



# Equally Safe Quality Standards and Performance Framework

*A resource to support VAW Partnerships to measure and demonstrate the progress being made to implement Equally Safe at a local level and identify any areas for improvement*

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# Foreword

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Violence against women and girls, in any form, has no place in our vision for a safe, strong, successful Scotland. It damages health and wellbeing, limits freedom and potential, and is a fundamental violation of human rights.

As co-chairs of the Equally Safe Joint Strategic Board, the Scottish Government and COSLA expect robust measures to be put in place to demonstrate the progress being made to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls in Scotland. To support this, in 2017 we published our Delivery Plan for Equally Safe which includes an outcomes framework, with identified indicators, to measure progress and performance at a local and national level.

As the multi-agency mechanism with responsibility for delivering Equally Safe at a local strategic level, VAW Partnerships have a key role to play in collecting and sharing data on the work that is being undertaken within each local authority area to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls, and the impact this is having. The Equally Safe Quality Standards and Performance Framework provides an invaluable framework to support multi-agency VAW Partnerships and their partner organisations to measure their progress and performance, and to help identify any areas where improvements may be required.

The Scottish Government and COSLA are firmly committed to ensuring that Equally Safe delivers real change for women and children in Scotland. To ensure this happens, we expect all VAW Partnerships to collect and share data on the quality standards and performance indicators included in this document on an annual basis, and use this to inform future strategic planning. We look forward to working with everyone in ensuring that we all live in a strong and flourishing Scotland where individuals are equally safe and respected, and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse – and the attitudes that help perpetuate it.



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COSLA Interim Community  
Wellbeing Spokesperson

# 1. Equally Safe and VAW Partnerships

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## Equally Safe

*Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls* was launched in 2014 and revised in 2016. The strategy sets out the Scottish Government and COSLA's joint vision for a strong and flourishing Scotland where all individuals are equally safe and respected, and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse – and the attitudes that help perpetuate it.<sup>1</sup>

In order to achieve this, *Equally Safe* identifies four key 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; and
4. Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.

*Equally Safe* highlights the importance of understanding the progress that is being made towards preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls and identifying areas where improvements are needed. Specifically, it notes that:

“A crucial component of our work going forward is that we are able to measure our performance at a local level, and we will look to develop a suite of outcomes and indicators that enable us to understand the difference we are making at both a national and a local level.

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- 1 Equally Safe recognises violence against women and girls (VAWG) as a function of gender inequality, and an abuse of male power and privilege. It encompasses (but is not limited to):
- physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family (including children and young people), within the general community or in institutions, including domestic abuse, rape, and incest;
  - sexual harassment, bullying and intimidation in any public or private space, including work;
  - commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography and trafficking;
  - child sexual abuse, including familial sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and online abuse;
  - so called 'honour based' violence, including dowry related violence, female genital mutilation, forced and child marriages, and 'honour' crimes.

“As a multiagency, multi-sector strategy *Equally Safe* requires all partners – at local, regional and national level – to put in place robust measures to capture and share data. Because the more complete our picture of the prevalence of the problem, the more effectively we can address it and ensure that every woman and girl in Scotland lives Equally Safe.”

## Multi-agency Violence Against Women Partnerships

At a local level, Violence Against Women Partnerships (VAWPs) are recognised as the multi-agency mechanism for delivering on *Equally Safe* and are expected to use the four priorities as a reference point in conducting their work.

In 2016, the Scottish Government and COSLA, with the support of the Improvement Service, published updated [guidance](#) for VAWPs, which clarifies the roles and responsibilities of VAWPs and their partner organisations. Specifically, the guidance highlights the need and value of all Public Sector and Third Sector organisations, that are working to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls at a local level, to be an active member of their VAWP and to contribute fully to its work. It also notes the Scottish Government and COSLA’s ambition that all VAWPs will be adequately resourced to undertake this work going forward.

The VAW Partnership Guidance also introduces a number of ‘minimum standards’ that the Scottish Government and COSLA expect all VAWPs to work towards meeting. These include having a strategic plan in place that outlines how the VAWP will implement *Equally Safe* at a local level and using a performance management framework to measure the progress they are making towards achieving the partnership’s agreed activities, outputs and outcomes.

## 2. Introduction to the Quality Standards and Performance Framework

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The Equally Safe Quality Standards and Performance Framework respond to the expectations set out in *Equally Safe* and in the Violence Against Women Partnership Guidance, in relation to effective performance management.

The [Quality Standards](#) aim to raise awareness of the types of services, policies and processes that are most effective in tackling VAWG and capture data on the extent to which they are currently being delivered across Scotland. The [Performance Framework](#) aims to measure the impact that these services, policies and processes are having on the lives of people and communities affected by VAWG. Collectively, the two resources aim to support VAWPs to capture key performance data and facilitate a consistent approach to measuring and reporting on the progress being made to achieve the ambitions set out in *Equally Safe* at a local level.

This guide sets out the specific indicators which will be used in the Quality Standards and Performance Framework to measure the extent and quality of services and processes and help assess performance. In addition, it provides a definition and, where appropriate, simple guidance concerning how each indicator should be recorded and reported.

The Equally Safe Quality Standards and Performance Framework have been developed by the Scottish Government, COSLA and the Improvement Service, in close collaboration with the National VAW Network and other stakeholders.

To ensure that the Quality Standards and Performance Framework reflect continuous improvements and that the contents remain robust and relevant, this resource will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Following this resource's publication in 2018, key activities going forward will include:

- Rolling out the Quality Standards and Performance Framework across Scotland and supporting VAWPs to use them in a consistent way;
- Gathering and collating the data from the Quality Standards and Performance Framework and using it to produce a written report highlighting key learning, including any gaps in data and delivery plans; and
- Regularly consulting with VAWPs and other stakeholders on ways the Quality Standards and Performance Framework can be improved upon in order to ensure it is user-friendly and produces useful learning for both local and national stakeholders.

Ownership of the Quality Standards and Performance Framework rests with VAWPs, and the role of the Improvement Service is to facilitate and support its use. The Improvement Service recognises the importance of co-coordinating this work in line with the reporting requirements of key funders at a local and national level, to ensure the widest consensus in relation to the indicators. By adopting this approach, the Quality Standards and Performance Framework aim to support better consistency and common reporting requirements from funders, thereby reducing the demands made in relation to data collection.

# 3. Aims and Scope of the Quality Standards and Performance Framework

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## Aims

The overall purpose of this resource is to support multi-agency Violence Against Women Partnerships (VAWPs) to measure and report on the progress that is being made to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls (VAWG) at a local level, with the ultimate aim of reducing inequalities and improving outcomes for some of the most vulnerable people in society

Collectively, the Quality Standards and Performance Framework aim to:

- Provide a consistent basis for measuring the progress being made to implement Equally Safe at a local level;
- Measure the activity and performance of VAWPs and identify areas for improvement to help inform future service planning and strategic investment at a local and national level;
- Generate data on the social and economic impacts of VAWG to help encourage Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to recognise addressing VAWG as a central part of the preventative agenda and identify it as a priority in their strategic plans; and
- Provide useful data to enable the Scottish Government and COSLA to evidence the progress being made to achieve the activities and outcomes set out in Equally Safe, and identify any areas of under-performance where additional focus or resources may be required.

The resource offers VAWPs and other key stakeholders<sup>2</sup> a number of benefits such as a method of evidencing the contribution they are making to the Public Service Reform agenda, supporting the four pillars set out by the Christie Commission:<sup>3</sup> prevention, partnership, people and performance. Additionally, it offers an opportunity to gather robust performance data to help VAWPs and their partner agencies demonstrate the value of their work and make a persuasive case for continued investment.

