behaviours:

*“Really well-developed training that gave a perfectly pitched overview of stalking/stalkers - but also interventions (and what can work) which I had hoped would be present (and were). This is exactly what I was looking for, so really helpful!”*

Working With Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse:

*“I thought this training was very good and engaging even on a Teams meeting. The facilitators really knew their stuff which made all the difference, and it wasn't formal so I felt I could speak up more.”*

Exploring the Impact Gender Stereotypes and Unconscious Bias has on the Ambitions of Learners:

*“I will be more conscious of what I say and do to promote equality”*

FVAWP promotes e-learning courses developed by partner agencies, some of which are a prerequisite to attending level 2 webinar inputs (see [webpages](#) for training programme) These include

- Domestic Abuse Awareness Raising Tool (DAART)
- Sexual Violence Awareness Training
- Becoming Trauma Informed
- Introduction to Child Sexual Exploitation
- Awareness of Forced Marriage
- Recognising and Preventing Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Developing Your Trauma Skilled Practice

FVAWP continued delivering [Safe and Together](#) Core training through a blended approach (using Safe and Together Institute Virtual Training Academy and Fife trainers consolidating the learning through webinars) targeting mainly social work staff in Children & Families and Criminal Justice services, as well as some of the MARAC partners. A further 54 staff completed the 4-day Core training, bringing the total number of staff trained in the Safe and Together model in Fife to over 240. The focus of the course content is:

- Keeping children safe and together with the non-abusing parent
- Partnering with the non-offending parent as the default position
- Intervening with perpetrators to reduce risk of harm to the child

Safe and Together training feedback:

*“Best practice examples of reports were really useful”*

*“Being more domestic-violence informed, partnering with the non-offending parent, assessing the perpetrator’s patterns of behaviour to assess the impact on family functioning, and ensuring documentation is domestic-violence informed”*

*“Changing the language I use in documenting domestic abuse case notes and reports. Making sure the children’s voices are heard in these reports by quoting them”*

*“Doing more work with perpetrators to hold them accountable”*

An additional 63 participants took part in 7 partner-led internal and external training seminars; these included specialist Foster Carer training provided by Kingdom Abuse Survivors Project and Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre, who also delivered training to SACRO, the Social Work Forum for Newly Qualified Practitioners, and the Early Years Network.

NHS Fife has continued to support routine enquiry in a range of health settings.

FVAWP partnered with Scottish Women’s Aid, Fife Council Housing, and Safer Communities to pilot [Equally Safe in Practice](#) (ESiP) training, rolling out mandatory training to Housing and Safer Communities staff comprising of three modules:

- ESiP Together for Gender Equality
- ESiP Understanding Domestic Abuse

- ESiP Understanding Sexual Violence

To date staff have completed the first module and attended sessions facilitated by trainers to discuss and consolidate their learning about gender equality. Of those who had not attended gender or VAW training previously, all felt that the training had increased their understanding of:

- What gender is and why it is important
- The harmful impact of gender stereotypes on individuals and society
- What we lose in an unequal society
- The link between women's inequality and violence against women
- Actions I can take to make a positive difference.

Feedback and key takeaways from participants included:

*“That gender inequality in society can lead to violence against girls and woman, had just assumed those carrying out the violence were just bad people, not that society helped to set females up to face this violence”*

*“I could connect and relate to the experiences from other women. It made me realise I have been right to challenge unequal attitudes when men have been sexist or ignorant. It has also shown me that a women's standards are not too high in how they are expected to be treated by males. It is societies expectations that are far too low.”*

**Fife Suite** (forensic examination for adult victims of rape and sexual assault) NHS Fife and partners including Police and FRASAC, have developed processes for self-referral which went live 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – allowing victims to have a forensic examination (within a critical timeframe) without having to make decisions about reporting the assault to the Police.

### **Fife Housing Partnership**

Domestic Abuse Intervention Fund continues to run and support women with practical issues in settling into accommodation e.g. storage and removal costs.

Housing Options Pathway continues with Case Management approach. One consistent Case Manager has proven to be very successful with positive feedback from women.

Fife Housing Register partners have been looking at how to support women who have been rehoused to sustain tenancies, including Tenancy Assistance and Housing Support resources which have been identified.

Links have been made with the Private Landlords Forum to highlight supports that are out there for Private Sector Tenants experiencing domestic abuse.

Fife Council Housing Service was very involved in pushing legislative changes included in Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act.

**MARAC Fife – (multi-agency risk assessment conferencing)** is a process for the highest risk domestic abuse cases. Its aims are to safeguard adult victims; make links with other public protection arrangements in relation to children, perpetrators, and vulnerable adults; protect agency staff and address the behaviour of the perpetrator.

MARAC was sustained throughout Covid-19 restrictions with partners sharing information and holding discussions remotely. Of the 710 referrals to MARAC Fife

- **48%** were discussed by partners at MARAC and independent MARAC advocacy offered by Fife Women's Aid or KASP
- **26%** were referred to MARAC independent advocacy for further risk assessment, safety planning and victim support
- **24%** of referrals were returned to the referring agency to support without MARAC co-ordination but with feedback and signposting

85% of the total referrals into MARAC were from the Police. 95% of victims were female, aged from 16 to 78 years.



Cases involved stalking (37%), high levels of violence and coercive control. The impact on victims is profound in terms of trauma and wellbeing. Children are significantly impacted with domestic abuse identified as an adverse childhood experience (ACE). **782 children** were in the **337 MARAC case discussions**, usually the children of the victim or perpetrator but also step or half siblings, grandchildren, or otherwise at risk.

Substance misuse is not a cause nor an excuse for domestic abuse, however, can increase risk when the victim and/or the perpetrator are misusing alcohol or drugs. Of MARAC victims last year, 16% had identified alcohol ab/use and 16% drugs ab/use concerns. Of MARAC perpetrators 39% had an issue with alcohol and 45% with drugs. Joint work with Fife Alcohol and Drug Partnership continues, with the aim of improving support for women with dependencies.

MARAC reduces repeat victimisation within a context of complex and often escalating abuse where sharing information and partnership working is essential. Importantly, victims feel supported by the MARAC advocates and other partners. MARAC ensures partner agencies understand (and set tasks to reduce) the level of risk posed to adult victims and third parties including children. MARAC Advocates ensure all partners are aware of the victim's perspective and that tasking in the Risk Management Plan address their needs.

