



2009-2010
Positive engagement of older people
2009-2010
Preventing and tackling child poverty
2003-2009
Winner of 7 previous
Beacon Awards



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Health Scrutiny – Domestic Violence Deep Dive



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Violence Against Women & Girls, Domestic Abuse &
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2008 - 2009
Reducing Re-offending
2003 - 2008
Winner of 6 previous
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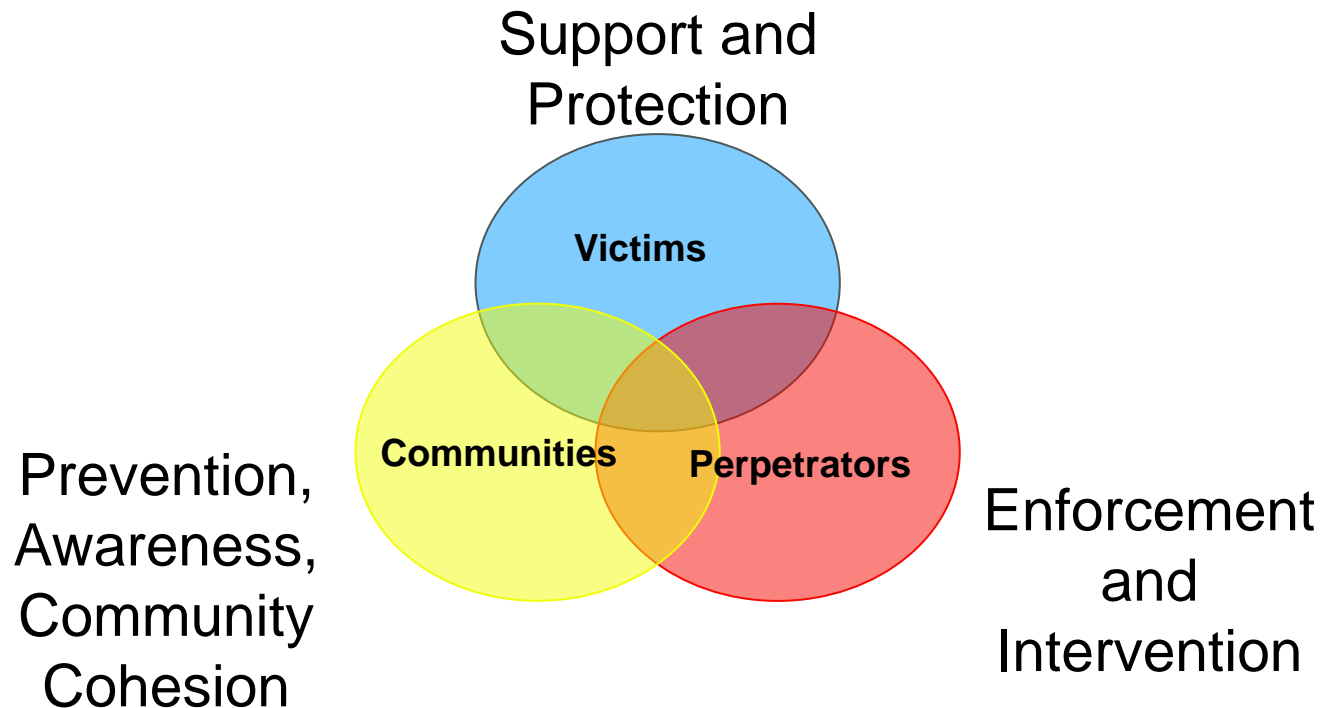
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Issues of interest to Health Scrutiny

1. To review the provision in place to identify and manage residents at risk of domestic violence (DV).
2. Develop an understanding of DV reporting levels and how the Council supports this
3. To review “turn away” rates in Tower Hamlets and develop recommendations to improve access to refuge services
4. To understand the impact universal credit has had on DV and the Council’s response to this
5. Review the provision of DV services for residents with no recourse to public funds

1) DV provision to identify and manage residents at risk of DV



1) Domestic Violence Provisions

Violence Against Women & Girls Strategy 2016-2019:-

Victims/Support

- Multi-agency Risk Assessment Centre
- One Stop Shop
- Projects
- Refuges and women's hostel
- Independent DV Advocates (IDVAs)

