

# **A Safe Fund: costing domestic abuse provision for the whole family**

## **Acknowledgments**

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## Executive summary

The COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent upsurge in victims looking for support has created a new and more urgent focus on the needs of victims and survivors of domestic abuse, both by Governments and in wider society.

The emergency funding package of support from the UK Government is to be welcomed as is the extension of the original deadline of 31 October. However, many domestic abuse services have told us that as a result of the original deadline which gave them only 4 months to spend funding they have been unable to create substantive new posts to support increases in demand.

With the announcement of a Comprehensive Spending Review and a Victim's Funding Strategy, now is the ideal moment for the Government to provide a multi-year settlement for the domestic abuse sector. It would help to give the sector the certainty it needs to support victim/survivors as they come forward over the next three years and would signal to survivors that no matter where they live, and whatever their identity and situation, they will be able to access the services they need to get safe and recover.

This briefing paper sets out what a comprehensive funding package would look like in practice. We do not shy away from the significant amount of investment this would require the UK Government to commit. Instead we point to the facts – that 2.4 million people are victims of domestic abuse each year and that the costs of domestic abuse amount to £66bn according to the Government's own figures. In any other context, say that of an infectious disease, our costings would represent an obvious investment in a societal scourge. Our figures are dwarfed by the (rising) amounts spent annually on counter terrorism, which is a critical but far less common threat to life and wellbeing.

We recognise that such a significant funding package won't be available overnight, and we are aware that the Domestic Abuse Commissioner is undertaking a mapping exercise for the sector over the coming year, but we hope our work helps to make the case for increased investment at a crucial point in the Government's funding cycle.

## Key findings

- We estimate that £2.2bn of public investment per annum would be initially required to cover domestic abuse services for the whole family – adult, teen and child victims, and perpetrators. This is an inclusive figure recognising that those with protected characteristics may need additional or specific types of support – something which is poorly addressed in current funding models.
- A significant proportion of this spend, £1bn, would be to support adult victims' services, with those for children approximating £330m, and those for perpetrators totalling £680m.
- A cultural change programme for frontline public sector professionals, as well as police and specialist domestic abuse workers, including social services, court officials and health workers to increase understanding of domestic abuse and help drive improvements to responses would cost an initial £65.5m, tapering away as it is rolled out.
- And noting the impact of the Government's recent #YouAreNotAlone campaign, we recommend an initial investment of £5m in an ongoing public health campaign to change public attitudes towards domestic abuse, shifting the narrative from "*why doesn't she leave*" to "*why doesn't he stop*", while signposting victims, perpetrators and friends and family to support.

## Introduction

UK Government-published figures<sup>1</sup> calculated the cost of domestic abuse to be £66bn for victims identified in the Crime Survey of England and Wales for the year ending March 2017. The largest proportion of this cost is the physical and emotional harm caused to victims (£47bn) but the costs to the Exchequer amounts to £19bn in terms of lost economic output and spending to deal with the consequences of abuse through the NHS, the criminal justice system and services for victim/survivors. The Home Office estimated cost for a single victim of domestic abuse is £34,015 (total cost estimates divided by the total estimated number of domestic abuse victims). A domestic homicide has an estimated unit cost of £2.2 million.<sup>2</sup>

In the year ending March 2019, the Police recorded nearly 750,000 domestic abuse crimes<sup>3</sup> 14% of all offences (out of 1.3m domestic abuse related incidences/crimes), while the Crime Survey for England and Wales (2019) estimates a huge 2.4 million adults experienced domestic abuse in the last year<sup>4</sup>. We welcome the Government's ambition to reduce the incidents of violent crime by 20% which would result in a decrease of 150,000 domestic abuse crimes if the ambition is clearly extended to this cohort. Combined with specialist domestic abuse training for the new cohort of 20,000 police officers soon to join forces, this could lead to a significant shift in the response to domestic abuse victims and survivors.

Two women a week die at the hands of their partners or ex-partners and have been dying at the same rate for decades. During Covid it is expected that the domestic homicide rate has increased - 26 women were known to have been killed during the first month of lockdown, a potential tripling of the usual rate<sup>5</sup>. The public and voluntary sector response to victims at the highest risk of serious harm or murder has got better – cutting the time in which they get effective support to get safe – but hasn't stopped perpetrators of abuse from murdering their victims. And official figures only represent part of the picture. Many groups of victims including disabled, LGBT+, Black and ethnic minority, older (55 years plus) and teenage victims remain 'hidden' from the support they need. This is due in part to a lack of specialist services, as well as narrow use of imagery, language and methods of identifying abuse which don't sufficiently equip professionals to see and respond appropriately to everyone who is at risk.

A quarter of high-harm perpetrators are repeat offenders, and some have at least six different victims, yet there is still very little focus on stopping those perpetrators from reoffending – fewer than 1% receive a specialist intervention.<sup>6</sup> Emerging evidence suggests that high-risk perpetrators of domestic abuse are often prolific offenders across the board with an average of 30 police incidents in the previous four years, 64% of which are for offending which isn't domestic abuse.<sup>7</sup> The Drive project, which works with high-risk perpetrators, has shown perpetrators on the programme reduced their use of high-risk physical abuse by 82%, sexual abuse by 88%, harassment and stalking behaviours by 75%, and jealous and controlling behaviours by 73%.<sup>8</sup> A study by the University of Northumbria found one intervention with perpetrators had a 65% reduction in domestic abuse related offending and a social return on investment of £14 for every £1 spent.<sup>9</sup>

We also know that the impact of abuse affects more people than the primary adult, predominantly female victim. While victim support services typically offer support to a single adult victim, professionals assessing cases through a perpetrator lens often identify multiple adults at risk of harm. The latest Drive project dataset suggests at least 12% of referred perpetrators have two or more current adult victims upon their referral and/or during the project's intervention.<sup>10</sup> Drive Case Managers regularly identify additional victims who are not known to local domestic abuse support services. Additionally, one in five children experience domestic abuse growing up, leading to trauma which if left unaddressed will continue

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<sup>1</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/772180/horr107.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/772180/horr107.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

<sup>3</sup>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/domesticabuseprevalenceandtrendsendlandandwales/yearendingmarch2019>

