

# Domestic Abuse Act Needs Assessment

2021

# Contents

- [Context](#)
- [Key Findings](#)
- [Recommendations](#)
- [Outcomes](#)
- [Southend Demographics & Domestic Abuse Incidents](#)
- [Victim Demographics](#)
- [Housing and Refuge](#)
- [Funding](#)
- [Survivors](#)
- [Perpetrators](#)
- [References](#)

# Context

In 2021 Domestic Abuse Act was passed to 'support all victims of Domestic Abuse' The Act aims to ensure that victims have the confidence to come forward and report their experiences, safe in the knowledge that the state will do everything it can, both to support them and their children and pursue the abuser.

Local Authorities are undertaking a local needs assessment, to assess, or make arrangements for the assessment of, the need for domestic abuse support in Southend for all victims (and their children) who reside in relevant safe accommodation, including those who come from outside of their area.

This needs assessment will help determine the met needs and unmet needs of our area, providing evidence for strategic planning.



## KEY QUESTIONS

1. In Southend, can we meet the new statutory duties of the DA Act?
2. Do we have the right safe accommodation for our residents? And the support to go alongside it?
3. Where are we meeting the needs? What are our gaps?

# Key Findings

- The highest level of domestic abuse in Southend occurs in the most deprived areas
- In 2020 there were 2933 reported domestic abuse incidents where a child was in the household
- Within Southend there appears to be no coordinated approach to joint commissioning of domestic abuse services
- Older age groups of victims, CYP, LGBTQ+ and Males are underrepresented in the data collected
- Within Southend there appears to be a lack of data to support and identify the levels of housing and support required

# Key Findings

- There appear to be gaps in commissioning specifically housing, information and advice, advocacy services within children's and adult services required by the new Domestic Abuse Act
- The new Domestic Abuse Act will impact on the ability on service providers to access grants due to the change in statutory responsibilities of councils
- Inflationary increases are not always written into current contracts, and this will need to be addressed going forward
- There are a low number of perpetrators being referred to the Change Hub due to strict criteria (on bail or court pending at time of MARAT, plus victim must agree to perpetrator being offered). There are a low numbers completing the intervention

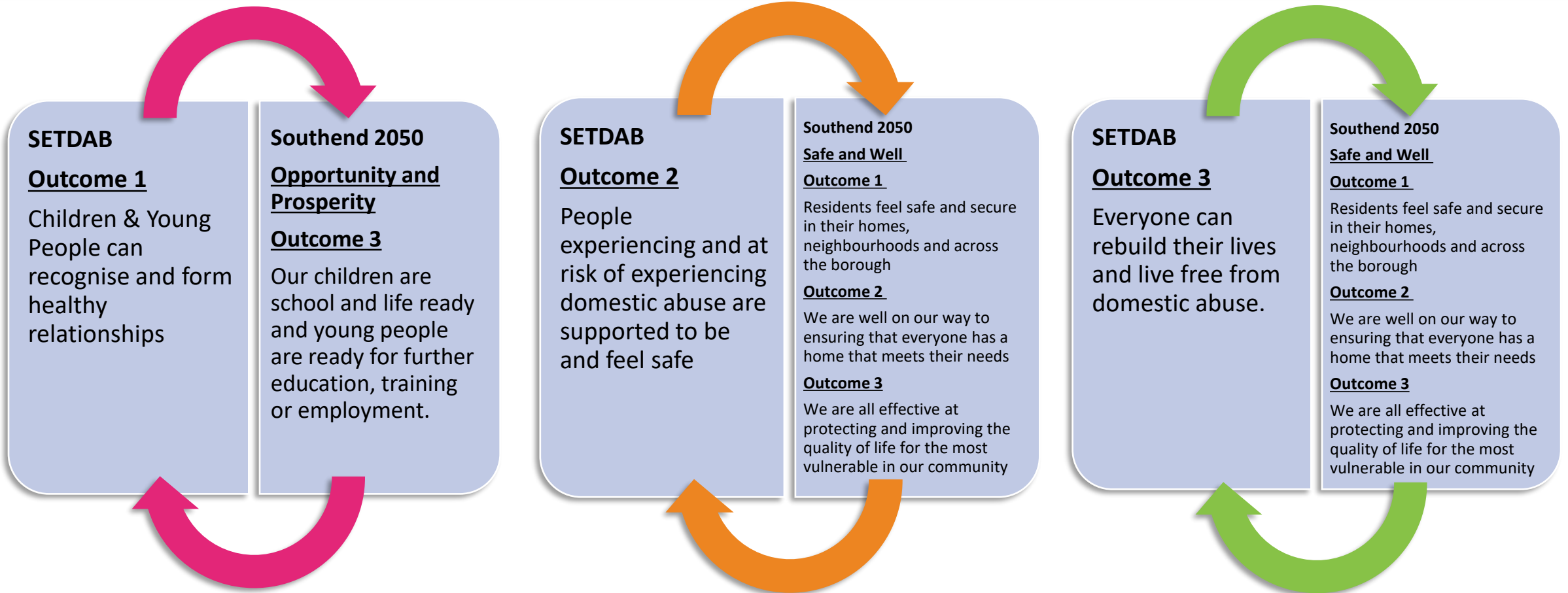
# Recommendations

1. Southend Councils and partners to improve the recording across all services of protected characteristics, particularly ethnicity to ensure all needs are identified.
2. Southend Council and partners to map services provided to targeted groups for CYP, Older People, LGBTQ+ and males
3. Southend Council and partners to review current pathways and support packages to ensure individual planning of those experiencing domestic abuse and undertake more detailed work to understand what is needed across all housing, support and care pathways
4. Southend Council in consultation and collaboration with partners will need to undertake an audit to identify the precise gaps and identify the funding, commissioning and procurement activity that will need to take place.
5. Southend Council and partners to consider patterns of perpetrators behaviours in order to know what services to commission.
6. Ensuring clear operational and strategic accountability within the organisation moving forward

# Outcomes

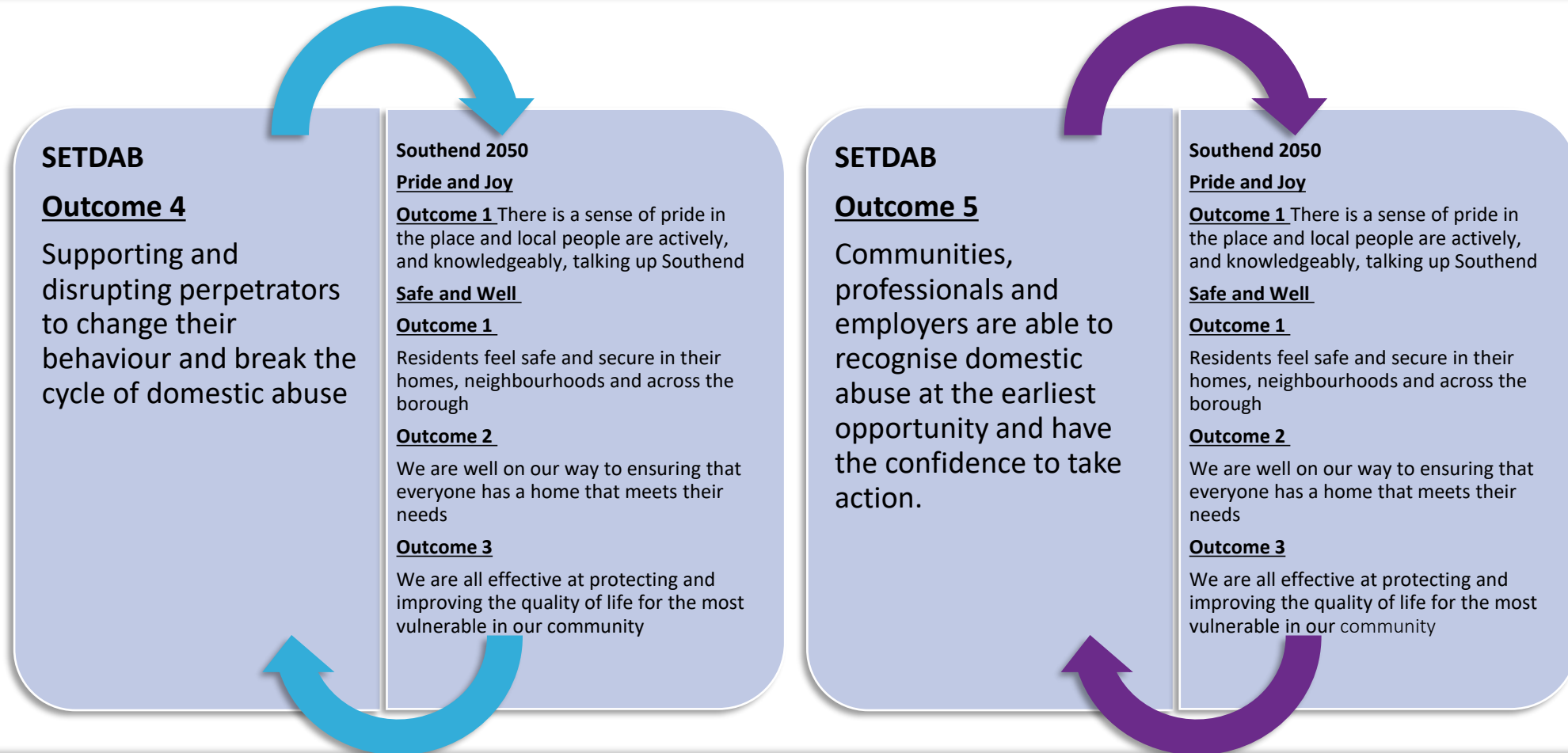
Southend 2050 Themes and Outcomes & SETDAB 2020 -2025 Priorities

