



ABERDEEN VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PARTNERSHIP RISK REGISTER

A Risk Register is a mechanism for describing how you plan to organise the management of risk within a system. This is the operational risk register for the Aberdeen Violence Against Women Partnership (AVAWP) and represents one element of the multi-agency system of managing the risk of gender based violence in Aberdeen. Gender based violence includes but is not limited to domestic abuse, sexual violence and abuse, Female Gender Mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, prostitution and other forms of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

Responsibility for designing, refreshing and monitoring this risk register rests with the AVAWP on behalf of the Aberdeen City Community Justice Group. As part of the monitoring discipline, the AVAWP will consider emerging risks as well as established risks recorded on the register and identify the actions that should be taken to respond to the risk.

Our ultimate vision is to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls in all its forms. However, we recognise that while we strive to achieve this we must embrace equality and mutual respect, ensure women and girls thrive as equal citizens, maximise the safety and wellbeing of women children and young people by ensuring early and effective intervention to prevent violence and finally, ensure men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls.

Our aspirations for women and girls are outlined in the AVAWP Strategy and Action Plan, which complement the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) and governance is through the Aberdeen City Community Planning Partnership.

All risks are identified in relation to their impact on gender based abuse in Aberdeen

Contents

- AVAWP - 001** The risk that a lack of multi-agency self-evaluation means the AVAWP is not assured that all key areas of improvement have been identified.
- AVAWP – 002** The risk that partners do not enable improvement, development and learning to be embedded into practice across the partnership.
- AVAWP – 003** The risk that the voice of the person, including any child, affected by gender based abuse is not being heard and rights are not being respected.
- AVAWP – 004** The risk that agencies comprising the AVAWP do not understand the true extent of gender based abuse due to failure of multi-agency collection, sharing, analysis and use of data.
- AVAWP – 005** The risk that agencies comprising the AVAWP do not have the required workforce capacity and capability to respond to demand and the changing nature of demand.
- AVAWP – 006** The risk that the AVAWP does not effectively consider the impact of Covid-19 on gender based abuse.

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Code	AVAWP - 001	The risk that a lack of multi-agency self-evaluation means the AVAWP is not assured that all key areas of improvement have been identified.																													
Potential Impact	Causes	Control Effectiveness		Current Assessment	Risk																										
		Control	Control Assessment																												
<p>Not addressing all priority areas for improvement could potentially impact on effective multi-agency working and positive outcomes for women and children experiencing or at risk of abuse.</p> <p>An inability to clear evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effective partnership working at all stages; • training and supervision processes in place are sufficient; • clear governance structures; and, • an ethos of integrated and collaborative working 	<p>No formal multi-agency self-evaluation has been undertaken</p> <p>No documented clarity on multi-agency structures</p> <p>Lack of representation of key partners at MARAC & MATAC</p> <p>No evaluation of training with a focus on improving practice</p>	Programme of multi-agency quality assurance as part of an embedded approach to self-evaluation and improvement.	Partially met	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Likelihood</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6">Impact</td> </tr> </table>	Likelihood																					Impact					
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		Formal evaluation of training to ensure maximum impact re delivering best practice that is relevant	Not met																												
		Formal review of attendance of key multi-agency meetings	Not met																												
Evaluation of MARAC to include attendance	Partially met																														
Self-evaluation of the Safe and Together model	Not met																														
Evaluation of MARAC process through MARAC management meetings	Partially met																														
Learning and Development Group established to provide management information and identify gaps and areas for improvement	Partially met																														
Mitigating Actions				Residual risk																											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Lives Review of MARAC • 																															
Risk Owner	AVAWP Chair	Risk Manager	Lead Officer																												
Latest Note																															

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Code	AVAWP - 002	The risk that partners do not enable improvement, development and learning to be embedded into practice across the partnership.			
Potential Impact	Causes	Control Effectiveness		Current Risk Assessment	
		Control	Control Assessment		
<p>Learning opportunities are missed</p> <p>Risk of significant harm is not reduced</p> <p>Ineffective response to current and emerging trends in gender based abuse across services and agencies, putting women and children at risk.</p> <p>Professional expertise is not up-to-date</p>	High levels of staff turnover	Learning and Development Group	Met		
	Absence of a consistent approach to measuring and reporting on required improvements	Development and roll-out of a multi-agency training programme informed by training needs analysis, overseen by the VAWP	Partially Met		
	Lack of support for staff to attend learning and development opportunities	Effective training programme for new staff and refreshing of existing opportunities	Not Met		
	Lack of engagement from the AVAWP with the Training, Learning & Development group	An effective data framework which demonstrates evidence of measuring and reporting on required improvements	Not Met		
Mitigating Actions				Residual risk	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a Training, Learning & Development Group (pan Grampian) Data and Quality Assurance sub-group formed Crossover with CP, ASP & GIRFEC training 					
Risk Owner	AVAWP Chair	Risk Manager	Lead Officer		
Latest Note					