<sup>4</sup>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/domesticabuseprevalenceandtrendsendlandandwales/yearendingmarch2019>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/07/02/world/europe/uk-coronavirus-domestic-abuse.html>

<sup>6</sup> <http://driveproject.org.uk>

<sup>7</sup> [http://driveproject.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Executive-Summary\\_Final2020.pdf](http://driveproject.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Executive-Summary_Final2020.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [http://driveproject.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/DriveYear3\\_UoBEvaluationReport\\_Final.pdf](http://driveproject.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/DriveYear3_UoBEvaluationReport_Final.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Northumbria University evaluation of the MATAC approach. Data accessed at <http://n8prp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/MATAC-N8-presentation-final-11-June-2017.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> Case management system data collected via the Drive project, Jul 2018-Jul 2020, unpublished

into their adult life.<sup>11</sup> Research suggests that abuse affects children from conception, inhibiting their social and emotional, as well as physiological development.<sup>12</sup> Friends and family of victims as well as work colleagues can be emotionally distressed and are sometimes targeted by perpetrators themselves, while those professionals supporting adult and child victims can experience vicarious trauma.

Despite the huge burden domestic abuse is placing on society and on public services, funding for tackling it has declined sharply in the last decade as national and local budget holders made savings to meet budget shortfalls.<sup>13</sup> At the same time, statutory services across the board are stretching themselves ever thinner, whether for early intervention programmes for children in need, or for community mental health services. According to the Local Government Association, council core services have lost nearly £15 billion of government funding over the last decade, and nearly a quarter of their staff since 2012.<sup>14</sup>

***“We attract staff quite easily but retaining staff is much harder due to the high turnover and pace of the work, burnout or stress means we lose staff and are constantly replacing staff and having to retrain them.” Frontline service manager***

These financial pressures have come in the context of year on year increases<sup>15</sup> in the volume of domestic abuse cases reported to the police and an increasing awareness of the importance of prevention work, including quality assured perpetrator responses. The UK Government’s Domestic Abuse Bill and surrounding non-legislative package has played a welcome role in helping to increase awareness of domestic abuse, calling for domestic abuse to be ‘everybody’s business’, including for all statutory agencies, employers, financial institutions through their work with UK Finance and wider civic society.

However, while the Bill is accompanied by £20m of national Government spending (taken from the existing £100m envelope announced in the 2016 VAWG strategy) plus an anticipated c£90m for accommodation based services once the Domestic Abuse Bill duty starts, it is hard to see how these amounts match the Government’s stated ambition, or the scale of the problem. Added to this is the huge pressure that the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown measures have placed on frontline domestic abuse services, both accommodation and community based. Lockdown has also seen an increase in calls to the English<sup>16</sup> and Welsh<sup>17</sup> national domestic abuse helplines for victims, rising use of Women’s Aid’s online support tool<sup>18</sup>, and increases in calls and messages to the Respect perpetrator phone line and website<sup>19</sup>, as well as an increase in NSPCC calls from children who are experiencing domestic abuse at home<sup>20</sup>.

***“I’m currently 26 weeks pregnant, stuck in a bedsit with my ex partner. I have no money, or no where [sic] to go. I cannot call a helpline for support as my partner will be able to hear me, plus I have telephone anxiety”. [survivor responding to our Covid survey March 2020]<sup>21</sup>***

At the same time, the specialist frontline services supporting victims of abuse have battled staff shortages, inadequate IT equipment and funding insecurity. Our latest survey of frontline services<sup>22</sup> found that almost a quarter (24%) were concerned about the possible increase to referrals once lockdown starts to ease and over one third (38%) had seen an increase to caseloads. The majority of those (83%) said this was due to an increase in numbers of clients being referred, an increase from 73%, and 29% said that it was because of staff absence meaning that other workers have to take on additional cases, a decrease from 46%. Over one in ten (13%) said they have unsafe staffing levels at present. This is an increase from 9% the last time the survey was published. Over a third of those (38%) said that this would affect their ability to deliver a safe service.

<sup>11</sup> Howell, K. et al. (2016), *National Library of Medicine*, .

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> <https://wbg.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/spending-review-briefing-final-29-08-19.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/LGA%202020%20Budget%20submission%20FINAL.pdf>

<sup>15</sup>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/domesticabuseprevalenceandtrendsendlandandwales/yearendingmarch2019#police-recorded-crime-data-show-an-increase-in-domestic-abuse-related-crimes>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.refuge.org.uk/domestic-abuse-helpline-lockdown-eases/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.welshwomensaid.org.uk/2020/08/creating-change-that-lasts-responding-to-vawdasv-following-the-covid-19-pandemic-roundtable/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/womens-aid-extend-live-chat-open-hours-during-covid-19-lockdown-due-to-huge-demand-and-support-for-the-service/>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.respect.uk.net/posts/11-581-more-website-visitors-due-to-respect-phoneline-covid-19-campaign>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2020/Calls-about-domestic-abuse-highest-on-record-following-lockdown-increase/>

<sup>21</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safe%20at%20Home%2020200615.pdf>

<sup>22</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safe%20at%20Home%20Front%20Line%2020200615.pdf>

Where services had noticed a decrease in referrals, they were concerned that this could be due to survivors not being able to ask for support during this time, and that it would lead to an increase in referrals post-lockdown. Out of the respondents who discussed remote working, 86% cited IT and tech challenges in delivering services remotely under the current circumstances. This is an increase from 67% when we first published the survey in March 2020 at the start of lock down. Finally, over one in ten (13%) services said they were experiencing financial difficulties. Of these, 50% said this was due to funding opportunities having dried up and 13% due to local commissioners changing commissioning due to COVID-19. These findings are similar to those presented in the March 2020 iteration of the survey.

SafeLives' latest Marac data<sup>23</sup> shows the number of cases of victims assessed at being at the highest risk of serious harm or murder has seen a 6% increase over the last year (following a 3% increase in the previous year). We have also seen an impact of Covid in the last quarter – taking the last five years, we usually see an increase in the number of cases each quarter compared to the previous quarter, apart from in quarter 4 (Q4: October to December) where cases always decrease - likely due to fewer meetings being held over the festive period. However, this quarter (April to June 2020) saw a decrease (-0.5%) in overall cases compared to the previous quarter. This is the first time the data has shown a quarterly decrease in cases in a quarter which is not Q4.