# Outcomes



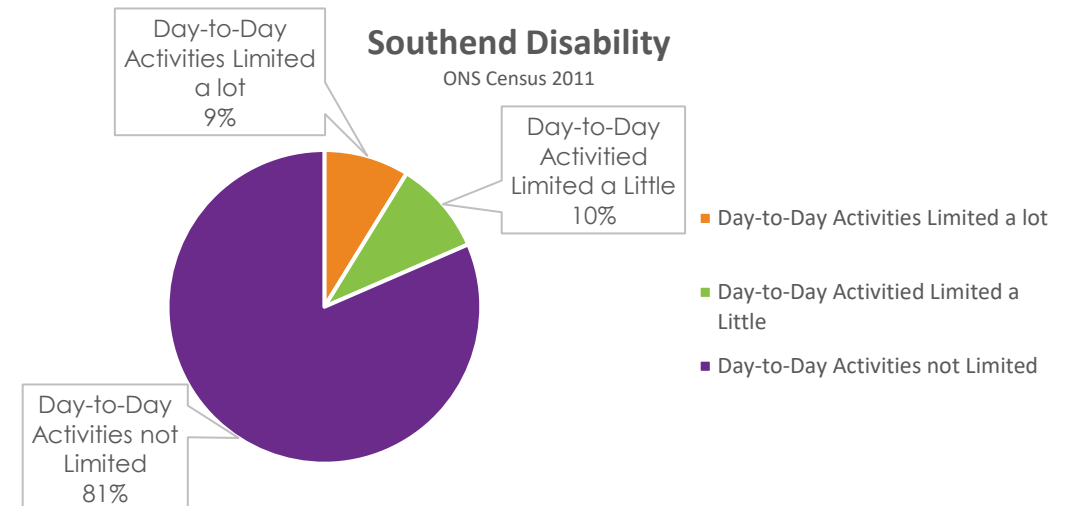
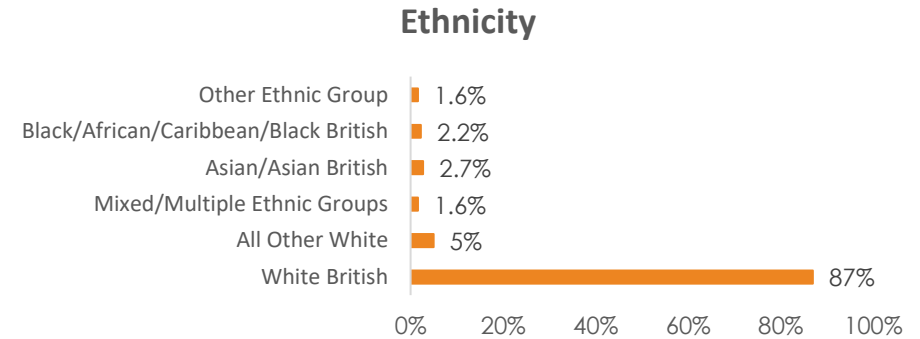
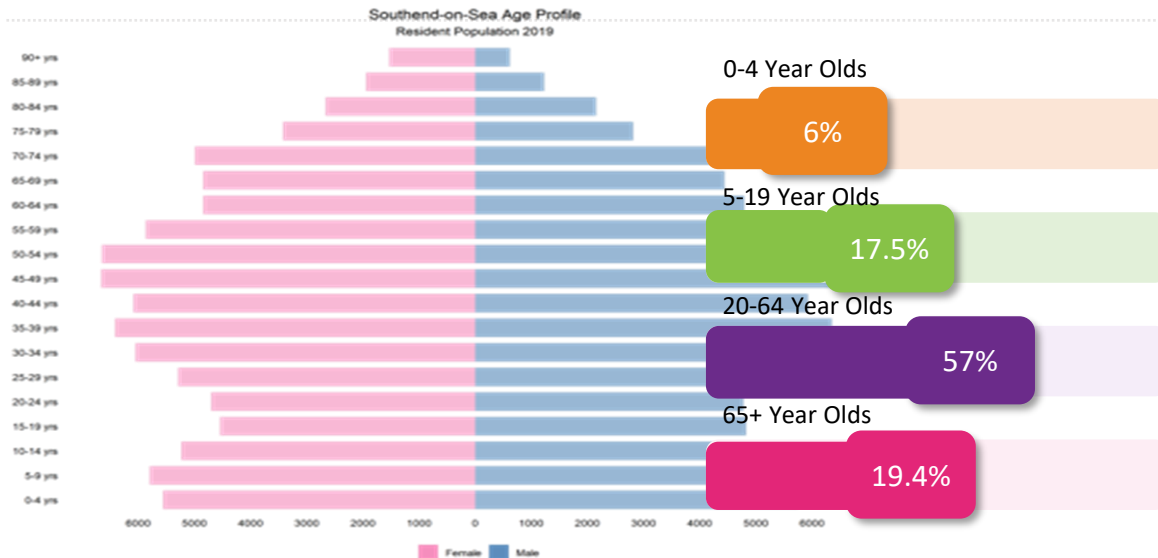
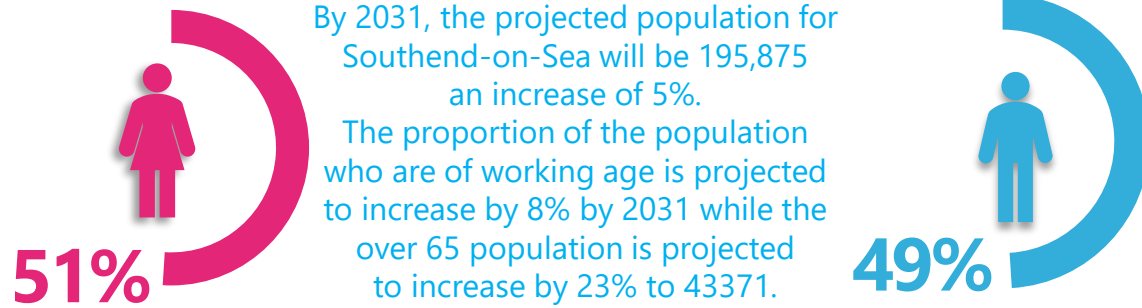


# Outcomes



# Southend Demographics & Domestic Abuse Incidents

# Southend Generic Demographics



# Domestic Abuse Risk & Risk Assessment

## Home Office Definitions

### Standard Risk

Current evidence does not indicate likelihood of causing serious harm

### Medium Risk

There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The offender has the potential to cause serious harm but is unlikely to do so unless there is a change in circumstances, for example, failure to take medication, loss of accommodation, relationship breakdown, and drug or alcohol misuse

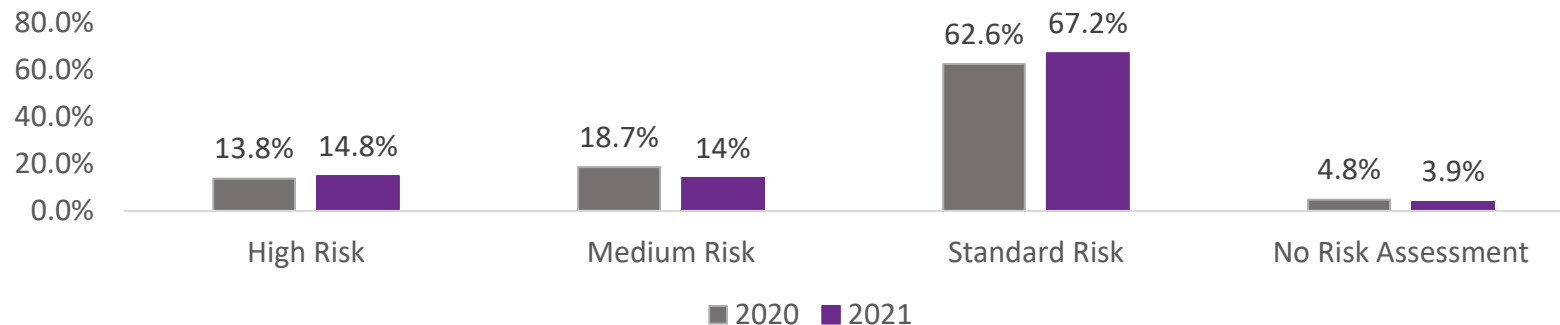
### High Risk

There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The potential event could happen at any time and the impact would be serious.

### Serious Harm Definition

Risk of serious harm (Home Office, 2002 and OASys, 2006): 'A risk which is life threatening and/or traumatic, and from which recovery, whether physical or psychological, can be expected to be difficult or impossible'.

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment\*



\*Southend Police 12 Month Rolling Data June 2021

# Domestic Abuse Incidents and Homicides

8

## Investigations

Southend is the top borough for DA investigations across Essex consistently for the last eight years.

1

## Risk Assessment

Southend has the highest volume of high risk and medium risks compared to the rest of the county.

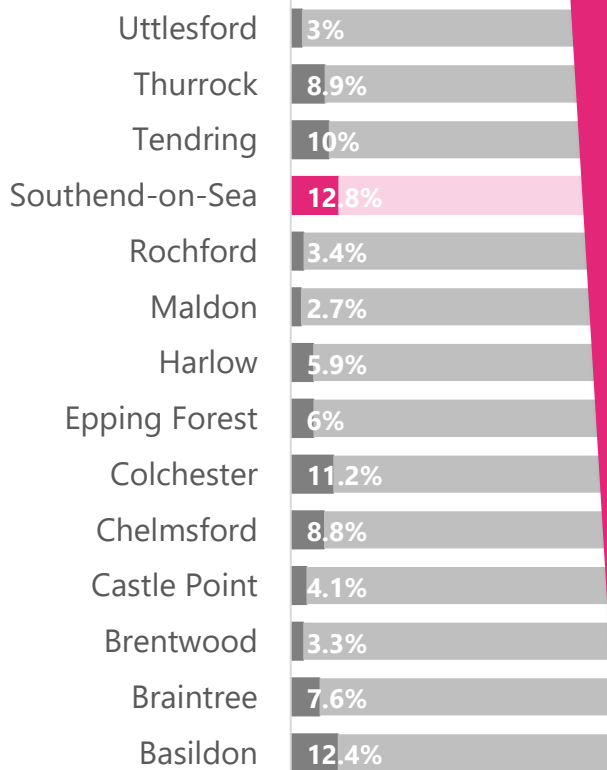
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## Domestic Homicide Reviews

Southend has had 6 DHR notifications and commissioned 4 DHRs since 2011. Southend has a similar DHR rate to Basildon, Braintree and Epping

# Domestic Abuse Incidents

Essex Police % Crime and Non Crime Investigations

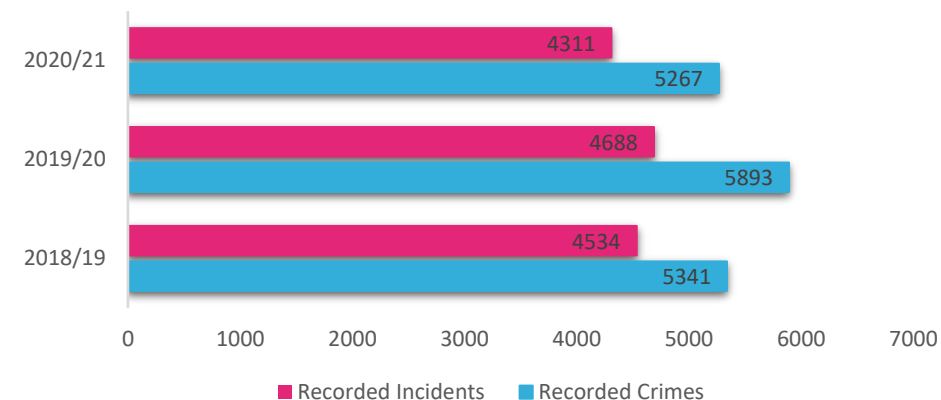


Southend has the largest recorded % of Police investigations across Essex.