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Code	AVAWP - 003	The risk that the voice of the person, including any child, affected by gender based abuse is not being heard and rights are not being respected.																																		
Potential Impact	Causes	Control Effectiveness		Current Risk Assessment																																
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Interventions and supports are ineffective	Historic approach to VAWG	Quality assurance of multi-agency processes	Partially met	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Likelihood</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Orange</td> <td>Orange</td> <td>Red</td> <td>Red</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Orange</td> <td>Orange</td> <td>Red</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Green</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Orange</td> <td>Orange</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Green</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>X</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Orange</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Green</td> <td>Green</td> <td>Green</td> <td>Yellow</td> <td>Yellow</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6">Impact</td> </tr> </table>	Likelihood	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Green	Yellow	X	Yellow	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Impact					
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Missed opportunities to identify risk of significant harm	Challenges of workforce capacity	Supported engagement opportunities exist for those affected by VAWG	Partially met																																	
Missed opportunities to improve multi-agency practice	Absence of robust professional challenge and curiosity	Programme of quality assurance activity to measure embedding advocacy and participatory approaches with women, children and young people	Not met																																	
Those affected reluctant to engage with professionals	Ineffective early intervention	Active engagement in CP and ASP processes and strategic meetings	Fully met																																	
Failure to deliver on LOIP																																				
Lack of confident in GBA process																																				
Mitigating Actions				Residual risk																																
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole Lives project • TEC Pathfinder project • Advocacy service with VAW services 																																				
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Code & Definition	AVAWP - 004	The risk that agencies comprising the AVAWP do not understand the true extent of gender based abuse due to failure of multi-agency collection, sharing, analysis and use of data.			
Potential Impact	Causes	Control Effectiveness		Current Risk Assessment	
		Control	Control Assessment		
Continued gender based violence AVAWP resources not targeted Inability to identify trends, gaps and areas of poor performance Lack of strategic planning Limitations in the ability to analyse and understand data	Data collection is not consistent	Develop multi-agency data set, linked to strategic objectives	Partially met	Likelihood Impact	
	Silo thinking	SOLACE data set utilised to establish demand	Partially met		
	Unsuitable or non-meaningful data collected which does not permit effective monitoring	Performance monitoring a standing item on the AVAWP agenda	Not met		
	Lack of understanding around data sharing protocols between all partner agencies	Actively engage and contribute to Aberdeen Together	Fully met		
	Lack of analytical capacity and capability	Data Subgroup formed	Fully Met		
	Information not being shared				
Absence of effective performance framework					
Mitigating Actions				Residual risk	
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Risk Owner	AVAWP Chair	Risk Manager	Lead Officer		
Latest Note					

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Code	AVAWP - 005	The risk that agencies comprising the AVAWP do not have the required workforce capacity and capability to respond to demand and the changing nature of demand.																																		
Potential Impact	Causes	Control Effectiveness		Current Risk Assessment																																
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<p>Ineffective response to current and emerging gender based violence issues across agencies and services resulting in continued gender based violence</p> <p>Demand on services increases the culture of reactive rather than proactive activity giving limited time to progress actions and eradicate gender based violence</p> <p>Demand on services results in limited time and opportunity for training and supervision</p> <p>Lack of mutual understanding of partners roles and responsibilities impact on effective multi-agency working to deal with gender based violence</p> <p>Staff unable to attend / provide training and / or learning events.</p>	<p>Failure to respond to changing types of demand</p> <p>Insufficient Third Sector capacity to manage increased demand</p> <p>Insufficient statutory authority capacity and focus on gender based abuse priority</p> <p>Lack of multi-training</p> <p>Lack of prevention focused agenda</p>	Mapping of services	Partially met	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Likelihood</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>X</td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6">Impact</td> </tr> </table>	Likelihood				X																						Impact					
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		Data set to establish whole service demand and service gaps	Partially met																																	
Escalation of needs and demands to respective single agency strategic leads	Partially met																																			
Multi-agency awareness raising and training	Partially met																																			
Links to APC, CPC and ADP through leadership group to highlight cross-overs and shared demand	Fully met																																			
AVAWP Co-ordinator Appointed	Fully Met																																			
AVAWP Strategy and Action Plan approved	Fully met																																			
Mitigating Actions				Residual risk																																
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Code	AVAWP - 006	Risk that policy and practice are compromised as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (plus longer term effects)																																			
Potential Impact		Causes	Control Effectiveness		Current Risk Assessment																																
<p>Increased gender based abuse due unintended consequences of Covid-19 restrictions</p> <p>Risks 1-5 are all adversely impacted with elevated risks</p>		<p>Increased perpetrator access</p> <p>Increased financial dependency</p> <p>Lack of societal & professional access due to restrictions</p> <p>Regular safety mechanisms & support may not be available</p> <p>Increased demand & changing working practices for services increases barriers to support & emergency housing.</p> <p>Increased risk taking behaviours by many women, children & young people, due to isolation, desperation, financial distress & mental health issues, in physical and cyber environments.</p> <p>Early release of perpetrators from prison</p> <p>Perpetrators using restrictions to justify behaviour & avoid challenge</p> <p>Perpetrator programmatic work being hindered</p>	<p>Control</p> <p>COVID-19 is standing item on AVAWP agenda</p> <p>Regular reports to CJ Group, COG and Public Protection Committee</p> <p>Awareness raising through media</p> <p>Multi-agency collaboration through existing relationships</p> <p>Continued development of new tech-led ways of working towards a blended approach of support</p> <p>LA Housing are core members of the AVAWP</p> <p>Appointment of AVAWP Co-ordinator</p>	<p>Control Assessment</p> <p>Fully Met</p> <p>Partially met</p> <p>Partially met</p> <p>Partially met</p> <p>Fully Met</p> <p>Fully Met</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="5" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Likelihood</td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> <td style="background-color: red;"> </td> <td style="background-color: red;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> <td style="background-color: red;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: green;"> </td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: green;"> </td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> <td style="background-color: orange;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: green;"> </td> <td style="background-color: green;"> </td> <td style="background-color: green;"> </td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> <td style="background-color: yellow;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6" style="text-align: center;">Impact</td> </tr> </table>	Likelihood																										Impact					
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Government / COSLA Coronavirus Supplementary National Violence Against Women Guidance response Multi-Agency management of prison early release program, which is now concluded 																																					

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Risk Owner	AVAWP Chair	Risk Manager	Lead Officer
Latest Note			

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