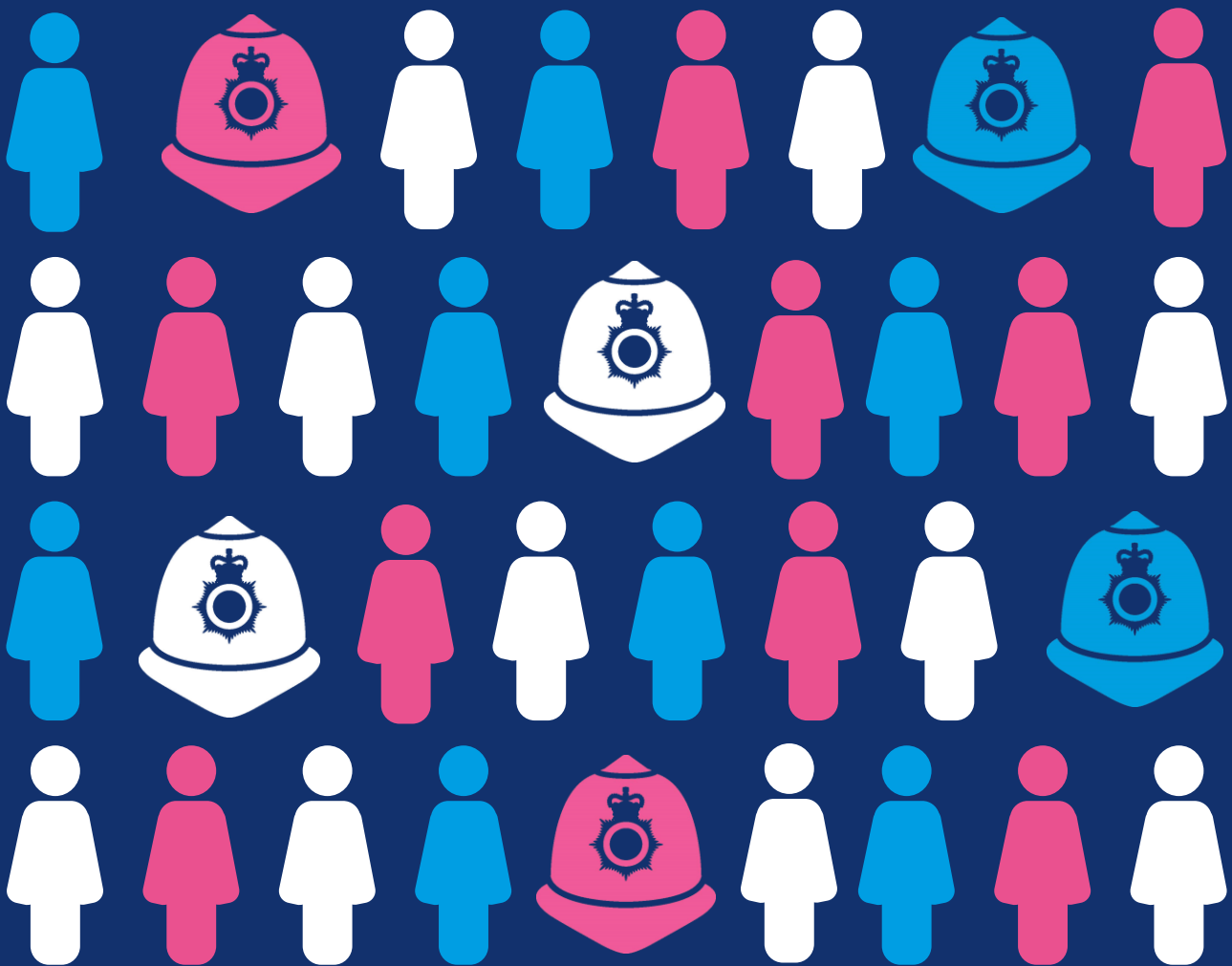


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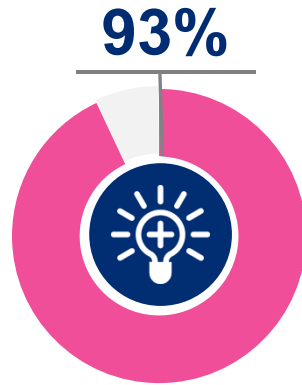
# Domestic Abuse Matters: Police responders training





**79%**

of **First Responders** felt training would help them **respond to victims** in a more informed way

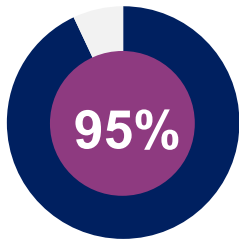


of **First Responders** had a good understanding of the **stages of coercive control and abuse** following training



**82%**

of **First Responders** were willing to **recommend the training to a colleague**

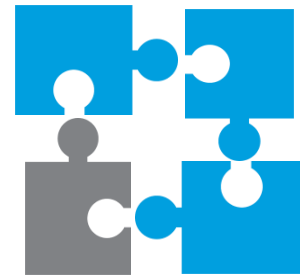


of **First Responders** had a good understanding of the **tactics perpetrators use to keep their victim(s) in a relationship** and prevent them from leaving following training



“I am now more aware of the importance and different ways perpetrators can **manipulate officers**, as well as what they do to **regain control.**”

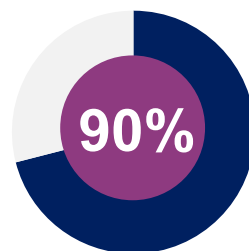
- **First Responder**



**91%** of **First Responders** felt they had a good understanding of the **types of questions that would encourage a victim to disclose** their experience following training



of **First Responders** felt they had a greater knowledge of the tactics used by **perpetrators when coercively controlling a victim** following training



of **First Responders** felt they were able to **recognise the impact of domestic abuse and coercive control on children** following training



“The smallest of changes or understanding from me could mean a **big difference to someone’s life.**”

- **First Responder**

# Domestic Abuse Matters – Findings to date

## Introduction

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This report outlines initial findings from the Domestic Abuse Matters training carried out by SafeLives across 44 Police forces, 40 of these were British Police Force areas, 1 was Service police and 3 were overseas police forces. Training of these police forces took place between 2018 and 2025. Feedback forms were completed by 53,879 First Responders who attended the training, and responses were analysed. A full methodology can be found in Appendix 1.