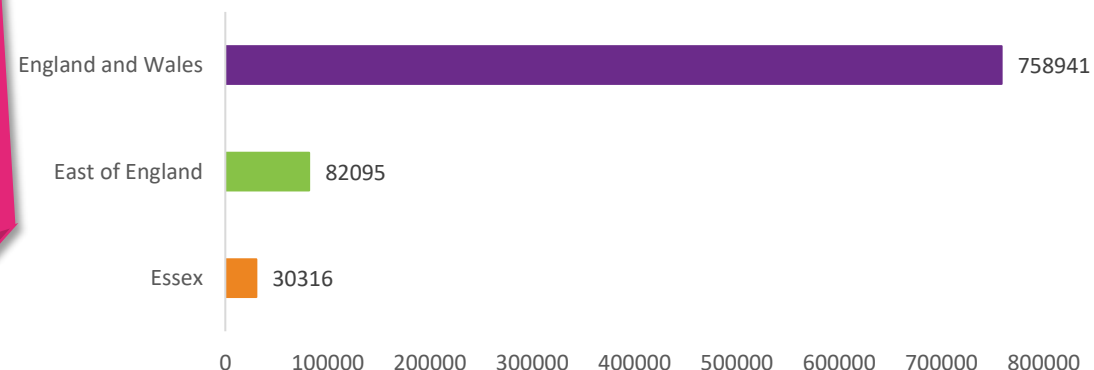
There was a -10.6% yr-on-yr decrease in incidents and an -8% yr-on-yr decrease in crimes.

Crimes in Essex is 3.9% of all Domestic Abuse crimes in England and Wales and 36.9% in East of England

Southend Police Domestic Abuse Crimes and Incidents

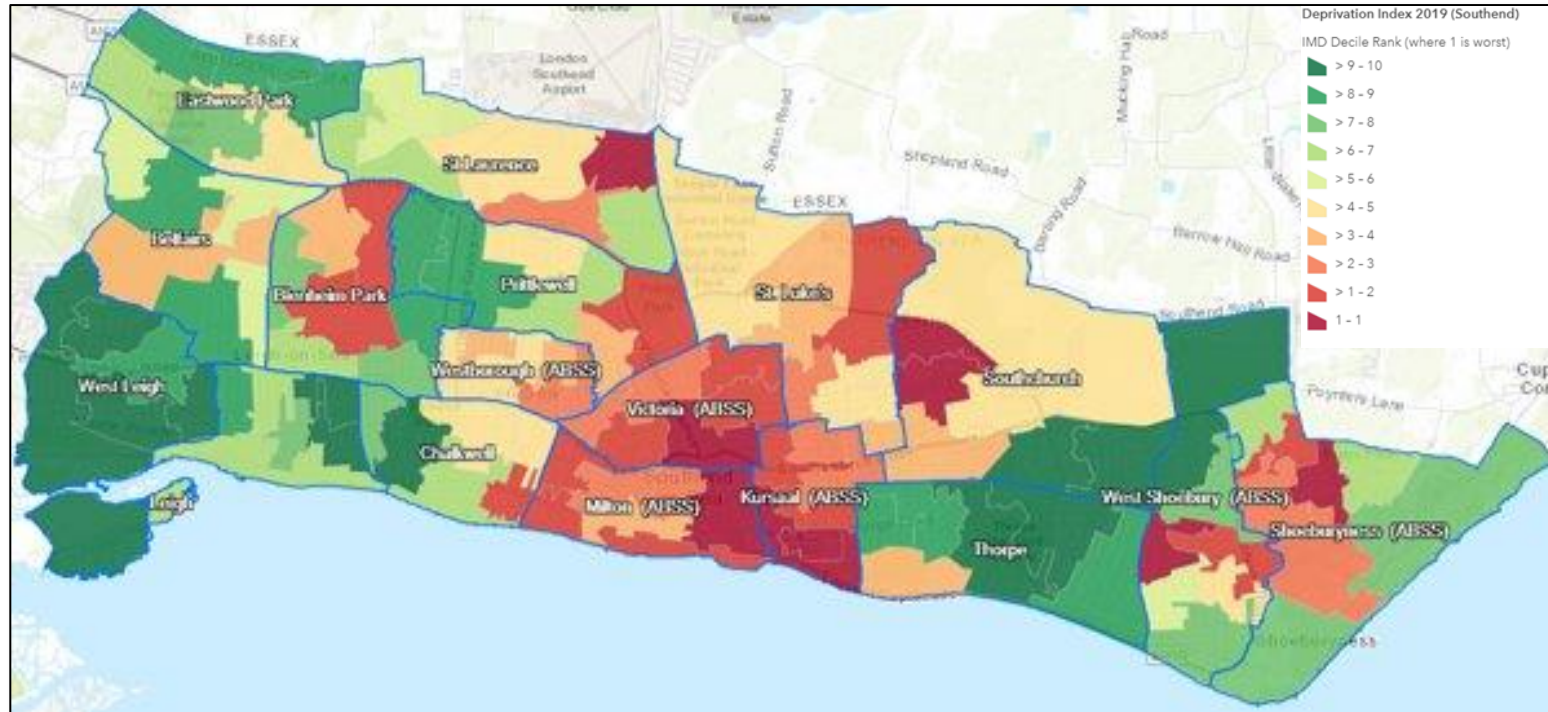


ONS\* DA Tools Recorded Number of Crimes



\*Office of National Statistics

# Southend Deprivation



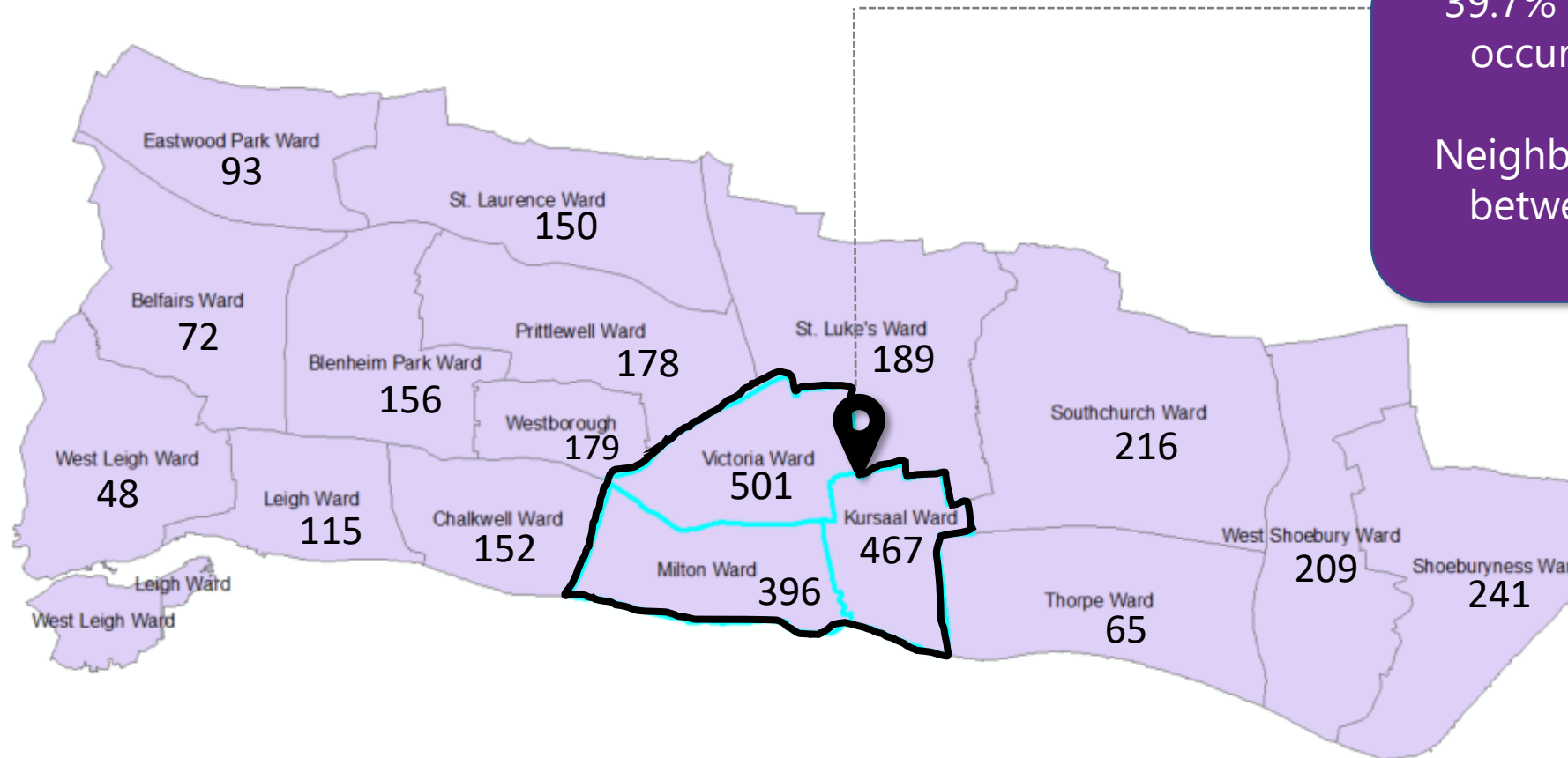
The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is a measure which is used to determine deprivation in every small area in England, relative to other areas in England. The map shows the deprivation deciles, areas marked in dark red are amongst the most 10% deprived small areas in England.

Many of our more disadvantaged communities are located within the Southend 'town centre' wards, Blenheim Park, the Shoebury area and across Southchurch and St Luke's wards.



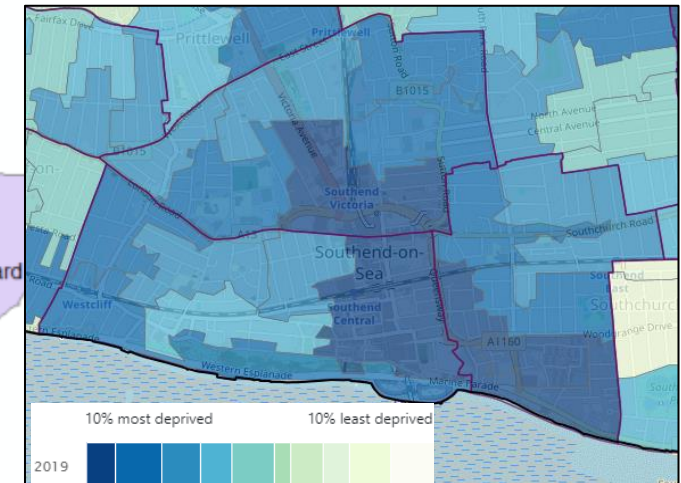
# Domestic Abuse Incidents by Ward

(May 2020 – June 2021)



39.7% of domestic abuse incidents occur in the 'town centre' wards

Neighbourhoods in these wards are between 10-30% most deprived across England.