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- 2 At a local level, it is likely that the information collected in the Framework will also be of interest to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) and thematic partnerships including: Health and Social Care Integration Joint Boards; Public Protection Committees; Community Safety Partnerships; Community Justice Partnerships; and Alcohol and Drug Partnerships.
- 3 For more information see the [Report of the Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services](#) (the 'Christie Commission')

The Quality Standards and Performance Framework also offer benefits for elected members, community planning partners and communities as a whole by helping them to gain a better understanding of the work that is being undertaken to prevent and eradicate VAWG at a local level and the impact that is having. Ultimately, this will help to strengthen local democratic accountability.

As *Equally Safe* recognises, robust systems are not currently in place to capture all the data needed in order to understand the progress that is being made to implement Equally Safe at a local and national level. Consequently, it is recognised that there are likely to be significant gaps in performance data initially and that it may take a number of years before VAWPs are able to provide data on all of the indicators listed in the Quality Standards and Performance Framework. Therefore, another aim of this resource in the short-term is that it will help identify where there are gaps in data. This learning will then help to inform and improve the type of data that is collected at a local and national level going forward, and identify areas where more resources may be required.

It is important to remember that the Quality Standards and Performance Framework are not league tables that can be used to compare different areas' performance. There are likely to be considerable variations between the VAWG services and processes that are in place in different areas across Scotland, as these will respond to local needs, geography and differing priorities. Consequently, direct comparisons between one area and another is often neither helpful nor possible, as account should be taken of local circumstance and context. Instead, the Quality Standards and Performance Framework should primarily be seen as a tool for VAWPs and the strategic bodies they report to within CPPs to assess their own progress and performance in implementing the priorities set out in Equally Safe.

## Scope

It is intended that the Quality Standards and Performance Framework will form part of a suite of tools that will be used to measure and understand the progress that is being made at a local and national level towards achieving these activities and outcomes, with other tools/approaches<sup>4</sup> likely to include:

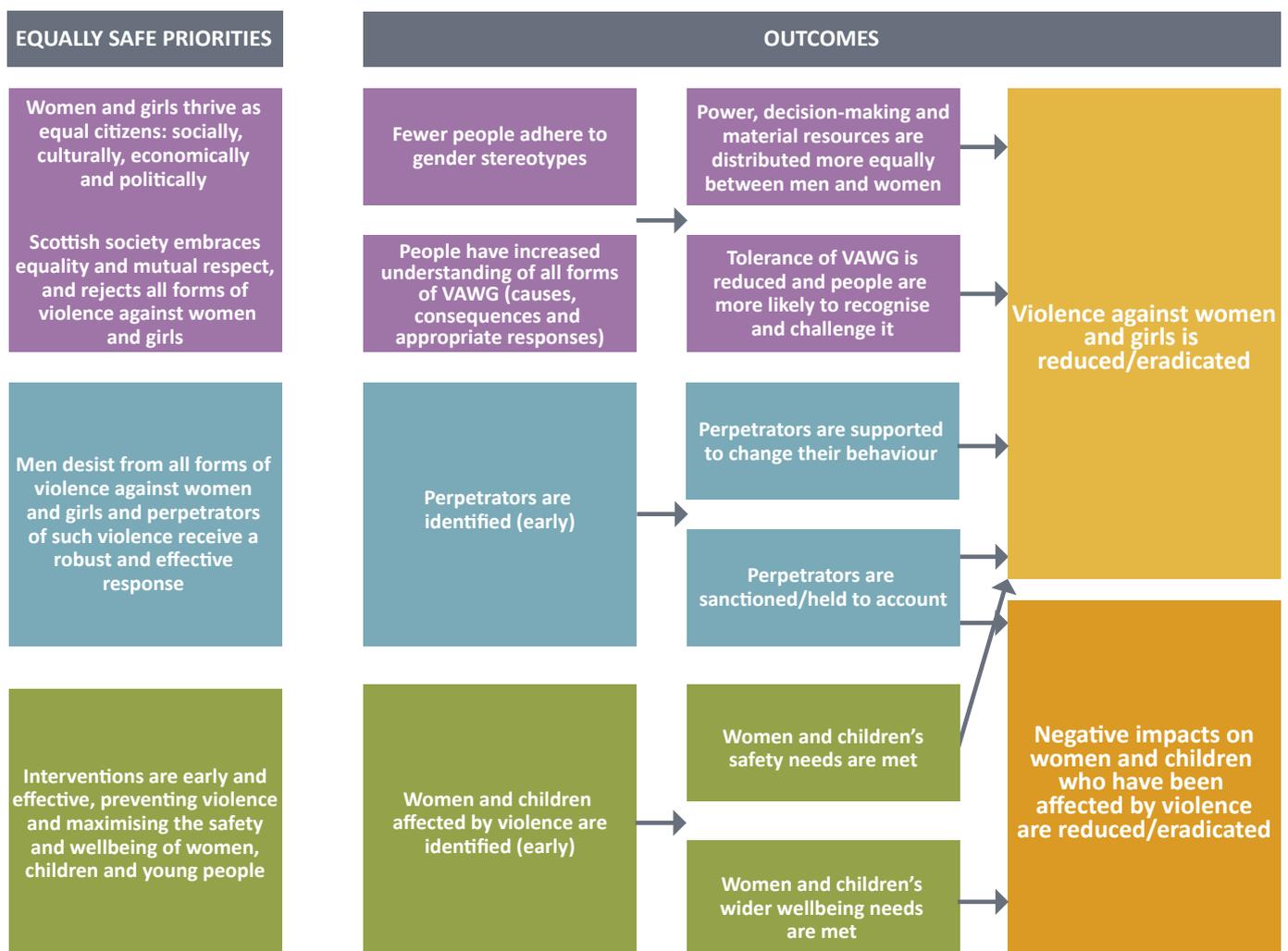
- The Violence Against Women Partnership Self-Assessment Checklist;
- Other local performance management data;
- In depth evaluations and value for money reviews of projects and interventions; and
- National surveys and statistics

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4 Some of the tools/approaches are likely to enable qualitative feedback from women and children with lived experiences of VAWG, and other target groups to be captured.

The Equally Safe Quality Standards and Performance Framework will not replace the need for these other tools/approaches but instead, by focusing on a small number of key indicators of performance, it aims to provide a strategic view of progress and performance across Scotland. This will be of practical use both locally and nationally, to better understand service provision, identify potential gaps and assess opportunities for sharing good practice and driving continuous improvement. By having a consistent approach across all VAWPs, for the first time, it should be possible to produce an overview of the work being done across the country and create an aggregate report, outlining the collective contribution of all local VAWPs' work across Scotland.

*Equally Safe* is a highly ambitious strategy, outlining the Scottish Government and COSLA's priorities for women, girls and children affected by VAWG; perpetrators of VAWG and society as a whole. The following logic model highlights the key outcomes that contribute to each of these priorities and the relationship between them:



# 4. The Equally Safe Quality Standards

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## Background

The Equally Safe Quality Standards aim to add value to the Performance Framework by raising awareness of the types of services, policies and processes that contribute to the priorities set out in *Equally Safe* and capturing data on the extent to which they are currently in place across Scotland, to help inform any improvements that may be required at a local or national level. It is intended that these Quality Standards align with, and add value to, the wider programme of activity that is being taken forward at a national level to implement *Equally Safe*. For more information on these activities, please refer to the [Equally Safe Delivery Plan](#).

It is important to note that the specific services, policies and processes that local authority areas have in place will vary depending on the needs, resources and priorities of that local community. It is expected that they will also be shaped by, and respond to, the lived experiences of women and children affected by VAWG. Consequently, the Quality Standards are not intended to be a prescriptive list of services, policies and processes that all local authority areas are expected to implement, but instead they aim to:

- Highlight the types of services, policies and processes that are most effective in tackling VAWG and capture data on the extent to which they are currently being delivered across Scotland;
- Highlight what good practice looks like when supporting women and children affected by VAWG and provide a benchmark of excellence that organisations can work towards achieving; and
- Identify areas for improvement for organisations/ partnerships and help to increase their capacity and capability to identify and respond to women and children affected by VAWG.