Domestic Abuse Matters exists because the College of Policing was asked by the HMIC to review what it provided to forces by way of Domestic Abuse training to frontline responders. SafeLives were invited to give an external view and found that the College was providing helpful learning objectives to police forces nationally, but these objectives were used by each force differently, with training varying in terms of duration, content and quality.

Domestic Abuse Matters was written with the College of Policing by SafeLives to provide police forces with a sustainable programme of change that offers the opportunity for the country to provide consistency of service to families experiencing domestic abuse. The programme was subsequently developed in collaboration with others and content is governed by an editorial board made up from the College of Policing and representatives of the three organisations licenced to deliver the product. This interactive training tool seeks to address negative attitudes towards domestic abuse and to promote a cultural shift across Police Forces. It complements the development and subsequent implementation of the criminalisation of coercive control (more details can be found in Appendix 2).

For the program to work effectively, it is essential that at least 75% of first responders receive training. The minimum requirement for forces is 75% of officers up to and including the rank of Sergeant who come into contact with victims, perpetrators, children or family members. Forces in this report have expanded on this to include those working in custody, force control room, response, and those of more senior ranks. Training such a high volume of officers helps to build momentum and to quickly and effectively bring about a cultural change.

Additionally, for the forces in this analysis, 10% of responders were given additional training as ‘on the job’ Domestic Abuse Matters Champions. Champions receive additional teaching designed to help sustain the change in skills, behaviour and attitudes of their peers, challenging inappropriate language and behaviour, checking service delivery, giving constructive feedback and congratulating good practice. Champions also identify and act on compassion fatigue, burnout and vicarious trauma for staff members, and are trained to respond to abuse within their colleague’s personal lives. SafeLives has received evaluation forms from 2,783 DA matters champions who completed the training.

## Overview of responses

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### First responder profile

Amongst first responders, nearly two-fifths (61%) of respondents identified as male, with 39% identifying as female and 0% transgender. The majority (84%) of respondents described themselves as White British, with 9% of respondents leaving this question blank and 5.4% describing themselves as Black, Asian or racially minoritised.

The average age of respondents was 35.6 years, with around three-fifths (64%) of respondents being between the ages of 21 and 40. The average length of service for first responders was 9.1 years. When asked their role within the force, a third (34%) reported that they were ‘PCs’, while 18% reported their role as ‘Response’ and 6% reported that they were a ‘DC’.

### Outcomes for First Responders

The training focuses on several key outcomes, namely:

- Understanding of coercive and controlling behaviour,
- Perpetrator tactics for keeping victims in relationships,
- Understanding victims and why they may not wish to leave a relationship or support police action,
- Questioning of victims and perpetrators,
- Evidence gathering,
- Safeguarding, and

“ This course has highlighted the impact of domestic abuse on victims and refocused me on why I do this job.

- Perpetrator manipulation of police responders.

First responders were asked to consider their level of knowledge prior to and post-training in all of these areas (for more information on methodology, see Appendix 1). Across all key learning outcomes, respondents reported large increases in knowledge and understanding, as outlined in the sections below.

### Training gave first responders more knowledge and confidence, allowing them to respond better

Looking at quantitative data from all forces, nearly all (95%) respondents felt that the course gave them a strong understanding of the tactics perpetrators demonstrate when coercively controlling their victims, an increase of 71% from their pre-training scores. Following training, most respondents (93%) reported a strong understanding of the stages of coercive control and the impact this has during a relationship and when preparing to leave (a substantial increase of 77%). In a similar vein, 95% of respondents expressed a strong understanding of the tactics perpetrators use to keep victims in a relationship following the training (increasing by 67%). Of the 26 forces who answered this question, 87% of forces said they had a good understanding of the link between coercive control, stalking and harassment following the training (an increase of 55%).

“ I feel like I will respond differently to initial DA reports. I will have better conversations and draw more information from victims by asking the right questions.

“ It allowed me to see the impact of my questioning style and how that can directly affect the disclosure made by the victim when trying to build that rapport.

A key area of the training concerns the questioning of victims, safeguarding and advice, and collecting and recording of evidence. Following training 91% of respondents had a strong understanding of the types of questions that would encourage a victim of coercive control to disclose their experiences (an increase of 71%). Linked to this, 90% reported a strong understanding of the best ways to gather evidence and offer safeguarding advice to victims (increasing by 48%).

The majority (87%) of respondents felt the training gave them confidence in how best to record domestic abuse on police records, ensuring perpetrators were held to account and that victim blaming is identified as unacceptable. This corresponds to a 48% increase compared to pre-training knowledge.

“ The course has given me a greater knowledge of the potential impact DV has on children. The potential additional support needed not only for the victim but for the children too.

Of the forces asked about the impact domestic abuse and coercive control has on children, 90% (an increase of 52%) of respondents reported very or extremely good knowledge in this area. The majority (85%) felt they had a good understanding of the three distinct types of relationship abuse (an increase of 75%), and finally, over nine out of ten (93%) first responders felt they understood the tactics perpetrators of domestic abuse can use to try to manipulate

police responders (an increase of 59%).

