



Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Commissioning Toolkit for Health Boards – Introduction

Aim of toolkit / what the toolkit covers

This toolkit aims to enable and support commissioning within public health boards that meets the needs of survivors of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV), recognises the importance of VAWDASV specialist services, and understands the context and impact of VAWDASV more widely.

It also outlines public health boards' legal and organisational requirements with regards to VAWDASV and attempts to support them to meet these requirements by providing examples of promising practice that could give inspiration to planning and commissioning similarly designed services.

How to use this toolkit

Health boards can use this toolkit to inform their commissioning plans, by way of reference to ensure they are commissioning the best quality services to survivors of VAWDASV.

This toolkit can also be used to assist health boards to reflect on their own services and to seek opportunities to embed high quality provision to VAWDASV survivors within their daily practice.

The toolkit includes a range of briefings, focusing on specific topics, that are digestible to the audience as well as being informative and evidence based, which will aid strategic planning and commissioning frameworks.

A note about language: we prefer the more positive and empowering term 'survivor', which is used in this toolkit in place of the term 'victim'.

The toolkit includes:

- Checklist for health boards to implement VAWDASV activities and adoption of NICE guidelines specific to VAWDASV;
- WWA briefing paper -
- WWA briefing paper - The benefits of collocating specialist services within health services, showcasing examples of good practice currently operating in Wales;
- Copy of NICE Guidelines for Quality Standard 116 'Domestic Violence and Abuse';
- Infographic of Women's Aid Change that Lasts model cost benefit of early intervention;
- WWA Briefing paper – Coercive Control and Mental Health.

About Welsh Women's Aid

Welsh Women's Aid is the umbrella membership organisation for VAWDASV specialist services in Wales, which supports and provides national representation for 23 independent third sector VAWDASV specialist services. These specialist services deliver life-saving and life-changing support and preventative work as part of a network of UK provision. The primary purpose of Welsh Women's Aid is to prevent domestic abuse and all forms of violence against women and ensure high quality services for survivors that are trauma informed, needs-led, gender responsive and holistic.



Our Change that Lasts model is a strengths-based, needs led approach to tackling VAWDASV to try and intervene at an earlier stage in the cycle of abuse. This model is cross-sector, calling for a more integrated approach from agencies that are able to respond. Further information on this and how it can reduce the costs to public services can be found [here](#).¹

For more information about this toolkit or any of the information contained, please contact:

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Or visit www.welshomensaid.org.uk

¹ <http://www.welshomensaid.org.uk/what-we-do/our-approach-change-that-lasts/>