

# **Hard to reach, easy to ignore: designing and delivering public protection services for less visible communities**

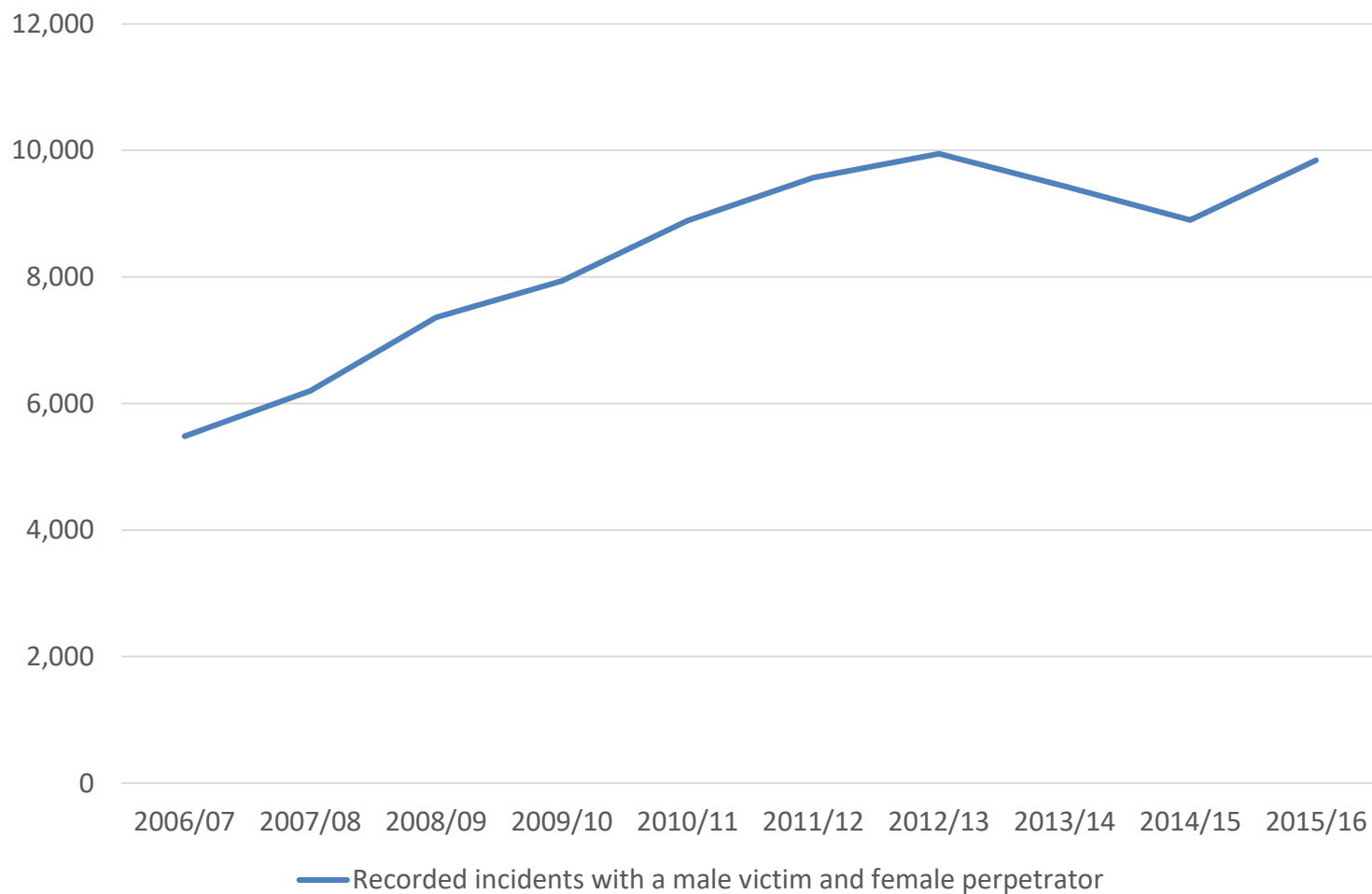
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6<sup>th</sup> December 2016

“The public story about domestic violence locates the phenomenon inside heterosexual relationships within a gendered victim/perpetrator dynamic (the stronger/bigger man controlling the weaker/smaller woman), and forefronts the physical nature of the violence.”