A MARAC Fife review led by a social work team manager, with a range of MARAC partners supporting case audits and review of processes and resources was undertaken in 2020/21. Recommendations have either been implemented or work begun to address them. Recommendations included to:

- increase Chairing capacity at MARAC case discussions (with a Fife Women's Aid manager joining the existing Police and Justice social work Chairs);
- enhance the links between Adult Protection and MARAC (with closer working relations through the Adult Protection Coordinator and MARAC Coordinator now in place and working well);
- focus on victim non-engagement and advocacy for less well-represented victims in the MARAC cohort (being explored through the creation of a short life working group).

The full recommendations and details can be viewed in the MARAC Annual Report 2021/22.

**Safe, Secure and Supported at Home** continued to be a key service during lockdown including for MARAC referrals. Fife Women's Aid deliver the befriending element which has been bolstered post lockdown, helping families to settle in unfamiliar surroundings.

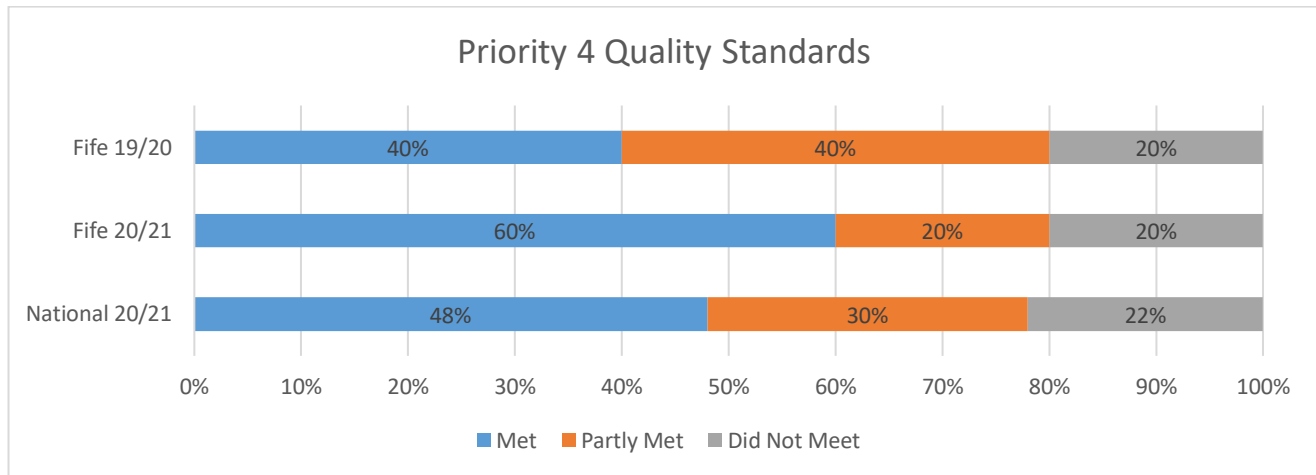
### **Next Steps**

- Fife Violence Against Women Partnership will continue to monitor the demand for services as the impact of Covid varies, recognising the need for recovery services
- FVAWP will contribute to the national strategic funding review
- FVAWP will work with Alcohol and Drug Partnership to promote the learning from the community research looking at effective engagement with women with experience of violence against women and addictions.
- Strengthen joint work with Adult Support and Protection
- Housing Services developing guidance, processes and training materials re Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act.
  - Continue links with Private Sector to grow knowledge of domestic abuse supports
  - Work continues around tenancy sustainment models
  - Domestic Abuse Intervention Fund to continue to operate and provide practical assistance.
- Offer Safe and Together training to a wider range of partner agencies.
- Work with Equally Safe in Practice to deliver 2 more modules "Understanding Domestic Abuse" and "Understanding Sexual Violence".
- Develop training on Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Intimate Image abuse with national partners

## Equally Safe Priority 4

**Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.**

- Justice responses are robust, swift, consistent and co-ordinated
- Men who carry out violence against women and girls are identified early and held to account by the criminal and civil justice system
- Relevant links are made between the experience of women children and young people in the criminal and civil justice system



### What have we done?

FVWAP promotes engaging with male perpetrators of domestic abuse to hold them accountable for their behaviours in terms of adult victims, children and third parties. Criminal Justice Social Work (CJSW) colleagues supported the development of a multi-agency seminar “*Engaging Safely with Male Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse*” which has evaluated well and is now incorporated into FVWAP training programme (see appendix 3)

Engaging Safely with Male Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse:

*“I really enjoyed the course - it was clearly well thought through and had the right balance of theory and application. The leaders were insightful and knowledgeable. It’s one of the best courses I’ve attended in a long time, thank you.”*

Covid restrictions had a significant impact on the functioning of criminal justice system, particularly the Courts where there were significant backlogs. CJSW continued to manage cases with close monitoring

Perpetrator groups were suspended, including for domestic abuse and sex offenders to be replaced with one-to-one delivery. Groups were re-established in January 22 as Covid restrictions eased.

There were significant backlogs in Unpaid Work - 20,000 hours were removed in Fife due to a change in the legislation, this did not however impact on perpetrators of domestic abuse / sexual violence or stalking offences who are required to complete their unpaid work.

There is effective sharing of information across processes in Fife to protect victims including MATAAC<sup>1</sup> and DSDAS<sup>2</sup>.

Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre and Fife Women's Aid continue to provide court support to victims required to attend Court alongside Victim Support Witness Service.

### **Next Steps**

- Work to address backlogs in the Court systems with the additional financial support granted from Scottish Government.
- Deliver groupwork programmes

### **Practitioners Network**

A Practitioners' Network has met on a regular basis throughout the year on Teams to keep professionals connected, share good practice, discuss service user feedback, review delivery of services, share prevention campaigns and training opportunities.

It has been an opportunity for agencies to update colleagues on the services they provide and how to access them with inputs from Fife Law Centre, Saje Scotland, Victim Support Scotland, Police Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit, Fife Women's Aid Children and Young People's Service, Project Forte (fencing), Kingdom Abuse Survivor's Project (KASP), Young Women Lead and a Safe and Together update.

It is hoped in the future to have face to face meetings and seminars to update and refresh practitioner's knowledge and skills.

