

## **Chelmsford and Maldon Domestic Violence Forum (DVF)**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of Chelmsford and Maldon Domestic Violence Forum is to work in partnership to successfully carry out projects around reducing repeat incidents of domestic violence. The Forum will also address the wellbeing of children living in families where domestic violence occurs.

### **Membership**

The membership is flexible and may be increased to help with the delivery of relevant projects. Both Responsible Authorities Groups (RAGs) will consider annually whether the membership of the group is adequate to tackle relevant priorities.

The following organisations and agencies are currently represented:

- Women's Refuge
- Victim Support
- Essex Police
- Voluntary Organisations (e.g. Relate)
- NHS Mid Essex
- Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse
- Chelmsford Borough Council
- Essex County Council
- Maldon District Council
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
- Registered Social Landlords

### **Strategic aims**

The main aims of the Chelmsford and Maldon DVF are to:

- Engage with victims and local communities to increase awareness of the issues around domestic violence
- Increase take up of available services
- Increase reporting of incidents of domestic violence, especially in the rural areas
- Reduce repeat incidents of domestic violence
- To respond to relevant national and local government initiatives
- To seek and implement best practice from other areas

In particular, the Group will:

1. Produce a detailed yearly Action Plan that will be communicated to and agreed by both RAGs.
2. Carry out activities identified within the Action Plan to deliver sustainable solutions for tackling domestic violence.
3. Monitor and evaluate the actions and report back at each meeting.
4. Submit bids for funding to both RAGs on the basis of the Action Plan.
5. Seek relevant external funding.

6. Actively promote information sharing amongst all the members.
7. Engage with local community.
8. Inform and support the development of the Safer Chelmsford Communication Plan.

**Frequency of Meetings**

The Chelmsford and Maldon DVF will meet quarterly.