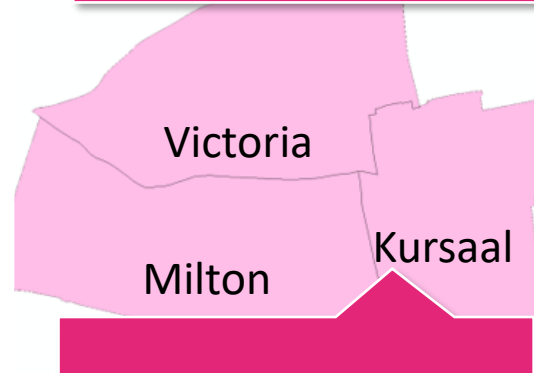


Southend Police Incident Data, repeat victimisation may be included in these numbers



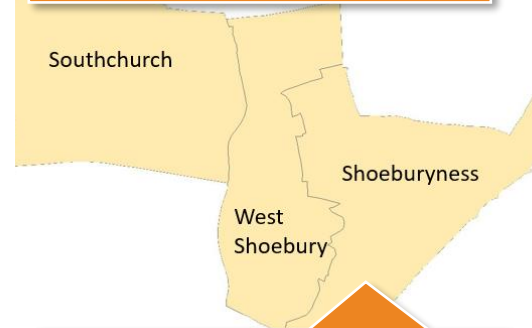
# Housing Type by Ward

## Highest Incident Areas



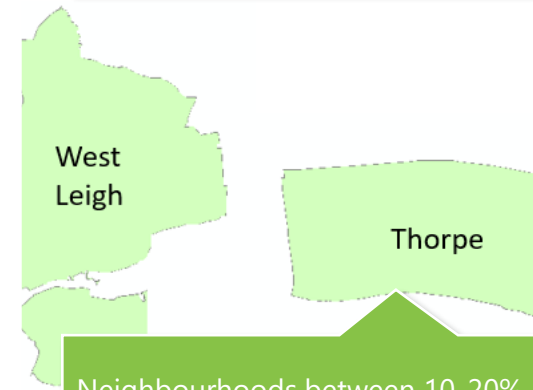
Neighbourhoods between 10-30% most deprived. Most common tenure in these 3 wards is privately rented. Both Victoria and Kursaal households are largely built block of flats. Milton's accommodation is mostly converted or shared house (including bedsits) with one person

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Incident Areas



Some neighbourhoods between 30-50% most deprived. The areas have a higher percentage of social accommodation than the average across Southend. West Shoebury and Shoeburyness has a higher percentage of lone parents with dependent children. Whereas Southchurch has the highest percentage of 65yrs and over

## Lowest Incident Areas



Neighbourhoods between 10-20% least deprived. Most houses are owned outright/owned with a mortgage, with little social housing in either area. Majority of West Leigh living arrangements is married/Same Sex couple with dependents. Whereas Thorpe has a high percentage of 65yrs and over.

Census data provides a generic overview of type of housing and living arrangement within a ward.

Majority of domestic abuse incidents occur in most deprived neighbourhoods. These neighbourhoods have a higher than average percentage (across Southend) of social housing. The lowest incidents occur in the least deprived neighbourhoods and mostly 'owned houses' tenure.

# Conclusion:

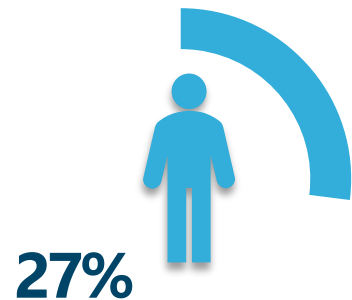
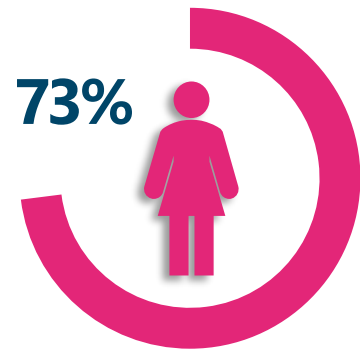
## Southend Demographics and Domestic Abuse Incidents

- Southend has the largest recorded % of Police reported domestic abuse crime and non-crime investigations in Essex.
- Southend has moved up from 3rd place to 2nd place on the list of highest incidents in Essex(per 1000 of population)
- The highest level of domestic abuse occurs in the most deprived areas

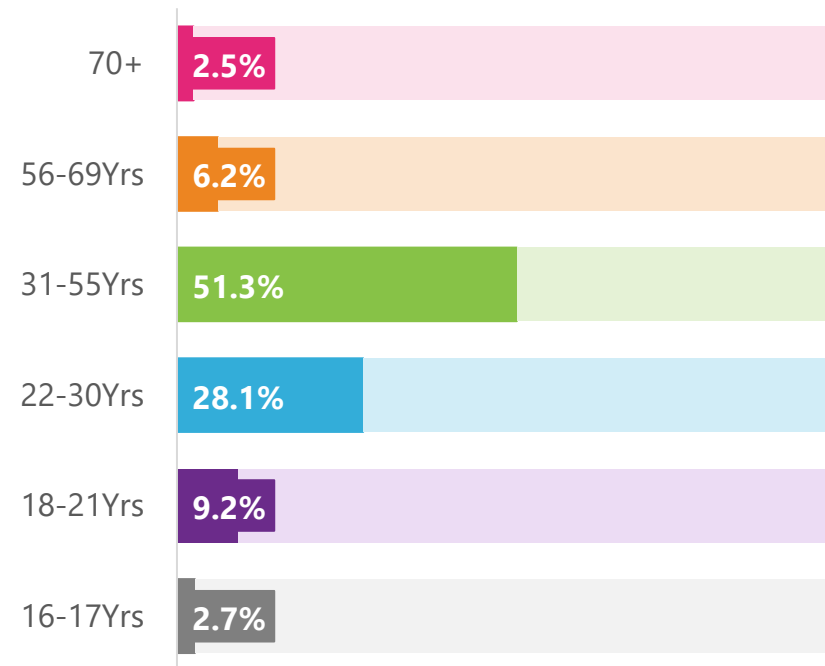
# Victim Demographics

# Victim Demographics – Essex Police

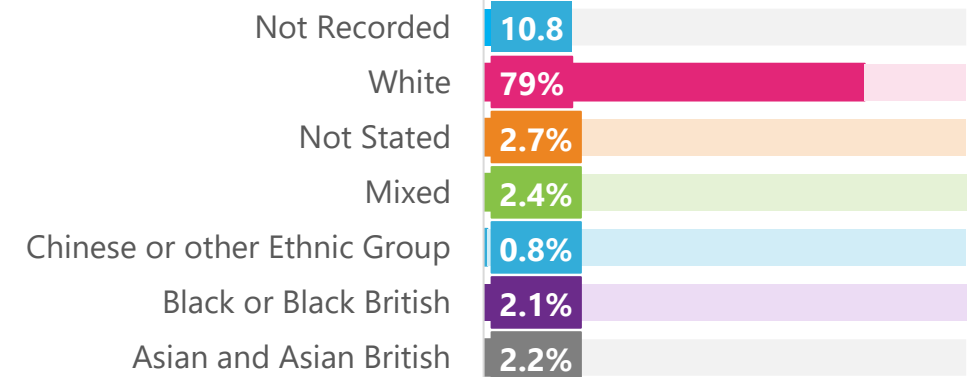
2020/21



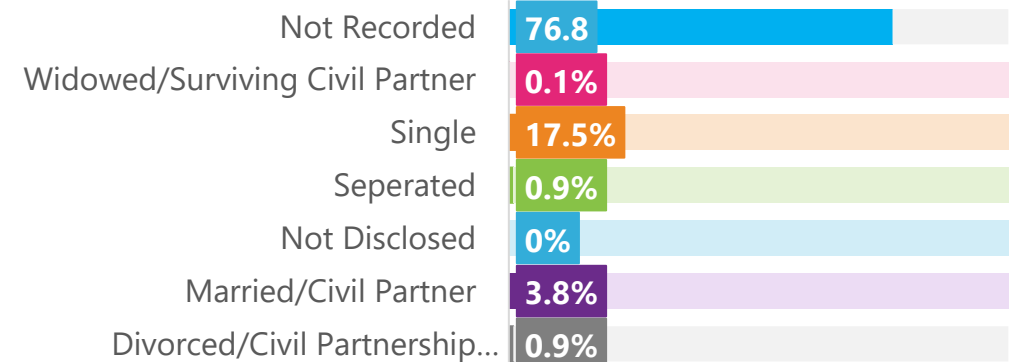
## Victim Age Group



## Ethnicity



## Marital Status



Sexual Identity can be recorded, however in 2020/21 92% was not captured.

# Demographics of High-Risk Victims

## Multi Agency Risk Assessment Team (MARAT)

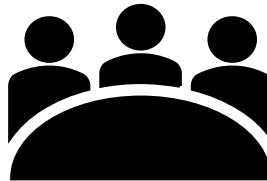
2020/21

94%

Cases were Female



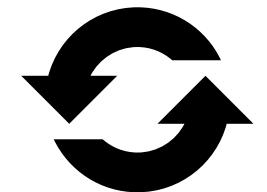
423 Referrals Received



358 Referrals heard at  
Multi Agency Risk  
Assessment Conference  
(MARAC)

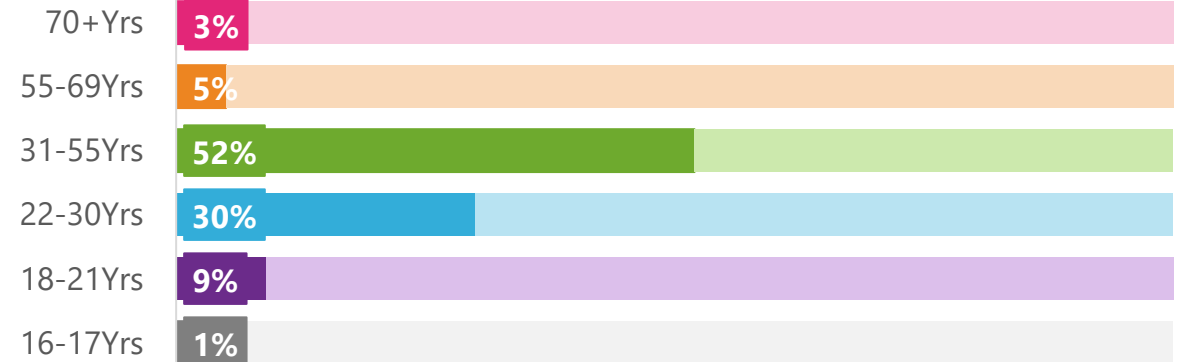


291 contained children in  
the household



95 Repeat Victim in the  
last 12 Months

### Age Group



-11.5% decrease in referrals (compared to 2019/20). those that did not progress to MARAC were where they were not deemed to meet HR threshold, victim moved out of area or perpetrator went to prison.

