

## APPENDIX 2

### Southwark Context

1. During 2021-2022, there were 4667 Domestic Abuse incidents reported in Southwark as recorded by the Metropolitan Police.
2. The Southwark Domestic Abuse Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) 2021-22 received 599 referrals. This process is a multi-agency conference which supports survivors that are high risk survivors of Domestic Abuse. There were 632 children within the total number of referrals received. There were 203 repeat victim referrals, however, the data cannot confirm how many times someone is a repeat victim referral. The data also cannot confirm whether the number of children mentioned are from families entered into the system as repeat victim cases, or how many times they were referred.
3. There were five recorded Domestic Abuse flagged domestic homicides during 2022-23, unusually four of these were committed by the same person, denoting two separate incidents.
4. During 2022-23, Children's Social Care recorded 2059 contacts where Domestic Abuse was flagged of which included 957 female, 1038 male and 64 for unborn children.
5. During 2021-22 379 VAWG<sup>1</sup> offences were recorded by the Metropolitan Police in Southwark. This was a 24.7% increase from the 304 offences in 2019-20 (pre-covid pandemic). 72.3% (274) were for sexual offences, of which 33 were for Rape and 241 were classified under other sexual offences.
6. VAWG in Southwark presents itself more often in locations where there are transport hubs and high street locations, areas in particular where there are often higher footfall, commuter traffic or night-time economy venues.
7. Southwark has a higher rate of women and girls found to have FGM than London and England. In 2020-21 160 Southwark resident women and girls were recorded as having FGM, more than twice the rate for London and five times the rate for England.
8. VAWG crimes are experienced by younger age groups in online spaces, social and school settings, including providing/sharing of indecent images. In Southwark, the police data shows children and young people aged 10-14 years are reported as being disproportionately impacted by VAWG related offending. It is worthwhile noting that adolescent girls and young women groomed into drug lines, (phone number that sends and received orders for drugs) are highly likely to be, or become victims of Drug Trafficking, VAWG, Child Exploitation and Domestic Abuse. This type of exploitation is also directed at adults, sometimes the most vulnerable adults in society. Dual diagnosis and multiple

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<sup>1</sup> VAWG offences are defined as sexual or violent crimes that occur away from a private residence. The offences that are covered by this definition range from stalking, harassment and voyeurism through to rape, sexual assault and violence. Domestic Abuse categorised offences are excluded.

complex needs can be barriers to reporting Domestic Abuse to both the Police and support services.

9. Victims of these types of crimes are mainly female and of all ages, although there are also male victims of VAWG crimes. White and White British female victims report offences, however, inequalities and significant lack of trust and confidence in authorities' present challenges to reporting of marginalised people and this is evidenced through those seeking support services and through engagement with Domestic Abuse Survivors. Statistics are unable to accurately reflect a true picture or scale of offences and people impacted.