The Quality Standards are broken into five sections. The first four sections aim to identify what services/ processes are in place that contribute to the priorities set out in *Equally Safe*. The final section aims to identify the extent to which the minimum standards and key activities that the Scottish Government and COSLA set out in the VAW Partnership Guidance (2016) are being met at a local level.

## Using the Quality Standards

Each year, every local multi-agency VAW Partnership (VAWP)<sup>5</sup> in Scotland will be asked to review the Quality Standards and identify the extent to which the services, policies and processes outlined in them are in place within their local authority area. It is expected that all members of the VAWP will contribute to this exercise

It is important to note that while direct responsibility for meeting some of the Quality Standards may sit with other organisations or thematic partnerships within the local authority area, the *VAW Partnership Guidance* highlights that VAWPs have an important role to play in providing quality assurance for local services, policies and processes to ensure that they are evidence-informed and contribute to positive outcomes for women and children. The Quality Standards are designed to help assist VAWPs in carrying out this quality assurance role.

It is intended that reviewing the Quality Standards will be a collaborative exercise and that in undertaking it, VAWPs will consult both with their member organisations and with other relevant thematic partnerships that have a responsibility for delivering services to women and children at a local level.

Each VAWP will be asked to self-assess whether each standard in the checklist is 'met', 'partly met' or 'not met' within the local authority area in which it operates. Where a VAWP identifies that a standard is not met or only partly met, they will also be encouraged to provide additional information on:

- the reasons for this including any challenges they have encountered; and
- any work they or other stakeholders within their local authority area plan to undertake in the coming year to meet this standard

The Quality Standards will be issued as an online survey to every VAWP on the 1st of April of each year and they will have until the 30th June to complete it.

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5 The VAW Partnership Guidance notes that while the specific membership of each VAW Partnership will vary depending on the needs and priorities of the communities in which they are operating, membership is likely to include representatives from Adult and Child Protection Committees, Community Safety Partnerships, Health & Social Care Partnerships, Education, Housing, Social Work, NHS, Police, COPF, Women's Aid, Rape Crisis and other relevant organisations.

# 1. Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect, and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls

This section of the checklist aims to assess whether the services, policies and processes are in place at a local level that the evidence-base suggests will help to achieve the following short-term and medium-term outcomes that contribute to Priority 1 of Equally Safe:

- People have increased understanding of all forms of VAWG (causes, consequences and appropriate responses); and
- Tolerance of VAWG is reduced and people are more likely to recognise and challenge it.

| Quality Standard   | Meets   | Partly Meets  | Does not meet   |
|--|---|---|---|
| 1. Proactive engagement and communications take place in the local community to increase people's awareness and understanding of the causes and consequences of VAWG, and the role they can play in tackling it. | There are wide ranging proactive engagement and communications which take place in the local community, including awareness raising campaigns in a range of mediums on a variety of VAWG issues | There are some engagements and communications, but in a limited number of mediums on a limited range of VAWG issues | Proactive engagement is very limited and there are single or no awareness raising campaigns |

| Quality Standard  | Meets  | Partly Meets   | Does not meet   |
|---|--|--|---|
| 2. The VAW Partnership regularly collects/ analyses data to understand people's attitudes in relation to VAWG, and use that to inform future awareness raising activities.  | The VAWP collects/ analyses data to understand people's attitudes in relation to VAWG at least every two years, and use that to inform future awareness raising activities | The VAWP collects/ analyses data to understand people's attitudes in relation to VAWG, but this is not done regularly and/or does not inform future awareness raising activities         | The VAWP does not collect/ analyse data to understand people's attitudes in relation to VAWG                        |
| 3. The VAW Partnership has processes in place to engage with primary and secondary schools in the local authority area to help ensure they deliver age-appropriate, evidence-based interventions to raise children, teachers and parents' understanding and awareness of gender based violence, positive, healthy relationships and consent, as part of a whole school approach to tackling VAWG. | The VAWP has processes in place to engage with primary and secondary schools and relevant partners work together to take a whole school approach to tackling VAWG          | The VAWP has processes in place to engage with primary and secondary schools but there are no examples of partners working together to support a whole school approach to tackling VAWG. | The VAWP has no processes in place to engage with primary and secondary schools working in the local authority area |

| Quality Standard  | Meets  | Partly Meets   | Does not meet   |
|---|--|--|---|
| 4. Youth work organisations deliver interventions to raise young people's understanding and awareness of VAWG and the importance of positive, healthy relationships.  | There are variety of youth work organisations regularly delivering VAWG relevant interventions or youth work organisations deliver VAWG relevant interventions to a significant proportion of young people | There are only a few youth work organisations delivering interventions or youth work organisations deliver interventions to a small proportion of young people | There are no youth work organisations delivering interventions        |
| 5. There is clear up to date and accessible guidance about the services available to support families affected by VAWG and how to access them. This guidance is well promoted, particularly amongst target groups | There is clear up to date guidance about all the services available to support families affected by VAWG and how to access them  | There is guidance about some of the services available to support families but it is not easily accessible and/or is not up to date                            | There is no guidance about the services available to support families |

| Quality Standard   | Meets   | Partly Meets  | Does not meet   |
|--|---|---|---|
| 6. The VAWP has a process in place to engage with colleges and universities in the local authority area and works with them to identify opportunities for partnership working in preventing gender-based violence on campuses. | The VAWP has processes in place to engage with local colleges and universities and relevant partners are working together to tackle VAWG. | The VAWP has processes in place to engage with local colleges and universities but there are no examples of partners working together to tackle VAWG. | The VAWP does not have processes in place to engage with local colleges and universities. |

## 2. Women and girls thrive as equal citizens: socially, culturally, economically and politically

This section of the checklist aims to assess whether the services, policies and processes are in place at a local level that the evidence-base suggests will help to achieve the following short-term and medium-term outcomes that contribute to Priority 2 of Equally Safe:

- Fewer people adhere to gender stereotypes; and
- Power, decision-making and material resources are distributed more equally between men and women.

| Quality Standard  | Meets   | Partly Meets  | Does not meet   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are routinely undertaken when developing all major new policies, processes and services at a local level in partnership with Equality Groups, to ensure they do not discriminate against women and to identify ways to promote women's equality through them. | EIAs are routinely undertaken in partnership with women's Equality Groups when developing all new policies and processes at a local level | EIAs are undertaken when developing some policies and processes at a local level and women's Equality Groups are included in their development, but not routinely | EIAs are not/rarely undertaken and/or are not/rarely undertaken in partnership with women's Equality Groups |

| Quality Standard  | Meets  | Partly Meets   | Does not meet  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>2. Public Sector employers publish a gender pay gap and an equal pay statement (including gendered occupational segregation information), gather and use gender-disaggregated data, in line with the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), and develop an equality outcome on gender and employment.</p> | <p>Public Sector employers publish a gender pay gap and an equal pay statement (including gendered occupational segregation information), gather and use gender-disaggregated data, in line with the requirements of PSED, and develop an equality outcome on gender and employment.</p> | <p>Public Sector employers publish a gender pay gap and an equal pay statement (including gendered occupational segregation information), gather and use gender-disaggregated data, in line with the requirements of PSED.</p> | <p>Public Sector employers do not publish a gender pay gap, and/or an equal pay statement (including gendered occupational segregation information), and/or gather and use gender-disaggregated data, in line with the requirements of PSED.</p> |
| <p>3. VAWPs regularly engage with local equality groups to ensure they are aware of the VAWG agenda and understand the inequalities that underpin it.</p>   | <p>All local equality groups are regularly consulted to ensure they are aware of the VAWG agenda</p>   | <p>Some local equality groups are consulted on occasion to ensure they are aware of the VAWG agenda</p>  | <p>No equality groups are consulted to ensure they are aware of the VAWG agenda</p>  |