Perpetrators

- Specialist DV Court
- Police co-location
- Stop and Think Programme
- Positive Change Programme



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Domestic Violence Provisions

Community/Education

- Campaigns
- Training/outreach
- School based work
- Self Defence Programme
- Operation Encompass



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Identification & Risk Management

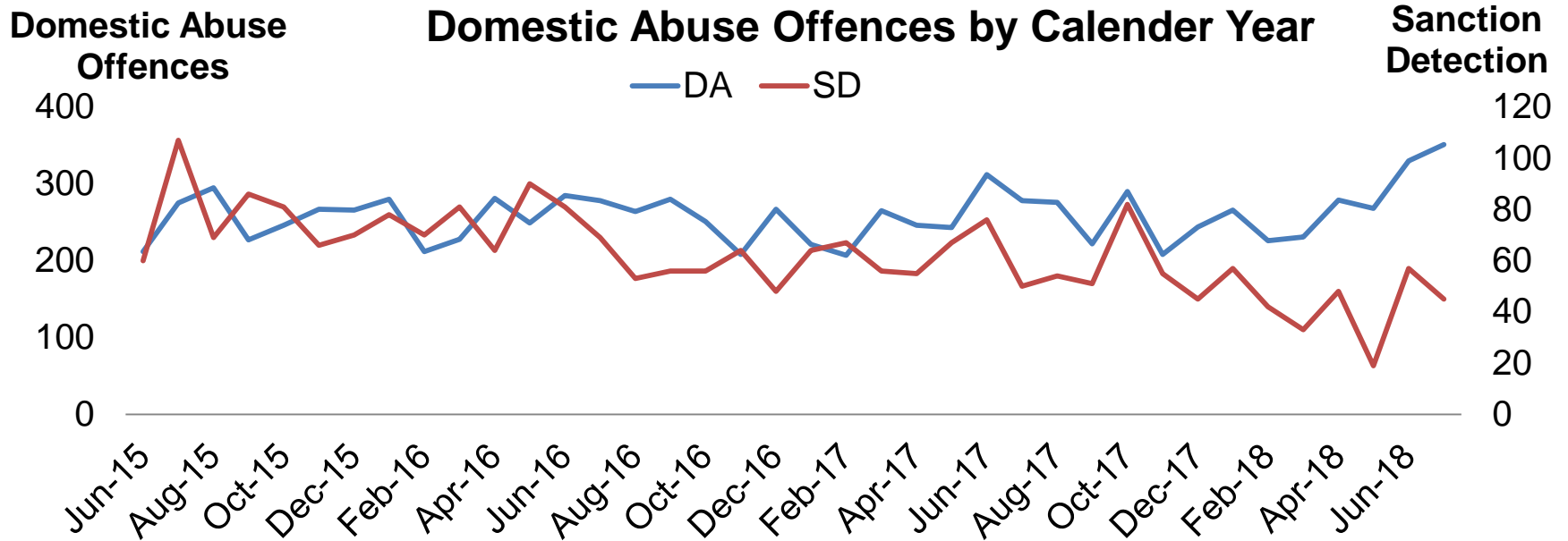
- Early intervention work
- Awareness campaigns
- Risk assessment forms
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
- Sanctuary Scheme
- Legal orders
- Safeguarding training/alerts

2) DV reporting levels and how the Council supports this

Financial Year	Total DA Offences	Total DA Incidents
FY 2016-17	3,056	6,467
FY 2017-18	3,042	5,861
FY 2018-19 (Apr-Jul)	1,228	2,140

- Multiple reporting options
- Campaign/outreach
- Data analysis
- 5th highest levels
- 11th for sanction detection rates
- Victims
- Perpetrators