This is supported by our [Covid-19 Marac survey](#)<sup>24</sup> (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) which showed that 37% of Maracs thought their referrals were lower than usual, compared to only 17% who thought they were higher than usual, and 38% who had not identified any change. The Covid19 Marac survey, and anecdotal evidence from Maracs, suggest that the drop in cases during lockdown was in part due to a decrease in referrals from agencies who would usually have face to face contact with individuals during home visits or within the community (e.g. social care, health services, housing, education etc.). It may also reflect the fact that some police forces have reported a drop in the number of victims at the highest risk being in contact with police forces, who are the main referring agency into Maracs.

Despite a very welcome injection of emergency funding<sup>25</sup>, it is now clearer than ever that domestic abuse services must be considered a vital part of national infrastructure and be given the sustainable funding package they so urgently need. The Comprehensive Spending Review and the Victim's Funding Strategy represent an ideal time to provide a three-year sustainable funding settlement for domestic abuse services so that victims can get the help they need when they need it.

This paper will demonstrate that the real cost of transforming the domestic abuse response – including prevention – is just over £2bn across England and Wales, a sum that could help us turn the tide on a social epidemic, currently affecting over 2 million adults, one in five children, representing over one in ten recorded crimes and a significant proportion of police time<sup>26</sup>. We argue that this money needs to be guaranteed by legislation so that good intentions can be matched by reality and that all Government Departments need to play their part: Health, Education, Housing and Local Government, Work and Pensions, HM Treasury as well as Justice and Home Affairs. All adults, young people, children who experience domestic abuse – including those using abusive behaviour – need fully-funded specialist provision to end domestic abuse, for everyone and for good.

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<sup>23</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/practice-support/resources-marac-meetings/latest-marac-data>

<sup>24</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safe%20at%20Home%20ENWI%20Marac%2020200610.pdf>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/22-million-emergency-coronavirus-funding-for-more-than-540-sexual-violence-and-domestic-abuse-charities>

<sup>26</sup> [https://policingreview.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/phase\\_1\\_report\\_final-1.pdf](https://policingreview.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/phase_1_report_final-1.pdf)

## Survivor access to services

SafeLives' research has shown that there are not enough specialist domestic abuse professionals to meet the risk levels of all victims, including those at the highest risk of serious harm and murder. We urgently need more Idvas (Independent Domestic Violence Advisors)<sup>27</sup>, outreach workers and refuge workers. Our 2019 Practitioner Survey demonstrates that we need nearly 300 more Idvas to ensure even minimum levels of effective support in England and Wales for victims who are at high risk of serious harm or murder.<sup>28</sup> 'By and for' specialist Idvas are few and far between, Galop has found that out of 900 full time Idvas working in England and Wales only four are hosted within specialist LGBT+ services<sup>29</sup>.

"My initial contact with the Idva was earth-shattering. She asked very specific questions in exactly the right areas and I couldn't believe how much she understood my situation."

- Jane\*, survivor of domestic abuse

Meanwhile, the number of specialist children's and young people's workers is woefully below the level of need, with no Young People's Violence Advisors (Ypvas) at all in one in five police force areas.<sup>30</sup> The Children's Society's freedom of information requests in 2020 found that 19 local authorities did not provide a specialist Ypva service or equivalent for 16 and 17 year old victims living in their areas or any additional domestic abuse services to this age group while 26 local authorities did not provide a specialist Ypva service or equivalent to under 16 victims living in their areas or any additional domestic abuse services<sup>31</sup>.

***"I feel more confident to get into new relationships as I can use the work with the YPVA Service to see if the relationship I am in is healthy or unhealthy."*** Billie-Jo, Young survivor quoted in **Safe Young Lives**<sup>32</sup>

The continued pressure on funding for frontline services is clear: one frontline service manager commented: "Every year about this time everyone is on edge waiting to see if their job will continue, waiting to see if they need to inform victims that they can no longer receive support, it shouldn't be this way. Lives are far too important." While another commented: "Initially the response is to remove the threat or the victim (in the case) to a place of safety. If appropriate referrals are submitted to the relevant agencies, then the whole family will be considered but unfortunately due to funding restrictions there are no current agencies who would be appropriate to support the family as a whole."

At the same time, data shows that the proportion of clients with complex needs using specialist services is increasing.<sup>33</sup> Research carried out by AVA and Agenda found that of 173 local areas in England and Wales, only 19 had access to support for women facing multiple disadvantage that could address a multitude of complex issues, such as substance use or homelessness.<sup>34</sup> Without this vital support cushioning victims of abuse, the effects of trauma become multiplied and more complex. Galop's research 'Recognise & Respond'<sup>35</sup> suggests that among those accessing LGBT+ specialist services, at a minimum one in three discloses one form of disability or a health problem and around 40% identify as non-white.

***"I would think that because it doesn't explicitly say they support LGBT people then we're not welcome at that service".*** LGBT young person, **Voices Unheard Project at LGBT Scotland**<sup>36</sup>

<sup>27</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/news-views/16days/why-idvas-are-so-important>

<sup>28</sup>

<https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SafeLives%e2%80%99202019%20survey%20of%20domestic%20abuse%20practitioners%20in%20England%20&%20Wales.pdf>

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.galop.org.uk/recognise-respond-strengthening-advocacy-for-lgbt-survivors-of-domestic-abuse-2/>

<sup>30</sup>

<https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SafeLives%e2%80%99202019%20survey%20of%20domestic%20abuse%20practitioners%20in%20England%20&%20Wales.pdf>

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/missing-the-mark-teenage-relationship-abuse-report-by-the-childrens-society-1.pdf>

<sup>32</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safe%20Young%20Lives%20web.pdf>

<sup>33</sup> AVA (2019), *Breaking Down the Barriers: Findings of the National Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence and Multiple Disadvantage*.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.galop.org.uk/recognise-respond-strengthening-advocacy-for-lgbt-survivors-of-domestic-abuse-2/>

<sup>36</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Free%20to%20be%20safe%20web.pdf>

We know from survivors that agencies too often work in a siloed approach to traumas and issues that cannot be seen individually and are better treated as part of a whole picture approach<sup>37</sup>. Initial findings from the Strategic Policing Review being chaired by Sir Michael Barber have found that pressure on police resources continues to rise when people's complex situations are not dealt with effectively by more specialist agencies.<sup>38</sup>

Please note, this document excludes some costs. It does not, for example, include the costs of statutory agency responses to abuse, except where these relate to bespoke training. It also does not include the costs of an effective response if the worst happens – for example the highly specialised support and advocacy provided by Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (Aafda). These are however important costs which should be considered alongside this document.