| Quality Standard  | Meets   | Partly Meets   | Does not meet   |
|---|---|--|---|
| 4. Public Sector workplace policies are gender-sensitive and recognise the barriers to women's workplace equality.                                      | Public Sector workplace policies are gender-sensitive and identify clear actions to address the multiple barriers to women's workplace equality.              | Public Sector workplace policies are gender-sensitive and identify clear actions to address some of the barriers to women's workplace equality, but not others.          | Public Sector workplace policies are not gender sensitive and/or do not address the barriers to women's workplace equality.                         |
| 5. Public Sector workplace policies recognise that employees may be affected by VAWG and communicate / support clear paths for women experiencing this. | Public Sector workplace policies recognise the need to tackle VAWG and outline clear paths for employees who experience different forms of violence and abuse | Public Sector workplace policies recognise the need to tackle VAWG and outline clear paths for employees who experience some forms of violence and abuse, but not others | Public Sector workplace policies do not recognise the need to tackle VAWG and/or do not outline clear paths for employees who are experiencing VAWG |

| Quality Standard  | Meets  | Partly Meets  | Does not meet  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 6. VAW Partnerships (and their member organisations) actively engage with Close the Gap's 'Equally Safe at Work' pilot. | The Council is in the Early Adopters or the Shadow Group of the Equally Safe at Work pilot, and the VAWP is actively involved in supporting the implementation of the pilot. | The Council is in the Early Adopters or the Shadow Group of the Equally Safe at Work pilot, but the wider membership of the VAWP is not involved in supporting the implementation of the pilot. | The Council is not involved in Equally Safe at Work Pilot as either an Early Adopter or Shadow Group member. |

### 3. Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising the safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people

This section of the checklist aims to assess whether the services, policies and processes are in place at a local level that the evidence-base suggests will help to achieve the following short-term and medium-term outcomes that contribute to Priority 3 of Equally Safe:

- Women and children affected by VAWG are identified at an early stage;
- Women and children's safety needs are met; and
- Women and children's wider wellbeing needs are met.

| Quality Standard   | Meets   | Partly Meets   | Does not meet   |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1. Public Sector staff who come into contact with members of the public have received at least basic training in how to identify and respond to women and children affected by VAWG in an appropriate way. | All Public Sector staff have access to training and/or a significant proportion have taken it up or received aspects of training relevant to their role | All Public Sector staff have access to training and a proportion have taken it up or received aspects of training relevant to their role | Only a small proportion of Public Sector staff have had any training in VAWG                            |
| 2. <a href="#">Routine Enquiry</a> is regularly undertaken within the priority settings of maternity, mental health, substance misuse, A&E, community nursing and sexual health services.                  | Routine Enquiry is regularly undertaken in all priority settings  | Routine Enquiry is undertaken, but not regularly and /or is undertaken in some of the priority settings                                  | Routine Enquiry is not regularly undertaken and/or is only undertaken in a few of the priority settings |

| Quality Standard   | Meets                                      | Partly Meets                        | Does not meet                               |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <p>3. Regular Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) take place, that meet the <a href="#">10 Principles for an Effective MARAC</a>. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professionals should recognise domestic abuse, risk assess and identify high-risk cases;</li> <li>• All victims who meet the MARAC threshold should be referred to MARAC and IDAA;<sup>6</sup></li> <li>• All key agencies that can contribute to safeguarding high-risk; victims, associated children and vulnerable adults should attend the MARAC;</li> <li>• All high-risk victims should be offered the support of an IDAA and their views and needs should be represented at the MARAC;</li> <li>• MARAC representatives should share relevant, proportionate, risk-focused information;</li> <li>• Multi-agency action plans should be put in place to address the risk to the victim, safeguard children and adults at risk, and manage the perpetrator’s behaviour;</li> <li>• The MARAC hears the recommended volume of cases;</li> <li>• The MARAC addresses the unique needs of victims with protected characteristics;</li> <li>• There is sufficient support and resources to support effective functioning of the MARAC; and</li> <li>• There is effective strategic support and leadership of the MARAC and IDAA response, and agencies work together effectively.</li> </ul> | At least 7 of the defined criteria are met | 3-6 of the defined criteria are met | Less than 3 of the defined criteria are met |

6 Independent Domestic Abuse Advocates (IDAAs) support victims (through risk assessment, safety planning and institutional advocacy) and make sure their views are heard, that agencies are held to account and that victims are kept informed after the meeting.

| Quality Standard   | Meets  | Partly Meets  | Does not meet   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>4. Staff in child welfare settings have received an appropriate level of training in the Safe and Together model to ensure that all responses to women and children affected by domestic abuse are underpinned by the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping the child safe &amp; together with the non-offending parent;</li> <li>• Partnering with the non-offending parent as a default position; and</li> <li>• Intervening with the perpetrator to reduce risk &amp; harm to the child.</li> </ul> | Official Safe and Together Training has been delivered   | Safe and Together briefings have been undertaken and/or Safe and Together principles are included in domestic abuse training  | Safe and Together briefings have not been undertaken and/or Safe and Together principles are not included in domestic abuse training                        |
| <p>5. High quality, accessible accommodation options are available locally that are safe and secure and meet the needs of women, children and young people affected by VAWG.</p>   | A range of high quality accommodation options are available to all women and children affected by VAWG in the local authority area, that are safe, secure and respond to their needs | High quality accommodation options are available to some women and children affected by VAWG, but the range of options available is insufficient to meet all women and children's needs | Accommodation options are not available to women and children affected by VAWG in the local authority area, or it is available but is not of a high quality |
| <p>6. Follow-on/ resettlement support is available for all women and girls leaving refuge</p>  | Follow-on/ resettlement support is available for all women and girls leaving refuge  | Follow-on/ resettlement support is available for all women and girls leaving refuge, but provision is not adequate  | Follow-on/ resettlement support is not available for all women and girls leaving refuge   |

| Quality Standard  | Meets   | Partly Meets   | Does not meet   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>7. Specialist advocacy services are available for all women and girls affected by VAWG, to enable them to address their support needs, take control of their lives and make informed decisions about their future. Support provided by advocacy services should include (but is not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialist information and advice on rights and options (e.g. legal, financial or housing);</li> <li>• 1 to 1 and group work;</li> <li>• Safety planning;</li> <li>• Help through the criminal justice system; and</li> <li>• Support finding and contacting support services</li> </ul> | At least 4 of the defined criteria are met  | 3 of the defined criteria are met  | 2 or less of the defined criteria are met   |
| <p>8. High quality, targeted interventions are in place to engage with women and children affected by VAWG who may experience additional vulnerabilities and barriers as result of race, sexual orientation, age or disability. This includes LGBTI people, minority ethnic women and girls, disabled women and girls (including those with learning disabilities), refugees and asylum seekers, and women of different ages and stages of life.</p>  | Targeted interventions are in place for all women and children experiencing VAWG who have protected characteristics                   | Targeted interventions are in place for some women and children with protected characteristics | Targeted interventions are not in place for women and children with protected characteristics |
| <p>9. Consideration is given to how to meet the needs of women and children experiencing VAWG and have complex needs – substance misuse, mental health issues or trauma.</p>  | There are targeted interventions in place for women and children who have complex needs and/ or specific policies or service pathways | The VAWP has considered how to meet the needs of women and children with complex needs         | The VAWP has not considered how to meet the needs of women and children with complex needs    |