Trends



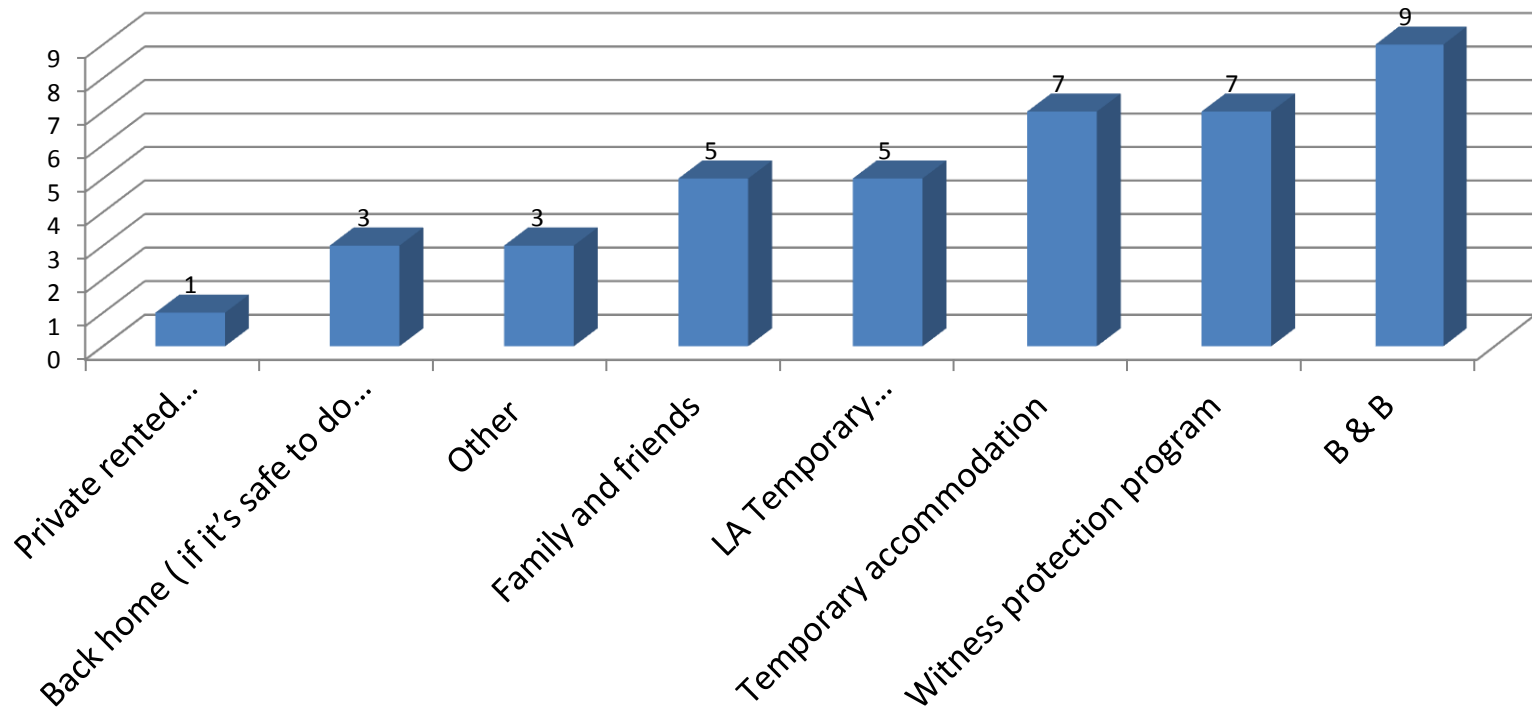
3) “Turn-away” rates in Tower Hamlets

- Priority – reduce homelessness
- Non refuge options available
- Number of refuge bed space increased by 17% to 34 bed units in 2008
- New contract awarded April 2018 for up to 5 years
- Majority of users are from outside of Tower Hamlets due to safeguarding
- In 2017-2018, 100 referrals were made to DV Refuge of which 68 were accepted.
- 32 were not assisted for the reasons below

Reasons not assisted	Number of people
Agency / Client refused offer of space	17
Does not meet eligibility criteria	1
No vacancy	8
Service refusal - NRFP	2
Service refusal - unsafe to access	3
Service refusal - other	1