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<sup>37</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/whole-family-whole-picture-approach>

<sup>38</sup> [https://policingreview.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/phase\\_1\\_report\\_final-1.pdf](https://policingreview.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/phase_1_report_final-1.pdf)



## What will it cost to transform the domestic abuse response?

Much research has been undertaken to assess the costs of domestic abuse to victims, the state and wider society, initially by Professor Sylvia Walby in 2004, updated in 2009<sup>39</sup>, and more recently by the Home Office<sup>40</sup>. What is less well understood is how much it would cost to provide specialist domestic abuse services for the whole family – adult and child victims of abuse, as well as people using abusive behaviours.

Women’s Aid recently calculated that it would cost £393 million a year to fund their members’ specialist domestic abuse services in England.<sup>41</sup> SafeLives’ costings exercise builds on this work to calculate the cost of providing specialist domestic abuse services to all victims in England and Wales – including adults, teenagers and children, alongside provision for perpetrators of abuse, and significant investment in cultural change training programmes for frontline professionals. We also include costs for a public health campaign and funding for helplines/online support.

We estimate that £2.2bn of spend would be required to transform the response to domestic abuse in England and Wales.

The figure is broken down as follows

Provision	Cost in millions
Adult victims’ provision p.a.	£1,074
Child and youth victims’ provision p.a.	£332
Perpetrators’ provision p.a.	£679
Frontline cultural change for professionals (over 3 years)	£66
Public Health Campaign (£1m over 5 years)	£5
Phoneline/online funding p.a.	£4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,159</b>

## Funding for adult victims’ services

We estimate that just over £1bn would be required to cover the costs of frontline service provision for adult victims at all levels of risk. This is inclusive of more specialist provision for those with one or more protected characteristics – needs that are very poorly met through current funding models.

The costs are broken down as follows:

Provision	Cost in millions (per annum)
Multi-agency working	£37.5
Idva provision	£56
Outreach workers	£350
Local service central and activity costs	£349.7
Refuge provision	£183.6
Hospital-based Idvas	£15.7
IRISi in GP surgeries	£22.9
Mental health based Idvas	£5.4
Social housing domestic abuse workers	£20
Specialist regional ‘by and for’ hubs with specific expertise to support Black and minority ethnic, LGBT+ and disabled victims	£30
Specialist support for those experiencing economic abuse	£3.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,074</b>

<sup>39</sup> [https://eprints.lancs.ac.uk/id/eprint/88449/1/Cost\\_of\\_domestic\\_violence\\_update\\_4\\_.pdf](https://eprints.lancs.ac.uk/id/eprint/88449/1/Cost_of_domestic_violence_update_4_.pdf)

<sup>40</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/772180/horr107.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/772180/horr107.pdf)

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/research-and-publications/funding-specialist-support-for-domestic-abuse-survivors/>

## Multi-agency working

This costing is made up of the cost of Marac (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) and improved multi-agency working arrangements based on SafeLives' learnings from our One Front Door evaluation<sup>42</sup>.

The Marac cost is £18m and covers the salary of a Marac Coordinator, administration costs and Chair oversight for the ~250 Maracs operating in England and Wales.

Improved multi-agency working arrangements are costed as £19.5m and are based on the assumption that each Marac area should have a domestic abuse multi-agency coordinator supporting an effective response to the whole family across statutory and voluntary sectors, who would work with 100 senior regional coordinators, with an early action central specialist team. Regional coordinators will help ensure areas are not isolated and provide specialised input looking across all MA fora, including Marac, MASH, MAPPA, Matak and perpetrator panels, whilst the central team will offer data analysis, training, standards and practice guides.

## Idva provision

£56m is needed to fund Idva provision for 105,000 victims at the highest risk of serious harm or murder (95% of whom are women, 5% are men), details of this calculation are shown in the appendix. We estimate that a minimum of 1,120 Idvas are required in England and Wales to work with a maximum of 100 cases of domestic abuse victims at the highest risk. This total is slightly higher than the victim number because of current Marac volume numbers.

SafeLives recommends that £50k p.a is the minimum committed to cover the on-costs but not core organisational costs of an Idva, who should be treated in the same banding range as a senior social worker, given their skill, training, responsibilities and the need for parity of esteem with statutory agency professionals.

SafeLives' qualified Idvas receive a high level of training comprised of twelve intensive days in the classroom, plus assignments and reflective work. The course supports Idvas to consolidate their knowledge and skill, much of which will have been gained 'on the job' with no prior formal training. As well as the fundamentals of safety planning, legal frameworks and working with other agencies, Idvas receive a recognised qualification with the OCN.

The cost for Idva provision splits into £53.3m for female victims and £2.7m for male victims.

## Outreach workers

The total cost of providing 7,000 outreach workers to support a caseload of 100 victims below the high-risk threshold for Marac is calculated at £350m split into £255m for approximately 500,000 women and £95m for 180,000 men.

We calculated the prevalence of victims in this group by starting with the total number of domestic abuse victims according to the Crime Survey for England and Wales, subtracting those victims identified at the highest-risk from the total (105,000) and using those who told a support professional or organisation as a proxy for those who would wish to access support. This allowed us to determine the total who could be 'visible' to services. Details of this calculation are shown in the appendix. This figure does not represent the total number of victims who *currently* access outreach support, as many victims do not access specialist domestic abuse support at all, and four out of five victims do not call the police. However, we believe this is a useful proxy for those victims who could be effectively supported through outreach services, which could prevent escalation and/or aid the process of rebuilding after a period of crisis.

## Local service central and activity costs

Using baseline data from Women's Aid's report on the costs of community-based specialist provision<sup>43</sup>, we calculated that £349.7m is needed to cover the central costs (e.g. administration, IT, travel) and activity costs of local specialist domestic abuse services to host the number of Idva and outreach workers outlined above. The costs are split into £265.6m for supporting women and £84.1m for supporting men.

