

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Stevenage Borough Council

Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse

Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse has developed a strategic and co-ordinated approach to tackling and reducing domestic abuse in Stevenage through working with internal and external partners. This co-operative service puts the victim and their family at the heart of the support and involves them in the decision making.

The service is unique and believed to be the first in the country that encourages organisations to refer victims and their families a Safe Space provided by the council to stay for up to seven nights whilst they make life changing decisions on their future. The service encourages and empowers victims and survivors to make the decision that is right for them. This could include applying for their own orders against the perpetrators and to be able to access support through courses such as “You and Me Mum”. The service has so far supported 85 victims of domestic abuse across the town.

SADA facilitate a monthly SADA Multi-Agency Panel Meeting (mini marac) with partners, which includes Independent Domestic Violence Advisors, Children’s Services, the Mental Health Team, Health Visitors and the Police to discuss “medium and low risk” cases by definition. By using this approach, we can help to stop escalation of cases and support the victim by working in partnership with all the agencies including statutory and voluntary sector that are signed up to be part of the SADA partnership.

The SADA partnership also includes the Domestic Abuse Forum which is a survivors group that informs the direction of the SADA service.

The SADA team also delivers training to neighbouring local authorities and partner agencies in order to build skills and support available to those suffering domestic abuse. By working in this co-operatively way we can help victims, families and our partners to offer a joined-up approach to tackling domestic abuse and helping to keep victims safe.

For further information contact:

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