FIFE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Partnership

Fife Violence Against Women Partnership

Annual Report 2025/26

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FIFE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Partnership

Chair's Report

"It has been another productive and active year for the Fife Violence Against Women Partnership, with both voluntary and statutory partners continuing to work together towards making Fife a safer place for women and girls.

This year, several areas of work stand out:

- *Reclaim the Night Walk – held in Dunfermline town centre for the first time, this event symbolised the importance of women being able to feel safe in public spaces at night. It formed part of a wider programme of activity during the 16 Days of Activism, with partners delivering more events than ever and raising the profile of the partnership's work.*
- *Many Good Men – this powerful initiative used drama to explore the experiences of young men. Delivered in collaboration with Dunfermline High School and Dunfermline Athletic, it created space for young people to reflect on attitudes towards women, toxic masculinity, and the influence of social media.*
- *'What Were You Wearing?' Exhibition – the exhibition was taken into some of our Fife secondary schools, remaining a challenging and impactful way to engage audiences.*
- *White Ribbon Campaign – the partnership maintained its commitment to White Ribbon activity, including early morning engagement at Inverkeithing Station to raise awareness among commuters.*

Looking ahead, we face another busy and challenging year. Specialist services continue to experience financial pressures, and there is ongoing uncertainty around future Scottish Government funding arrangements. Alongside this, we are engaging in work to develop a localised needs assessment to better understand and respond to demand.As always, the strength of the partnership lies in its members—particularly the dedication and commitment of staff across agencies, whose efforts continue to drive this work forward.

As my term as Chair comes to a close, I would like to extend my thanks to all partnership colleagues for their support. It has been a privilege to lead this work, and I wish the partnership continued success in the years ahead."

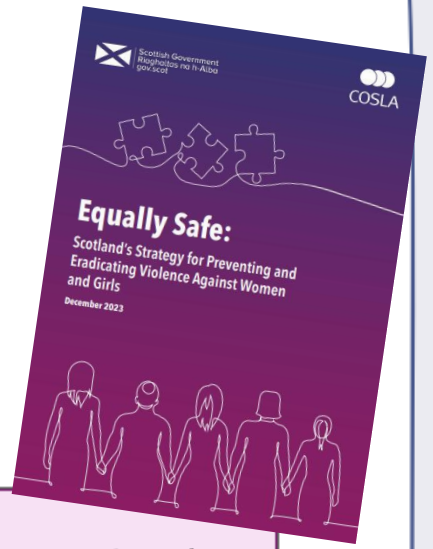
Paul Short, FVAWP Executive Committee Chair

National Context

Equally Safe is Scotland's national strategy to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls.

The strategy was refreshed in 2023, and sets out a vision of a strong and flourishing Scotland where all individuals are equally safe and protected, and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse – and the attitudes that help perpetuate them

It is supported by a logic model showing the strategic goals. The logic model continues to work to the following four priorities:



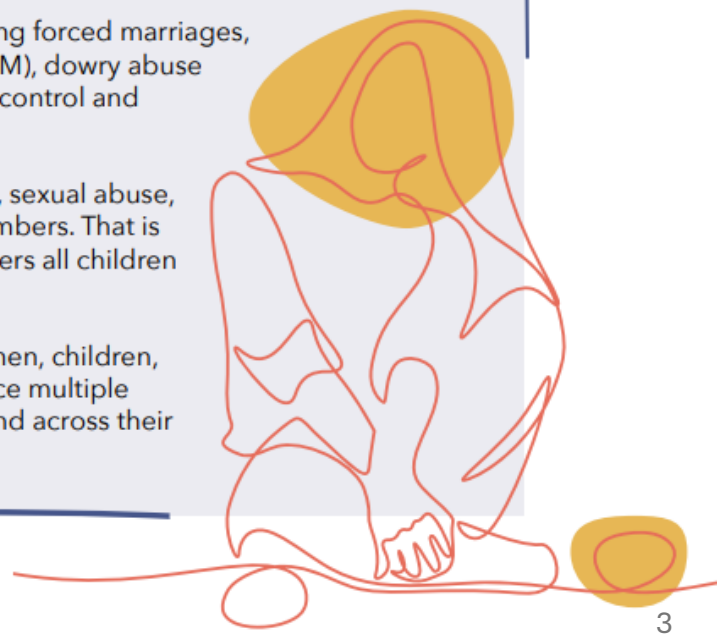
1. Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls
2. Women and girls thrive as equal citizens: socially, culturally, economically, and politically
3. Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising the safety and wellbeing of women children and young people
4. Men reject all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response