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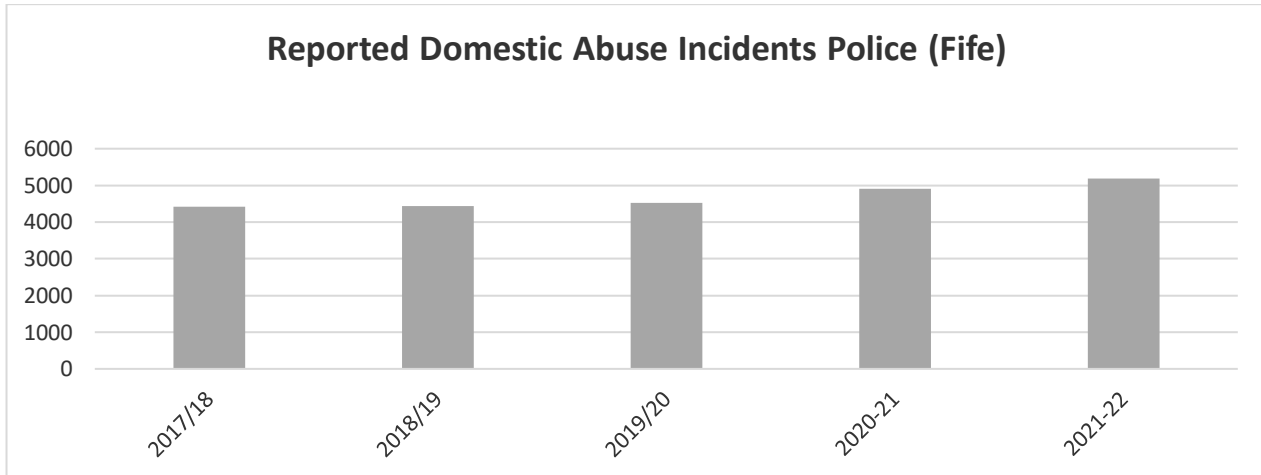
<sup>1</sup> Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordination - a police led process to share information about perpetrators who present the highest risk to victims, many have abused multiple partners

<sup>2</sup> Disclosure Scotland Domestic Abuse Scheme, a process where police can make a disclosure to the partner of a perpetrator of domestic abuse about their previous domestic abuse history (sometimes known as Claire's Law)

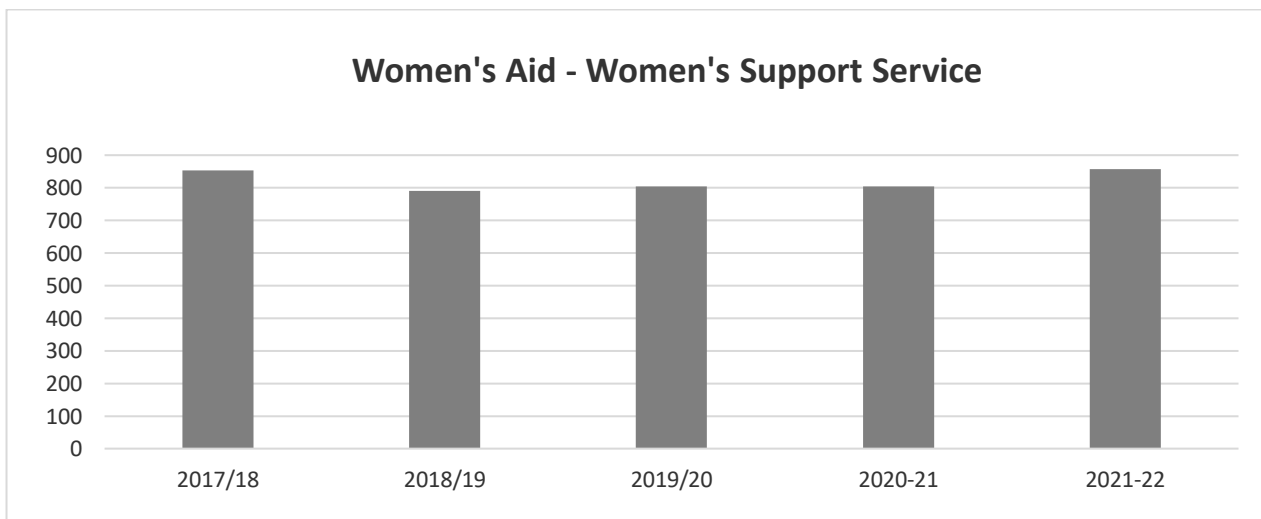
## Demand for Services – Partners Data returns 2021/22

### Domestic Abuse

Police Scotland (Fife Division) recorded **5195** incidents of domestic abuse. 42% were identified as crimes involving 3683 charges. This resulted in 1822 reports to the Procurator Fiscal. There has been an increase in reported domestic abuse incidents year on year as the graph below shows. There were real concerns at the start of Covid lockdowns that domestic abuse would be under-reported. Police continued to respond “business as usual” throughout the pandemic and these fears were not realised.



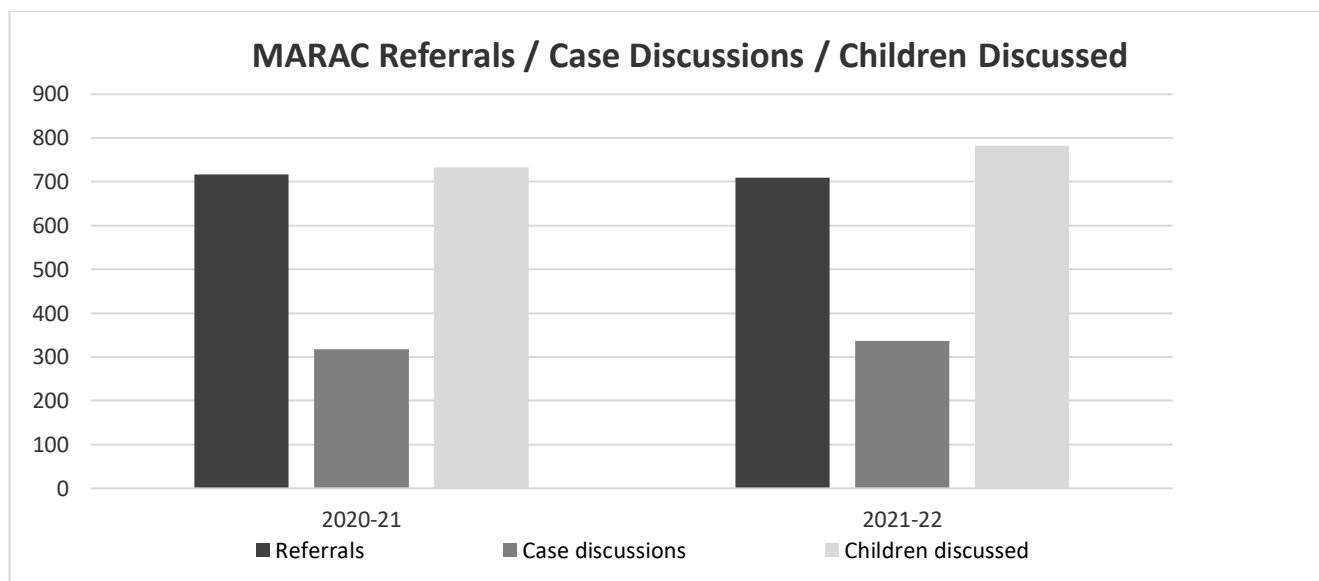
**Fife Women’s Aid** received **1306** referrals a reduction of 12% from the previous year to their services for women aged 16+ years, including women’s support service, refuge, MARAC, counselling, court support, befriending and family support. 857 of these referrals were to the women’s support service, which was an increase of 7% on the previous year. 461 children (0-15 years) were supported by FWA children and young people’s service an increase of 13%. This increase coincides with the launch of the new *Join the Dots* service. There were 194 refuge requests which represents a decrease of (46%) on the previous year. 2020/21 saw a significant increase in the number of refuge requests linked to the difficult position women found themselves in during Covid lockdowns. Refuge requests are now more similar to (and slightly lower than) the 2 years prior to Covid.