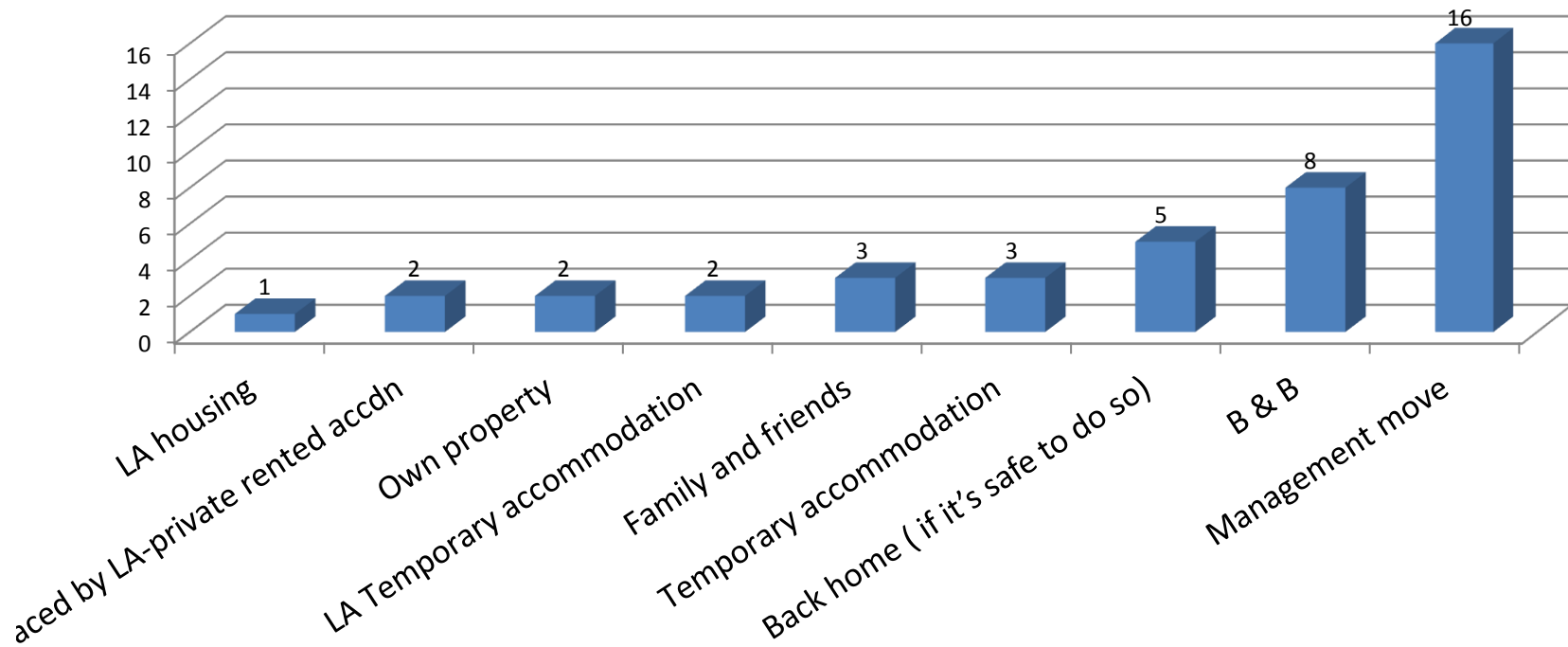
Generic Refuge

2017-18 move-on destination



Asian Women's refuge

2017-18 move-on destination



Homeless Service Turn away Rate

- 2017-2018, 106 applications
- 63% turn away rate
- Reasons for turn away could be:-
 - referred to refuge
 - did not show up
 - not homeless
 - not eligible

Work in progress:

- Improved data collation
- Staff training
- DV & housing co-location
- Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Accreditation

4) Impact of universal credit on DV victims

National concerns:

- Single payment to household replacing separate individual benefit payments to both partners
- Single interview process – less opportunity to disclose DV
- Delays in payment for new claims leaving household with no funds for several weeks if not longer
- Wider support for vulnerable households is very prescriptive and primarily linked to digital and debt support
- National concerns - impact on DV victims and children



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Council's response to UC impact

- CPAG research on UC and impact on children
- Resident support outreach team who will assist residents in claiming UC and commission specialist services to support people as need is identified
- Crisis and support scheme- cash payments, goods and services such as furniture and gas/electricity top ups
- Discretionary housing payments
- Tackling poverty small grants fund- for voluntary and community sector partners to deliver innovation
- Section 13A council tax support for those in hardship



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5) DV Provision for residents with no recourse to public funds (NRPF)

- 13.3% NRPF victims
- Access to DV provisions
- £4,500 Assistance Budget
- BAME refuge - 1 bed space
- ELHP - 1 bed space
- Children's Social Care can house parent/children
- National Destitute Domestic Violence Concession
- Professionals training