This strategy's definition of VAWG includes the actual and threat of:[12]

- physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, and financial abuse occurring in the family, within the general community, and in institutions in both physical and digital spaces and places
- domestic abuse/coercive controlling behaviours, stalking, rape, incest, sexual harassment, bullying, and intimidation
- commercial sexual exploitation (CSE), including prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography
- human trafficking, including for the purposes of domestic servitude, sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation, which may include gangs and organised criminal networks
- child abuse occurring within family settings, including domestic abuse, and sexual abuse by male family members including siblings
- child sexual abuse and exploitation including the production and sharing of indecent images of children
- honour-based abuse, including forced marriages, female genital mutilation (FGM), dowry abuse and 'honour based' coercive control and killings.

Boys experience domestic abuse, sexual abuse, and exploitation in significant numbers. That is why the Equally Safe strategy covers all children and young people.

This strategy recognises that women, children, and young people may experience multiple forms of VAWG simultaneously and across their lifetime.



Taken from Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls published December 2023

Equally Safe Delivery Plan and Progress Report



The Equally Safe Delivery Plan sits below the refreshed Equally Safe Strategy and focuses on tangible actions. It sets out that the Scottish Government, COSLA and all partners intend to continue to drive progress by implementing action individually and collectively in a truly cross cutting and inclusive way.

The Equally Safe Delivery Plan Progress Report highlights the practical action being taken to deliver the current plan and demonstrates continued progress towards a Scotland free from violence against women and girls.

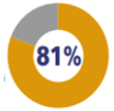
It reflects the collective efforts of the Scottish Government, COSLA, and partners across the public and third sectors, whose shared commitment and expertise are vital to achieving lasting change set out against 14 deliverables and 57 actions.



National Statistics

Police Scotland recorded **64,967** incidents of domestic abuse in 2024-25, an increase of 2% compared to the previous year.
Key Points - Domestic abuse: statistics recorded by the police in Scotland, 2024-25 - gov.scot

Around four out of five of the 63,867 incidents of domestic abuse incidents recorded by Police Scotland in 2023/24 featured a male perpetrator and female victim. Domestic Abuse Police Scotland campaign 2025 - Police Scotland



The 2019/20 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey found that **just under one-sixth (16%)** of those who experienced partner abuse in the 12 months prior to interview said that the police came to know about the most recent (or only) incident.[viii]

There has been a notable decrease in the extent to which people agree with rape myths since 2014. In 2019, **8%** of people in Scotland thought that 'women often lie about being raped' (down from 23% in 2014).

28% believed that 'rape results from men being unable to control their need for sex' (37% in 2014).[iv]

However, this still equates to one in ten people in Scotland thinking that 'women often lie about being raped' and nearly one in three continuing to believe that 'rape results from men being unable to control their need for sex'.

A quarter (24.5%) of women who have experienced financial abuse from a partner in the UK are **over 60 years** of age.[x]

16,430 Sexual crimes were recorded by Police Scotland in 2025/26
Sexual crimes - Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2025-26 - gov.scot

The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2019-2020 showed that only **22%** of victims/survivors of rape reported it to the police.[ii]



At least **37%** of the **14,602** sexual crimes recorded in 2022-23 by the police related to a victim under the age of 18.[iii]

3,830 sexual crimes were cyber-crimes in 2022-23.[v] That has increased from 1,100 in 2013-14.

More than **one in six** women in Scotland has experienced online violence.[vi]

1,928 online child sexual abuse crimes were recorded in Scotland in 2022-23, a **6.6% increase** (20 more crimes) on the five-year mean.

In Scotland, **37%** of girls and young women aged 16 to 21 say that "I am often stared at and receive unwanted attention when I go outside", as do **12%** of 11- to 16-year-old girls.[ix]

Unreferenced national statistics taken from Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls published December 2023

Local Context

- FVAWP's Strategy and Action Plan sets out agreed activities to progress the work in Fife, aligned to the four national Equally Safe priorities. The Bridging Strategy and Action Plan for 2026-2027 was agreed through collaboration and consultation with all partners during 2025/26.
- Governance and delivery are led by the Executive Committee, comprising senior representatives from partner organisations, supported by four priority-focused working groups and associated sub-groups progressing specific workstreams.