**Shakti Women’s Aid** received 24 new referrals, all domestic abuse cases. There was one woman with no recourse to public funds, three women were refugees seeking asylum. Honour based abuse was present as an element of the domestic abuse in four of the cases.

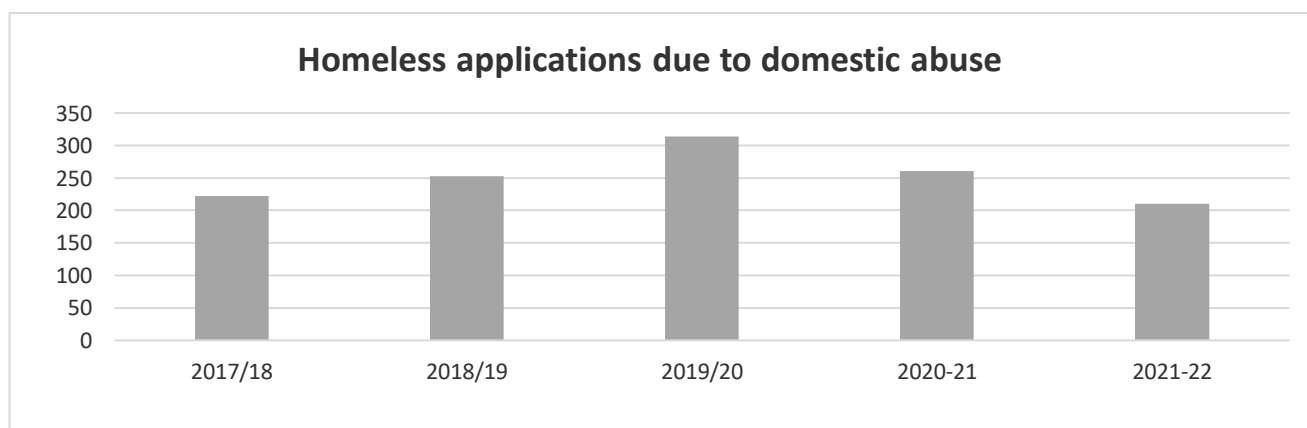
**Cedar+ Fife** – groupwork delivery continued to be impacted by Covid restrictions. Referral numbers remained lower than pre-covid levels. There were 79 referrals - an increase of 139% on previous years, but still well below pre-covid levels. 54 children and 41 children completed group with 3 supported on a one-to-one basis.

**MARAC Fife** received 710 high risk domestic abuse referrals. Virtual multi-agency meetings continued with enhanced screening processes. The number of case discussions was 337 including 782 babies / children.



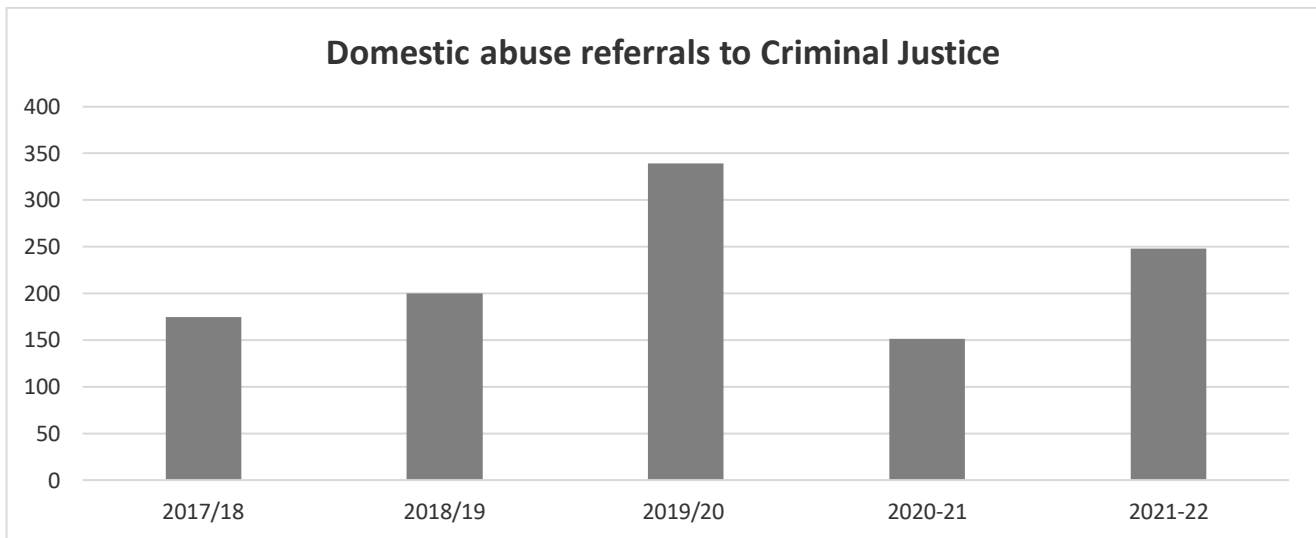
**Saje** received **376** referrals. 241 women completed the Freedom Programme and 89 the Toolkit for Life. Saje adapted services to deliver a range of on-line programmes. There continues to be ad-hoc support and weekly drop-in sessions.

**Housing** - The number of applications for homeless accommodation as a result of domestic abuse / violence against women decreased again last year (-20%). Housing Service has been working to reduce crisis homelessness and a number of measures have been put in place to support those with experience of domestic abuse. The numbers offered tenancies where there is known domestic abuse has remained very similar to last year at 210.