### When asked about post-training understanding, the highest scores from individual forces related to the tactics used by perpetrators on their victims, and the abuse experience

The highest post-training scores (in questions 1-10) can be seen in the first three questions, which all relate to respondents' understanding of the abuse experience and perpetrator tactics:

1. Tactics perpetrators of domestic abuse demonstrate when they are coercively controlling their victim
2. Stages of coercive control and abuse experience, and why they appear to not always support police action
3. Tactics perpetrators use to keep their victim(s) in a relationship and prevent them from leaving

In each of these questions, at least one Police Force scored a post-training understanding of 98%, with the lowest score from a Police Force only dropping to 90% on question 2. These questions also had some of the highest percentage changes when post-training scores were compared to pre-training. In particular, question 2 demonstrated the greatest improvement across all 10 questions, with a 77% increase in understanding score after training. This suggests that first responders felt that they truly benefitted from this aspect of the training.

The table in Appendix 4 shows a more detailed view of the highest and lowest scores provided by individual police forces. The table in Appendix 5 illustrates the questions which saw the highest percentage change between the pre-training and post training scores.

## First responders felt the training would impact on their future performance in a variety of ways

In questions 12 and 13, first responders were asked about how they would alter their behaviour and practice moving forward. Over two-thirds (73%) of first responders felt that Domestic Abuse Matters training would change how they perform their role moving forward (Q12). Additionally, over three-quarters (79%) believed it would improve their ability to respond to victims of domestic abuse in a more informed way (Q13).

Respondents were then asked to expand on these answers and consider *how* their learning might impact their practice. Responses were coded and grouped into themes, and a codebook was then developed capturing the common themes across forces and broadly reflecting the course objectives. This codebook contains the following six codes, as well a code of 'other':

- Supporting children in the household
- Knowledge of DA and CCB
- Gathering and recording evidence
- Understanding perpetrator tactics
- Performing the police role
- Responding to victims of DA

32 forces have received DA matters training since the creation of the codebook, and the following section explores the answers to questions 12 and 13 given by responders from these 32 forces (28,743 responses to Q12 and 17,154 responses to Q13). The graphs in Appendix 3 show how responses were distributed across different codes.

The largest group of responses to questions 12 and 13 related to first responders' **knowledge of domestic abuse and coercive behaviour (CCB)** (23% and 28%). Primarily, responders highlighted how the training increased their awareness of domestic abuse, especially the nuances of CCB. Responses were also largely centred around empathy and an understanding of the emotional and psychological impact of abuse on victims. Many expressed that their shift in perspective would directly influence how they support victims going forward. Several comments also reflected a sense of confidence in responding appropriately, asking the right questions, and making informed decisions.

“ I now understand how subtle and damaging coercive control can be. It is not just about physical violence.

“ Don't assume from face value what incident might have happened. Look for clues around the house of the abuse.

The second largest grouping of responses for question 12 (20%) related to how first responders **gather and record evidence**. Respondents frequently mentioned that they would take a more investigative approach, asking better, more open-ended questions to uncover deeper information. There was also a strong emphasis on using appropriate and sensitive language when recording evidence and interacting with victims. On the other hand, for question 13, the second largest grouping of responses (22%) highlighted how the training would aid first responders in **responding to victims of abuse**. Again, a large emphasis was placed on changing approaches to questioning, to be more supportive and trauma-informed. There was also a strong theme around why victims might not want to report or engage with the police, so responses should involve building trust through respectful and patient interactions.

Whilst many of responses focused on a direct theme, around one fifth of responses to questions 12 and 13 (18% and 20%) were categorised as **'Other'**. These responses often came from those who mention limited or no direct involvement with domestic abuse cases in the current role. Despite this, many still found the training informative. Several experienced responders mentioned that the training served as a valuable refresher, with others advocating for the training to be mandatory across all forces and partner agencies to improve organisational culture. Some responders also noted a lack of resources and funding here, which may limit the ability to apply their training knowledge to practice.

“ The training should be mandatory for every officer & any partner agency involved in DA.

“ Create a safe space for victims to trust and speak to you. You may be the only trusted person they speak to.

The fourth largest grouping of responses to question 12 (18%) related to how respondents **respond to victims of abuse**. Respondents recognised the importance of creating a supportive environment for victims to speak freely. Building trust was seen as essential. Some noted that understanding victim behaviours and psychology enables a more victim-centred approach to investigation.

However, the fourth largest grouping of responses to question 13 related to **gathering and recording evidence** (14%). A strong emphasis was placed on asking open questions that encourage disclosure and delve deeper into victims' experiences. Some noted that investigation should go beyond asking questions but should include an awareness of behavioural cues and environmental indicators pointing to abuse.

This is closely followed by **performing in the police role**, appearing in 16% (Q12) and 11% (Q13) of responses, with responders highlighting that they would approach future incidents without assumptions, with curiosity, and an awareness of the subtle signs of abuse. This has given them the confidence in making better decisions when handling domestic abuse cases.

“Gave me training on how to approach a situation with a non-judgemental viewpoint.”

“Higher awareness of potential tactics perpetrators may use to manipulate police response/decision making.”

Appearing in only 5% of answers to question 12 and 4% of answers to question 13, understanding of **perpetrator tactics** did not make up a large grouping of responses. This suggests that first responders may not feel as confident in applying their understanding in this area, which includes recognising how perpetrators attempt to control narratives and discredit victims.

The smallest grouping of responses (appearing in 1% of answers to both questions) related to supporting **children in the household**. This is not unexpected, as supporting children is not a core focus of the DA matters programme, however it does suggest responders may feel less confident in carrying out this part of their role moving forward.

“I normally wouldn't wake children in the house – I will now start to do this.”