FIFE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Partnership

If viewing a digital copy, please click on logos to access relevant partners' websites
Further links/information can be found by clicking on logos and links throughout document

Priority 1 Key Achievements

CP1.1 There is a continued presence of information about Violence Against Women and Girls, the causes and consequences and the role communities can play in tackling it across Fife.

Supporting National Campaigns

- An online webinar was held, ahead of the national **Day of Memory for Victims of Honour Based Abuse.** The event defined honour based abuse and highlighted the impact this abuse has on victims. Input from Pragna Patel from Project Resist and Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid provided a national context. Drummond Miller LLP provided a legal perspective, while input from Shakti Women's Aid highlighted the support available locally. **106** people attended the online session, which received positive feedback and indicated a need for further learning opportunities on this theme.

- KASP led the social media campaign for **Childhood Sexual Abuse Awareness** month in September 2025 with posts that included case studies and feedback from survivors.

As part of **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence:**

- Fife's third **Reclaim the Night** march moved to Dunfermline in early December 2025. Approx. 150 people marched, and approx. 125 attended an after event which was opened by Clare Baker MSP. Speakers provided presentations on MVP in schools, local activism, recovery and DSDAS.
- **Fife Women's Aid**'s annual event included input from Jane Monckton Smith, developer of the Homicide Timeline. An in-person event was attended by 85 people, and an online session was attended by 61 people, with both events receiving positive feedback.
- A wider programme of 16 Days events estimated 1872 engagements across the 16 days, with an online reach of over 48,000. Further 16 Days info here.

- **International Women's Day 2026** was celebrated with public events hosted by **Fife Centre for Equalities** and **Fife College**.

Local Awareness Raising

- The '**What Were You Wearing**' exhibition ran across two sessions in a community venue, sparking conversations and engagement with approx. 60 attendees. A pop-up exhibition was held at the Children's Hearing Improvement Partnership professionals learning event, with approx. 40 staff visiting the exhibit.
- The exhibition was also held in Dunfermline HS for one day, attended by over 170 S5 and S6 pupils and staff, engaging them in discussions on consent, healthy relationships, safety, and sexual abuse.
- **FVAWP public awareness webpages** have been updated throughout the year to provide a constant information source about campaigns and events that are open to the public.
- We have visited and enjoyed **conversations** with community groups, including Girl Guides, Scouts, and a Young at Heart group.





Left: marchers at Reclaim the Night

Right: Keynote speaker Jane Monckton Smith

Priority 1 Key Achievements

IP 1.1 Fife Children and Young People's Gender Based Violence Primary Prevention Strategy supports the delivery of inputs across all education establishments in Fife.

Work in schools

- All 18 Fife secondary schools are trained in the Mentors In Violence Prevention (MVP) model and have a named lead, with 17 delivering MVP in 2025/26.
- Through capacity building sessions, 38 multi-agency staff were trained to support delivery of MVP, including supporting senior pupils volunteering as mentors, enabling a growing number of staff in Fife who can support a whole school and community approach to tackling gender-based violence.
- A total of 273 senior pupils were trained to deliver MVP to younger peers, including one school that trained all S6 pupils to share mentoring responsibilities. Many schools have delivered MVP more widely, as part of a whole school approach, either to staff, parents, or community partners. These have included info sessions to parents, carers at P7 transition evenings, groups of staff receiving input as part of in-set days, either from staff or pupils, or both, drop-in stalls over lunch, and inputs at year-group assemblies.
- Multi-agency training staff piloted the new **Gender-Based Violence: Early Intervention** training programme with 9 Additionality teachers from primary schools across Fife. Feedback was used to refine the course and has also been shared with Education Scotland to inform updates to their resources. The programme aims to increase knowledge and confidence in preventing and responding to GBV, while supporting gender equality and positive relationships through the curriculum. There are plans to deliver further sessions to primary schools in 2026/27.
- During the period April 2025 to March 2026 **NSPCC**'s Speak Out Stay Safe virtual assemblies were delivered to 8,385 children. This is offered to all 46 primary schools in Fife on a three-year cycle.
- Seven Fife secondary schools have joined **Equally Safe at School**, aiming to adopt a whole-school approach to preventing gender-based violence. This aligns with Curriculum for Excellence, GIRFEC, and the Scottish Government's Equally Safe strategy. FRASAC continues to support the process. Three of these schools are actively participating and have completed the Equally Safe deliverable actions.