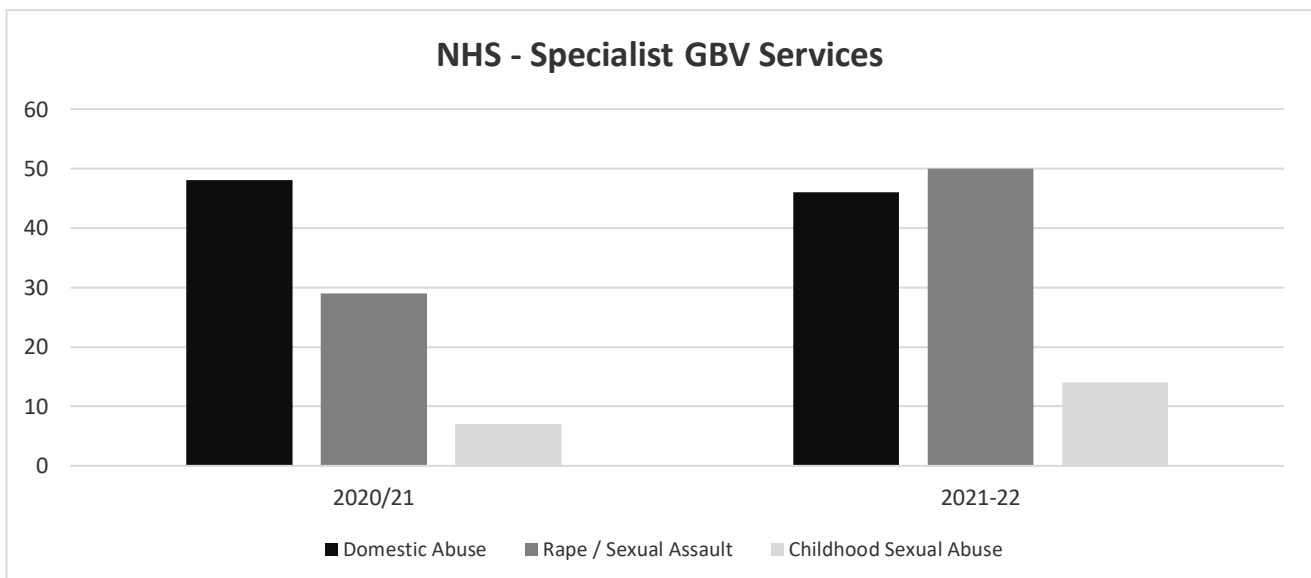


## Criminal Justice

Covid continued to impact on both Courts and Criminal Justice Social Work. The number of referrals to criminal justice social work for perpetrators of domestic abuse (assault / serious assault / breach of the peace) was 248. This reflects an increase on the previous year of 64% but is still lower than the year prior to Covid restrictions. 57 men started the Caledonian programme, group delivery was hampered by Covid restrictions, where groups weren't possible one to one work continued. No men completed group in 2021/22. 74 women engaged with the women's service over the course of the year, others chose not to engage with the service. As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 there were 123 women on the Women's Support service caseload.



**NHS - Specialist NHS Gender Based Violence Service** provided support as across a range of areas as follows.

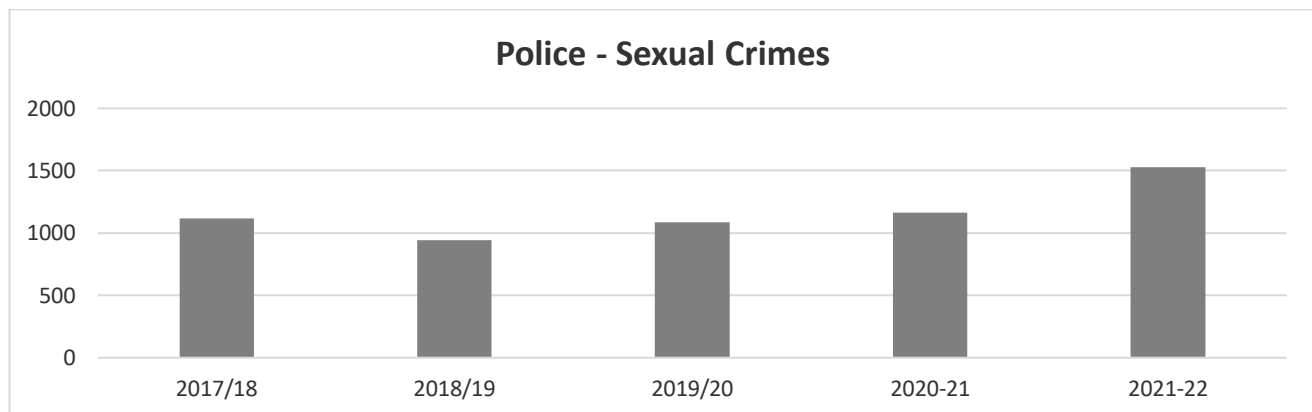


The Gender Based Violence Nurse Advisory Service saw a significant increase in the number of rape and sexual assault disclosures (42%) and childhood sexual abuse (100%). The team offers safety, support and stabilisation for victims and survivors of abuse. The Fife Suite for forensic examinations

based in Queen Margaret Hospital offers greater health focus. For further information see NHS Fife's GBV annual report.

### **Sexual Violence / Abuse**

**Police Scotland (Fife Division)** recorded **1527** crimes of “indecenty”<sup>3</sup>. “Crimes of indecenty” describe a wide range of sexual offending as described in the foot note below including sexual assault and rape. This represents an increase of 31%. Police Scotland has local and national units which proactively target and investigate high risk offenders. These crimes include current and historic offending including in a domestic context. Police Scotland has had a number of campaigns to encourage reporting and support victims to disclose. Although Police Scotland operated throughout covid, some services were more limited. As services including recovery and therapeutic work resume victims and survivors are better supported by partner agencies to report to the police.



### **Third Sector Sexual Abuse Agencies received the following number of referrals**

- **FRASAC** (Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre) received **353** new referrals, an increase of 36% on the previous year and higher than pre-covid levels. They supported a total of 541 individuals throughout the year
- **KASP** (Kingdom Abuse Survivor’s Project) received **297** new referrals, an increase of 84% on the previous year. They supported a total of 370 survivors throughout the year
- **Safe Space** received **53** new referrals, an increase of 18% on the previous year. They supported 72 survivors in the course of the year.