## Avenues for Progression

Overall, the consistency across themes suggests that, following training, first responders have a well-rounded understanding of the various aspects of a domestic abuse incident, particularly in relation to victim support, evidence gathering, and the complex dynamics of controlling and coercive behaviour. However, the areas which appear less frequently, such as supporting children in the household and perpetrator tactics, should not be ignored. A key area of the training is centred around identifying perpetrator tactics and the post-training data shows that 95% of first responders demonstrated an understanding of tactics used by perpetrators to coercively control their victim(s) and 93% understood tactics used to manipulate police responders. It may therefore be worth investigating why first responders do not see this as something which will impact how they perform their role moving forward. Forces may wish to explore other training opportunities that address this gap.

It is also important that Police Forces address the responses categorised as 'Other'. These responses often reflected concerns about role relevance, which highlight how training is delivered. Forces might review which roles are receiving the training, ensuring that it is prioritised for those most likely to attend domestic abuse incidents or supervise those who do. Training should not be limited to only these roles though. It is important to consider how broader awareness of domestic abuse across the Forces can support a more empathetic and informed organisational culture.

## The impact of the training differed across genders and age groups

Analysis was conducted to determine whether there were differences across age or gender in responses to the training (see Appendices 6 and 7).

This analysis demonstrated that female respondents gave more positive responses across all questions and concerning all key learning outcomes; in all cases, these differences were found to be statistically significant ( $p < .001$ ). The questions where female respondents' answers differed most from those of male respondents were around whether they would recommend training (87% compared with 79%), whether the training would impact on how they performed their role (76% compared with 70%), and whether the training would impact if they responded to victims in a more informed way (68% compared with 65%). The areas in which there was less difference between male and female respondents were around recording domestic abuse on police records and gathering evidence. This suggests that while male officers respond similarly to females in practical areas like evidence gathering and record-keeping, they are less likely than female officers to believe that the training will impact their overall role or their response to victims. On the other hand, female officers reported greater perceived benefits and learning across all areas.

The analysis also found significant relationships between age and course outcomes. Older responders were generally more likely to give positive responses to all questions compared with younger responders. Areas

where there was a particularly big difference between the responses of older first responders (those aged 51 and over) and younger first responders (those aged 30 or younger) included whether they would recommend the training (89% compared with 82%), their understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on children (82% compared with 81%), how well they understood the three distinct types of relationship abuse (post-training scores of 79% compared with 77%), how well they understood the link between coercive control and stalking and harassment (with 30% of older responders rating their understanding as 'Extremely' high compared to 25% of younger responders), and their understanding of perpetrator tactics (96% compared with 95%). Interestingly, there were 2 main areas in which younger first responders gave more positive responses than older first responders: belief that the training would impact how they would perform in their role (74% compared with 70%) and confidence in responding in a more informed way (67% compared with 66%). An explanation for these findings is that older first responders, who have developed their own, more ingrained methods and strategies over time, might be less likely to perceive that training will significantly change how they perform their role or respond to victims. In contrast, younger first responders may be more open to integrating new methods into their practice.

Feedback from older officers described the training as a valuable refresher and an opportunity to update their existing knowledge. Many highlighted that, even if their current roles do not involve direct contact with domestic abuse cases, the training increased their awareness. This suggests that, for older or more experienced staff, the training is seen as a way to maintain professional standards. Further exploration is needed, however, to understand why there is a difference in the after scores given by younger and older officers.

Differences across age and gender are important for police forces to keep in mind as they implement and build on the training.

## Responses of Domestic Abuse Matters Champions

A total of 2,781 domestic abuse matters champions completed evaluation forms. The course for champions focussed on eight key areas and questions were asked in the same way, and using the same scale, as for first responders:

- Understanding the role of the Domestic Abuse Matters Champion;
- The personal effects on police responders of dealing with traumatic events;
- Techniques used to support responders experiencing compassion fatigue, secondary trauma syndrome and vicarious trauma;
- The IDEA model of hot debrief for use with police colleagues;
- Understanding of how to identify perpetrators presenting as victims, and the implications of incorrect identification for victims;
- Knowledge of the additional range of vulnerabilities, support needs, and the specific dynamics of abuse faced by LGBT+ victims, male victims, and those at risk of forced-marriage;
- Understanding of how to recognise and respond to those experiencing financial and economic abuse; and
- How to respond when a colleague is either a victim or perpetrator of domestic abuse.

“ I feel I have knowledge that I can now share to colleagues or new starters and have a better understanding of the effects of domestic violence on the caller and the call takers. I can help answer questions people have in the control room and have a really good understanding of other agencies that can help victims.

Overall, feedback from champions was positive and reflected the feedback from first responders, highlighting the increase in knowledge and confidence provided by the training.

### Champions felt able to support and offer advice to colleagues

Almost 9 in 10 Champions (88%) reported a strong understanding of the role of the Domestic Abuse Matters Champion following training, (compared to 8% before). The majority of Champions (97%) reported a strong knowledge of the personal effects on police responders of dealing with and attending traumatic events following training, (compared to 33% before).

“ This was a great course that has opened my eyes to the external resources available to us and means I can signpost to multiple other agencies.

By the end of the training, four fifths of Champions (84%) reported a strong understanding of how the IDEA model of 'hot debrief' could be used with colleagues, (compared to 8% before training). The majority of the Champions (91%) felt they had a good knowledge following training of how to respond when a colleague is either a victim or a perpetrator of abuse (compared to 35% before).

## Champions felt able to respond to a broader range of situations, victims and needs

Following training, most of the Champions (89%) reported a good knowledge of the additional range of vulnerabilities, support needs, and the specific dynamics of abuse faced by LGBT+ victims, male victims, and those at risk of forced marriage (compared to 24% before training). The majority of Champions (90%) felt they had a good understanding of how to recognise and respond to financial and economic abuse, (compared to 19% before training). Furthermore, almost all of the Champions (94%) also reported a strong understanding of how to identify perpetrators presenting as victims, and the implications of incorrect identification for victims (compared to 27% before).

