

## 1. What's happened:

A Multi-agency Case File Audit took place in March 2023 looking at perpetrators of domestic abuse and multi-agency working to identify support needs and risks to the victim. Three adults known to Probation services were chosen at random to have the involvement from agencies audited. All three individuals had been assessed by Probation as posing a High risk of harm to others, Restraining Orders were in place and all three were known to have breached the Orders in place.

The Audit was attended by Probation, West Mercia Police, Children's social care, Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust, Shropshire Community Health Trust, We Are With You and Shropshire Council Housing Options.

## 7. Voices of those involved.

- When working with an individual, remember to gather the views, wishes and feelings of the person you are working with!
- Make sure that their voice is clearly recorded within your agency case records!
- Make sure that you are ensuring that they are involved within decision making and informed about decisions and actions being taken.

**The Audit has also identified the importance of ensuring that appropriate support and liaison is in place for the victim of domestic abuse incidents. Ensure that their voice is heard to!**

- The views and voice of the victim to be sought to inform interventions and assessments.
- This is imperative when assessing risk
- There should be regard to the impact on the victim of licence conditions and exclusion zones.

## 2. Learning – Be Curious!

When working with an individual be professionally curious and ask questions! Ask more, use proactive questioning and explore with the person. Don't make assumptions! Don't take things at face value and ask 'why'?

[Professional curiosity guidance](#)

Being curious means we have better quality information to pull together and have a full picture, in doing this we are less likely to miss something important.

## 3. Who is involved?

- When you have contact with an individual, consider and ask which other agencies are involved. What do I need to share with them? What can I share with them? Do I need permission to share? What information might they hold?
- Remember the importance of information sharing with those involved – especially the GP' – they hold vital information about the individual and can have the missing piece of info you need.
- Remember to TRIANGULATE the information you have – is what your being told backed up by other information.

## 4. Multi-agency working

**The audit highlighted the importance of multi-agency working and information sharing and the positive impact this has on outcomes.**

Multi agency meetings should be arranged in a timely way to ensure that information is shared, risks are identified and support plans are implemented as early as possible



## 6. Duty to Refer

The audit identified the importance of timely referrals under 'Duty to refer' and the positive impact this can have on outcomes.

Ensure that you are aware of the Duty to Refer to prevent homelessness upon release from Prison. This should be completed in a timely way to ensure support can be implemented.

Further guidance on the Duty to refer can be found here: [Guidance on the Duty to Refer](#)

## 5. Consider the history

When assessing risk, consider the history!

Don't view incidents in isolation

Consider the history and chronology of events to inform decision making and risk assessment.

**Multi-agency Case File Audit  
Preventing Offending and Domestic Abuse  
Strategic Priority Groups – March 2023**