-11.2% decrease in repeat victims, having been identified as HR victims in the last 12 months. This is within the Safe Lives guidance of 28-40%

31-55Years remains the highest age group referred to MARAT.

Ethnicity data is not reliable for MARAC as 123 out of the 358 the ethnicity data was not recorded at referral stage

# National Data on Young People and Domestic Abuse

## 13 -17 Year Olds



There is also the consideration of adolescent to parent violence. It is important to acknowledge that young people who harm are often victims themselves. A large % are males directing abuse to their mothers, however Dr Caroline Miles, author of research on adolescent to parent violence, highlights potential under-reporting of young women causing harm due to parents being less likely to report daughters than sons, and being less afraid of daughters.

## 16 and 17 Year Olds

Since 2013, 16 and 17 year olds have been entitled to access adult domestic abuse support following inclusion in the cross-governmental definition of domestic abuse. Despite the high prevalence of abuse for this age group, the rate of referrals into support services and multi-agency risk assessment conferences is lower than the percentage they make up of the population.

A blue rounded rectangle with a black pushpin icon at the top left contains the following text: 'Since 2013, 16 and 17 year olds have been entitled to access adult domestic abuse support following inclusion in the cross-governmental definition of domestic abuse. Despite the high prevalence of abuse for this age group, the rate of referrals into support services and multi-agency risk assessment conferences is lower than the percentage they make up of the population.'

## 16 -19 Year Olds



# Southend – Young People Impacted By Domestic Abuse

62% said that if any of these things happened to them, they would know where to get help.

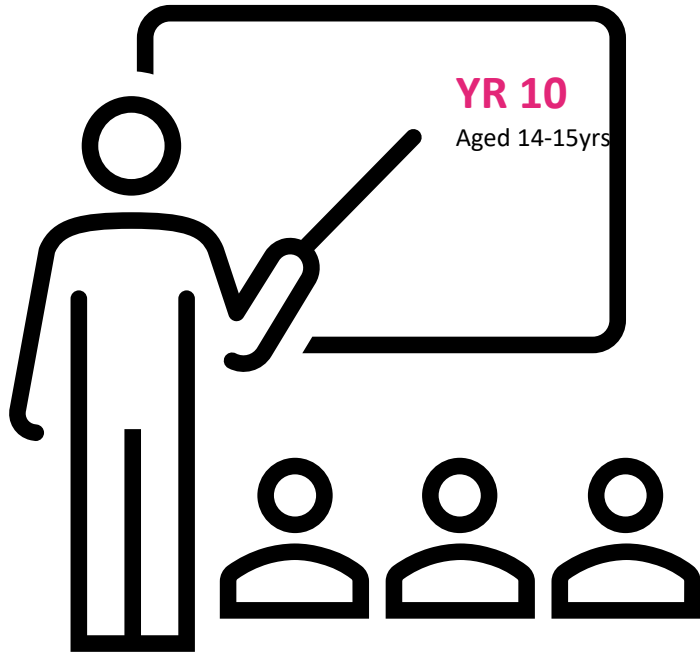
23% said that they had been in a relationship with someone who was jealous/possessive

8% said their boy/girlfriend demanded undressed/sexual photos from them

4% said their boyfriend/girlfriend forced them to do things they didn't want to do (e.g. having sex)

11% had told them who they could or couldn't see.

**YR 10**  
Aged 14-15yrs



Schools Health Education Unit Pupil Survey 2021

**1,920**

5-19 Years Service, Domestic Incident Reports

**69**

13-15 Years referrals to Break The Cycle

**19**

16-19 Years referrals to Break The Cycle

April 2020 – March 2021

# Southend – 0-5 Years Impacted By Domestic Abuse

**1,013**  
**0-5 Years**  
**Domestic**  
**Incident**  
**Reports**

## Health Visiting Service:

The health visiting service is a part of a wider 0-19 Public Health Service that supports families from the antenatal period until school entry. The service offers a range of mandated universal health and wellbeing reviews and offers personalised and specialist support when required

**Family Nurse Partnership (FNP)** - Family Nurse Partnership is an intensive home visiting service aimed at vulnerable first time young parents, aiming to promote self-efficacy and to improve outcomes for their children.

## FNP Programme 2.5 Years Long

Caseload at anytime who are experience domestic abuse is 10-12% this is consistent for the past 5 years.

## 75 Clients (Young Mothers)

From February 2019- 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021, 75 clients who have experienced domestic abuse either as a child and/or with their intimate partner relationships

## 20 Children

Of these 75 clients, 20 of their children have gone on to experience domestic abuse within their households



# Support in Southend for Children/Young Persons

**Fledglings** – A recovery service for 5-17 year olds exposed to Domestic Abuse.

**Break The Cycle** – Promoting healthy relationships between 13-19 year olds.

**Prince Charming** – Educating teens on unhealthy relationships

**PHSE** Framework in Schools

**Early Years** Education and Children's Centres



**Operation Encompass** – Police and Education early information safeguarding partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support to children 5+ years experiencing domestic abuse.

**Universal Health Visiting** – 0-5 years  
**School Nursing** – 5-19 years.

These are the only agencies notified of all domestic abuse incidents in children/young persons

# National Data on Sexual Orientation and Domestic Abuse

2.7% of the UK population aged 16 years and over identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB)\*

Younger people (aged 16 to 24 years) were most likely to identify as LGB\*

Between 2018 and 2019, the number of men identifying as LGB increased from 2.5% to 2.9% and women identifying as LGB increased from 2.0% to 2.5%\*

## Free to be Safe, Safe Lives\*\*

LGBT+ victims and survivors need support tailored to their needs and circumstances

LGBT+ victims and survivors are experiencing high levels of risk and complex needs before they access support

Statutory and non-statutory services are missing opportunities to identify LGBT+ victims, survivors and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

A victim's sexual orientation or gender identity can sometimes be targeted as part of the abuse

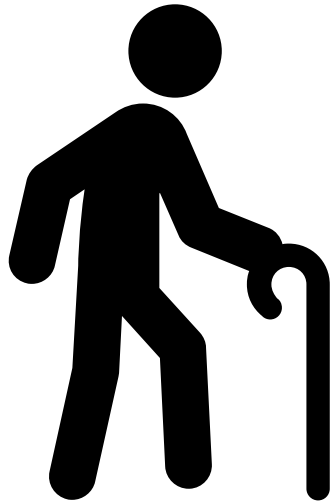
Societal attitudes and lack of inclusion are preventing LGBT+ victims and survivors from accessing the support they need to get safe and recover, and mean we aren't identifying and stopping perpetrators at the earliest opportunity.



\*ONS Sexual Orientation. Released 27/05/2021

\*\*Safelives Spotlight- Free To Be Safe, 2018

# National Data - Older People and Domestic Abuse



Safe Later Lives -  
Older people and  
domestic abuse

**61+**

On average, older victims experience abuse for twice as long before seeking help as those aged under 61 and nearly half have a disability. Yet older clients are hugely underrepresented among domestic abuse services.

**44%**

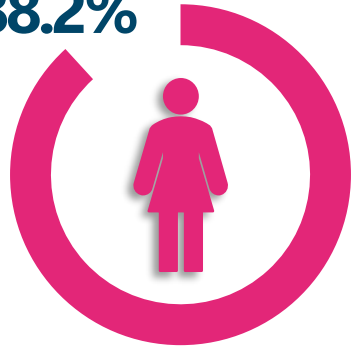
Adult family member is primary abuser in 44% of over 60s, compared to 6% under 60s

**27%**

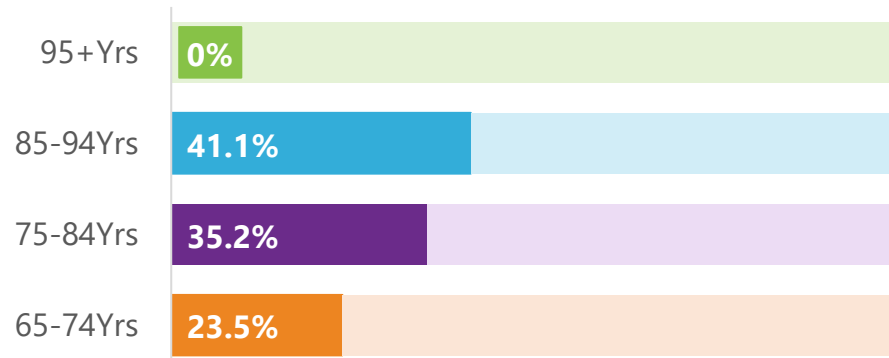
Older victims are less likely to attempt to separate from their abuser – only 27% in the over 60s, compared to 68% in under 60s.

# Older Age Adults – Southend Safeguarding Notifications linked to Domestic Abuse\*

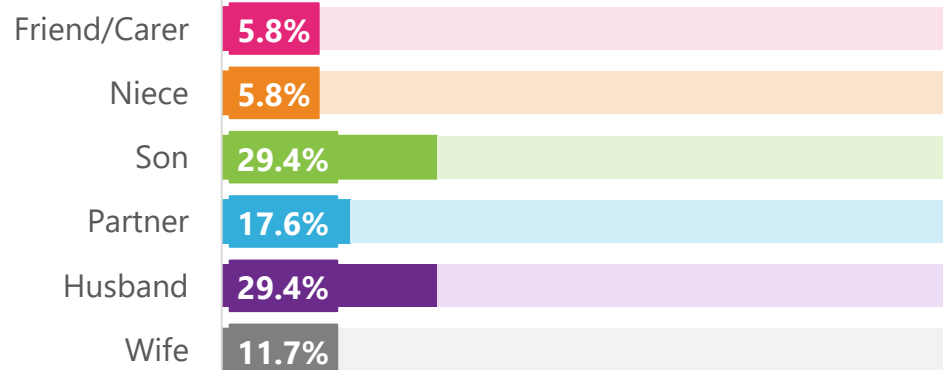
88.2%



## Victim Age Group



## Alleged Perpetrator



11.7%



*Within this audit 52.9% of concerns were verified. A further 29.4% of investigations stopped by request of the victim.*



*Not all referral sources are listed, however majority of concerns are raised by a care worker/care home*