## Champions felt better able to support colleagues

“Feel more enabled to support colleagues in a formal and informal manner

of domestic abuse in a more informed way.

Most of the Champions (85%) felt confident to support first responders experiencing compassion fatigue, secondary trauma and vicarious trauma following the training (compared to 17% before training). Almost all Champions (98%) felt the training would enable them to support and offer development opportunities to colleagues when they are dealing with victims

## Evaluation of Training from Participants

Over eight in ten (83%) first responders were willing to strongly recommend Domestic Abuse Matters training to a colleague (scoring 8 or higher on a 0-10 scale). Two fifths (39%) gave the training a score of ten out of ten.

## Observations and Conclusions

Domestic Abuse Matters training aims to increase knowledge, understanding, and awareness for front line police responders in the areas of coercive and controlling behaviour, the behaviour of both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse, and questioning and evidence gathering.

The evaluation data for the 41 forces considered demonstrates the strong positive impact of the training on first responders, and quantitative data shows large increases in knowledge across all course outcomes, particularly around the following areas: perpetrator tactics and the stages of CCB and the abuse experience. Further exploration could be conducted to understand why, despite improved understanding around perpetrator tactics, few officers discussed how they would implement this learning into practice moving forward.

A possible explanation for this could be related to one of the points commonly appearing within responses coded as 'Other' - issues with role relevance. Officers may understand perpetrator tactics conceptually but may find it difficult to find ways to apply this knowledge in their day-to-day role, especially if they are not regularly involved in domestic abuse cases or perpetrator interviews. Another explanation could be a lack of resources and funding, as noted by some responders, which might hinder the ability of responders to implement their learning. Further exploration around the effect of age and gender on response to the training may also be beneficial, particularly exploring why older officers generally respond better than younger officers, and female officers respond better than male officers, as well as the possible implications of this.

The evaluation data for the 41 forces considered in this report also demonstrates the strong positive impact of the training on DA matters champions particularly on their understanding the personal effects of police responders who are dealing with traumatic events and how to identify perpetrators identifying as victims and the implications of incorrectly identifying victims.

While this report has highlighted some areas for further exploration, it clearly demonstrates the overwhelmingly positive impact Domestic Abuse Matters training has on the responders who access it. The vast improvements in knowledge, coupled with the high levels of officers feeling the training will positively impact on how they perform their role moving forward, will undoubtedly have an array of positive impacts on all those affected by domestic abuse.

Domestic Abuse Matters aims to promote a long-term cultural shift in the approach and attitude of officers to domestic abuse. To achieve this, it is vital that the momentum generated by the training is maintained. This is best achieved through the use of the Domestic Abuse Matters Champions, who can offer support and additional on-going training to responders. For the training to work as envisaged, it is essential that officers are aware of who the champions are, and what support and assistance is available. Secondly, ensuring that champions are

supported in their new role and are given the additional time needed to complete these duties is of great importance.

“ My police officer didn't just believe me he understood me and what my ex-partner was doing to me. He made promises and kept them, he updated me without fail and I felt supported throughout every stage of the process. The fact I could trust him enabled me to trust the system and follow through with the prosecution. Because of him I am free and freedom is such a gift when many are struggling every day just to survive

- Vicky, SafeLives Pioneer

## Appendices

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### Appendix 1: Methodology

Feedback forms were completed by 53,880 Domestic Abuse First Responders.

The feedback was completed on paper forms at the end of the training course. Responders were asked a variety of questions to gauge their level of understanding, both before and after the training, related to the key objectives and outcomes of the programme. Questions were answered on a standard 5-point scale ranging from 'Not at all' to 'Extremely' knowledgeable. Additional information was collected on gender, age, ethnicity, length of service and the responders' role within the force.

Some questions called for an 'open-ended' written response. These questions related to the programme itself and to how responders will alter their behaviour and practice moving forward.

The data from the forms was input into Survey Monkey by a trusted third party and the data exported to Excel for analysis. Data was analysed as a whole, as well as by different age groups, and by gender. Differences between groups were determined for significance with statistical testing in R [t-tests and ANOVAs]. Correlations were used to explore the relationships between different variables. There are known limitations of this methodology (post-test). For instance, responders may feel more positively or overstate their knowledge of core constructs measured. Because of this, it is not possible to determine the impact of the programme on outcomes or whether outcomes may be linked to other external factors. There may, for example, be other factors influencing outcomes and the relationships between variables which were not measured as part of this study. Analyses are exploratory and are intended as a descriptive overview of how first responders and champions felt following training on key areas of the Domestic Abuse Matters learning objectives.

### Appendix 2: What is Domestic Abuse Matters?

## Why?

DA Matters exists because the College of Policing was asked by the HMIC to review what it provided to forces by way of Domestic Abuse training to frontline responders following the inspection known to most as “everyone’s business” in 2014. The College asked SafeLives to provide an external view and we found that the College was providing helpful learning objectives to the 43 police forces nationally, but these objectives were used by each force differently, with training of first responders varying in terms of duration, content and quality. This was creating the potential for national inconsistency of service to families experiencing DA.

DA Matters Change Programme was written with the College of Policing by SafeLives to provide police forces with a sustainable programme of change which offers the opportunity for the country to provide consistency of service to families experiencing DA.