3<sup>rd</sup> sector partners have provided **5282** hours of support to survivors to help them cope with their experiences of abuse and violence during the last year. This represented an increase of 73% for FRASAC and 41% for Safe Space

### **Criminal Justice Social Work**

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<sup>3</sup> Rape/ Having Intercourse with an Older Child, Sexual Assault by Penetration, Engaging in penetrative sexual activity with or towards an older child, Sexual Assault, Engaging in sexual activity with or towards an older child, Sexual Coercion, Causing a Young Child/Older Child to Participate in a Sexual Activity, Coercing/ Causing a Person/Young Child/Older Child to be Present During a Sexual Activity, Coercing /Causing a Person/Young Child/Older Child to Look at a Sexual Image, Communicating Indecently, Causing a Person to See or Hear an Indecent Communication, Sexual Exposure, Voyeurism, Administering a Substance for Sexual Purposes, Engaging while an Older Child in Sexual Conduct with or Towards Another Older Child, Engaging while an Older Child in Consensual Sexual Conduct with Another Older Child, Sexual Abuse of Trust (Children), Sexual Abuse of Trust of a Mentally Disordered Person

There were **122** referrals to criminal justice social work for reports as a result of sexual offending (an increase of 31%). 15 started on a programme focussing on reducing risk of further sexual offending with 11 successfully completing. This remains lower pre-Covid with the disruption to delivery of groupwork and Courts.



## Appendix 1 Fife Violence Against Women Partnership Action Plan 2019-22

The action plan was amended in December 2020, recognising the significant impact of Covid on those affected by violence against women. In recognition of the particular risks for women and children the Scottish Government, CoSLA, Public Health Scotland and the Improvement Service published [Covid-19 Supplementary VAW Guidance](#) in June 2020 and an updated version in September 2020. This Guidance recognises:

The Guidance identifies a range of specific increased risks:

- During periods of lockdown and other social restrictions
- During recovery and renewal planning
- As partners build back better

The guidance also identifies 25 actions that local partners should consider to mitigate against those risks. The action plan now incorporates actions addressing 1 & 2 above  
 SG 1 to 10 - during periods of lockdown and other social restrictions,  
 SG 11 to 20 - during recovery and renewal planning.  
 Some link closely to actions already in our action plan, others are additional.

### Equally Safe Priority 1 - Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
1.1 Work in partnership with schools, colleges and university to raise awareness of all forms of VAWG, aligning to Scottish Government led strategies and pilot projects. Ensure a strong focus on prevention including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• raising awareness of positive healthy relationships</li> <li>• supporting children and young people to identify 'unhealthy relationships' at an early stage.</li> </ul>	Develop a primary prevention strategy to raise awareness of gender-based violence and support the delivery of inputs across schools aligned to Curriculum for Excellence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early years</li> <li>• Primary schools</li> <li>• Secondary schools</li> </ul>	<b>Complete</b>
	University of St Andrews to work with partners to raise awareness of VAWG focusing on prevention including Mentors in Violence Programme FVAWP to support this prevention work, recognising the key role of specialist services.	<b>Ongoing</b>
1.2 Work in partnership with youth work groups to ensure a consistent approach to raising awareness and tackling tolerance of VAWG	Identify priority groups of children and young people to learn about healthy relationships and those who need additional support to cope with the impact of Covid and VAW	<b>Ongoing</b>
1.3 Engage with the local community to raise awareness of Violence Against Women, the causes and consequences and the role they can play in tackling it	Link with national prevention campaigns such as 16 days  FVAWP to promote services and where to get help (see priority 3, action 8 and priority 2, action 19)	<b>Ongoing</b>

**Equally Safe Priority 2 - Women and girls thrive as equal citizens: socially, culturally, economically and politically**

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
2.1 Highlight Equally Safe within local Equalities Strategies	Work with the Senior Equalities Group (SEG) to promote the quality standards and additional actions highlighted in the <u>Covid-19 Supplementary VAW Guidance</u> that link to ES priority 2	<b>Ongoing</b>
2.2 Fife Council to engage with the Equally Safe Employer Accreditation Programme	<p>Fife Council to work with FVAWP to achieve Bronze Accreditation where the framework addresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership</li> <li>• Data</li> <li>• Flexible working</li> <li>• Occupational Segregation</li> <li>• Workplace culture</li> <li>• Violence against women</li> </ul> <p>Share learning with FVAWP partners Fife Council and Partners to highlight VAW policies in context of Covid-19, recognising the impact Covid-19 has had on staff working from home and additional risks. Promote Domestic Abuse Awareness Raising Training (<u>DAART</u>) to managers and staff across the Partnership</p>	<b>Ongoing</b>
2.3 (SG19) Regularly consult with women, children and young people with lived experience of VAWG and ensure that the recovery systems and services put in place locally recognise and respond to their specific needs, including WCYP with protected characteristics and/ or complex needs (previously FVAWP 2.3 and 2.4)	<p>Consult with women, children and young people with lived experience of VAW including those in contact with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VAW specialist services,</li> <li>• Fife Women’s Tent and</li> <li>• Equality Collective</li> </ul> <p>and use this information to inform service design</p> <p>FVAWP and individual partners to liaise with local equality groups and identify opportunities for collaborative working including Fife Equalities Forum.</p>	<b>Ongoing</b>
2.4 (SG1) Ensure Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessments are undertaken when developing any new policies/ responses to COVID-19, to reduce any unintended negative consequences to WCYP experiencing VAWG and ensure they meet the specific needs of people with protected characteristics	<p>EqlAs undertaken in line with the public sector equality duty.</p> <p>SEG to highlight impact of Covid-19 on women children and young people experiencing VAWG and share Supplementary guidance.</p>	<b>Complete</b>
2.5 (SG11). Undertake local strategic needs assessments to understand the impact the pandemic has had on women, children and young people experiencing	Share and discuss supplementary guidance with Community Managers to support local partnership recovery and renewal plans	<b>Ongoing</b>

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
VAWG and ensure this learning is used to shape local recovery and renewal plans		
2.6 (SG12). Ensure specific risks to women and children affected by VAWG are included in relevant integrated risk registers being developed by relevant Chief Officer Groups (COGs) to support wider recovery and renewal planning	VAW data to be shared with COPSG Share and highlight Supplementary Guidance with COPSG. Highlight Supplementary Guidance to those redrafting Plan 4 Fife	<b>Complete</b>
2.7 (SG20) Ensure that the inequality of outcomes that women have experienced during the pandemic are recognised and addressed in local recovery and renewal strategies, as well as in specific strategies relating to employability and economic recovery and poverty and welfare	Revised Equality and Diversity Scheme to reflect impact of Covid -19 including identifying inequality of outcome and disadvantage on women, children and young people.  Share and highlight Supplementary Guidance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities Fife Partnership</li> <li>• Community Managers</li> <li>• Communities and Wellbeing Partnership</li> <li>• Child Poverty Group</li> </ul>	<b>Complete</b>