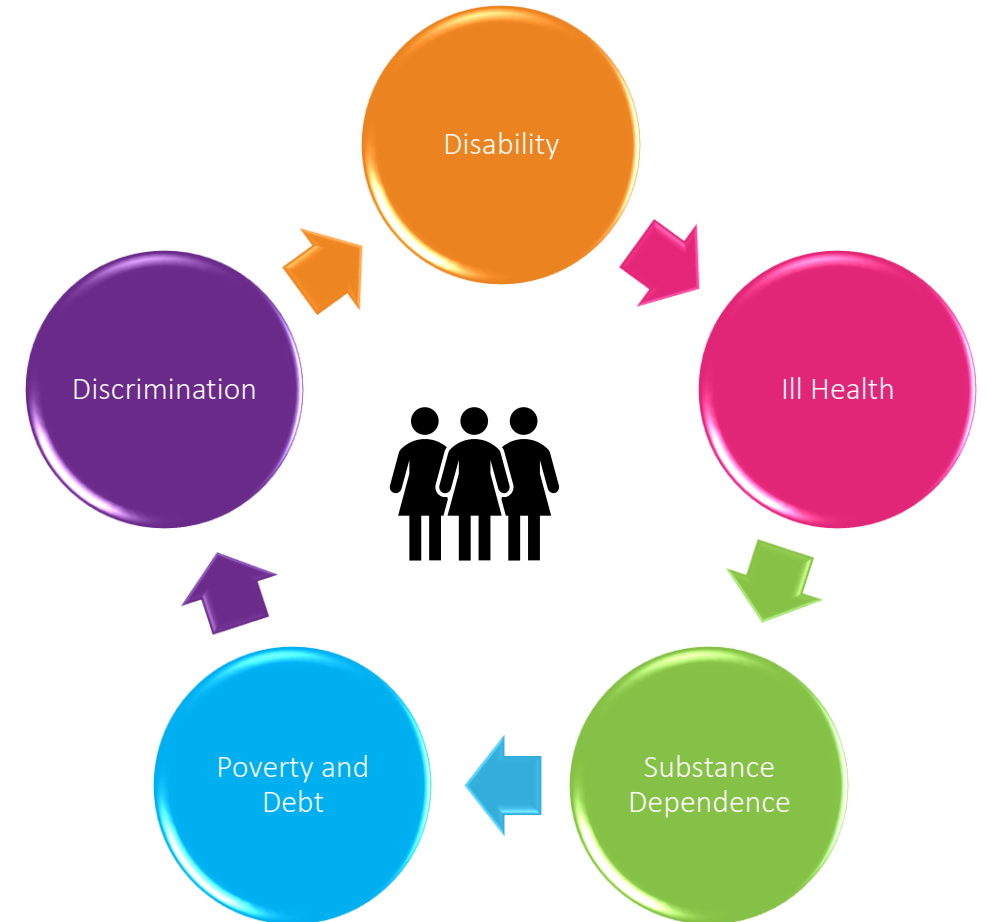


*Since 2011, Southend has had 6 people die as a result of domestic abuse, of which 2 were over 60 years*

\*Safeguarding audit for adults aged 65 or over who have been the subject of a S42 enquiry with a risk category listed as domestic abuse that have been closed within the last 12 months

# Complex Needs Experiencing Domestic Abuse

- Research shows that women with extensive experience of physical and sexual violence are far more likely to experience disadvantage in many other areas of their lives.
- Homelessness is one area of disadvantage, but others include disability and ill health, substance dependence, poverty, debt and discrimination.
- All of these can be a further barrier to gaining secure accommodation and ending the cycle.
- Research by Homeless Link finds that women experiencing complex trauma will often have trouble maintaining stable relationships, engaging in support and navigating non-clinical services
- MARAT High risk data shows that 25% of victims and 50% of perpetrators had substance misuse issues
- MARAT High risk data recorded diagnosed mental health conditions in 11% of victims and 7% of perpetrators (NB this is a diagnosed condition by a medical professional, but many refer to mental health conditions but do not seek a diagnosis)



# Conclusion:

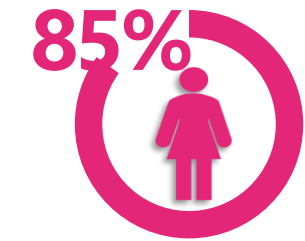
## Victim Demographics

- The data collected for 2020/21 shows the largest proportion of victims reporting domestic abuse in Southend is aged between 31-55years
- A significant proportion of children within Southend are impacted by domestic abuse
- Within Southend there appears to be no coordinated approach for joint commissioning of Domestic Abuse services
- Older age groups of victims, CYP, LGBTQ and Males are underrepresented in the data collected
- **Recommendation:** Southend Council and partners to improve the recording across all services of protected characteristics, particularly ethnicity to ensure all needs are identified
- **Recommendation:** Southend Council and partners to map services provided to targeted groups for CYP, Older People, LGBTQ+ and Males

# Housing and Refuge

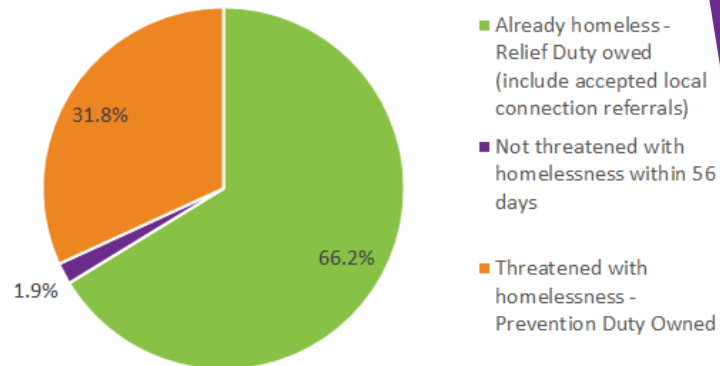
# Homeless Applications on Grounds of Domestic Abuse to Southend Council

(Received 01.02.2019-21.01.2021)



Applications

Assessment of Needs



In 66% of housing applications on grounds of DA the victims were already homeless. In almost 32% they were at imminent risk of homelessness and therefore the council had a duty.

26.7% Require a 2 bed

16.5% Require a room

16.5% Require a 3 bed

11.4% Require a 1 bed

11.4% Require a studio

Ethnicity data is not reliable as 70.1% of ethnicity data was not recorded



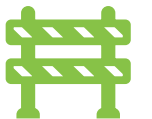
# Domestic Abuse ACT 2021

Requirements specific to Local Authorities and Housing;

- Introduce a statutory duty on tier one local authorities in England to **support victims and their children in domestic abuse safe accommodation** and a duty on tier two authorities to co-operate with tier one authorities in the fulfilment of their duties.
- Amend the Housing Act 1996 to give those **who are homeless as a result of fleeing domestic abuse priority need for accommodation** secured by the local authority.
- **Protect security of tenure** for domestic abuse victims

# SafeLives (2018) *Safe at Home: Homelessness and domestic abuse.*

- Government statistics in England, Wales and Scotland show that domestic abuse accounts for at least one in ten people who require local authority support for homelessness.
- We know these figures are likely to be much higher, especially for women, who are both disproportionately affected by domestic abuse and often 'hidden' from official homelessness statistics. Homelessness charity St. Mungo's report that 32% of the women they work with, and 8% of men, said domestic abuse contributed to their homelessness.
- Safelives data shows that over 10% of those supported with re-housing by a domestic abuse service were moved out of their local authority area. Data from Women's Aid's Annual Survey in 2017 shows that over two thirds of women (68.4%) in refuge had crossed local authority boundaries to access this accommodation.
- Crisis found in their mystery shopper experiment, many other barriers exist, such as not being given the opportunity to make an application or being required to 'prove' they were entitled to support.
- The level of basic customer service can also be a barrier, with applicants required to discuss their reasons for becoming homeless in a busy public environment, which can be particularly difficult for survivors of domestic abuse.














# Safe Steps – Commissioned DA Refuge Service

	2019/20	2020/21	
Total number of referrals (only when a bed becomes available)	107	61	↓
Number of referrals from inside area	28	15	↓
Number of referrals from out of area	79	49	↓
Number of successful first-time referrals	24	-	↔
Most common reason for being denied access to services	No Space & Victim Declined		
Average number of referral attempts made for victim/survivor to gain access to relevant / safe accommodation	-	-	
Average length of stay in days	91	183	↓

2020/21 service user/referral numbers are not indicative due to Covid-19

# Out of Area Referrals (to refuge)

London Borough of Bexley	2	
London Borough of Camden	1	
London Borough of Hackney	2	
London Borough of Haringey	1	
London Borough of Newham	1	
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	1	
London Borough of Waltham Forest	2	
Basildon Council	9	
Thurrock Council	6	
Barking and Dagenham	4	
Harlow Council	4	

# Conclusion:

## Housing and Refuge

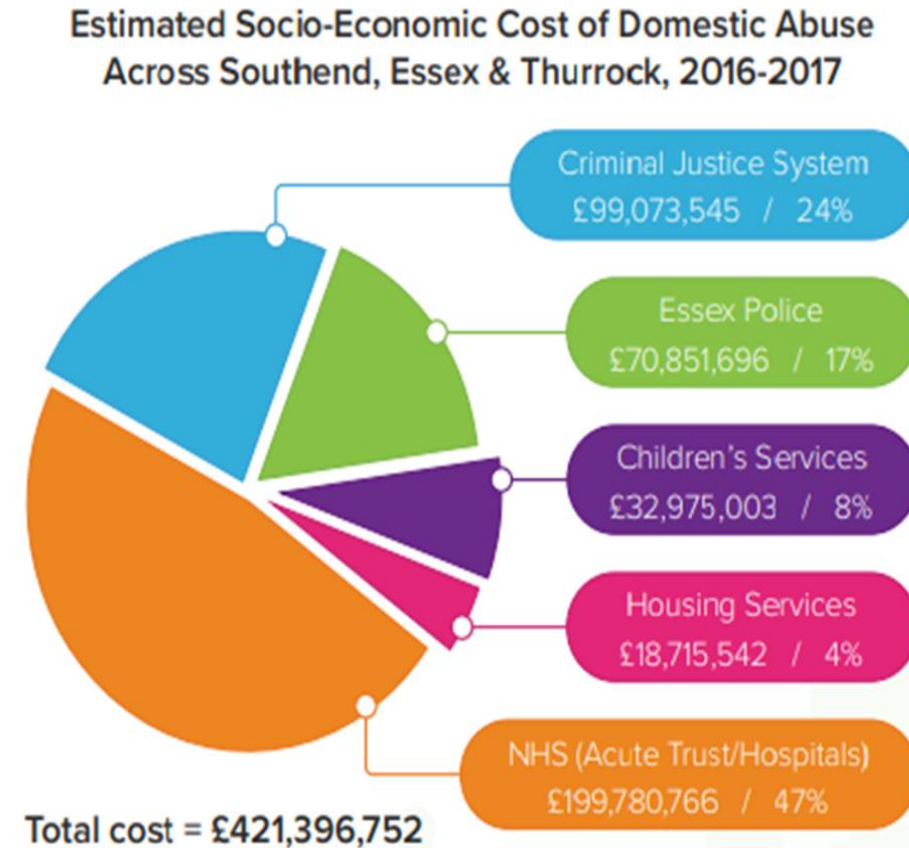
- The Council and other partners do not collect comprehensive data on the housing needs of people impacted by domestic abuse (DA), and this makes it difficult to assess the impact this has on homelessness and DA. However, In those presenting for housing support on the grounds of DA 66% were already homeless
- Within Southend there appears to be a lack of data to support and identify the levels of housing and support required. Southend currently has 7 designated beds within the refuge accommodation.
- **Recommendation:** Southend Council and partners to review current pathways and support packages to ensure individual planning of those experiencing DA and undertake more detailed work to understand what is needed across all housing, support and care pathways

# Funding

Commissioning of Services

# Funding Breakdown Across Southend, Essex & Thurrock 2016 - 17

The Council does not have an overall picture of overall funding for those impacted by Domestic Abuse within Southend. To address this our data requirements will need to be strengthened and we will need to review all commissioning and housing activity as it relates to those impacted by domestic abuse.