MVP Scotland mentors in violence prevention

NSPCC Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

equally safe at school a whole school approach to preventing gender based violence

Further and Higher Education

Throughout the academic year (July 2025 – June 2026), St Andrews University students and staff promoted gender-based violence awareness through various events and activities supporting prevention efforts, including:

- The Clothes Line Project is a powerful visual awareness campaign where community members decorate t-shirts to share their stories of sexual, interpersonal, and gender-based violence. The shirts are strung together and publicly displayed on a clothesline to honour survivors and create a visible reminder that no one is alone. 40 students attended the craft event whilst 150 people attended the exhibition.
- 75 Safe Night Out 'goodie bags' were handed out.
- The University's mandatory Consent and Bystander training was completed by 4,656 students in the 2025/26 academic year.
- They maintained their partnership with FRASAC to ensure students have access to a dedicated specialist support worker in St Andrews.
- Got Consent, a student-led initiative supported by a partnership between Student Services and the Students' Association, delivered four peer education workshops throughout the academic year to approx. 340 university students.
- Reclaim the Night March and after event was attended by approx. 25 people in St Andrews in November 2025.

GOTCONSENT Conversations about consent

University of St Andrews

Priority 1 Key Achievements

IP 1.3 Increase engagement with organisations working with men and boys sharing joined up messages around tackling sexism and supporting men and boys to challenge harmful behaviours

White Ribbon Fife

- The revival of the **White Ribbon Fife** status project got underway this year:
- A White Ribbon Speakers Training session was attended by 10 partnership staff and 1 community supporter, who are now trained speakers and ready, willing and able to share the White Ribbon message across Fife.
- A steering group was established to direct the growth of the White Ribbon project in Fife, with a wide range of staff providing their knowledge, experience and guidance.
- As part of 16 days, White Ribbon speakers participated in a national train station takeover and were out speaking to commuters at Inverkeithing train station.
- FVAWP have been working with **Dunfermline Athletic FC** to promote the White Ribbon message with fans. Staff attended a community open day, which launched the club's 2025/26 season Third kit. Staff also attended a game in December, during 16 Days, to give out ribbons and raise awareness, with players in white ribbon t-shirts as they warmed up.
- White Ribbon Fife webpages have been updated throughout the year to provide a constant information source about the local campaigns.

Take the White Ribbon pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women in all its forms

Spotlight: Many Good Men

- **Many Good Men**: a partnership project exploring young people's experience of the manosphere, incel culture and online misogyny.
- Key partners: Civic Digits, Dunfermline High School, Youth Space, Community Learning and Development (CLD) and Dunfermline Athletic Football Club (DAFC).
- Almost all S2 pupils (approx 220) from Dunfermline High School received a workshop which explored experiences of manosphere, incel culture and how online misogyny influences boys and young men, their attitudes, opinions and behaviour.
- A workshop was also provided for parents and carers.
- Fifteen pupils participated in focussed workshops where they co-wrote a play. The group interviewed DAFC first team players and discussed the impact of positive male role models. Their play was developed into an interactive theatre performance, Many Good Men, by Civic Digits, and was hosted by DAFC at East End Park.
- Audience members were asked to use digital voting to direct the story and take part in a discussion session where they considered changes within the story that may have created a better ending.





Left: an engaging performance

Right: audience members at East End park

Priority 2 Key Achievements

IP2.2 Leaders in Fife prioritise violence against women and gender equality

- FVAWP continues to be supported by leaders in Fife, with leaders regularly engaging with and supporting FVAWP activities, such as Reclaim the Night, Many Good Men and What Were You Wearing.
- FVAWP coordinators maintain regular contact and attend regular meetings with FVAWP Executive Committee members, Cllr Judy Hamilton and Cllr Carole Lindsay.
- Fife Council leaders support the reaccreditation process for Equally Safe at Work.



Right: leadership support at Reclaim the Night



Above: online support from local MSP for Many Good Men

IP 2.4 Enhance the use of Equality Impact Assessments, ensuring a gendered approach in developing, reviewing and implementing policies.

- **Fife Centre for Equalities** continue to encourage participation in their Equality Pathfinders programme. The programme is a challenge-based and experiential capacity building programme for improving equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) policy and practice in organisations.
- Work is underway to develop an Equalities Lens Evaluation Guide including topic specific areas or themes such as 'Human Rights and Gender Equality' as part of the programme. The guide enables organisations to critically self-assess their contribution to realising human rights and gender equality.