**Equally Safe Priority 3 - Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people**

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
<p>3.1 Improve funding arrangements for VAW services to ensure high quality, sustainable services are available locally for women and children affected by all forms of VAWG</p> <p>3.1a Consider how to support and enhance capacity of specialist services. Wherever possible, this will include ensuring that any local funding and contractual expectations are flexible to support service delivery and the changing needs of WCYP (SG6)</p>	<p>Continue to consider resources at FVAWP Executive meetings, working together within funding constraints</p>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
<p>3.1b Develop a strategy for effective multi-agency communication &amp; data sharing to capture both quantitative and qualitative evidence on the impact of COVID-19 on women, children and young people (SG 5)</p>	<p>Quarterly quantitative and qualitative data is collected from partners to evidence impact of Covid</p>	<p><b>Complete</b></p>
<p>3.1c Work in partnership with specialist VAWG services and universal services to identify anticipated levels of demand for crisis, recovery and other support in the coming year, and ensure resources are available to meet these. (SG17)</p> <p>3.1d Explore opportunities to lever additional resources to support systems and services to respond to increased levels of demand. (SG18)</p>	<p>Regular reports to FVAWP Executive to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Trends</li> <li>2. Waiting Lists</li> <li>3. Alternative delivery methods</li> </ol>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
<p>3.2 Develop new pathways with psychological services for women and children affected by violence against women</p> <p>3.2a Ensure local workforces have capacity and capability to provide trauma-informed support and services for all WCYP who require it (SG15)</p>	<p>Develop care pathways to meet national standards for forensic examination for sexual assault</p> <p>Work with Fife Trauma Network and Psychological Services to ensure appropriate supports for survivors of violence against women</p> <p>NES trauma e-learning to be included in FVAWP training programme</p>	<p><b>Complete</b></p>
<p>3.3 Work towards national standards for forensic examination for sexual assault</p>	<p>Continue to develop services and health pathways for adult survivors of sexual assault with regular review and incorporating the views of victims / survivors.</p>	<p><b>Complete</b></p>

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
<p>3.4 Review support for women and children with additional vulnerabilities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trauma (complete)</li> <li>• substance misuse</li> <li>• mental health (complete)</li> <li>• military community</li> <li>• learning disability</li> </ul>	FVAWP (including MARAC leads) to work with Trauma network	Complete
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP)</li> </ul>	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOD</li> </ul>	To be developed
	to ensure appropriate services are accessible and meet service users' needs.	
<p>3.5 Review and maintain support &amp; recovery services available for <b>children</b> affected by VAWG</p> <p>3.5a Work in partnership with specialist VAWG services to ensure that robust pathways are in place to identify children and young people experiencing domestic abuse and other forms of VAWG and that they are able to access spaces at ELC and Education Hubs where possible, during periods when schools and nurseries are closed (SG4)</p> <p>3.5b Work in partnership with specialist VAWG services to ensure the needs of children experiencing domestic abuse are prioritised as part of recovery strategies being developed by Children Services and Education teams (SG14)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people's sexual abuse support services 12+ years at FRASAC</li> <li>• Seafield Project</li> <li>• Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)</li> <li>• Fife Women's Aid Children and Young people's services</li> <li>• CEDAR+ (Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse Recovery including Early Years MARAC to identify and refer children and young people.</li> </ul> <p>Health, Social Work and Education work in partnership to identify children at risk (including all children on the child protection register)</p> <p>Develop mechanism for specialist services to refer to Education Hubs</p> <p>Share and discuss supplementary guidance with Community Managers for consideration at Multi-Disciplinary Teams</p> <p>Share with Education Managers</p>	Ongoing
<p>3.6 Continue to review and deliver training opportunities, responding to FVAWP priorities</p>	Develop a FVAWP multi-agency training framework identifying e-learning and virtual training opportunities.	Complete
	<p>FVAWP training programme to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote Safe &amp; Together principles</li> <li>• highlight the impact of VAW on trauma</li> <li>• highlight stalking and coercive control</li> </ul> <p>Rollout Safe and Together core training to Social Work (Children and Families and Criminal Justice)</p>	Ongoing
<p>3.7 NHS to review training and routine enquiry within healthcare settings</p>	Develop an improvement plan to increase the use of routine enquiry in the priority areas as set out in CEL	Ongoing
<p>3.8 Review options to provide quality, safe, secure and accessible accommodation that meets the needs of</p>	Fife Housing Partnership (FHP) Project to deliver on <i>Improving the Way We Work</i> action plan:	Ongoing

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
<p>women, children and young people affected by VAWG</p> <p>3.8a Develop a COVID-19 domestic abuse housing policy based on good practice guidance (SG3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop multi-agency case working model for women who wish to retain settled accommodation</li> </ul> <p>Each landlord to develop their own tenancy management policy based on revised Fife Housing Register Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Protocol</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Prevention of Homelessness Fund to support women to access and retain settled accommodation</li> </ul>	<b>Complete</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop the Housing Options Pathway for women experiencing domestic abuse</li> </ul>	<b>Complete</b>
<p>3.9 MARAC – multi-agency risk assessment conferencing</p> <p>3.9a Ensure MARACs continue to function to identify and enable safety plans to be put in place for WCYP at greatest risk of harm (SG2)</p>	<p>Develop and work to the 10 principles of an effective MARAC.</p> <p>Continue MARAC with revised processes to reflect Covid restrictions</p> <p>Undertake review / audit of MARAC</p>	<b>Complete</b>
<p>3.10 Continue to deliver Safe Secure and Supported at Home (SS&amp;S@H) services</p>	<p>Identify resources to continue project beyond November 2019. Co-ordinate delivery of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Befriending</li> <li>Home security advice and equipment</li> <li>Police alarms</li> <li>Housing advice and support</li> </ul>	<b>Complete</b>
<p>3.11 Cross reference learning from local and national case reviews relating to both children and adults relating to violence against women and children (including child sexual exploitation)</p>	<p>Learning from case reviews to be shared with FVAWP partners</p>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<p>3.12 Encourage community planning partners to work together to ensure a consistent approach to meeting the needs of WCYP, particularly in adult protection, child protection and criminal justice responses (SG 7)</p>	<p>COPSG to co-ordinate public protection responses including VAW, adult protection, child protection and MAPPA.</p>	<b>Complete</b>
<p>3.13 Use social media and other communication channels to highlight local services &amp; support available to WCYP and ensure different sectors of the workforce know the role they can play in reducing risks. The use of accessible communication should be promoted wherever possible to ensure that women and children with visual or sensory disabilities, learning difficulties, language barriers or other communication support needs are not excluded (SG 8)</p>	<p>FVAWP to work with Fife Council Communications Team and FVAWP partners to highlight local services &amp; support, and staff know the role they can play in reducing risks. Sharing information to those supporting service users with additional vulnerabilities</p> <p>Update FVAWP Webpages</p>	<b>Complete</b>