# Current Funding Issues

Refuge funding is currently £255K per year with the contract ending in January 2023.

Require CSP support for funding and commissioning to be pulled together.

One DA Lead for Domestic Abuse is needed within the Council in order to work with all internal and external partners, to coordinate funding, commissioning and procurement.

Temporary new funding has been obtained of £372K for compliance with the DA Act.

Our refuge only has 7 beds. This is currently the only DA specific housing offer within the Borough.



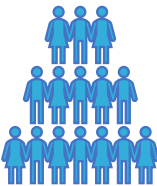
# Southend Commissioning Aspirations



**The Council is committed, with all partners, to delivering outcome focused services that reflect the needs and aspirations of complex groups including those impacted by Abuse, Trauma and Self-Harm.**



**The services that are commissioned should reflect and be informed by the multiple support needs of those who have been impacted by or are currently experiencing domestic abuse.**



**The Council will commission services across the full range of care and support provision, utilizing funding from across the Council in order to address the needs of this vulnerable group.**



# Commissioning Priorities

## (DA ACT Specific Support Requirements)

- **Advocacy support** – development of personal safety plans, liaison with other services (for example, GPs and social workers, welfare benefit providers);
- **Domestic abuse-prevention advice** – support to assist victims to recognise the signs of abusive relationships, to help them remain safe (including online) and to prevent re-victimisation;
- **Specialist support for victims with relevant protected characteristics and / or complex needs**, for example, interpreters, faith services, mental health advice and support, drug and alcohol advice and support, and immigration advice;
- **Children's support** – including play therapy and child advocacy;
- **Housing-related support** – providing housing-related advice and support, for example, securing a permanent home and advice on how to live safely and independently; and
- **Counselling and therapy** for both adults and children.

# Conclusion: Funding

- The new domestic abuse act will impact on the ability on service providers to access grants due to the change in statutory responsibilities of councils
- Inflationary increases are not always written into our current contracts, and this will need to be addressed going forward.
- There appear to be gaps in commissioning specifically housing, information and advice, advocacy services within children's and adult services required by the new Domestic Abuse Act
- **Recommendation:** The Council in consultation and collaboration with partners will need to undertake an audit to identify the precise gaps and identify the funding, commissioning and procurement activity that will need to take place.
- **Recommendation:** Ensuring clear operational and strategic accountability within the organisation moving forward

# Survivors

Their Voice

**“I didn’t realise it was abuse  
until I spoke to refuge staff”**

Survivor Quote

# Survivors Voice and Their Needs

Greater awareness of DA victims and their needs

Specific DA focused services

Coordinated referral pathways

Targeted interventions at point of contact

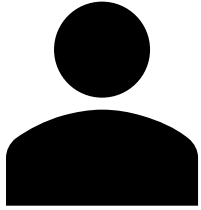
Sensitivity, empathy and understanding

Understanding domestic abuse is not always violence

**NOTE:** Interviews were undertaken with 4 women. All women had different experiences and were at different stages, but all experiences occurred within the last 2 years. As we have only been able to interview a small number of survivors these experiences are not representative of all survivors' unique experiences.

# Survivor A

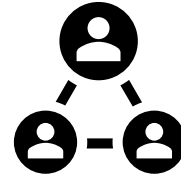
## “...thought he was just being caring”



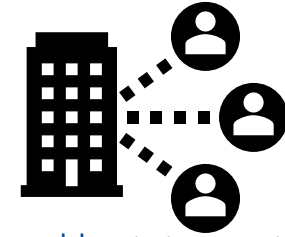
Relationship lasted 4 years, separated for 9 months before going into refuge, had 2 children together. A third from previous relationship. Survivor from another area in Essex. Her own childhood experience did not give her a good relationship to compare to her own.



In refuge felt got help and support, “it was really good to have someone always on hand to speak to or to offload to” the children had a positive experience and sometimes say they “wish we were back there” as there were so many activities for them. Survivor was given counselling but did not find that useful for herself, however the Freedom Programme Recovery toolkit were “really good”



Attended Citizens Advice ‘many times’ who suggested “mediation” before finally someone gave survivor number for Domestic Abuse Services.

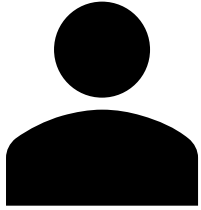


Offered space in refuge. Abuser would not stop controlling her and received threats from drug dealers. Survivor had not heard of refuge and did not think would qualify as abuser not living with her. It wasn’t until she began talking about all the “little things” that she understood it was abusive and how bad it had become. By the time she went into refuge she had become “desperate”

Survivor stated she “did not have a positive experience of Southend Housing Service” she felt they were “useless”, treated as “just another number”. No thought about difficulty living in one room with 3 children long term. They wanted to put them in hostel when out of refuge. But would have been one room again. Kept looking privately, but “impossible to find” as on benefits so landlords did not want to take her or she could not afford. After approximately 8 months in refuge she was offered temporary accommodation in 2 bedroom flat in tower block and very happy with it. She has now moved into permanent accommodation in Southend which she is very happy with again, and “it’s a nice neighbourhood”.

# Survivor B

“...civil court Judge said he was happy that as a taxpayer he was paying for this stupidity”



Relationship was same sex relationship. Came from a London Borough. 1 child, abuser not birth parent of child but is on the birth certificate. Survivor receiving legal advice on access to daughter. Perpetrator took child the day survivor entered refuge.

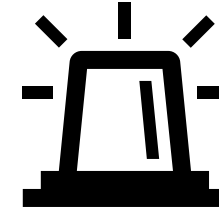


Survivor felt lack of understanding for victims of domestic abuse. “Agencies do not understand how much they have already been through, how much courage it takes to leave your home, job, just to be free of the abuse”. She felt that there are too many brick walls, a lack of empathy.

She had a bad experience at court when applying for non mol. “The judge was not nice”. He asked if she was getting ‘legal aid’ and when she replied yes, he said “he was happy that as a taxpayer he was paying for this stupidity”



Work colleague advised her to call Womens Aid for support and they found a space in Southend refuge. She did not feel discriminated against since coming to Essex, but did feel some people were “reluctant to believe me that a woman could be abusive to another woman”



She felt that as it was psychological that she “did not think it was a crime”. “Police in Southend were amazing” really listened and understood, gave advice that coercive controlling behaviour is a crime that they can pursue, but if chose not to she can still apply for non mol order. One of the officers still checks in with her to see “how she is doing in refuge”.

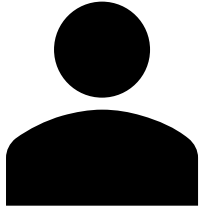


Survivor stated she had a “poor experience with housing”, not receiving any response at all for 3 months, nor from her old borough about the joint tenancy. She is currently still paying the top up for her old property as she “doesn’t wasn’t to be seen to lose the old tenancy and to have made herself homeless”, but she has been unable to get housing advice on this.

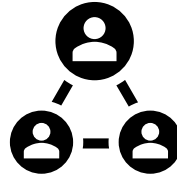


# Survivor C

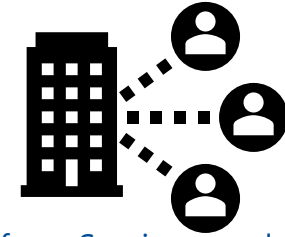
## “...there is no fear anymore”



Survivor fled husband after being physically and verbally abusive to her and abusive towards their daughter. He was drinking excess alcohol and smoking cannabis. English is not the survivors first language.



Survivor approached Southend Council as was given a hostel for 1 day and then went into Southend refuge the following day.



“Support was very good” in refuge. Survivor needed an interpreter. She felt this was managed ok in refuge as she used google translate mostly when talking to staff, but refuge obtained an interpreter for her when she needed it for other agencies.



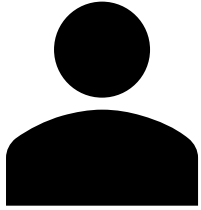
In refuge staff would find help for her, the appropriate contacts quickly, but since leaving she feels “isolated”. During the interview the survivor was told she can get outreach support from Safe Steps and she agreed she would like this. The survivor is learning English at Adult College and stated “life is very good now, she has her own place, there is no fear anymore, she feels safe and her daughter is safe”.



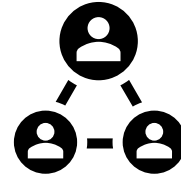
Since leaving refuge she has found keyworker in housing “not be very understanding, to be blunt and although they know English is limited they do not always make allowances for this”. There is much less support and the survivor said that she was struggling a bit.

# Survivor D

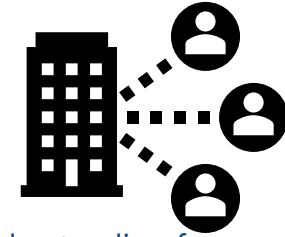
“...he attended a program at STARS briefly...when he stopped nobody enquired why”



Survivor living in Southend, has 4 children but they are currently not in her care



She felt she was held to account by social care but her partner wasn't. When he was referred for support it wasn't followed up



Survivor felt there is a lack of understanding from everyone about coercive control and emotional abuse, they think it has to be violence to be abuse



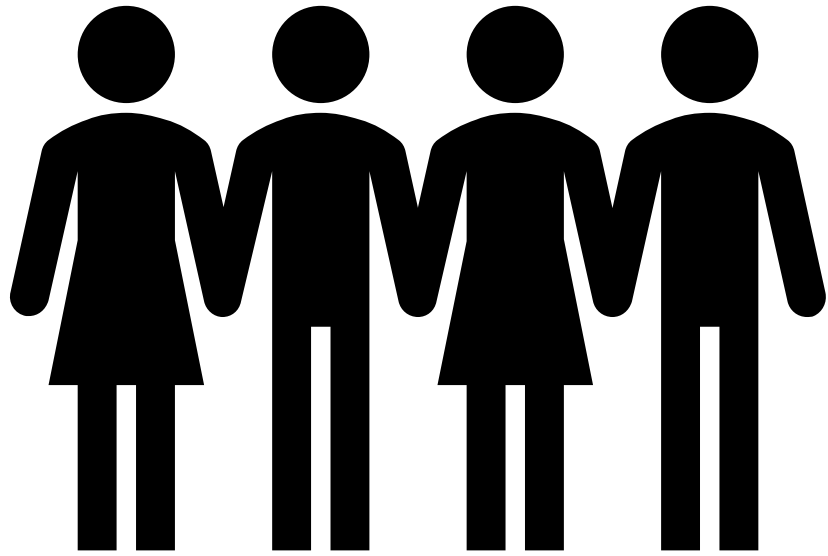
She felt supported by her children's social worker but was not always kept informed about the children.  
Survivor has found support from Safe Steps and engagement in the Freedom Program beneficial