<sup>42</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/one-front-door>

<sup>43</sup> Women's Aid (2019), *Funding Specialist Support for Domestic Abuse Survivors*.

## Refuge provision

The Council of Europe recommends one family space in refuge per population of 10,000. Women's Aid calculates that refuge costs £31,059 per family space<sup>44</sup>. The cost for 5,598 units in England is £173.9m and an additional 314 units are needed for Wales making the total £183.6m for England and Wales.

## Hospital-based Idva provision

Given that more than 80% of victims never call the police, identification and support via health services plays a crucial role. The Health Pathfinder project (2017/20), led by Standing Together (STADV) in partnership with AVA, Imkaan, IRISi and SafeLives, made a clear case for systemic change in the health response to domestic abuse, at both a strategic and an operational level, to be truly effective.<sup>45</sup>

SafeLives' Cry for Health research published 2016 calculated that the cost of providing hospital-based Idva services (with a minimum of two FTE Idvas per hospital at £100,000) would cost £15.7m to cover all acute hospitals (around 157).<sup>46</sup> The research also estimated that hospital-Idvas would result in an annual saving to the public purse of £2,050 per victim in health service use.

## IRIS provision in GP surgeries

IRISi calculates that one FTE IRIS Advocate-Educator can work to support practices with a total patient population of 200,000 patients, which would require a year one investment of £77k (costs reduce to £55k in year two and following).<sup>47</sup> Based on a total population of England and Wales of 59,439,840<sup>48</sup> and assuming that the total population is registered with a general practice then this would require investment of £22.9m.

## Mental health based Idva provision

SafeLives' evaluation<sup>49</sup> of the LINKS pilot in Barnet Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust in 2018 found that Idvas based in mental health trusts can achieve similar results to hospital-based Idva services. We calculate that two FTE Idvas at £50,000 each would be needed for 54 acute Mental Health Trusts totalling £5.4m.

## Social housing domestic abuse workers

The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance make a powerful case for expert domestic abuse response embedded within housing providers.<sup>50</sup> Domestic abuse workers are increasingly located within social housing providers. Our estimate is based on the number of dwellings held by local authorities (1.82 million) and a small percentage of the (3.14 million) social housing held by Private Registered Providers (England) and Registered Social Landlords in Wales, as these may be subsidised.

We have taken figures from SafeLives' report for social housing provider Gentoo<sup>51</sup>, which calculates that 5.5 FTE domestic abuse workers are needed per 29,000 homes which makes approximately 1 FTE domestic abuse worker per 5,000 homes. We have assumed there are approximately 2m homes which would need to be covered, which would require 400 FTE domestic abuse workers located in social housing providers at a cost of £50,000 each, totalling £20m.

## Specialist 'by and for' regional hubs

There is an urgent need to develop provision in every region for specific groups of victims who need access to 'by and for' services - a term used for services that are founded on the need to recognise and respond to the experiences of those with one or more protected characteristics.

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<sup>44</sup> Ibid.

<sup>45</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/health-pathfinder>

<sup>46</sup> [https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SAFJ4993\\_Themis\\_report\\_WEBcorrect.pdf](https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SAFJ4993_Themis_report_WEBcorrect.pdf)

<sup>47</sup> IRISi costing template and financial model, IRISi, 2020 - unpulbished

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnorthernireland>

<sup>49</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/BEH-MHT%20LINKS%20pilot%20evaluation.pdf>

<sup>50</sup> <https://www.dahalliance.org.uk/>

<sup>51</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safe%20at%20Home%20Report.pdf>

More detailed work is still required to do justice to this area of provision. Having explored the issues with key by and for services, noted below, we have created the same nominal amount of £10m for each of the following characteristics – race (Black and minority ethnic victim/survivors), those identifying as LGBT+, and disabled victims. £1m would be allocated per English region, plus Wales.

This figure has not been disaggregated on the basis of prevalence or regional population data. Instead, we have sought to provide baseline funding to reflect the need for regional hubs for these services, who would provide a frontline service for some clients who cannot access any other by and for service in their area. The hubs would also act as specialist centres providing training to other domestic abuse services and multi-agency partners in their region, ensuring that staff understand the needs of their survivor group and can respond appropriately. They could also act as representatives on commissioning and strategic groups and help to support other more local by and for services to set up their service and flourish. At the moment, by and for services are being asked to do all of these things, but without adequate recognition and remuneration.

We recommend that the specialists in these areas are funded to undertake further exploration of these costs and needs, and also that attention is paid to their existing research and analysis on this subject.

### **Specialist provision for Black and minority ethnic victim/survivors**

After consultation with Southall Black Sisters, we have indicated £1m for each ‘by and for’ specialist regional hub for Black and minority ethnic victim/survivors. Southall Black Sisters provide information, advice, advocacy, practical help, counselling and support to women and children experiencing domestic and sexual violence. They also provide training and develop policy and campaigns based on the concerns facing their clients. Specialist organisations supporting women of other ethnic origins and in other parts of England and Wales can be found on the Imkaan website, as can a great deal of research about the chronic underfunding of these services.<sup>52</sup>

### **Specialist provision for LGBT+ victim/survivors**

Working with Galop<sup>53</sup>, we have allocated £1m for each ‘by and for’ LGBT+ victims’ specialist regional hub. Galop, is an LGBT+ anti-violence charity which gives advice and support to people who have experienced biphobia, homophobia, transphobia, sexual violence or domestic abuse. In addition to providing casework and advocacy support, Galop also runs specialist services for young LGBT+ victims and survivors of violence and abuse, as well as a specialist trans service. Galop also works so LGBT+ people are recognised in policy and legislation at a national level, as well as supporting professional services to recognise the needs of LGBT+ people. They also have the contract for the national LGBT+ domestic abuse helpline.

### **Specialist provision for disabled victims**

Following conversations with Stay Safe East, we have allocated £1m per ‘by and for’ disabled victim/survivors specialist regional hub. There are only two specialist disabled domestic abuse providers in England and Wales – Stay Safe East based in Waltham Forest in London and Sign Health which work with Deaf survivors of abuse. As such, there is very limited capacity for immediate growth in this area, but regional funding could help to kick start development of new services, as well as training for local specialist domestic abuse services who could initially act as incubators for new organisations.

