
Overview

This standard is about your ability to identify and prioritise requirements for services and related activities towards addressing domestic violence and abuse. It includes identifying associated opportunities for enhancing your organisation's provision within your community.

It also covers evaluating the opportunities and potential benefits of services and provision, based upon realistic reviews of the needs of the community.

This standard is for practitioners who support those experiencing domestic abuse, which may include instances of sexual violence and abuse in a domestic violence context.

It is recognised that abuse can occur without physical violence, yet can be equally damaging to those affected. Throughout this standard, where the term 'abuse' is used it is taken to include instances also involving physical violence.

Domestic abuse is frequently perceived as a gendered crime perpetrated by men against women; however this standard is intended for practitioners who support those experiencing domestic violence within any intimate or family relationship, regardless of their social background, age, gender, religion, sexuality or ethnicity.

For the purposes of this standard, 'community' may refer to areas of practice, constituencies, geographical areas, service users or different groups of victims and survivors.

In some organisations, the terms 'victim' and 'survivor' may be used individually or interchangeably.

**Performance
criteria**

- You must be able to:
- P1 identify services for addressing domestic violence and abuse which meet the needs of your community
 - P2 evaluate trends and developments of services which address domestic violence and abuse
 - P3 identify the level and nature of service provision available which meets your community's needs including:
 - P3.1 services provided by your organisation
 - P3.2 strengths and weaknesses of provision offered by your organisation
 - P4 identify opportunities and constraints for service provision requirements which meet your communities needs
 - P5 identify any gaps in available information which informs analysis of service provision in your community
 - P6 assess potential risk of information gaps for conclusions that may be drawn
 - P7 address information gaps identified which impact on evaluating requirements for service provision in your community
 - P8 draw conclusions for domestic violence and abuse service requirements based on available information and which meet the needs of your community
 - P9 evaluate and share your findings with relevant agencies and stakeholders in line with organisational requirements
 - P10 evaluate your organisation's services and related activities against the needs of those affected by domestic violence and abuse, taking into account:
 - P10.1 the likely demand of services and related activities
 - P10.2 the requirements of resources
 - P10.3 factors influencing take up of services and related activities
 - P11 provide recommendations for priority actions which meet your community's needs
 - P12 present information and arguments to others in line with organisational requirements, including:
 - P12.1 priority actions
 - P12.2 assumptions made
 - P12.3 risks involved

Knowledge and understanding

Legislative, regulatory and organisational requirements

You need to know and understand:

- K1 legal and organisational requirements impacting upon the provision of services to victims and survivors of domestic violence and abuse and their impact for your area of operations
- K2 relevant legislation applicable to your area of work
- K3 relevant others you may need to work with including:
 - K3.1 agencies and organisations
 - K3.2 colleagues
 - K3.3 community representatives
 - K3.4 service users
 - K3.5 stakeholders
 - K3.6 victims and survivors
- K4 your organisation's role, remit and services for addressing domestic violence and abuse

Key, general requirements for addressing domestic violence and abuse

You need to know and understand:

- K5 what constitutes domestic violence and abuse, and its prevalence in your local community
- K6 signs of abuse and the methods used by abusers to gain power and control
- K7 the impact of abuse upon all of those affected by it, including victims, survivors and children and
- K8 types of information and support sought by those affected by domestic and sexual violence and abuse
- K9 sources of information and support available to those affected by domestic and sexual violence and abuse

Requirements particular to evaluating and prioritising requirements

You need to know and understand:

- K10 relevant national and local initiatives and their impact for developing services towards addressing domestic violence and abuse
- K11 the importance of exploring and identifying trends and developments affecting

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- the demand for services towards addressing domestic violence and abuse within your community, including that relating to 'hard to reach' groups
- K12 methods for exploring and identifying trends and developments for the demand of services towards addressing domestic violence and abuse in your community
- K13 methods of obtaining feedback from relevant agencies and stakeholders, and the relative advantages and disadvantages of different methods
- K14 issues that might be relevant to establishing the requirements for service provision in your community
- K15 the correlation of indicators of domestic violence and abuse with other streams of addressing violent crimes
- K16 how to evaluate, prioritise and present opportunities for services addressing domestic violence and abuse
- K17 the importance of making a financial assessment of the resources associated with progressing opportunities identified and how to do this
- K18 services provided within your community which address domestic and sexual violence and abuse
- K19 the roles and responsibilities of external agencies and stakeholders involved in addressing domestic and sexual violence and abuse in your community
- K20 methods of involving external agencies and stakeholders
- K21 the importance of long and medium-term planning to the success of an organisation

Developed by	Skills for Justice
Version number	2
Date approved	December 2013
Indicative review date	December 2018
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Justice
Original URN	SFJ BG102
Relevant occupations	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA); Crisis Worker; Refuge Worker
Suite	Preventing and addressing domestic violence and abuse
Key words	victim; survivor; sexual; address; evaluate; trends; developments; prioritise; provision; services; community; requirements;