## What?

- Training local trainers on a DA Matters train the trainer course to future proof the force.
- Training first responders designed to increase empathy and decrease negativity around Domestic Abuse.
- System of on the job “DA Matters Champions” given extra skills via training in order to sustain the change in skills, behaviour, and attitudes by challenging inappropriate language and behaviour, checking service delivery, giving feedback, and congratulating great practice. DA Matters Champions also identify and act on compassion fatigue, burnout and vicarious trauma and respond to abuse within colleagues’ personal lives.
- Force health check - Critical friend approach to ensure that the force can support and therefore maintain the cultural, attitudinal, and behavioural change achieved by the training. The process is defined by a 21-point inspection, along with a “fresh eyes” examination of three areas pertinent to DA, chosen locally by the force area. Health check includes reality testing where desired.
- Presentation of post programme report - Presentation of findings from the health check and learning from the responders and DA Matters Champions as to what it is like to be a DA responder in their police force.
- Sustaining the Change senior leader workshop - An opportunity to give the strategic command team some taster training sessions from the responders and DA Matters Champions programmes to raise awareness in the senior ranks. The workshop is bespoke to the force and is designed to consider how they will sustain the change achieved by the training.
- Evaluation - Evaluation of training elements of the programme is included in the costs.

## How?

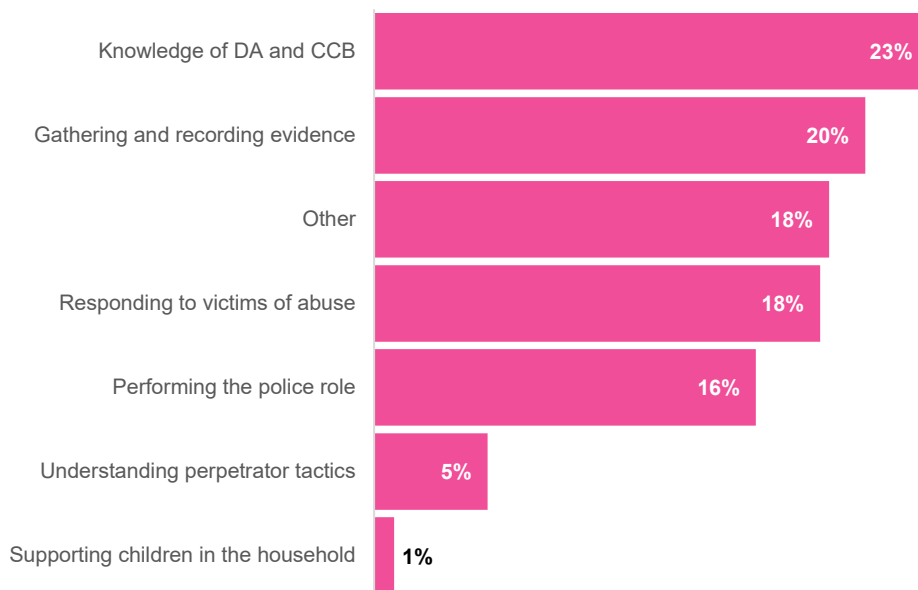
- Critical mass theory - 75% of all first responders to DA (including response officers, neighbourhood policing officers, PCSOs, Specials, Call handlers, prisoner interview teams, and front counter staff) trained to effect mass behavioural change.
- DA Matters Champions maintain the change and support their colleagues combatting compassion fatigue and vicarious trauma.
- Force health check is essential to the programme in order to support and maintain the change achieved by the training.
- Training is delivered by jointly trained by approved police trainers and DA experts from an evaluated trainer guide.
- An Internal communication strategy within the force area prior to delivery is vital.
- Each learning session contains no more than 25 people who do not wear uniform for the training.
- The delivery phase for the responders is concluded within 4 months with only the DA Matters Champions training being outside that period but in any case, within 6 months from the start of the responder delivery. This can be extended for large forces areas such as Police Scotland or Metropolitan Police for instance.
- Local trainers are used alongside SafeLives trainers making it locally relevant. The force area is future proofed by allowing remaining and future training to be carried out internally, under licence from the College of Policing.

## Making it local and needs based.

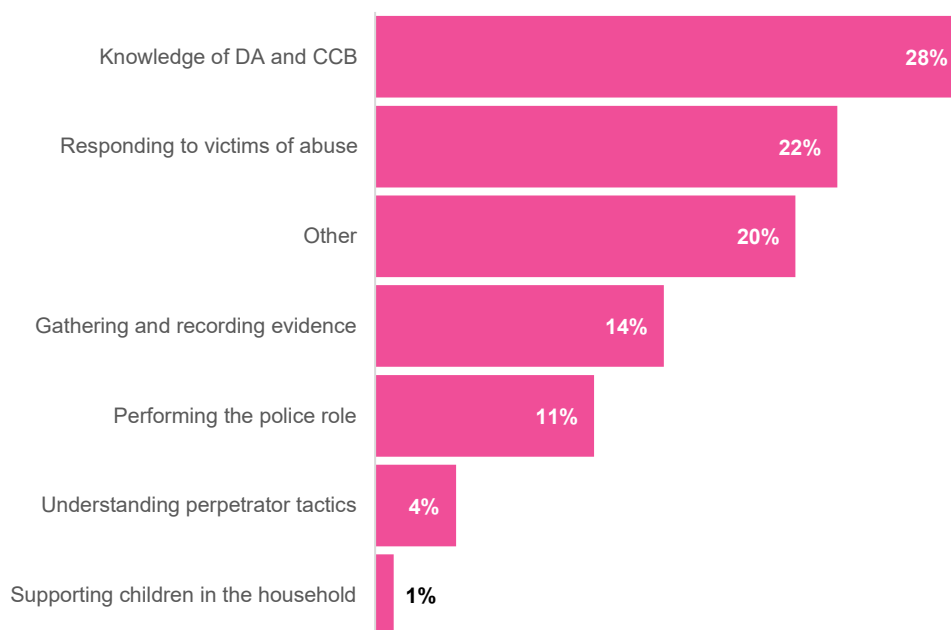
Each delivery phase is localised to the needs of the force area. This is achieved by using a template which allows forces to indicate, areas of concern, focus and key messaging required. The document also gives information to trainers on arrest, risk assessment, prosecutions and attrition rates, recent DHR’s and SCR’s, local procedures and processes and public demographics of the location along with other relevant information to allow the training element of DA Matters to meet local need. In some cases, additional sessions can be created to meet need.

