

What is the DAART?

The Domestic Abuse Awareness Raising Tool (DAART) was created by SafeLives, with funding from Scottish Government. A wide range of stakeholders were consulted throughout its development. It launched in August 2020.



DAART is a free online resource for professionals, aimed at raising awareness about domestic abuse, by covering the following:

- The definition and prevalence of domestic abuse
- General awareness and identification of domestic abuse
- The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018
- Safe responses and referral pathways

Although it was created specifically with the public sector in mind, DAART is hosted on its own dedicated url, which is freely accessible to all. The simple, interactive tool takes approx. 40 mins to complete and provides an introduction to domestic abuse and coercive control, as well as a directory of local and national services in Scotland. It incorporates animations, real-life case studies deriving from Scottish services, and some simple practical exercises. It also contains the authentic voice of Scottish survivors, in the form of quotes, and national data.

DAART is intended to be a first step in understanding the main considerations in identifying and responding to domestic abuse. It does not replace specialist domestic abuse training.

Distribution of the DAART

Since its launch, there have been close to **17,100** unique visitors to the DAART website. This is a modest reflection of use - multiple users within organisations in one location will be counted as a single user in these statistics.

The graph on the right shows that from the month after the launch, when the website received over 2,000 unique visitors, usage has been steady with an average of over 900 unique users each month.



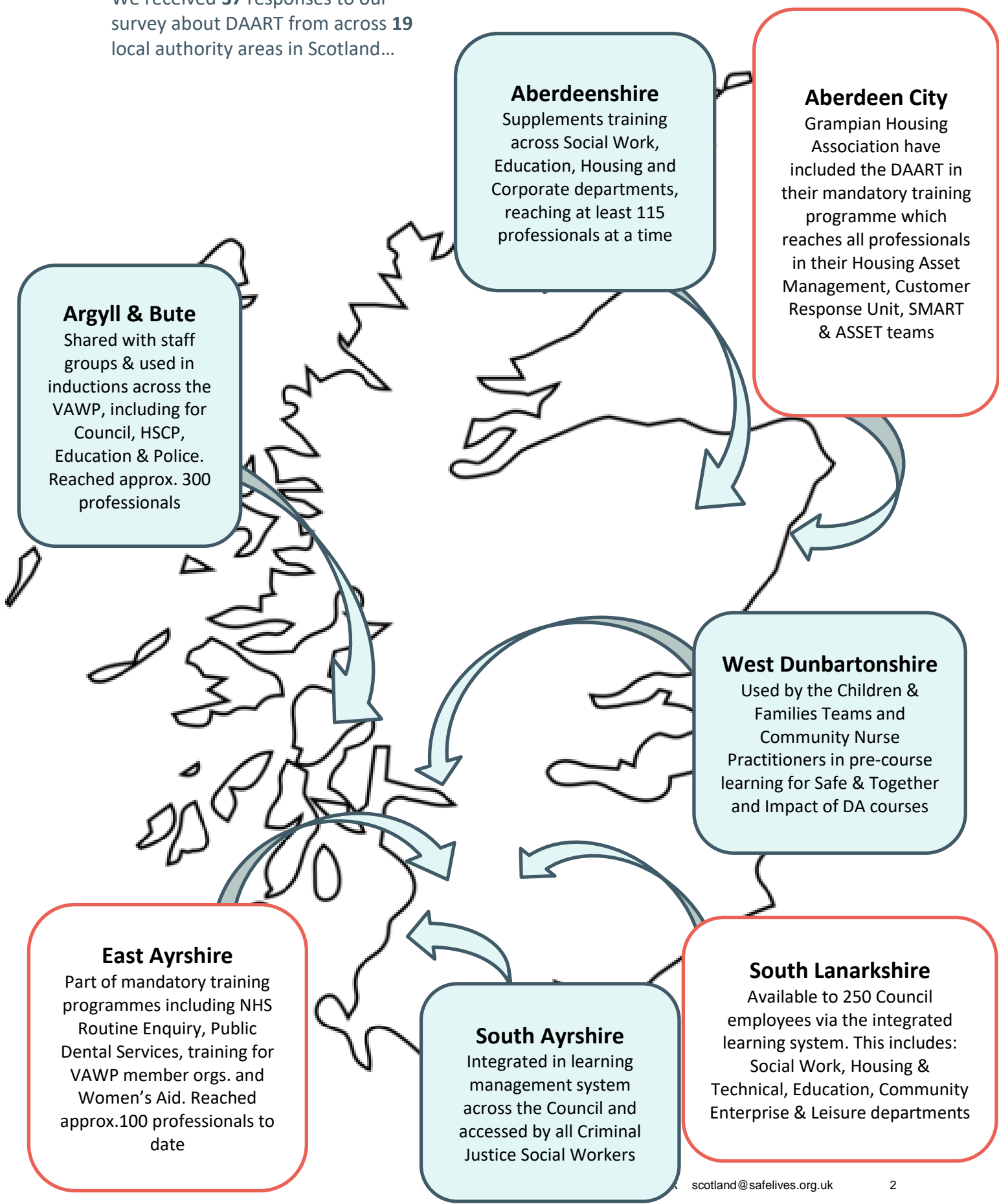
SafeLives have also received and actioned multiple requests from organisations about hosting a local copy of the tool on internal systems.