IP2.3 Women and Girls are safe in our communities

- FVAWP continue our strong relationship with the **Fife Community Safety Partnership (FCSP)** – maintaining our regular attendance at FCSP meetings and regular communication with FCSP lead.
- Violence Against Women and Girls continues to be formally included in the FCSP working plan with both partnerships committed to working collaboratively to achieve our above goal.

Priority 3 Key Achievements

CP 3.1 Staff in universal and specialist services are confident in responding to violence against women, including children

FVAWP delivered training throughout 2025-26 as part of the Multi-agency Training Framework.
This was accessed by partners across statutory and third sectors with a wide range of staff attending. FVAWP Training Programme can be accessed through FVAWP webpages.

FVAWP Training 2025/26 (Webinars and in-person sessions attended and evaluated)	Attendees	Satisfaction (%)	Improved Understanding (%)	Highlight good practice? (%)	Increase knowledge of services/ resources? (%)
MARAC	80	100	100	100	100
Engaging Safely with Male Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse	35	100	100	100	100
The Impact of Domestic Abuse in the Early Years	24	100	100	100	100
Identifying and Working with Stalking Behaviours	30	100	100	100	92
Under Pressure	26	100	100	100	100
DSDAS (Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland)	18	100	100	100	100
Domestic Abuse and Protection of Children	9	100	100	100	100
How to Handle Disclosures of Sexual Violence	10	100	100	100	100
See Me Not My Mask – Supporting Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse	10	100	100	100	100
Commercial Exploitation (CSE) and Money	8	100	100	100	100
Commercial Exploitation and Safety	10	100	100	100	100
Commercial Exploitation and Sexual Health	4	100	100	100	100
Safe and Together Core Training (In-Person)	59	100	100	100	100
Total Attendees (including from second table)	**480**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**99%**

FVAWP Training 2025/26 (e-learning completed but not evaluated)	Attendees
Domestic Abuse (DAART)	89
FVAWP Training 2024/25 (Webinars & Blended Learning)	**Attendees**
Safe and Together – 1 hour Overview	8
For Fife Council Employees Only in 2025/26:	
Equally Safe in Practice – Together for Gender Equality	18
Equally Safe in Practice - Understanding Sexual Violence	20
Equally Safe in Practice – Understanding Domestic Abuse	22

Training was delivered across a range of platforms, including e-learning, webinars, blended learning, and in-person sessions. Evaluation feedback highlights the value of this flexible approach, and we will continue to develop a blended programme to meet different learning needs. While feedback and outcomes remain very positive, we continue to use evaluation insight to refine and improve future delivery.

We also continue to work closely with partners to review, update, and expand our training offer.

The following national e-learning modules are also promoted in our training programme but it is not possible to monitor how many Fife staff have completed these courses:

- Human Trafficking
- Introduction to Child Sexual Exploitation
- Awareness of Forced Marriage
- Recognising and Preventing FGM
- Becoming Trauma Informed
- Developing Your Trauma Skilled Practice
- Equally Safe in Practice (3 modules) statistics for anyone working out with Fife Council
- Anyone completing Domestic Abuse Awareness Raising Tool out with Fife Council

Priority 3 Key Achievements

Priority 3 Continuity and Improvement Plan – VAWG Needs Assessment Tool

To support Equally Safe, the Scottish Government, COSLA and the Improvement Service developed and tested a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Needs Assessment Tool across 10 areas between September 2025 and March 2026. The test phase explored how partnerships could assess local need, identify service gaps, share good practice and strengthen strategic planning. Participating areas examined local demographic and socio-economic data alongside wider assessment questions, supported by workshops, peer learning and tailored support from the Improvement Service. The learning gathered informed further development of the tool and highlighted the support partnerships need to undertake meaningful and sustainable needs assessment activity.

In Fife, the test phase focused on understanding the experiences and needs of women, children and young people affected by VAWG, and the extent to which local services meet those needs. Led by a dedicated subgroup and coordinated by the Fife VAW Partnership and an independent consultant, the work combined surveys, focus groups, demographic analysis and stakeholder engagement. A collaborative, trauma-informed approach ensured strong partner involvement, flexible participation methods, and robust safeguarding arrangements, while the independent consultant supported analysis, reflection and interpretation of findings across the partnership.

