

## **Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Strategy 2025-2028**

This strategy sets out our commitment to creating a Sussex free from domestic abuse, where every individual is safe and supported.

We would like to thank all our partners and stakeholders for their invaluable contributions to this strategy.

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, you are not alone. Help and support is available countywide, and local service details can be found [here](#).

Alternatively, you can contact the freephone 24-hour National Domestic Violence Helpline run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge on 0808 2000 247 or the Men's' Advice Line on 0808 801 0327.

If you are concerned about your use of abusive behaviour the Respect helpline is available on 0808 8024040.

If you are in immediate danger, please do not be afraid to call 999. Sussex Police can be contacted on the non-emergency telephone number 101, or you can visit your local police station to speak with an officer.

If you can't speak out loud, you can press 55 so that the operator knows you need help. You can also video call 999 to communicate in BSL for free by visiting the 999 BSL website or downloading the app.

### **Executive Summary**

This document outlines our vision, strategic objectives, workstreams, governance, and metrics for evaluation, aiming to establish a coordinated and effective response to domestic abuse across Sussex. Domestic abuse is a complex and pervasive issue that requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach. This strategy represents our collective efforts to address and eliminate domestic abuse in Sussex.

### **Our Vision:**

We will deliver a comprehensive response to domestic abuse, with survivors at the heart of all we do. We will strive to make Sussex a safe place for everyone, no matter who you are. Survivors and their children will receive the support they need, when they need it. Our services reflect and understand the needs of our diverse communities, and respond in ways that are person-centred, trauma-informed, and needs-led. We will ensure that nobody in Sussex is left behind.

### **Our Strategy**

Our strategy is built around the following pillars:

- **Early Intervention**
- **Support for Everyone**
- **Recovery**



## Strategic Objectives and Priority Actions

### Objective 1: Early Intervention

- Increase awareness of domestic abuse and support available
- Education and awareness raising with professionals
- Delivery of specialist training
- Preventing escalation of abusive behaviours
- Promotion and increase of 'Clare's law' applications and disclosures

### Objective 2: Support for Everyone

- Reducing barriers to accessing support
- Reducing risk
- Supporting children and young people
- Experience of justice
- Housing
- Strengthening services

### Objective 3: Recovery

- Recognise and provide services that address the impact on mental health
- Promote connections for survivors to support them to process trauma
- Strengthening and Supporting Families
- Supporting survivors to achieve economic independence
- Valuing the voices of lived experience

### To foster a coordinated multi-agency approach

We will strive to strengthen, and continue developing a coordinated multi agency approach, through the Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Partnership Board, and local delivery boards. We will:

- Hold regular Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Partners representatives from all relevant agencies.
- Establish a centralised database for sharing information and tracking cases.

### Our Governance

The Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Partnership Board and the associated governance structure supporting the function of the board, brings together subject matter experts and stakeholders, who work in partnership to strengthen responses across Sussex. The Voices of Lived experience board works in close partnership with the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board Manager, ensuring that survivor voice and experiences are central to the work.

### Our success will be measured through:

- Reduction in the number of repeat domestic abuse incidents reported.



- Increase in early intervention measures being delivered
- Increase in the number of Survivors accessing support services.
- Improved satisfaction rates among service users.
- Increased awareness and understanding of domestic abuse within the community.
- The behaviour of perpetrators being addressed through criminal justice and rehabilitation measures.