As well as bespoke provision, a key issue for Deaf and disabled victim/survivors of abuse is the lack of accessibility of more mainstream services, particularly in refuge, but in community services as well. We recommend that the new Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales audits accessibility of services to understand how many are compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act. It is unlikely that access will be significantly increased in the absence of clear local or pan-England and Wales funding for this specific purpose. However, this report cannot do justice to this issue and we recommend that further research led by the disabled sector is completed to create a more accurate analysis of the funding required.

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<sup>52</sup> <https://www.imkaan.org.uk/get-help>

<sup>53</sup> <http://www.galop.org.uk/>

## Specialist support for those experiencing economic abuse

Economic advocacy for victim-survivors has traditionally sat within the 'wider support sector' and not within specialist responses to domestic abuse. Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA) has worked in partnership with Money Advice Plus (MAP) to develop a national financial support line for victim-survivors of domestic abuse as well as a national casework service. The partnership has replicated the national casework model locally, by jointly employing and piloting a Debt and Benefit Specialist within Solace Women's Aid. The Specialist integrates knowledge of domestic abuse with money and debt advice and works with caseworkers to support victim-survivors. This model builds the capacity of caseworkers to respond to economic abuse and ensure that the links between economic and physical safety are recognised. The Specialist also trains and works with local money/debt advice services to improve their capacity to respond and integrate an understanding of safety into their procedures and practice. In addition, SEA facilitates direct referrals of victim-survivors to customer vulnerability teams in financial institutions and ensures specialists responses.

*"I referred a service user to the Debt and Benefit Specialist, and she was absolutely blown away; thanked me for referring her and said [the service] was 'fantastic' and 'brilliant – the single best piece of advocacy she had received'".<sup>54</sup>*

In conversation with Surviving Economic Abuse we have included amounts to cover the cost of providing the national case work service they operate in partnership with Money Advice Plus (MAP) service<sup>55</sup> at £326,000; a regional team of five Debt and Benefit Specialists supporting survivors via local domestic abuse and money/debt advice services at approximately £176,000 per nine regions in England and Wales; and funding to cover a specialist sitting in larger domestic abuse services (those with 10+ Idvas) is approximately £50,000. Using data from SafeLives' Practitioner Survey<sup>56</sup>, we estimate that there are 26 services in England and Wales with 10+ Idvas. These total to £3.4m.

## Funding for child and young victims' services

Research shows that the provision of specialist support for child and teenage victims of domestic abuse is patchy. We estimate that £331.7m is required to fund Young People's Violence Advisors (Ypvas), specialist children's workers and therapeutic support for those children who are visible to services.

The costs are broken down as follows:

Provision	Cost in millions (per annum)
YPVAs	£2.5
Specialist children's workers	£232.2
Specialist therapeutic support for children	£97
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£331.7</b>

### Young People's Violence Advisors

*"I feel more confident to get into new relationships as I can use the work with the Ypva service to see if the relationship I am in is healthy or unhealthy." – Billie-Jo, Young survivor*

Young People's Violence Advisors (Ypvas) are specialist advisors who work specifically with young people to help them rebuild their lives after experiences of abuse. They take in the specific needs that young people have in order to support young people in the way they require. We know from our Young People's Programme that establishing relationships over a longer period is necessary, and Idva services usually only have capacity for short term support until the risks are reduced, which often isn't appropriate with young victims.<sup>57</sup> It is vital that the support for young people is delivered in a way that is responsive to their needs, and that takes account of the differences in their circumstances, for example inclusive of those who live in rural, potentially more isolated communities, as well as those who live in larger towns and for whom there might be higher levels of connected risk around exploitation, abuse and violence outside the home.

<sup>54</sup> Quote from caseworker at Solace Women's Aid

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.moneyadviceplus.org.uk/deap/#specialist-link>

<sup>56</sup>

<http://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/SafeLives%E2%80%99202019%20survey%20of%20domestic%20abuse%20practitioners%20in%20England%20%26%20Wales.pdf>

<sup>57</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safe%20Young%20Lives%20web.pdf>

We calculate the cost of providing Young People’s Violence Advisors at £2.5m. Around 50 FTE Ypvas are required to meet the needs of young women (aged 12-15) who are victims of abuse in their own intimate relationships. Details of this calculation are shown in the appendix.

### Specialist Children’s Workers

In the UK Domestic Abuse Bill, children will be recognised as victims of abuse in their own right for the first time. This is a significant step forward in recognising that living with fear and control in a household at an early age is an abusive situation for that child.

We estimate that approximately 371,000 children need support after experiencing abuse growing up. 41% of partner abuse victims in the Crime Survey for England and Wales also had children and we have used the same measure to calculate ‘visibility’ to services. Using the figure of £50,000 per worker and a case load of 80 cases (our Children’s Insights data shows that children’s cases are on average slightly longer than adult cases), we estimate that the cost of funding specialist children’s workers across England and Wales for all children would amount to £232.2m. Details of this calculation are shown in the appendix.

### Specialist therapeutic support for children

Using information provided by Barnardo’s, we have estimated the cost of specialist therapeutic support for children as £97m. Specialist therapeutic support was costed as £1,000 per child. As a proxy for the number of children who required this type of support, we used figures from Radford et al. 2011. They found that 26% of the 0-17 year olds who had witnessed domestic abuse had witnessed one parent being kicked, choked or beaten up by the other parent.<sup>58</sup>

## Perpetrator provision

If those who use abuse are adequately supported and challenged to change, all the other costs in this document fall away. Historically, there has been scepticism about perpetrator work, because of the dual worries about how it could be done safely and effectively, and whether budget holders would ‘choose’ perpetrator response over victim/survivor provision. This debate has moved on significantly in the last five years, and we believe the case has been effectively made for intervention with the person causing harm – and associated cost.

