



## Checklist for health boards to implement violence against women, domestic abuse & sexual violence (VAWDASV) activities & adoption of NICE guidelines

Ensure that all health services within your health board region comply with the following minimum standards set by NICE in their guidelines for Domestic Violence and Abuse, which can also be applied to wider VAWDASV:<sup>1</sup>

- Identify, prevent and reduce domestic violence and abuse
  - Plan Services
  - Work In Partnership to prevent violence and abuse
  - Develop an integrated commissioning strategy
  - Commission and evaluate programmes for perpetrators
  - Establish integrated care pathways and information sharing protocols
  - Remove obstacles to people disclosing domestic violence and abuse
  - Identify, and where necessary, refer children and young people
  - Provide children and young people at risk with specialist support
  - Ask about domestic violence and ensure formal referral pathways are in place
  - Provide tailored support and advocacy
  - Support People with mental health conditions
  
- Training
  - Health and social care staff
  - Training and referral pathway for GP practices and other agencies

### Putting the recommendations and legislation into practice

- Every health service has a private space to enable discussion with those who present with indicators of possible domestic abuse;
- All staff are trained to recognise indicators and be confident in asking possible victims if they are experiencing domestic abuse;
- Those identified to be experiencing domestic abuse are given a consistent response from trained individuals;
- Safety is prioritised by trained staff;
- Staff are aware of local specialist agency support available, inclusive of perpetrator support and aware of the referral process;
- Access to up-to-date leaflets of specialist services are available in every service department and are refreshed/replenished and are not just tokenistic;

<sup>1</sup> <https://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/domestic-violence-and-abuse#path=view%3A/pathways/domestic-violence-and-abuse/domestic-violence-and-abuse-overview.xml&content=view-index>



- Ensure that commissioning strategies and plans are informed by the needs of VAWDASV victims;
- Adopt a multi-agency approach to planning and implementing services;
- Consider innovative models of delivering the NICE standards and meeting legislative responsibilities under the Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015; Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:
  - Commissioning health based specialist support staff to be based within health departments
  - Enabling links to specialist educators within the community to train and support health based staff to respond to VAWDASV
- Engage with the National Training Framework to comply 'Ask and Act' requirement of the Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015