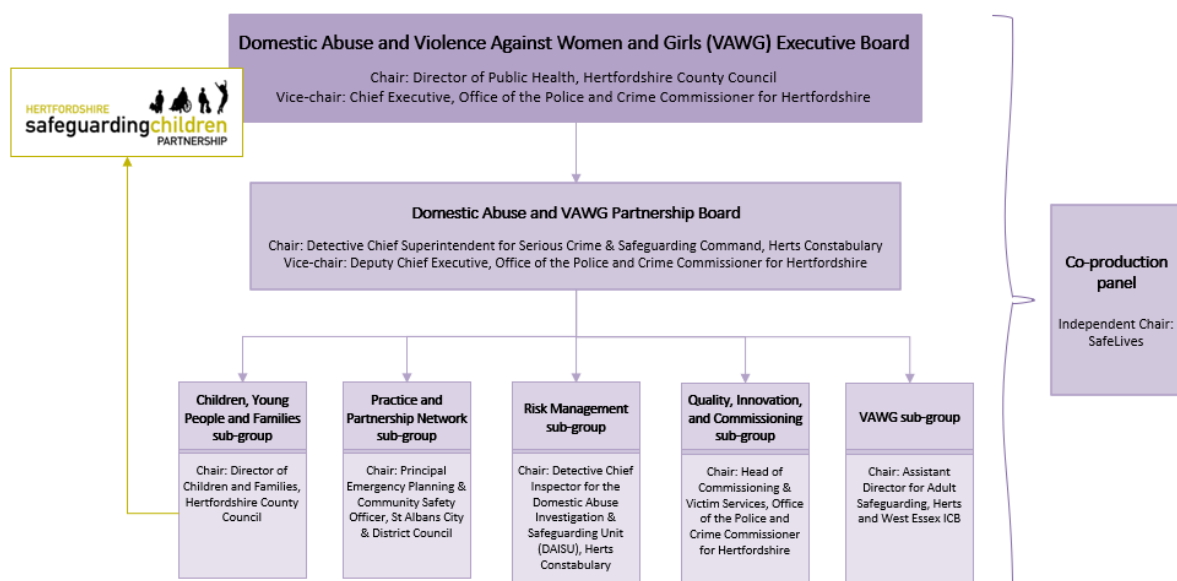


Information about the Domestic Abuse Coproduction Panel and its purpose

As part of Hertfordshire's commitment to survivors of domestic abuse, their Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls Executive and Partnership Boards have committed to setting up and supporting a panel of survivors of domestic abuse who want to improve how it is for other survivors of domestic abuse. The Domestic Abuse Coproduction Panel is part of Hertfordshire's Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Governance Structure:



Who we are

A small and influential group of experts by experience who have been impacted by domestic abuse, used Hertfordshire's (or another borough's) domestic abuse services and are committed to improve the lives of victims and survivors of domestic abuse across Hertfordshire in partnership with Herts County Council. SafeLives has been commissioned by Herts CC to facilitate and support the panel, and the collective.

The panel was established in 2021 and is keen to connect with survivors of DA across Herts so that we use our collective insight gained through our experience of domestic abuse to benefit other survivors.

"This is not a club I chose to be part of but now I'm here, I will do what I can to stop it being as bad for other survivors in the future as it was for me and my family."

"We are here for the survivors after us and for the generations of the future."
DA Coproduction Panel Members

Why?

In alignment with the Government's [Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan 2022](#) and the [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#) (which has given Local Authorities increased impetus to tackle the issue of

domestic abuse at a local level) and [Hertfordshire's Domestic Abuse Partnership Strategy - 2022-25](#) which ‘takes a joined up, local approach to tackling one of the most harmful crimes in society that has far-reaching and long-lasting consequences’, Hertfordshire CC recognises that victims and survivors of domestic abuse are the experts in what they need and has embedded the DA Coproduction Panel as part of their DA and VAWG governance structure.

Our Guiding Values and Principles

We are committed to working within the framework of Hertfordshire’s five coproduction values and the SafeLives six authentic voice principles:



New Panel Members

We are currently keen to select five new members with lived experience of domestic abuse and in our second phase of selection we are keen to hear from people we are not yet hearing from.

For panel membership, we specifically want to select and hear from survivors who are also:

- from the LGBT+ community – including trans and non-binary people and/or
- from a Black, Asian or another minoritised and/or migratised community/global majority (including people with insecure immigration status and people with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)) and/or
- neuro-diverse and/or
- younger (18-25) or older (over 65)

We are keen to welcome in survivors of domestic abuse from diverse backgrounds from across Hertfordshire including

- people with experience of intersectionality
- learning through lived experience, people who can respect value and understand each other’s viewpoints and perspective and strike a balance where this is needed.

We understand and respect the emotional toll and labour involved when people choose to share their voice.

If you’re interested in joining the panel and are from one or more of the 4 groups above, please submit this [Domestic Abuse Coproduction Panel - Expression of Interest Form](#) and we’ll be in touch within a fortnight of receiving your form.

The panel is also keen to connect up with experts by experience/people with lived experience of domestic abuse as part of a broader **DA Coproduction Collective** so if you're interested in linking in with the panel or connecting up with other survivors for change, please express your interest in the DA Coproduction Collective by filling in this [Joining the Collective Form](#) or sending us an email: dacoproductionpanelherts@safelives.org.uk with the subject title Collective, or

We look forward to hearing from you !