### Appendix 3: Qualitative Responses to Questions 12 and 13

**Question 12 – Do you feel the learning from today's course will change the way in which you perform your role?**



**Question 13 – Do you feel this training will enable you to respond to victims of domestic violence and abuse in a more informed way?**



**Appendix 4: Table showing highest and lowest percentage changes provided by a Police Force after training of first responders.**

#	Question	Highest % Change	Lowest % Change
1	Understanding of the tactics perpetrators of domestic abuse demonstrate when they are coercively controlling their victim	80%	55%
2	Understanding of the stages of coercive control and abuse experience, and therefore why they appear to not always support police action	85%	66%
3	Understanding of the tactics perpetrators use to keep their victim(s) in a relationship and prevent them from leaving	76%	52%
4	Knowledge of the types of questions that would encourage a victim of coercive control to disclose their experiences to you as a police responder	81%	59%
5	Recognise the impact that domestic abuse and coercive control have on children, whether they experience it directly or indirectly.	59%	36%
6	Knowledge of how it is best to record domestic abuse on police records; ensuring perpetrators of abuse are held accountable for their behaviour and victim blaming identified as unacceptable	56%	32%
7	Understanding of how as a police responder you can gather evidence, and offer safeguarding advice (taking into account the victims existing safety plans already in operation)	64%	32%
8	Understanding of the three distinct types of relationship abuse, (intimate terrorism/coercive control, situation couple violence, violent resistance) and how to identify and respond to perpetrators who are presenting as victims.	83%	61%
9	Understand the link between coercive control and stalking and harassment	67%	39%
10	Understanding of the tactics perpetrators of domestic abuse can use to try to manipulate police responders	69%	40%

**Appendix 5: Table showing highest and lowest scores provided by a Police Force after training of first responders.**

#	Question	Highest Score	Lowest Score
1	Understanding of the tactics perpetrators of domestic abuse demonstrate when they are coercively controlling their victim	98%	92%
2	Understanding of the stages of coercive control and abuse experience, and therefore why they appear to not always support police action	98%	90%
3	Understanding of the tactics perpetrators use to keep their victim(s) in a relationship and prevent them from leaving	98%	92%
4	Knowledge of the types of questions that would encourage a victim of coercive control to disclose their experiences to you as a police responder	95%	88%
5	Recognise the impact that domestic abuse and coercive control have on children, whether they experience it directly or indirectly.	94%	84%
6	Knowledge of how it is best to record domestic abuse on police records; ensuring perpetrators of abuse are held accountable for their behaviour and victim blaming identified as unacceptable	92%	80%
7	Understanding of how as a police responder you can gather evidence, and offer safeguarding advice (taking into account the victims existing safety plans already in operation)	95%	87%
8	Understanding of the three distinct types of relationship abuse, (intimate terrorism/coercive control, situation couple violence, violent resistance) and how to identify and respond to perpetrators who are presenting as victims.	90%	79%
9	Understand the link between coercive control and stalking and harassment	91%	78%
10	Understanding of the tactics perpetrators of domestic abuse can use to try to manipulate police responders	95%	87%
11	Understanding how to complete the DASH RIC assessment including clusters of risk and use of professional judgement	90%	90%
12	Do you feel the learning from today's course will change the way in which you perform your role?	89%	60%
13	Do you feel this training will enable you to respond to victims of domestic violence and abuse in a more informed way?	89%	72%

14	On a scale of 0-10 how likely is it that you would recommend the training to a colleague? (not likely 0< 10 extremely)	99%	72%
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## Appendix 6: Domestic Abuse Matters – First Responders Correlation Matrix

Domestic Abuse Matters - First Responders - Correlation Matrix																
		Age	Years of service	After - perpetrator tactics	After - stages of CCB	After - keeping victims in a relationship	After - questioning	After - impact on children	After - recording	After - evidence gathering	After - typologies	After - link between CCB and stalking and harrassment	After - manipulation of police	Perform your role	Responding to victims	Recommend training?
Age	Correlation Coefficient	1.00	0.66	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.06	0.13	0.06	0.07	0.11	0.10	0.08	-0.04	0.01	0.13
	Sig. (2-tailed)	NA	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.012*	0.000***
	N	52240.00	50812.00	52010.00	52023.00	51792.00	51927.00	46593.00	51654.00	51655.00	46578.00	28325.00	51885.00	51277.00	43896.00	51938.00
Years of service	Correlation Coefficient	0.66	1.00	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.13	0.09	0.11	0.12	0.10	0.09	-0.10	-0.03	0.06
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000***	NA	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***
	N	50812.00	51947.00	51719.00	51732.00	51498.00	51655.00	47051.00	51422.00	51447.00	47036.00	28680.00	51606.00	51060.00	43639.00	51637.00
* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).																
** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).																
*** Correlation is significant at the 0.001 level (2-tailed).																