Where and how has the DAART been used?

We received **37** responses to our survey about DAART from across **19** local authority areas in Scotland...



What do people who have used the DAART say about it?

People using the DAART are very likely to say positive things about it to others. **Our respondents rated the likelihood they would recommend it at 9 out of 10.**

“I think that the DAART was something that was long overdue. I found it gave a great overview and basic understanding of DA and to have the resources for signposting made it so much more than just training it was a resource tool which I have asked all our staff to keep it close to hand.”

(Housing)

9/10

“It's a comprehensive learning tool for all types of people.” (VAWG)

“I thought the tool was very well done, illustrated the points in a thought-provoking and interesting way. This facilitated the way I have retained the information and should be able to apply it if required. A great tool and would recommend to anyone that is looking to increase their awareness of domestic abuse in a succinct way.”

“It has been a really valuable tool, especially in the absence of face to face training during covid.” (VAWG)

The majority of our respondents agreed the DAART was **easy to use** and **access** (86%).

“A great resource which did not take a huge amount of time to work through. Very well set out and easy to use with good information at an appropriate level for awareness raising, case studies help to reinforce the learning too.”

(Public Protection)

“Great format; would like to see more like this”

(Children & Families Social Work)

Respondents agreed the DAART is effective in **raising awareness** of domestic abuse (82%) and coercive control, as well as **increasing understanding of legislation** (77%). Our respondents were less likely to agree that the DAART improved their own confidence in identifying domestic abuse (64%), or their awareness of services (55%) and likelihood of accessing ongoing training (55%). This may be because many respondents already worked in the VAWG sector.

“The training is pitched at a really good level for frontline officers that aren't working directly within the DA field, both as a training tool for new starters and as a refresher training for more experienced officers. I think the timing of the training given the updated legislations of late is particularly timeous. I also particularly like that it can be used in many different sectors as training, bringing consistent message and level of understanding which supports multi agency working. All in all a very good training module, well done to the team who developed this!”

(Homelessness)

Half of our respondents were using the tool to **facilitate the learning of others**, such as in **staff inductions**, as demonstrated by the examples on the previous page. Survey feedback tells us that the DAART has been incorporated into **mandatory learning programmes** and integrated into **learning management systems** in at least eight local authority areas.

“Excellent resource that frees up space in training when used as pre learning materials”
(VAWG)

Most respondents did not provide feedback on improving the DAART, but those that did focussed on **expanding the DAART** and increasing its **accessibility**, for example through translation to other languages and creating follow-up resources to support it.

“A great tool, extra useful during the pandemic. It is most effective when used as part of a blended approach. The learning will be better embedded if followed up to ensure it does not seep away and get forgotten no matter how well engaged the learner was at the session.”

(Children & Families Social Work)

“Made accessible in more languages etc.”

(Children & Families Social Work)

“I would love to see more similar courses developed, topic specific and more advanced. One on gender and the gendered nature of abuse, sexual crimes, cultural harmful practices, Commercial Sexual exploitation for example.”

(VAWG)

“Maybe roll out some more in-depth specific training for frontline staff - such as Housing Officers / Neighbourhood Officers / Area Technical Officers (building confidence in dealing with such complex situations) AND a small toolkit course (say 10/15mins) that could be fed down to Tradesmen out on the field.” (Housing)

“More levels to it based on understanding.”

(VAWG)

“I think it’s a brilliant starter tool and would like to see this rolled out to more services.”

(VAWG)

“Extend this manner of intro training to other areas of complex legislation policy and practice eg Equal Protection. Adult care and protection. ACR.”

(VAWG)