| Quality Standard  | Meets   | Partly Meets  | Does not meet  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>10. Specialist one-to-one and group-work support services are available for all children affected by VAWG, to help address their recovery needs (e.g. Cedar). This support is multi-faceted and promotes a consistent message from schools as well as targeted support from in-house or external agencies.</p> | <p>Specialist one-to-one and group-work support services are available for all children affected by VAWG</p>  | <p>Specialist one-to-one and group-work support services are available, but provision is not adequate</p>   | <p>Specialist one-to-one and group-work support services are not available for children affected by VAWG.</p>  |
| <p>11. The VAW Partnership works to ensure that adequate levels of funding are available for specialist VAWG services, that contribute to the local outcomes and activities that have been identified by members of the Partnership.</p>  | <p>The VAWP works to ensure that specialist VAWG services that contribute to the the Partnership's agreed outcome and activities are adequately resourced, and explores opportunities to lever in additional resources where gaps in funding are identified</p> | <p>The VAWP works to ensure that specialist VAWG services that contribute to the the Partnership's agreed outcome and activities are adequately resourced, but there are no examples of partners working together to lever in additional resources where gaps in funding are identified</p> | <p>The VAWP does not work to ensure that specialist VAWG services that contribute to the the Partnership's agreed outcome and activities are adequately resourced.</p> |

| Quality Standard   | Meets                             | Partly Meets                        | Does not meet                             |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <p>12. All specialist VAWG services that receive funding at a local level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are underpinned by a gendered analysis of VAWG, which recognises that VAWG is both a cause and consequence of women’s inequality;</li> <li>• Are shaped by and promote the views of women, children, and young people who have experience of VAWG;</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the need for women-only spaces in the promotion of safety and recovery from VAWG;</li> <li>• Adopt a rights-based, person-centred, needs-led approach to addressing the impact of VAWG on women, children, and young people that addresses the risks they face;</li> <li>• Demonstrate a commitment to promoting children’s rights and recognise that children and young people have their own unique needs in regard to VAWG;</li> <li>• Support women in realising their choices with regard to housing and accommodation;</li> <li>• Provide holistic, multi-faceted support for women, children and young people in partnership with other appropriate agencies; and</li> <li>• Are inclusive to women and children affected by VAWG who may experience additional vulnerabilities and barriers as result of race, sexual orientation, age or disability.</li> </ul> | 8 of the defined criteria are met | 5-7 of the defined criteria are met | 4 or less of the defined criteria are met |

| Quality Standard  | Meets  | Partly Meets   | Does not meet  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>13. Public Sector partners have robust policies in place to strengthen approaches to tackle all forms of VAWG, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• physical, sexual and psychological violence, including domestic abuse, rape, and incest;</li> <li>• sexual harassment, bullying and intimidation in any public or private space, including work;</li> <li>• commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography and trafficking;</li> <li>• child sexual abuse, including familial sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and online abuse;</li> <li>• so called ‘honour based’ violence, including dowry related violence, female genital mutilation, forced and child marriages, and ‘honour’ crimes;</li> </ul> <p>and processes are in place to ensure they are rigorously followed by all Public Sector partners.</p> | <p>Public Sector partners have robust policies in place to strengthen approaches to tackle all forms of VAWG and processes are in place to ensure they are rigorously followed by all Public Sector partners</p> | <p>Public Sector partners have robust policies in place to strengthen approaches to tackle some forms of VAWG but not others and/or processes put in place to ensure they are followed are not routinely implemented</p> | <p>Public Sector partners do not have robust policies in place</p> |

## 4. Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response

This section of the checklist aims to assess whether the services, policies and processes are in place at a local level that the evidence-base suggests will help to achieve the following short-term and medium-term outcomes that contribute to Priority 4 of Equally Safe:

- Perpetrators of VAWG are identified at an early stage;
- Perpetrators are sanctioned/held to account for their behaviour; and
- Perpetrators are supported to change their behaviour.

| Quality Standard  | Meets  | Partly Meets   | Does not meet  |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1. Public Sector staff who come into contact with members of the public have received training in how to identify and respond to perpetrators of VAWG in an appropriate way.  | Training on how to identify and respond to perpetrators of VAWG is routinely available to Public Sector staff  | Training on how to identify and respond to perpetrators of VAWG is sometimes available and/or is available to some staff groups                      | There is no training available to identify and respond to perpetrators of VAWG |
| 2. Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) groups are in place at a local authority level, to identify high risk perpetrators of domestic abuse and coercive control, and ensure they are held to account for their behaviours. | Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) groups are in place that have effective links with other public protection arrangements in place (e.g. MARACs) | Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) groups are in place but their effectiveness or strategic links to other arrangements could be improved | Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) groups are not in place          |

| Quality Standard  | Meets  | Partly Meets   | Does not meet                                       |
|---|--|--|---|
| 3. Specialist domestic abuse courts are in place to ensure women and children who experience domestic abuse receive an appropriate response from the criminal justice system. This includes ensuring women and children are fully informed and supported throughout a court process, and have appropriate opportunities to input their views. | Specialist domestic abuse courts are in place                            | Specialist domestic abuse courts are in place but their effectiveness could be improved  | Specialist domestic abuse courts are not in place   |
| 4. High quality, evidence-based court-mandated programmes are in place at a local level that work with perpetrators of VAWG to hold them to account for, and support them to change, their behaviours.  | High quality, evidence-based court-mandated programmes are in place      | Court-mandated programmes are in place, but they are not adequately resourced and/or could be improved in quality or effectiveness     | There are no court mandated programmes in place     |
| 5. High quality, evidence-based, non court-mandated programmes are in place at a local level that work with perpetrators of VAWG to hold them account for, and support them to change, their behaviours.  | High quality, evidence-based, non court-mandated programmes are in place | Non court-mandated programmes are in place, but they are not adequately resources and/or could be improved in quality or effectiveness | There are no non court-mandated programmes in place |

## 5. Multi-Agency Partnership Working

This section of the checklist aims to assess whether the minimum standards and key activities that the Scottish Government and COSLA set out the 2016 [VAW Partnership Guidance](#) are being met at local level.

For more information around effective partnership-working, please refer to the VAW Partnership Self-Assessment Checklist which is included as an appendix to the VAW Partnership Guidance. Support for VAWPs with self-assessment and improvement planning is available from the [Improvement Service](#).

| Quality Standard   | Meets                                      | Partly Meets                        | Does not meet                        |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <p>1. There is a VAWP in place that is responsible for working to prevent and eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls within the local authority area, including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family (including children and young people), within the general community or in institutions, including domestic abuse, rape, and incest;</li> <li>• sexual harassment, bullying and intimidation in any public or private space, including work;</li> <li>• commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography and trafficking;</li> <li>• child sexual abuse, including familial sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and online abuse; and</li> <li>• so called ‘honour based’ violence, including dowry related violence, female genital mutilation, forced and child marriages, and ‘honour’ crimes.</li> </ul> | At least 3 of the defined criteria are met | 1-2 of the defined criteria are met | None of the defined criteria are met |

| Quality Standard   | Meets   | Partly Meets   | Does not meet   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>2. The VAWP brings together representatives from the key Public Sector and Third Sector organisations working to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls within the local area. These are likely to include representatives from Adult and Child Protection Committees, Community Safety Partnerships, Health &amp; Social Care Partnerships, Education, Housing, Social Work, NHS, Police, COPF, Women’s Aid, Rape Crisis and other relevant organisations. Representatives from these organisations should be sufficiently empowered to advance the Partnership’s agreed outcomes and activities within their own organisations/ networks.</p> | <p>There is regular attendance from all partners. All attendees have the appropriate level of authority to advance the activities</p> | <p>Attendance is irregular. Not all partners are represented and/or representatives do not have the appropriate level of authority to advance the activities</p> | <p>Attendance is poor. Few partners are represented and/or most do not have appropriate authority to advance their agencies’ activities</p> |
| <p>3. The VAWP has an agreed Terms of Reference, which outlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the VAWP’s vision in relation to preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls;</li> <li>• the membership of the VAWP and each partner’s role and responsibilities within the Partnership;</li> <li>• the meeting and chairing arrangements for the VAWP; and</li> <li>• the governance arrangements for the VAWP including reporting lines into the CPP Board or a relevant strategic partnership within the CPP.</li> </ul>  | <p>At least 3 of the defined criteria are met</p>   | <p>1-2 of the defined criteria are met</p>   | <p>None of the defined criteria are met</p>   |