## Appendix 7: Domestic Abuse Matters Responders – T-test and ANOVA Test

Independent Samples Test - Gender										
		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means						Effect Size
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Difference		Cohen's d
								Lower	Upper	
After - understanding perpetrator tactics	Equal variances assumed	891.44	0.000	-31.93	52124.00	-	-0.16	-0.17	-0.15	0.3
	Equal variances not assumed			-31.79	42930.45	0.000***	-0.16	-0.17	-0.15	
After - stages of coercive control	Equal variances assumed	591.87	0.000	-34.15	52138.00	-	-0.18	-0.19	-0.17	0.3
	Equal variances not assumed			-34.21	43832.67	0.000***	-0.18	-0.19	-0.17	
After - Keeping victims in a relationship	Equal variances assumed	402.76	0.000	-30.55	51907.00	-	-0.16	-0.17	-0.15	0.3
	Equal variances not assumed			-30.56	43428.23	0.000***	-0.16	-0.17	-0.15	
After - questioning victims	Equal variances assumed	338.68	0.000	-21.79	52034.00	-	-0.12	-0.13	-0.11	0.2
	Equal variances not assumed			-21.74	43008.87	0.000***	-0.12	-0.13	-0.11	
After - impact on children	Equal variances assumed	138.36	0.000	-23.37	46958.00	-	-0.14	-0.15	-0.13	0.2
	Equal variances not assumed			-23.46	39829.55	0.000***	-0.14	-0.15	-0.13	
After - recording evidence	Equal variances assumed	294.56	0.000	-8.99	51754.00	-	-0.06	-0.07	-0.04	0.1
	Equal variances not assumed			-8.87	41044.07	0.000***	-0.06	-0.07	-0.04	
After - evidence gathering	Equal variances assumed	248.82	0.000	-8.96	51747.00	-	-0.05	-0.06	-0.04	0.1
	Equal variances not assumed			-8.85	41076.87	0.000***	-0.05	-0.06	-0.04	
After - typologies of abuse	Equal variances assumed	368.00	0.000	-20.62	46937.00	-	-0.13	-0.14	-0.12	0.2
	Equal variances not assumed			-20.57	38966.52	0.000***	-0.13	-0.14	-0.12	
After - understanding the link between CCB and stalking	Equal variances assumed	208.33	0.000	-15.02	28870.00	-	-0.12	-0.14	-0.10	0.2
	Equal variances not assumed			-14.98	24647.11	0.000***	-0.12	-0.14	-0.10	
After - perpetrator manipulation	Equal variances assumed	197.57	0.000	-14.35	52000.00	-	-0.08	-0.09	-0.07	0.1
	Equal variances not assumed			-14.28	42790.15	0.000***	-0.08	-0.09	-0.07	
How to perform your role	Equal variances assumed	3.26	0.071	-26.70	51392.00	0.000***	-0.24	-0.25	-0.22	0.2
	Equal variances not assumed			-26.84	43446.46	-	-0.24	-0.25	-0.22	
Responding in a more informed way	Equal variances assumed	65.51	0.000	-24.76	43845.00	-	-0.22	-0.24	-0.20	0.2
	Equal variances not assumed			-24.83	36022.88	0.000***	-0.22	-0.24	-0.20	
Recommend training?	Equal variances assumed	199.10	0.000	-33.38	52036.00	-	-0.48	-0.51	-0.45	0.3
	Equal variances not assumed			-34.12	46563.23	0.000***	-0.48	-0.51	-0.46	

\* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

\*\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.001 level (2-tailed).

One-way ANOVA testing - Age							
		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial eta squared
After - understanding perpetrator tactics	Between Groups	95.96	2.00	47.98	158.78	0.000***	0.01
	Within Groups	15479.76	51226.00	0.30			
	Total	15575.72	51228.00				
After - stages of coercive control	Between Groups	77.51	2.00	38.76	112.97	0.000***	0.00
	Within Groups	17578.98	51239.00	0.34			
	Total	17656.49	51241.00				
After - Keeping victims in a relationship	Between Groups	69.06	2.00	34.53	104.28	0.000***	0.004
	Within Groups	16890.64	51011.00	0.33			
	Total	16959.69	51013.00				
After - questioning victims	Between Groups	40.25	2.00	20.13	52.58	0.000***	0.002
	Within Groups	19577.76	51143.00	0.38			
	Total	19618.02	51145.00				
After - impact on children	Between Groups	287.58	2.00	143.79	345.17	0.000***	0.015
	Within Groups	19252.09	46214.00	0.42			
	Total	19539.67	46216.00				
After - recording evidence	Between Groups	52.14	2.00	26.07	54.78	0.000***	0.002
	Within Groups	24209.65	50874.00	0.48			
	Total	24261.79	50876.00				
After - evidence gathering	Between Groups	74.23	2.00	37.12	89.33	0.000***	0.003
	Within Groups	21136.99	50873.00	0.42			
	Total	21211.22	50875.00				
After - typologies of abuse	Between Groups	173.04	2.00	86.52	194.28	0.000***	0.008
	Within Groups	20573.81	46198.00	0.45			
	Total	20746.85	46200.00				
After - understanding the link between CCB and stalking	Between Groups	74.84	2.00	37.42	83.33	0.000***	0.006
	Within Groups	12713.39	28311.00	0.45			
	Total	12788.23	28313.00				
After - perpetrator manipulation	Between Groups	76.21	2.00	38.10	104.20	0.000***	0.004
	Within Groups	18687.89	51105.00	0.37			
	Total	18764.10	51107.00				
How to perform your role	Between Groups	383.38	2.00	191.69	198.21	0.000***	0.008
	Within Groups	48853.46	50515.00	0.97			
	Total	49236.85	50517.00				
Responding in a more informed way	Between Groups	31.97	2.00	15.98	19.28	0.000***	0.001
	Within Groups	35768.94	43145.00	0.83			
	Total	35800.91	43147.00				
Recommend training?	Between Groups	998.56	2.00	499.28	190.82	0.000***	0.007
	Within Groups	133812.77	51143.00	2.62			
	Total	134811.33	51145.00				
* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).							
** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).							
*** Correlation is significant at the 0.001 level (2-tailed).							