Experience and learning from the development of the tool has been shared with the Improvement Service to inform future implementation whilst work continues in Fife to strengthen the evidence base and support strategic planning and commissioning, with stakeholders involved in sharing findings and shaping next steps, including learning events and opportunities. The learning will not only inform work across Priority 3 but spans all other Equally Safe priorities within FVAWP's Action Plan.



CP3.7 Provide quality, safe, secure and accessible accommodation to women and children at risk of domestic abuse and other forms of VAW
CP 3.1 Staff in universal and specialist services are confident in responding to violence against women, including children.

Following the previously successful implementation of mandatory ESiP learning modules, Fife Council Housing and Safer Communities working alongside FVAWP, became the first service in Scotland to pilot the Equally Safe in Practice (ESiP) Kitemark Accreditation, with support from Scottish Women's Aid's ESiP team. The process strengthened workforce knowledge, team culture, and gender-competent, trauma-informed responses to VAWG, while helping shape the accreditation framework.

Building on over a decade of work to improve responses to domestic abuse and VAWG, the service reviewed governance, learning and development, and performance frameworks. Key priorities included improving staff knowledge and skills, strengthening prevention-focused practice, enhancing data and evaluation, and aligning with wider partnership priorities.

The evidence submitted demonstrated a strong commitment to continuous improvement and sustainable practice change, complementing Fife Council's Equally Safe at Work Bronze accreditation and wider efforts to improve outcomes for victim-survivors.

The service achieved the Aware level award and presented its journey at a national learning event in March 2026. Future priorities include sustaining training, supporting new staff, strengthening reflective practice, and exploring further accreditation, with ongoing ESiP support to embed good practice.

Equally Safe in practice
knowledge, skills, change

Scottish Women's Aid 50

Fife Council

Fife Community Safety Partnership

Fife Violence Against Women Partnership

Priority 3 Key Achievements

IP 3.1 Ensure all those who experience VAWG can access quality services when they need them, considering new challenges as they emerge. Services are accessible Fife-wide.

IP3.2 Increase understanding of a survivor's journey through systems and services in Fife with a view to supporting earlier intervention and a whole system approach to supporting women, children and young people experiencing VAWG

Key services regularly provide case studies and feedback based on survivors' experience of the support they received, and we are delighted to be able to showcase one, as well as service user feedback.

Case Study from FRASAC (Fife Rape and Sexual Assault Centre)

The client was referred by her College after a sexual assault triggered earlier childhood trauma. FRASAC gave her the opportunity in a safe, familiar environment to talk about what had happened and how she felt.

Her main objective was to feel confident enough to go outside and continue with her studies. We spent the initial sessions building trust and a safe relationship. This enabled the client to relax and talk more openly about how they felt. Her childhood was difficult due to parental relationships, and she currently lived with her grandparents.

We explored 'Trust and Relationships' and what those meant. She was able to describe what she would like in a trustworthy relationship and could see that she had that with her grandparents. We were able to highlight the positives and explore the negatives of her early relationship with her parents.

As her confidence grew, she began to talk about other more positive aspects of her life. We spent a lot of time validating and exploring any positive aspects arising, highlighting how that made her feel, showing her that she could deal with challenging situations.

At the conclusion of her sessions the client said "*I feel able to leave the house on my own without anxiety dictating what I do. FRASAC has supported me through various aspects of my life that isn't directly related to the event that I was originally referred for. Thank you.*"

"Helps me know you and your child are not alone. I am starting to understand how I felt I had to stay"
CEDAR Plus (Mother who attended group)

"Don't be scared. Everyone here has had hurting in their family"
CEDAR Plus (young person)

"I am more open to talking about experiences and using effective coping strategies because of counselling. I didn't expect so much confidence in myself and to be able to voice how I feel now."
Safe Space Service User

"The pace of the sessions has been really helpful, didn't feel rushed, didn't feel pressure to quickly resolve. Had time. Also started sessions not intending to file report but grateful to have continuity of sessions through that stage."
FRASAC Service User

"I wouldn't have coped without your support and how you've helped me understand a lot of the process as well. I've obviously never experienced anything like this in my life, and I wouldn't have managed without your support and help. Nobody expects anything like this to happen, so the fact that people like you are there is really, really helpful". (MARAC Support and Advocacy)
Fife Women's Aid Service User