| Quality Standard   | Meets  | Partly Meets  | Does not meet  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>4. The VAWP has a strategic plan in place that outlines how the Partnership will implement Equally Safe at a local level. The strategy should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify the outcomes the VAWP is working to, to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls within their local area;</li> <li>• identify the activities the VAWP will prioritise in order to achieve its agreed outcomes; and</li> <li>• link directly to the CPP's Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).</li> </ul> | All of the defined criteria are met  | 1-2 of the defined criteria are met   | None of the defined criteria are met   |
| <p>5. The VAWP has a framework in place for measuring its performance and progress towards achieving its agreed outcomes. As a minimum, this framework should include all the indicators listed in the Performance Framework in section 5 of this document. Clear governance and reporting arrangements should also be in place to ensure that the Partnership is held to account for achieving its outcomes by an appropriate thematic group within the CPP.</p>  | A PF is in place which includes all the indicators listed in this document and has clear governance and reporting arrangements   | There is a PF but it does not include all the indicators listed in this document and/or does not have clear governance and reporting arrangements | The VAWP does not have a PF in place   |
| <p>6. The VAWP has a designated person who is responsible for coordinating its core activities and contributing to the work of the National VAW Network.</p>   | There is a designated person whose primary remit is to be responsible for coordinating the core activities of the VAWP and contributing to the work of the VAW Network | There is a lead contact person, but various people coordinate activities and contribute to the National Network                                   | There is not a designated person who is responsible for the VAWP and/or the VAWP rarely contributes to the work of the Network |

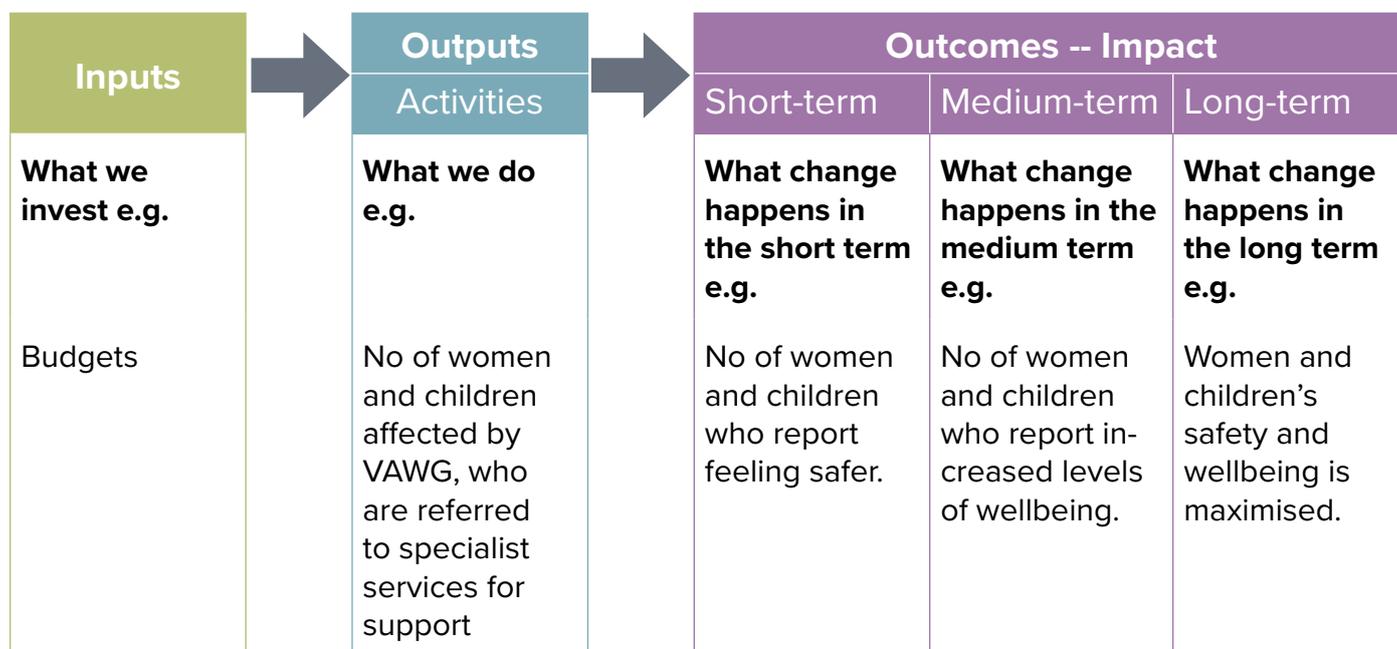
| Quality Standard   | Meets   | Partly Meets   | Does not meet  |
|--|---|--|--|
| 7. The VAWP has undertaken a self-assessment of its partnership in the last 3 years using the VAW Partnership Self-Assessment Checklist and developed an improvement plan in response to the strengths and areas for improvement identified by its members.  | A self-assessment has been undertaken in the last 3 years and an improvement plan has been progressed by the VAWP   | A self-assessment has been undertaken in the last 3 years but no improvement plan has been developed/ implemented  | No self-assessment has been undertaken in the last 3 years   |
| 8. The VAWP has clear strategic links with other relevant thematic partnerships/ groups within the CPP who are working towards shared outcomes. These may include Public Protection Committees, Health and Social Care IJBs, Community Safety Partnerships, Community Justice Partnerships, Alcohol and Drug Partnerships and Equality Groups. | The VAWP has clear and active strategic links with all listed relevant thematic partnerships/ groups within the CPP | The VAWP has clear and active strategic links with some listed partnerships/ groups within the CPP, but not others | The VAWP has no clear or active strategic links with other relevant thematic partnerships/ groups within the CPP |

## 5. The Equally Safe Performance Framework

Three broad types of indicators are included within the Framework:

- Input Indicators;
- Activity Indicators; and
- Outcome Indicators.

In simple terms, VAWPs and their partner organisations rely on inputs (e.g. staff and budgets) to deliver activities to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls (e.g. delivering specialist services). In turn, these activities will deliver a range of outputs for people (e.g. safety plans being put in place for women and children affected by VAWG). These outputs, in turn, may result in a range of outcomes for individuals, organisations and the community at large (e.g. increased safety and wellbeing of women and children). The relationship between these different indicators is often depicted in a logic model, as below:



## Collecting and Submitting Data

Each year, every local multi-agency VAW Partnership in Scotland will be asked to submit one data return providing information on the indicators included in the performance framework. It is expected that all public sector and third sector organisations working to prevent and eradicate VAWG in each local authority area will collect and share relevant performance data to support the completion of their VAW Partnership's data return. The period covered by the data return is 1 April to 31 March.

As noted previously, it is recognised that there are likely to be significant gaps in the data that VAWPs are able to capture initially. Indeed, it may take a number of years before every VAWP is able to capture and submit data on all of the indicators listed in the framework. While it is expected that the indicators that VAWPs are able to provide data on will increase year on year, in the short-term the framework will play a valuable role in helping to identify where there are gaps in data. This learning will then be used to help improve data collection systems at a local and national level and highlight areas where more resources may be required going forward.

Data Returns should be submitted to the [Improvement Service](#) using the Data Return Excel Spreadsheet that will be issued to all VAWPs and will also be available to download from the Improvement Service website.