We estimate that the cost of minimum perpetrator provision at all levels of risk amounts to £678.8m per year. It breaks down as follows:

Provision	Cost in millions (per annum)
Intensive case management programme (Drive or similar)	£146.9
DVPP programmes	£519
Early intervention programmes	£12.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£678.8</b>

These numbers are a tiny fraction of the amount of money spent annually on other types of offenders who (in the most severe cases) pose a threat to life. In early 2020, nearly 80 organisations called on the Government to take substantive action on those who perpetrate domestic abuse.<sup>59</sup>

### Intensive case management programme (Drive or similar)

Every perpetrator posing a high risk of murder or serious harm to their victim should receive a specialist response that reduces this risk, identifies and protects additional victims who might be harmed, and challenges them to change. We estimate that there are around 53,000 perpetrators who fall into this highest risk category. This number is calculated by taking the number of Marac cases and adjusting for repeat and serial perpetrators. We have based costs on Drive, which costs around £2,400 per perpetrator. This can be broken down to around £2,000 per perpetrator in operational costs and £400 per perpetrator in victim support, quality assurance, local and national coordination and data capture.

<sup>58</sup> Radford, L. et al. (2011) *Child abuse and neglect in the UK today*. London: NSPCC.

<sup>59</sup> <http://driveproject.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Call-to-Action-Final.pdf>

## Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes (DVPP)

There is a need for a range of quality assured prevention programmes responding to perpetrators who do not meet Marac thresholds but are none the less posing a risk to their partners. We estimate that there are 347,000 perpetrators in this category. This is calculated using the Respect figure of 400,000 perpetrators causing high or medium levels of harm, minus the 53,000 high harm perpetrators detailed above. The cost of an average DVPP is ~£1,500 per perpetrator.

## Early Responses

We know that those using abusive behaviours in their relationships, their friends, family and (ex) partners often seek help but get the wrong advice. Early response interventions are designed to address the significant gap between when someone first knows there is a problem and when they are offered the appropriate help. Early responses also support communities to be able to respond to those using abuse and seek help when they are worried, turning conducive environments into accountable ones. Professionals are supported to develop skills to better recognise, respond to and refer people using abuse into safe and effective interventions.

Crucially, this work must also involve a behaviour change intervention to work with those who are seeking help, as well as an integrated (ex)partner support service and support for communities. Respect and Women's Aid are piloting an approach called "Make A Change" which works with perpetrators on a one-to-one and group basis<sup>60</sup>. As signatories to the January 2020 Call to Action referenced above, we would like to see every part of England and Wales have an early intervention programme, as well as interventions for other levels of risk. Based on existing interventions we would expect this to cost around £270k per PCC area totalling £12.9m.

## Cultural change training for frontline public sector professionals

Cultural change training is needed across public services to spot and support people living with domestic abuse earlier and to more appropriately and help frontline workers of all kinds to understand the dynamics of abuse and challenge it when they see it (particularly coercive and controlling behaviour which is often little understood).

In 2014, SafeLives seconded a team member to the College of Policing in order to support them in the development of the Domestic Abuse Matters programme<sup>61</sup> - the programme has now been adopted by half of all forces in England and Wales and the whole of Police Scotland. A recent academic report<sup>62</sup> found that DA Matters training was associated with a 41% increase in arrest for controlling or coercive behaviour for trained forces compared to untrained forces. Further cultural change programmes should be developed for frontline workers in other agencies. The Whole Picture pilot funded by the Home Office has already taken place with three Local Authority children's social care teams and our evaluation<sup>63</sup> found quantitative evidence of participants' improvements in knowledge and understanding as a result of the training.

The figures below include estimated costs of training teachers, police, judiciary, children's social care workers, adult social care workers and probation. £65.5m would cover the costs of a programme which would work with each of these sectors across England and Wales. It is broken down as follows:

Frontline professionals	Cost in millions
Police	£5.5
Children's social workers	£3.2
Adult social workers	£1.8
Teachers	£47.3
Judiciary	£1.5
Prison and probation	£5
Job Centre workers	£1.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£65.5</b>

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.cranstoun.org/services/domestic-abuse/make-a-change-east-sussex/>

<sup>61</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/training/police>

<sup>62</sup> <https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/d428k>

<sup>63</sup>

<https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Whole%20Picture%20Children%27s%20Social%20Care%20professionals%200cultural%20change%20evaluation.pdf>

In order to ensure victim/survivors are identified and supported to access specialist services, we also commend Agenda’s Ask and Take Action campaign<sup>64</sup> which is seeking to amend the UK Domestic Abuse Bill to ensure frontline professionals are placed under a duty to both ask about domestic abuse and to then refer victims who disclose to specialist services, similar to the legislation now in place in Wales<sup>65</sup>. Our costings work has underpinned their proposals and would represent an investment in professionals which would then taper as the body of workers is trained. Similar programmes are also developed by Women’s Aid (Ask Me for DWP workers<sup>66</sup>) and Welsh Women’s Aid (Ask and Act for community responders).

## Public Health Campaign

The successful #youarenotalone campaign launched during COVID-19, should be developed into a long-term, well-funded campaign of £5m (£1m p.a. funding committed over 5 years) to help change the public narrative, moving the conversation from ‘why doesn’t she leave’ to ‘why doesn’t he stop’ and helping people know how to take action if they are worried about someone<sup>67</sup>.

The level of funding has been determined by reference to other Government-backed public health campaigns such as the Drink Driving Campaign which cost £20m over 10 years, the Fire Kills Campaign which had variable costs from around £4.8m in previous years to currently around £1m per year, or the Five A Day campaign which received £3.3m in the four years to 2010.<sup>68,69,70</sup>

## Phonelines/online support

In England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland domestic violence helplines exist, providing advice to women in crisis. They do this through meeting the caller’s immediate safety needs and helping them think through the options available to them. They are able to refer the caller to a local service or other place of safety and support them to think about practical things, such as leaving with ID and other documents, including financial information. The helplines are, however, not geared towards responding to longer-term financial issues. As referred to above, Surviving Economic Abuse and Money Advice Plus have responded to the need for longer term advocacy around financial well-being.

We estimate the costs of funding local and national helplines and online support methods to be £4.3m. This covers the costs of the national domestic abuse helpline run by Refuge in England, Karma Nirvana’s helpline for those facing ‘honour’ based abuse, Galop’s national LGBT+ domestic abuse helpline, Women’s Aid’s webchat service and Respect’s Men’s Advice Line. We have allocated £200,000 for each of the nine regions in England and £455,000 for the Live Fear Free helpline in Wales<sup>71</sup>.

