SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
Report

Meeting Date	March 2026				
Title of report	Domestic Abuse Update				
This report is for (You will have been advised which applies)	Discussion and agreement of recommendations	X	Approval of recommendations (With discussion by exception)		Information only (No recommendations)
Reporting Officer & email	Wendy Bulman Wendy.bulman@shropshire.gov.uk				
Which Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities does this report address? Please tick all that apply	Children & Young People	x	Joined up working		x
	Mental Health	x	Improving Population Health		
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity		Working with and building strong and vibrant communities		x
	Workforce	x	Reduce inequalities (see below)		x
What inequalities does this report address?	Rural inequalities, gender inequalities				

Report content

1. Executive Summary

This report provides the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) with an update on progress, emerging insights, and future priorities relating to domestic abuse (DA) across Shropshire, as led by Wendy Bulman (Domestic Abuse Strategic Lead).

It reflects achievements in strategic planning, partnership governance, lived experience integration, data development, and the creation of Shropshire's new multiagency Domestic Abuse Partnership Strategy.

During 2024–25, the HWBB prioritised strengthening governance, improving system-wide alignment with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, and embedding survivor voice. Significant progress has been made through the completion of the 2024 DA Needs Assessment and the development of the new DA Partnership Strategy, which is now in public consultation. Key reforms to the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board (DALPB) have improved leadership accountability, decision making efficiency, and operational alignment.

Lived experience is now a central pillar of strategic design and commissioning, with the Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG) influencing priorities, language, outcomes, and methods of engagement.

Data maturity has also developed, with dashboards now informing decision making and enabling improved cross agency monitoring.

Needs assessment findings continue to highlight mental health impacts, rising case complexity, and sustained demand across health, policing, and specialist services—reinforcing the importance of early intervention and multiagency coordination.

Next steps include finalising the DA Partnership Strategy, creating the three year action plan, launching the performance dashboard, developing new training and workforce support, improving rural access pathways, and formalising lived experience remuneration.

Several risks remain, including data gaps, rural inequalities, workforce capacity, and insufficient survivor engagement.

Proposed mitigations include strengthened reporting processes, outreach in rural locations, workforce development programmes, and formal support for LEAG members.

2. Recommendations

Recommendations to the HWBB include supporting data sharing, enabling rural outreach by offering community spaces, and championing survivor-inclusive commissioning across all partner organisations.

3. Report

Please see *Appendix A. Domestic Abuse update – presentation* which presents the report.

Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal	Please see attached presentation which outlines risk and mitigation	
Financial implications (*Any financial implications of note*)	Financial implications will be explored further as the Partnership Strategy is finalised.	
Climate Change Appraisal as applicable	N/A	
Where else has the paper been presented?	System Partnership Boards	
	Voluntary Sector	
	Other	
List of Background Papers - NA		
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) or your organisational lead Cllr Ruth Houghton – Portfolio Holder for Social Care (Adults and Children), Shropshire Council Paul Clarke – Service Director for Strategy & Change, Shropshire Council		
Appendices Appendix A. Domestic Abuse update - presentation		