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
3.14 Adopt a whole-systems, child-centred approach to working with families experiencing domestic abuse & ensure children are involved in decision making where appropriate (SG13)	Core business.	<b>Complete</b> (ongoing)

#### Equally Safe Priority 4

**Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.**

Planned Activity	Key actions	Progress
4.1 Identify staff that need training in identifying and engaging with perpetrators (including health visitors & midwives)	Use the Safe and Together model to underpin training to support staff in their role. Develop and deliver-multi-agency training to support staff in identifying and responding to perpetrators of domestic abuse appropriately.	<b>Complete</b>
4.2 Develop appropriate interventions to engage with, challenge and support change in the behaviour of perpetrators of VAW  4.2a (SG9) Update risk assessment & management plans for convicted perpetrators & ensure close monitoring of high-risk perpetrators. Where possible, and this can be done safely, intervene directly with perpetrators face-to-face or virtually to support them to change negative behaviours. If not possible, consider other ways of safely engaging to monitor behaviour  4.2b (SG10) Ensure that criminal justice partners have relevant details of index offences relating to VAWG and information around protective orders (e.g. NHOs) preventing contact with WCYP  4.2c (SG16). Ensure perpetrators are held to account through robust use of criminal justice process and resumption of programmed interventions, including use of flexible newly accredited 1:1 delivery methods, if groupwork support remains impractical.	Convicted perpetrators and high-risk offenders are monitored through MAPPA, engagement with offenders and MATAAC  Safety planning and robust management of offenders  Work with Procurator Fiscal's office to ensure information is shared with criminal justice partners.  Deliver the Caledonian Groupwork Programme, if restrictions demand this can take place on a one-to-one basis. Additional one to one work with perpetrators of domestic abuse will also be undertaken.  Deliver Moving Forward Making Changes (MFMC) programme (one to one basis) or another appropriate accredited programme  Unpaid work and other activity including domestic abuse work	<b>Ongoing</b>
4.3 Multi-agency Tasking and Co-ordination (MATAAC) groups identify high risk domestic abuse perpetrators and hold them to account	Regular MATAAC meetings are held with partners, linking with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSDAS (Disclosure Scheme Domestic Abuse Scotland) -</li> <li>• MARAC</li> </ul>	<b>Complete</b>

**Appendix 2. Children and Young People's (CYP) Prevention Inputs from FVAWP partners 2021/22**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Establishment</b>	<b>Delivery</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Number</b>
NSPCC	17 primary schools	Online resources supporting In-person (education)	NSPCC: Speak Out Stay Safe	P1-7	3100
FRASAC	Glenrothes High School	In-person	How To Prevent Sexual Violence	S6	48
FRASAC	Glenrothes High School	In-person	Rape Crisis: Consent and Social Media	S3	14
FRASAC	Dunfermline High School	In-person	Rape Crisis: Consent and Social Media	S2	178
FRASAC	Madras College	In-person	What Is Sexual Violence & Social Media modules	S4	100
FRASAC	Woodmill High School	In-person	Rape Crisis: Consent and Social Media	S2	184
FRASAC	Woodmill High School	In-person	What Is Sexual Violence & Social Media modules	S3	129
FRASAC	Balwearie High School	In-person	Rape Crisis: Consent and Social Media	S2	43
Got Consent Group	Madras College	In-person	Got Consent?	S6	50
Got Consent Group	University of St. Andrews	Online	Leadership Workshops	17+	800+
Got Consent Group	University of St. Andrews	Online	"How Saints Speak" (How politics interact with 'consent' and sexual gender based violence)	17+	14
Got Consent Group	University of St. Andrews	In-person	Healthy Relationship Workshops	17+	14
Got Consent Group	University of St. Andrews	In-person	Online Consent Module	17+	4
Got consent Group	University of St. Andrews	In-person	'Got Consent?'	S6	50



### Appendix 3. FVAWP Training 2021/22

The following national e-learning modules are promoted in our programme but it is not possible to monitor how many Fife staff have completed:

- Sexual Violence Basic Awareness
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Awareness of Forced Marriage
- Recognising and Preventing FGM
- Developing Your Trauma Skilled Practice

FVAWP Training 2021/22 (e-learning completed but not evaluated)	Attendees				
Domestic Abuse (DAART)	133				
Becoming Trauma Informed	283				
Human Trafficking	372				
FVAWP Training 2021/22 (Webinars & Blended Learning)					
Housing Domestic Abuse Refresher	41				
Rape & Sexual Assault – Supporting to Report	24				
Rape & Sexual Assault - Handling Disclosures	25				
Safe and Together (Core Training - blending learning)	54				
FVAWP Training 2021/22 (Webinars attended and evaluated)		Satisfaction (%)	Improved Understanding (%)	Highlight good practice? (%)	Increase knowledge of services/resources? (%)
Equally Safe in Practice – Together for Gender Equality	416	98	98	98	Not evaluated
Support Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse (Webinar)	16	100	100	100	100
Identifying and Working with Stalking Behaviours	79	94	100	95	85
Domestic Abuse and Protection of Children	29	100	100	100	92
MARAC	57	100	100	98	100
Engaging Safely with Male Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse	25	97	94	100	100
Exploring the Impact Gender Stereotypes and Unconscious Bias has on the Ambitions of Learners	17	100	100	100	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1571</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>96</b>

#### Appendix 4 Abbreviations used in report

ADP	Alcohol and Drug Partnership
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
Cedar+	Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse Recovery
CEL	Chief Executive Letter
CJSW	Criminal Justice Social Work
COG	Chief Officers Group
COPSG	Chief Officers Public Safety Group
CoSLA	Convention of Scottish Local Authorities.
DAART	Domestic Abuse Awareness Raising Training
DSDAS	Disclosure Scotland Domestic Abuse Scheme
ELC	Early Learning Centre
EqIA	Equality Impact Assessment
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FHP	Fife Housing Partnership
FRASAC	Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre
FVAWP	Fife Violence Against Women Partnership
FWA	Fife Women's Aid
GBV	Gender Based Violence
KASP	Kingdom Abuse Survivors Project
MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Agency
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing
MATAC	Multi Agency Tasking
MFMC	Moving Forward Making Changes
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MVP	Mentoring Violence Programme
NES	NHS Education for Scotland
NHO	Non-Harassment Order
NSPCC	National Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Children
SACRO	Scottish Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (UK)
SG	Scottish Government
SEG	Senior Equalities Group
SSS@H	Safe, Secure and Supported @ Home
VAW/VAWG	Violence Against Women/Violence Against Women and Girls
WCYP	Women, Children and Young People