While each of these services originated in phone-based support, each is increasingly opening up more flexible options around text-based support, and a range of online methods. The figures below do not include any one-off costs for initiating new digital services. Further work is required to determine what the full costs of newer, more digitally enabled services will cost on an annual basis.

Helplines	Cost in thousands (per annum)
National phonelines/online support	£2m
Local phonelines/online support	£2.3m

<sup>64</sup> <https://weareagenda.org/briefings-ask-and-take-action/>

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.welshwomensaid.org.uk/training/ask-act/>

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increased-jobcentre-support-for-women-experiencing-domestic-abuse>

<sup>67</sup> See SafeLives’ #ReachIn campaign for friends, family and neighbours: <https://safelives.org.uk/reach-in>

<sup>68</sup> Department for Transport (2014), “FOI response letter about the costs and affects of the “THINK! Drink drive campaign.” [can be accessed online: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dft-think-drink-drive-campaign-costs-and-impact>].

<sup>69</sup> Louise Ridley (2013), *Campaign Live*, “Govt awards Fire Kills account to Enter”.

<sup>70</sup> Sara Capacci, Mario Mazzocchi (2011), *Journal of Health Economics*, “Five-a-day, a price to pay: An evaluation of the UK program impact accounting for market forces”.

<sup>71</sup> [https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2020-03/evaluability-assessment-of-the-live-fear-free-helpline\\_0.pdf](https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2020-03/evaluability-assessment-of-the-live-fear-free-helpline_0.pdf)



## Conclusion

The Domestic Abuse Bill as it currently stands will make much needed changes to some of the criminal justice architecture, including the introduction of protection orders which will be made a criminal offence if breached, and positive requirements on perpetrators. The only legislative change which will lever in the security of funding for services, however, is limited to the provision of accommodation-based services, refuges in the main. While it is to be welcomed that refuges are to be given an element of secure funding (even if the amount proposed is almost half that which this report suggests is needed in reality), this provision only amounts to a small proportion of the services which are currently delivered to domestic abuse victims – around 20-30%.

That is why SafeLives, in partnership with a group of organisations including Barnardo's, Action for Children, NSPCC, End Violence Against Women, supported by the Equality and Human Rights Commission, is campaigning for an amendment to the Domestic Abuse Bill<sup>72</sup> which would extend the current proposed duty to cover the commissioning of domestic abuse services in all settings – accommodation and community, as well as ensuring that provision does not discriminate against victims either in respect of protected characteristics (ethnicity, disability, gender, sexuality, or age).

We believe that a new funding settlement, accompanied by a new statutory requirement on public bodies to commission specialist domestic abuse services could genuinely transform the response to domestic abuse victims and survivors – adults, teens and children - as well as those who harm them.

More than 130 frontline specialist community based domestic abuse services support our call for change<sup>73</sup> – we hope the Government recognises the space for action and commits both to an increase in the support for those crucial life-saving services, alongside the duties required to make them a reality for all families affected by domestic abuse, wherever they live.

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<sup>72</sup> <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-06/Joint%20briefing%20-%20Domestic%20Abuse%20Bill%20amendment%20%20statutory%20duty%20on%20public%20authorities%20%283%29.pdf>

<sup>73</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Letter%20from%20community%20based%20domestic%20abuse%20services%20to%20Government%20FINAL.pdf>

## Appendix

### Estimating the number of those at high risk of serious harm or homicide

Analysis from the British Crime Survey (BCS, now known as the Crime Survey England and Wales) completed by Sylvia Walby and Jonathan Allen found that 3.3% of females aged 16-59 experienced high risk abuse – interpersonal violence, stalking and domestic threats or force.<sup>74</sup>

It was assumed that approximately 20% of these women would have experienced abuse within the last year based on the proportion of victims in the BCS analysis who experienced abuse in the last year since the age of 16 and the proportion of victims at high risk supported who had experienced abuse in the last year.<sup>75</sup> The approximate number of women who have experienced high risk domestic abuse in the last year is 100,000. Marac data consistently shows that approximately 95% of the victims discussed at Marac are female<sup>76</sup> meaning 5,000 men have experienced high risk domestic abuse in the last year.

We calculate that a minimum of 1,120 Idvas are required to meet the needs of those at the highest risk of abuse, working with annual caseloads of 100.

### Estimating the required level of specialist service provision

All of those victims at the highest risk are assumed to need Idva support. The Crime Survey of England and Wales (CSEW) for year ending March 2019 gives the number of women and male aged 16+ who have experienced domestic abuse in the last 12 months as 1,593,000 women and 786,000 men. Not all of these over 2 million victims will want or need specialist support and therefore those who had "told other support professional or organisation" about their experience of partner abuse was used as a proxy for those who had experienced domestic abuse and wished to access support. This amounts to one third of female victims (34%) and one quarter (24%) of male victims. Subtracting those at highest risk from the overall total and using the proxy means that specialist support is required for approximately 500,000 women and 180,000 men with caseload for frontline workers estimated at 100 cases per year.

### Estimating the number of females aged 12-15 who require Ypva support

The mid-year 2019 estimate for the number of girls aged between 12-15 in England and Wales was multiplied by the prevalence of domestic abuse in the 16-19 age category for females in the CSEW.

### Estimating the number of children growing up in households with domestic abuse

The CSEW shows that 41% of those aged 16-59 who experience partner abuse in the previous 12 months had children present in the household. Official UK statistics on births gives an average value for the total fertility rate of women between 2004 and 2018 as 1.85 used for number of children per household.<sup>77</sup> Combining these two figures gives an estimated 1.2 million children living in household with partner abuse. Using the previous proxy for visible victims suggests that 371,000 children will require specialist support provision. Service level data shows that the average case length for children is longer than that of adults and therefore a caseload of 80 cases per year was estimated.<sup>78, 79</sup>

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<sup>74</sup> <http://nomsintranet.org.uk/roh/official-documents/HomeOfficeResearchStudy276.pdf>

<sup>75</sup> [https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safety\\_in\\_Numbers\\_full\\_report.pdf](https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safety_in_Numbers_full_report.pdf)

<sup>76</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/practice-support/resources-marac-meetings/latest-marac-data>

<sup>77</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/livebirths/datasets/parentscountryofbirth>

<sup>78</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/CYP%20NDS%20201819.pdf>

<sup>79</sup> <https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Idva%20NDS%20201819.pdf>