## Supporting information

In addition to the data provided by VAWPs, the project team will consult national datasets and other sources of information. Where possible, this will include local breakdowns of relevant national indicators in the Equally Safe Delivery Plan, including:

- Gender pay gap;
- % of local councillors, MSPs and MPs who are women;
- Number of women who report being victims of VAWG related crimes; and
- Number of men convicted of VAWG related crimes.

The inclusion of this additional data, where appropriate, will strengthen the report analysis and contextualise the findings. The full list of national indicators is included as an appendix to this document.

## Input Indicators

The input indicators are used to identify the level and focus of investment that key Public Sector agencies make towards activities aimed at preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls (VAWG) at a local level.

| No | Ref | Indicator  | Source                           | Definition  | Rationale  |
|----|-----|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1  | I1  | Funding invested in preventing and eradicating VAWG at a local level | VAWP members who receive funding | <p>The total annual investment received by the VAWP and its member organisations to deliver activities at a local level to prevent or eradicate VAWG.</p> <p>It is recognised that many member organisations (e.g. police and NHS) come into contact with and provide support to people affected by VAWG as part of their day-to-day work, and consequently, it is likely to be difficult to calculate the full extent of funding that is being invested in this area. However, for the purpose of the reporting framework, only the costs of activities, services and processes whose primary purpose is to address VAWG should be recorded in this indicator.</p> <p>VAWPs are requested to provide the total amount of investment (including staffing costs and overhead costs) in £ and rounded to the nearest £1000, broken down into the following categories:</p> <p>(i) <i>Funding Source:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPP (including Council, Police, NHS)</li> <li>• Scottish Government</li> <li>• Independent Funders</li> </ul> | <p>This measure will help VAWPs to understand the total level of investment that is being made to prevent and eradicate VAWG at a local level, and monitor any shifts in investment over time.</p> <p>It will also enable VAWPs to measure and demonstrate additional resources that members of the VAWP are leveraging into the local authority area, through sources such as independent funders.</p> <p>VAWPs may provide additional information on funding in the notes section of the reporting template, if desired.</p> |

## Activity Indicators

The activity indicators give an overview of the type and volume of work that is being undertaken at a local level to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls (VAWG) and the numbers of people engaging with these activities.

| No | Ref | Indicator   | Source                             | Definition  | Rationale  |
|----|-----|---|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 2  | A1  | No of referrals to specialist VAWG support services | VAWP members who receive referrals | <p>VAWPs are requested to provide the total number of referrals that specialist VAWG services receive per year.</p> <p>The definition of a 'specialist service' is a Third Sector or Public Sector service whose primary focus is to provide support for women or children affected by VAWG. For more information about specialist services, please refer to Section 4 of the Quality Standards.</p> <p>The definition of a 'referral' is a woman, girl or child who is affected by VAWG.</p> <p>Where possible, VAWPs are requested to provide the number of referrals broken down into the following categories:</p> <p><i>(i) Primary issue that the specialist service provides support with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic abuse</li> <li>• Domestic abuse – refuge</li> <li>• Rape and Sexual Abuse</li> <li>• Commercial Sexual Exploitation</li> <li>• FGM</li> </ul> | <p>This measure will help VAWPs to understand the progress that is being made towards the following short-term outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Women and children affected by violence are identified (early)</i></li> </ul> <p>By collecting this information, VAWPs will be able to identify the extent to which non-specialist services are identifying women and children affected by VAWG and referring to services where they can access specialist support. It will also enable specialist service providers to measure and demonstrate the level of demand for their services.</p> <p>For the purposes of this reporting framework, VAWPs are not required to provide information on the numbers of new referrals that specialist services receive from individuals who identify as male. However, VAWPs may collect this</p> |

| No | Ref | Indicator | Source | Definition  | Rationale  |
|----|-----|-----------|--------|---|--|
|    |     |           |        | <p>Forced Marriage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul> <p><i>(ii) Source of referral:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHS</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Social Work</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Self-referral</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul> <p><i>(iii) Age of referral:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child (individuals aged 0 – 15 years who identify as any gender)</li> <li>• Young woman (individuals aged 16 – 25 years who primarily identify as female)</li> <li>• Woman (individuals aged 26 and over who primarily identify as female)</li> </ul> | <p>information and include it in the notes section of the reporting template if they choose to do so.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If particular specialist services (e.g. specialist FGM support services) are not delivered in your local area, please enter N/A in the data return form.</p> |

| No | Ref | Indicator   | Source                             | Definition   | Rationale   |
|----|-----|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| 3  | A2  | No of referrals to specialist perpetrator interventions | VAWP members who receive referrals | <p>VAWPs are requested to provide the total number of referrals that specialist VAWG perpetrator interventions receive per year.</p> <p>The definition of a 'referral' is a man who has been identified as a perpetrator of VAWG at Criminal Justice Social Work report stage.</p> <p>The definition of a 'perpetrator intervention' is a Third Sector or Public Sector led-intervention whose primary focus is to hold perpetrators of VAWG to account and support them to change their behaviours. For more information about perpetrator interventions, please refer to Section 5 of the Quality Standards.</p> <p>VAWPs are requested to provide the number of referrals broken down into the following categories:</p> <p><i>(i) Primary issue that the perpetrator intervention provides support with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic abuse</li> <li>• Rape and Sexual Abuse</li> <li>• Commercial Sexual Exploitation</li> <li>• FGM</li> <li>• Forced Marriage</li> <li>• Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul> | <p>This measure will help VAWPs to understand the progress that is being made towards the following medium term outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Perpetrators are sanctioned/held to account</i></li> </ul> <p>By collecting this information, VAWPs will be able to identify the extent to which there may be gaps in services and/ or referral processes at a local level and identify any areas for improvement. It will also enable perpetrator interventions to measure and demonstrate the level of demand for their services.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If particular types of perpetrator interventions (e.g. commercial sexual exploitation interventions) are not delivered in your local area, please enter N/A in the data return form.</p> |

| No | Ref | Indicator   | Source   | Definition  | Rationale   |
|----|-----|---|--|---|---|
|    |     |   |  | <p>(ii) <i>Source of referral:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Court</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Social Work</li> <li>• Self-referral</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>   |   |
| 4  | A3  | % of referrals who successfully complete specialist perpetrator interventions | VAWP members who deliver perpetrator interventions | <p>VAWPs are requested to provide the % of referrals who successfully complete a specialist perpetrator intervention.</p> <p>The % is calculated as number of perpetrators who successfully complete an intervention divided by the total number of perpetrators who are referred to the service.</p> | <p>This measure will help VAWPs to understand the progress that is being made towards the following medium-term outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Perpetrators are sanctioned/held to account</i></li> </ul> <p>By collecting this information, VAWPs will be able to identify the extent to which perpetrators are successfully engaging with interventions. It will also enable organisations delivering perpetrator interventions to measure and demonstrate their effectiveness.</p> |

## Outcome Indicators

The outcome indicators provide an overview of the impact that the activities and outputs have had for women and children affected by VAWG, perpetrators of VAWG and society as a whole. The indicators primarily focus on the short-term and medium-term outcomes that local multi-agency Violence Against Women Partnerships (VAWPs) directly contribute to. It is recognised that these indicators do not cover all of the outcomes in the logic model or provide learning about the external factors that may impact on whether or not an outcome has been achieved. Other methods, such as in-depth evaluations, will need to be undertaken to capture this additional learning.