"Shakti staff has given me lots of courage and strength to look forward in life, they have understanding of culture, and speaking in same language helped me to know that there is someone in this foreign country who can understand me and help me."
Shakti Women's Aid Service User

"I came into KASP at a time where I was at my absolute lowest and I had been going through a lot of trauma. Through my first session I completely opened up and at the end of it I felt at ease with support worker. I am now at a place where I can go places without fear, and I can do the littlest of things that I couldn't before all thanks to (support worker). I also know if I need help again, I can message or email . Support worker is a credit to KASP and a real asset."
KASP Service User

"I signed for my tenancy and due to me having physical disabilities the DAI Fund worked together to get my carpets laid and furniture that they had in storage for me put in before I had to move in. It made such a difference to me thank you, I LOVE MY HOME"
Housing Domestic Abuse Intervention Fund Client

Priority 3 – Data 2025/26



CP3.8 Quality accessible services for women, children and young people with experience of VAWG

Organisation	Individuals Supported	CYPs	Adult Females	Adult Males	Trans Women	Trans Men	Non-binary	Unknown	New Referrals	Waiting List March 26
Fife Women's Aid	1625	319	1306						1507	267
MARAC (564 victim cases discussed at MARAC and 1137 CYPs considered)			893	58		2			953	
CEDAR+	101	58	43						61	27
Shakti Women's Aid	52		52						37	4
FRASAC	722	90	313	32			4	283	527	154
KASP (males supported includes MARAC referrals)	313		177	135		1			366	72
Safe Space	127	21	87	17		1	1		96	16
NHS GBV Team	145	19	110	15		1			145	0
Housing – Housing/Homeless Applications due to Domestic Abuse	189 (Rehoused)		177 (Rehoused)	12 (Rehoused)					159	323 (Rolling figure)
Justice Social Work Caledonian Women's Support	349		349						349	
Fife Gingerbread – Freedom Programme	26		26						40	
Police Scotland (Fife) – Domestic Abuse Incidents	5164									
Police Scotland (Fife) – Crimes of Indecency	1353									

Please note:
We have been unable to provide information from Victim Support Scotland or give a breakdown of gender for CYPs supported.

Priority 4 Key Achievements

CP4.3 Perpetrators are held to account for their behaviour through robust use of Justice Social Work responses

The **Caledonian Men's Programme** is a court-mandated intervention for men who use abusive behaviour in intimate relationships. Delivered over 24 months through weekly one-to-one and group sessions, it uses structured, accredited materials. Completion rates for similar Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programmes typically range from 40 –60%; **in Fife, 48 Community Payback Orders (CPOs) included a Caledonian requirement in 2025/26, with a 50% completion rate**.

Alongside this, the **Caledonian Women's Service** supported **349 women** in 2025/26 who were affected by domestic abuse perpetrated by men subject to Caledonian CPOs. Support was tailored to individual needs, resulting in varying levels of engagement.

The **Moving Forward 2 Change (MF2C)** programme is a group-based intervention for men convicted of sexual offences. **In 2025/26, 21 CPOs included an MF2C requirement, with a 71% completion rate**. MF2C was also delivered on a one-to-one basis for men unable to participate in groupwork due to responsivity needs. In addition, Groupwork Services (GWS) supported men assessed as benefiting from targeted work to address sexually harmful behaviour, even where MF2C was not a CPO requirement.

These intensive interventions help participants understand the links between thoughts, feelings and behaviours, and develop safer responses. While group delivery is preferred to maximise impact and efficiency, one-to-one or two-to-one interventions are provided where required.

Groupwork Services have also developed the **Lomond's Programme**, a specialist intervention focused on internet-based offending. The first programme commenced on 30 March 2026.

In addition to court-mandated programmes, **Fife Justice Social Work** (JSW) delivers interventions to challenge harmful behaviour and promote accountability, including the **Healthy Relationships Workbook**. This structured one-to-one intervention has been rolled out across Fife JSW, increasing capacity to address harmful relationship behaviours and support positive change for individuals not subject to court mandated programmes.

IP4.1 Enhanced partnership working between all partners within the criminal justice system.

In February 2026, HMP Perth hosted a week-long programme on football violence, knife crime and domestic offending, with strong engagement from all participants. FVAWP delivered a sessionson gender equality, healthy relationships, and the link between major football events and domestic abuse.

