

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

1. Do you have a domestic violence strategy?

Yes. This is the Leicester Inter-Agency Domestic Violence Strategy 2009-2014

- **If so, who holds responsibility for the strategy?**

The strategy sits within the Safer & Stronger Communities Division. The Lead officer is Service Director Ann Habens, with support from the Head of Community Safety and a Domestic Violence Co-ordinator. The Portfolio holder within the mayoral team is Councillor Sarah Russell as domestic violence sits within the Neighbourhoods Portfolio.

- **Please include a copy of the strategy, or a web link, if you have one**

Please see:

<http://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council-services/social-care-health/domestic-violence/strategies-policies-and-campaigns/related-strategies/>

Do you have a functioning domestic violence partnership within the authority?

Yes, the local authority leads on the local domestic violence partnership work through the provision of a domestic violence co-ordinator. There has also been an internal working group to progress council specific actions.

- **If so, who is included in that partnership?**

Police, Probation, NHS, City Council, Voluntary Sector DV Providers, Victim Support, Open Network Members (local firms and individuals interested in reducing domestic violence)

- **Do you work with the local police force to seek referrals about domestic conflict or violent incidents to which police are called – even if this does not result in the bringing of charges or arrest?**

Yes. The local police send notifications in to the duty and assessment desk of the children and young people's service or adults service as necessary following attendance at an incident. Any potential victims are offered support through Victim Support and/or a domestic violence specialist support service. We collate data on all reports of domestic violence made to the police (including non-recordable), to assist our planning. Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), and others, can refer directly into the MARAC with or without the presence of charges or arrest.

2. Do you use a nationally recognised domestic violence risk assessment scale when establishing which services should be provided to families at risk of, or suffering from, domestic violence?

The CAADA DASH tool is used locally by MARAC partners, either directly or via the IDVA service. Police locally use the e-DASH

- **If not, do you use an in-house risk assessment scale?**

Probation use the SARA

3. Do you use a standard definition of domestic violence? If so, please provide us with that definition.

The Partnership definition of domestic violence, used in literature and in the MARAC protocol, is: 'The misuse of power and control based on a range of control mechanisms, which can include physical, sexual, emotional, social or economic abuse of an individual by a partner, ex-partner, carer or one or more family members, in a current or previous relationship.' The Home Office definition is used for the SDVC.

- **Does that definition include:**
 - Intimate partner violence? Yes**
 - Parent-child violence? Yes**
 - Broader family violence? Yes**
 - Sibling violence? Yes**
 - Child-parent violence? Yes**
 - Any other forms of violence? Yes**

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

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FREEPOST (LE985/33)
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e-mail: FOIA@leicester.gov.uk

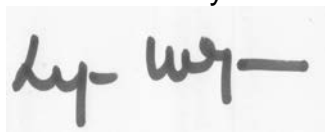
Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

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Wycliffe House
Water Lane
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Telephone: 01625 545 700
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

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Yours sincerely



Lynn Wyeth
Information Governance Manager