| No | Ref | Indicator   | Source   | Definition  | Rationale  |
|----|-----|---|--|---|--|
| 6  | O1  | % of women and children who report feeling safer as a result of the specialist support they have received | VAWP members who provide specialist support services | <p>VAWPs are requested to provide the % of women and children who exit a specialist support service, who report feeling safer than they did at the point of referral.</p> <p>The % is calculated as the number of individuals who exit the service who report feeling safer than they did when they engaged with the service divided by the total number of individuals who exit the service.</p> <p>VAWPs are requested to break this information down into:</p> <p>(i) <i>Age of person exiting the service:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child (individuals aged 0 – 15 years who identify as any gender)</li> <li>• Young woman (individuals aged 16 – 25 years who primarily identify as female)</li> <li>• Woman (individuals aged 26 and over who primarily identify as female)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) <i>Primary issue that the specialist service provides support with:</i></p> | <p>This measure will help VAWPs to understand the progress that is being made towards the following medium-term outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Women and children’s safety needs are met</i></li> </ul> <p>It is recognised that this indicator is based on subjective data, but women and children’s self-assessed feelings of safety are likely to provide a useful benchmark for VAWPs which they can use to identify any areas where improvements may be needed.</p> <p>It is suggested that VAWPs may want to supplement the information collected through this indicator with qualitative data to provide additional learning on the internal and external factors that impact of people’s feelings of safety.</p> |

| No | Ref | Indicator  | Source   | Definition   | Rationale   |
|----|-----|--|--|--|---|
|    |     |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic abuse</li> <li>• Rape and Sexual Abuse</li> <li>• Commercial Sexual Exploitation</li> <li>• FGM</li> <li>• Forced Marriage</li> <li>• Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse</li> </ul>   |   |
| 7  | OC2 | % of women and children who report having increased levels of wellbeing as a result of the specialist support they have received | VAWP members who provide specialist support services | <p>VAWPs are requested to provide the % of women and children who exit a specialist support service, who report having higher levels of wellbeing than they did at the point of referral.</p> <p>The % is calculated as the number of individuals who exit the service who report having increased levels of wellbeing than they did when they engaged with the service divided by the total number of individuals who exit the service.</p> <p>VAWPs are requested to break this information down into:</p> <p>(i) <i>Age of person exiting the service:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child (individuals aged 0 – 15 years who identify as any gender)</li> <li>• Young woman (individuals aged 16 – 25 years who primarily identify as female)</li> <li>• Woman (individuals aged 26 and over who primarily identify as female)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) <i>Primary issue that the specialist service provides support with:</i></p> | <p>This measure will help VAWPs to understand the progress that is being made towards the following medium-term outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Women and children’s wider wellbeing needs are met</i></li> </ul> <p>It is recognised that this indicator is based on subjective data, but women and children’s self-assessed levels of wellbeing are likely to provide a useful benchmark for VAWPs which they can use to identify any areas where improvements may be needed.</p> <p>It is suggested that VAWPs may want to supplement the information collected through this indicator with qualitative data to provide additional learning on the internal and external factors that impact on people’s feelings of wellbeing.</p> |

| No | Ref | Indicator | Source | Definition  | Rationale |
|----|-----|-----------|--------|---|-----------|
|    |     |           |        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Domestic abuse</li><li>• Rape and Sexual Abuse</li><li>• Commercial Sexual Exploitation</li><li>• FGM</li><li>• Forced Marriage</li><li>• Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse</li></ul> |           |

## 6. Collating and Reporting Performance Data

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All data on the Quality Standards and Performance Framework is due to be submitted to the Improvement Service by 30 June each year.

The Improvement Service will then collate and analyse the data provided, as well as using any feedback to support the ongoing improvement of the Framework. A draft data analysis report will be issued to each VAWP prior to publication in order to check factual accuracy.

Individual reports for each local authority area will be published on the Improvement Service website, along with a national report summarising key data on work being undertaken across Scotland as a whole.

Collectively, it is intended that these reports will help to support effective performance reporting and governance at both a local and national level.

Any queries relating to the data returns can be sent to [vaw@improvementservice.org.uk](mailto:vaw@improvementservice.org.uk) or can be discussed further with the following VAW Project Team Members:

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## Appendix 1: Equally Safe Performance Framework National Indicators

| Outcome  | Indicator  | Source  |
|--|--|---|
| Fewer people adhere to gender stereotypes  | <p>Proportion of public who do not have stereotypical views on gender roles i.e. proportion who choose response option 1 when asked the following:</p> <p>Imagine you are taking a 3-year-old boy to a shop to buy a toy. When you get there, he picks a princess doll. Which of the phrases below best describes what you would do?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Buy it for him without saying anything</li> <li>2. Buy it, but first try to get him to pick a toy that's more common for boys</li> <li>3. Make him put the doll back and pick a toy more common for boys</li> </ol> | <p>Scottish Social Attitudes Survey<br/>Young People in Scotland Survey</p> |
| Power, decision-making and material resources are distributed more equally between men and women | Gender pay gap in median hourly earnings (excluding overtime) between men and women working full-time all men and women working (full-time or part-time)   | Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings   |
| Power, decision-making and material resources are distributed more equally between men and women | Proportion of MSPs who are women   | Scottish Parliament   |
| Power, decision-making and material resources are distributed more equally between men and women | Proportion of local councillors who are women  | LGiU Scotland   |

| Outcome   | Indicator   | Source  |
|---|---|---|
| People have increased understanding of all forms of VAWG (causes, consequences and appropriate responses) | Proportion of public who do not believe rape myths i.e. the proportions who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disagree that ‘women often lie about being raped’</li> <li>• Disagree that ‘rape results from men being unable to control their need for sex’</li> <li>• Think a woman is not at all to blame for being raped if she ...<br/>... wears revealing clothing on a night out<br/>... is very drunk</li> </ul> | Scottish Social Attitudes Survey                                    |
| Tolerance of VAWG is reduced and people are more likely to recognise and challenge it                     | Public attitudes to seriousness and harm of different forms of VAWG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sexual violence</li> <li>• Domestic abuse - physical abuse, verbal abuse, and controlling behaviour</li> <li>• Sexual harassment</li> <li>• Commercial sexual exploitation</li> </ul>   | Scottish Social Attitudes Survey<br>Young People in Scotland Survey |
| Perpetrators are identified (early)   | Proportion of women who had experienced partner abuse in the last 12 months who said the police came to know about the most recent incident   | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey                                   |
| Perpetrators are identified (early)   | Proportion of women who had experienced serious sexual assault since the age of 16 who said the police came to know about the most recent incident  | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey                                   |
| Perpetrators are identified (early)   | Proportion of women who had experienced less serious sexual assault since the age of 16 who said the police came to know about the most recent incident   | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey                                   |

| Outcome  | Indicator  | Source  |
|--|--|---|
| Perpetrators are identified (early)                    | Proportion of women who had experienced stalking and harassment in the last 12 months who said the police came to know about the most recent incident  | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey   |
| Perpetrators are identified (early)                    | Number of incidents or crimes recorded by police, broken into the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic abuse with a female victim</li> <li>• Rape/attempted rape with a female victim</li> <li>• Sexual Assault with a female victim</li> <li>• Prostitution related crimes</li> <li>• Other sexual crimes</li> </ul> | Domestic Abuse Recorded by the Police in Scotland<br>Recorded Crime in Scotland |
| Perpetrators are sanctioned/held to account            | Number of men convicted of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic abuse</li> <li>• Rape/attempted rape</li> <li>• Sexual assault</li> <li>• Prostitution related crimes</li> <li>• Other sexual crimes</li> </ul>  | Criminal Proceedings in Scotland  |
| Violence against women and girls is reduced/eradicated | Percentage of women who have experienced partner abuse (psychological or physical) in last 12 months   | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey   |
| Violence against women and girls is reduced/eradicated | Percentage of women who have experienced at least one type of serious sexual assault since age 16  | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey   |
| Violence against women and girls is reduced/eradicated | Percentage of women who have experienced at least one type of less serious sexual assault (unwanted sexual touching, indecent exposure, or sexual threats) since the age of 16   | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey   |
| Violence against women and girls is reduced/eradicated | Percentage of women who have experienced at least one form of stalking/harassment in the last 12 months  | Scottish Crime and Justice Survey   |