Nine prisoners received a People Plus Citizenship Certificate in recognition of their participation. Feedback was very positive, with participants requesting further awareness-raising programmes, and one individual has since been identified as a potential Peer Mentor.

CP 4.2 Concerns raised over perpetrating and/or escalating behaviour are investigated quickly and thoroughly

Referrals to MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) continue to rise in Fife, reflecting both increased demand for high-risk domestic abuse interventions and greater awareness and understanding of the MARAC process. MARAC addresses victims needs whilst addressing perpetrator behaviour. To manage demand, MARAC moved to weekly meetings in January 2026, receiving 953 referrals during this reporting year (a 167% increase in referrals compared to ten years ago). Partners have supported this through ongoing collaboration and resource commitment.

Staff in Fife continue to promote and use the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) as a safeguarding and intervention tool enabling people to enquire whether someone has an abusive past, allowing them to make informed choices about relationships. DSDAS is now embedded within the FVAWP training programme, and information sessions have been delivered at community events.

Priority 4 Key Achievements

IP4.1 Enhanced partnership working between all partners within the criminal justice system.

Key actions within the Priority 4 Improvement Plan include to '*Improve communication with Procurator Fiscal (PF)'s office to ensure communication on decision making processes, and channels to respond to these, are clear and understood*' and '*PF Office representative to regularly attend Priority 4 meetings and contribute to agenda setting*'.

During 2025/26, a new PF representative joined the Priority 4 Working Group, creating valuable information-sharing opportunities and strengthening partnership working.

A key development was a presentation on the new Summary Case Management (SCM) approach, which aims to resolve more cases at an earlier stage, reduce witness citations, improve trial effectiveness, and enhance the experience of victims, witnesses and accused persons. Enhanced engagement with victims of domestic abuse includes proactive contact from legal staff to address barriers to participation, complement VIA support, build trust in the justice system, and improve trial preparation.

SCM applies to most summary complaints, with specific processes for domestic abuse cases. Expected outcomes include fewer trials fixed, more evidence agreed at an early stage, more effective trials, reduced witness citations, and a decrease in outstanding trials. Exceptions to SCM include where the accused is remanded in custody; or where the accused is self-representing at the first calling or CYP diet.

We are also collaborating with the PF Office to share experiences and victim feedback on the Justice system.

Further opportunities included an invitation for the FVAWP Coordinator to attend an information session held by the PFs Office on Police body worn video (BWV) cameras which will help to gather information and evidence especially from domestic abuse incidents. The rollout of this will bring the national force into line with other UK police forces which have had the cameras as standard for many years. The cameras will provide extra protection for officers and the public by recording evidence which can be used in court. By improving the quality of court evidence, the technology will help secure earlier guilty pleas, deliver swifter justice, and reduce time spent in court for victims, witnesses and police officers.

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CROWN OFFICE & PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE

Looking Forward:

2026-2027 Goals

Our key areas of interest for 2026-2028 will be to continue working on the outcomes and actions identified in Bridging Strategy and Action Plan for 2026-2028 in partnership with all FVAWP members.

During 2026/27 we will also be involved in:

- **Integration into the new Fife Public Protection Team with oversight from the newly developed Public Protection Service Manager post**
- **Expanding the FVAWP Team with the development of a new FVAWP Lead Officer Post**
- **VAWG Needs Assessment – Fife specific work**
- **Equally Safe and Supported pilot project with SCLD (embedding the toolkit to support women with learning disabilities)**
- **Army Covenant Fund Project with Safe Lives**
- **Quality Assurance and Audit Work (including participation in VAWG Inspections)**
- **Equally Safe at Work Bronze Award Reaccreditation**
- **National Violence Against Women Network Meetings**
- **Safe & Together in Scotland – National Forums**
- **16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women (and ongoing campaign work throughout the year)**



Links, resources and further reading

For a full picture of the work we have been doing, please view our action plan, minutes, and any campaigns updates on our webpages by clicking **HERE** or searching on fife.gov.uk.

Our training programme can be accessed HERE

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

FRASAC-ANNUAL-REPORT-MARCH-2025-INC-FINANCIAL-STATEMENTS.PDF

PUBLICATIONS - FIFE WOMEN'S AID

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 2025 | KASP.ORG.UK

DOCUMENTS — FIFE GINGERBREAD

If you are viewing this document in a paper copy, please contact fvawp@fife.gov.uk for further information about any of the resources included in this report.

FIFE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Partnership