

Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017-2020: Things we think we should do





This leaflet is easier to read.

October 2016







What are we trying to achieve?

• We want to do more to stop people being hurt or frightened by domestic abuse.

What is domestic abuse?

 When your partner, or a member of your family, hurts you or makes you feel scared – this is called domestic abuse.

This could be:

- Hitting or pushing you
- Making you feel scared or threatened
- Forcing you to do sexual things that you not want to do
- Making you take photos that you don't want to take or are not sure about
- Not letting you have your money or stealing from you
- Telling you that you are always wrong or calling you names
- Being forced to marry someone you don't want to marry
- Stopping you from seeing your family and friends









Our new strategy will help:

- People, including children and young people, who are (or have been) hurt by domestic abuse
- People who hurt others
- Children who live with domestic abuse
- Everyone in the community

Why do we need to stop domestic abuse?

- Domestic abuse hurts lots of people in Birmingham. We know that more women than men suffer domestic abuse. But it does happen to men too. Most people know someone who has been hurt by domestic abuse.
- Domestic abuse can happen in all types of relationships, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender relationships.
- It can also really hurt other family members, especially children. In Birmingham, domestic abuse is the reason lots of children need care and protection.
- Some groups of people including Black and Minority Ethnic communities, older people and disabled people find it very difficult to get help.
- Lots of people have asked the Police for help because of domestic abuse but we need to do more for people who are being badly hurt.







- We also need to know more about people who are forced to get married when they don't want to.
- Too many people are still being badly hurt by domestic abuse. We need to make sure that people who have badly hurt others are not able to do it again.

What do we want to do to stop domestic abuse?

Priority 1: Do more to change the way people think about relationships and agree that hurting others is not ok.

- Everybody deserves to be treated equally and with respect. We want to do more to change the way the people think about relationships and for us all to agree that hurting others is not ok.
- This means doing more work with:
 - Children and young people at school
 - People at work
 - Community groups
 - People who find it difficult to get help





Priority 2: Make sure people who are being hurt by domestic abuse get help as soon as possible

- Without help, domestic abuse gets worse. We want people to get help sooner.
- Some people don't know where to go for help. We want there to be more every day places for people to get help.
 This could be at places like hairdressers, libraries, churches and mosques.
- Some people don't know who to talk to for help. We want more people that you trust to be able to help, this could be people like family doctors, dentists, teachers, and firefighters.
- We want all of our services to understand that there are lots of ways domestic abuse can hurt people. The more services understand, the better they can help.
- We want to make sure that people, including children, who have been hurt get the help they need so that they don't feel sad for a long time.





Priority3: Make sure people who have been badly hurt by domestic abuse, including their children, are safe and protected from harm.

- Some people, including children, have been badly hurt and are not still not safe.
 We want lots of different services to help stop the person who is hurting others from doing it again.
- In Birmingham there are lots of services that can help and work together to keep people safe. There are services like the police, housing , hospitals, doctors and social workers.
- There are some services who have special skills to help people who have been badly hurt. They know a lot about how to help.
- There are also safe places to stay. It is important that we have spaces like this so that we can keep people safe.













Tell us what you think

We want to know what you think of our plan to help stop people being hurt or frightened by domestic abuse in Birmingham.

Please return this questionnaire to the address below – you do not need to use a stamp.

Website: www.birminghambeheard.org.uk

Twitter: @healthybrum @bhamcomsafety

Email: preventDA@birmingham.gov.uk

Write to: Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy Consultation Freepost Plus RSYS – HKBC - XBLA PO Box 16465 Birmingham B2 2DG

Please note that you do not need to use a stamp.

Thank you for taking part in our consultation.

The pictures in this leaflet have been provided by CHANGE.