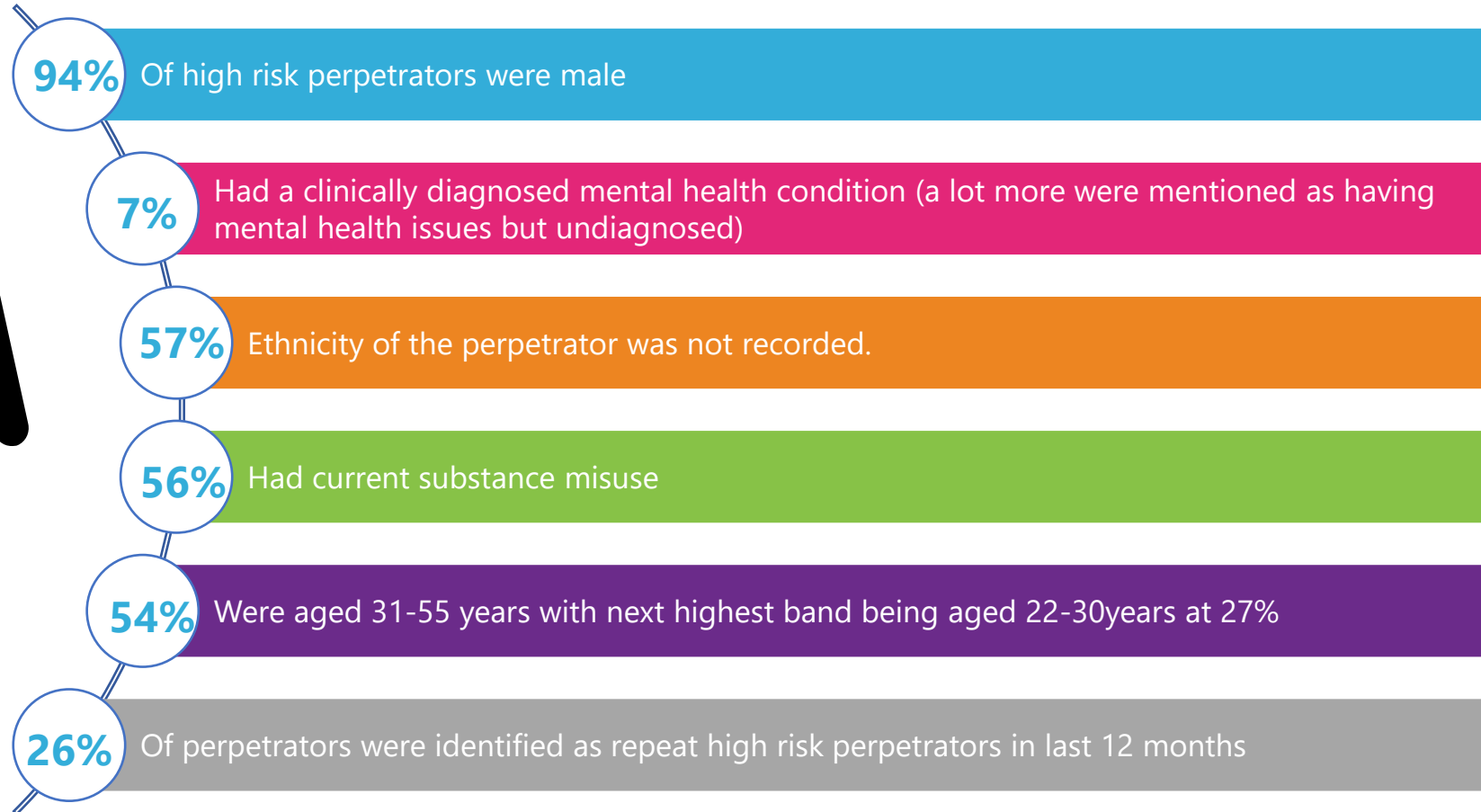
With regard to housing she has a housing officer and receives support, but initially went into bed and breakfast which was "not a good experience" for her. She is now in a Hostel and feels safe.

# Perpetrators

# Perpetrators Demographics – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Team (MARAT)



What do we know?



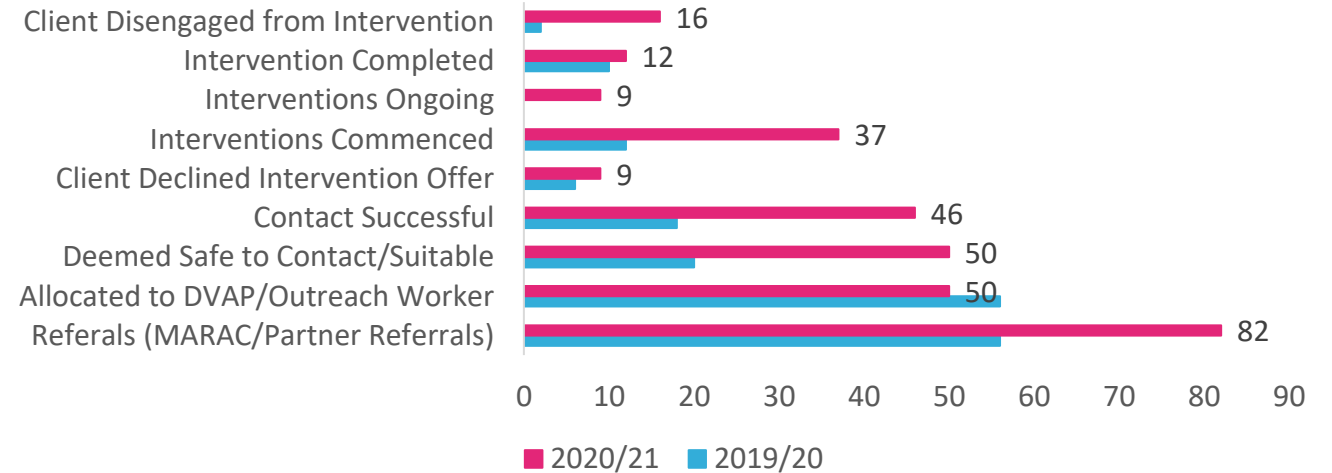
# Perpetrators –The Change Hub

The Change Hub is a commissioned domestic abuse service in Essex and Southend for male and female perpetrators aged 16 and above. Perpetrators are provided with one to one support to facilitate behaviour change and this service is accredited by Respect\*



2020/21 compared to 2019/20

## The Change Hub



2020/21 Allocated to DVAP/Outreach worker number is lower than the previous year as cases are only allocated when deemed safe to progress. 4 cases could not be contacted due to insufficient information available; 3 were out of area; 1 was referred to the DVPP service; 22 deemed unsafe to progress; 2 deemed unsuitable in conjunction with Health due to ASD/presenting MH needs

\*RESPECT, National organisation who lead the development of safe, effective work with perpetrators, male victims and those young people using violence and abuse

# Operation Enforce



Police target perpetrators for enforcement action following intelligence supplied from services within the MARAC

This has resulted in notable successes such as arrest opportunities/options, intel on offending behaviour, liaison with Probation and enforcement of breaching of bail conditions or Domestic violence prevention orders.

# Conclusion:

## Perpetrators

- An Essex study (2021) identified 46% of perpetrators in the study cohort had other violent offences and 46% of reoffenders had multiple victims.
- Within Southend MARAT data states; 56% of perpetrators have a substance misuse. In 2020/21, 19% of perpetrators had repeated within 12 months
- There are a low number of perpetrators being referred to the Change Hub due to strict criteria (on bail or court pending at time of MARAT, plus victim must agree to perpetrator being offered). There are low numbers completing the intervention.
- **Recommendation:** Southend Council and partners to consider patterns of perpetrator behaviours in order to know what services to commission

# References



# References

Slide Number	Agency	Year	Title	URL
3,32	Home Office	2021	Domestic Abuse Act	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-factsheets/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-overarching-factsheet">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-factsheets/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-overarching-factsheet</a>
7,8	Southend Council	2021	Southend 2050	<a href="https://www.southend.gov.uk/southend2050">https://www.southend.gov.uk/southend2050</a>
7,8,38	Southend, Essex & Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board	2020	SETDAB Strategy 2020-2025	<a href="https://setdab.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/SETDAB-Strategy-Consultation-Draft-Jan-2020.pdf">https://setdab.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/SETDAB-Strategy-Consultation-Draft-Jan-2020.pdf</a>
10	Office of National Statistics,	2020	ONS Population Estimates MID 2020 on 2021	<a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnorthernireland">https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnorthernireland</a>
10,16	NOMIS	2011	Local Authority Profile	<a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157203/report.aspx?town=Southend">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157203/report.aspx?town=Southend</a>
11	Essex Police	2021	District Data	
12,13	Southend Community Safety Partnership	2020/21	SIA - Domestic Abuse	
13	Essex Police	2021	Southend Indicators	
13	Office of National Statistics,	2020	Domestic Abuse in England & Wales - Data Tool	<a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesdatatool">https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesdatatool</a>
14	Southend Council - Performance & Intelligence Unit	2021	Index of Multiple Deprivation	
15,16,19	Essex Police	2020/21	Domestic Abuse Incident Data	
15,16	Communities.Gov	2019	Indices of Deprivation 2015 and 2019	<a href="https://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod_index.html">https://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod_index.html</a>
20,51	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Team	2020/21	MARAT Referrals	
21	Safe Lives	2017	Spotlight: Young People and Domestic Abuse	

# References

Slide Number	Agency	Year	Title	URL
22	Southend Council - Public Health	2021	Schools Health Education Unit Pupil Survey	
22,23	Southend Council - Public Health	2020/21	Domestic Incident Referrals	
22	Safe Steps	2020/21	Break The Cycle Referrals	
23	Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust	2019-21	Family Nurse Partnership	
25	Office of National Statistics,	2021	Sexual Orientation	<a href="https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/sexuality">https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/sexuality</a>
25	Safe Lives	2018	Free to be Safe	
26	Safe Lives	2016	Older People and Domestic Abuse	
27	MISSING			
29	Southend Council - Adult Social Care	2020-21	Older DA - DA Needs Assessment	
31	Southend Council - Housing Services	2019-2021	Homeless Applications	
33	Safe Lives	2018	Safe at Home: Homelessness and Domestic Abuse	
34,35	Safe Steps	2019-21	Refuge Service	
45,46,47,48,49			Interviews with Survivors	
52	The Change Hub	2019-2021	Perpetrators- The Change Hub	