Donovan & Hester (2010)



Domestic Abuse Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2015-16 (Table 5)

Presenting as a victim: 2,903

After assessment by the worker:

**43%** victim

**8%** victim who has used violent resistance

**10%** perpetrator

**6%** perpetrator whose victim has used violent resistance

**1.4%** mutual violence

**13%** unhappy relationship, no abuse

**13%** not sure

**5.6%** other

Respect toolkit for work with male victims of domestic abuse, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
edition, 2013

## 1 Abusive behaviour in relation to partner or ex-partner

(1) A person (“A”) commits an offence if—

(a) A engages in a course of behaviour which is abusive of A’s partner or ex-partner (“B”),

(b) a reasonable person would consider that the course of behaviour would be likely to cause B to suffer physical or **psychological harm**, and

(c) either—

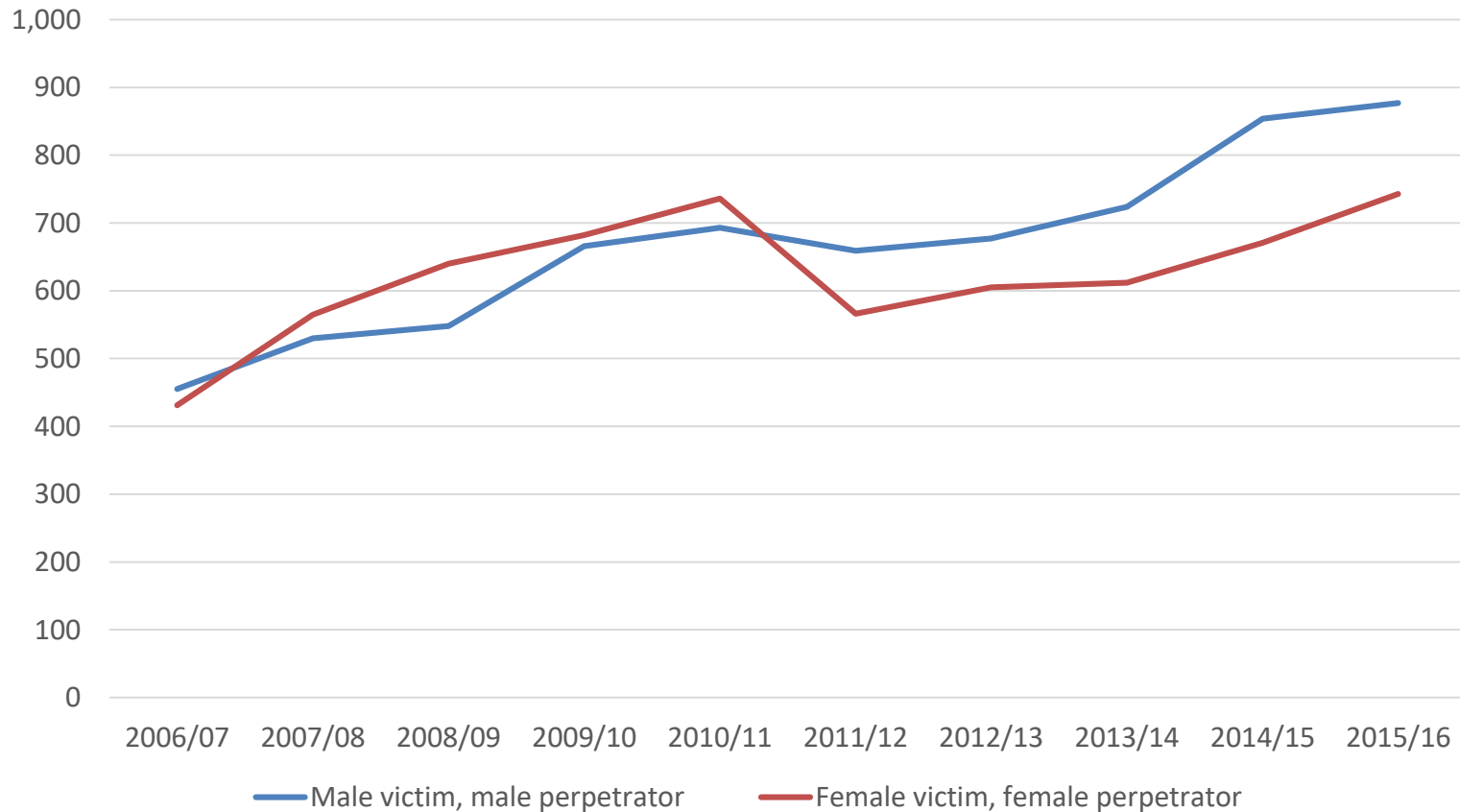
(i) A intends by the course of behaviour to cause B to suffer physical or psychological harm, or

(ii) A is reckless as to whether the course of behaviour causes B to suffer physical or psychological harm.

## 3 Interpretation

(2) In section 1(1) and (2), “psychological harm” includes fear, alarm and **distress**.

## Domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police in Scotland, 2006/07 – 2015/16



Domestic Abuse Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2015-16 (Table 5)

## **Where do you go? Who do you tell? Consultation on the needs of gay, bisexual and transgender men who experience domestic abuse in Scotland**

### **Services generally –**

**55%** said they would prefer to access LGBT specific services.

*“Non LGBT services make me feel awkward and uneasy as they usually (not always) appear to be uncomfortable speaking about same sex relationships.”*

### **Services for domestic abuse support –**

**74%** said that they would prefer to go to a LGBT specific service.

*“I’d want reassurance I wouldn’t need to educate the person supposed to be supporting men”*

### **What kind of support would you want?**

**80%** 1-2-1 support

**48.6%** counselling

**40%** phone support

**40%** practical advice

## **What's love got to do with it?**

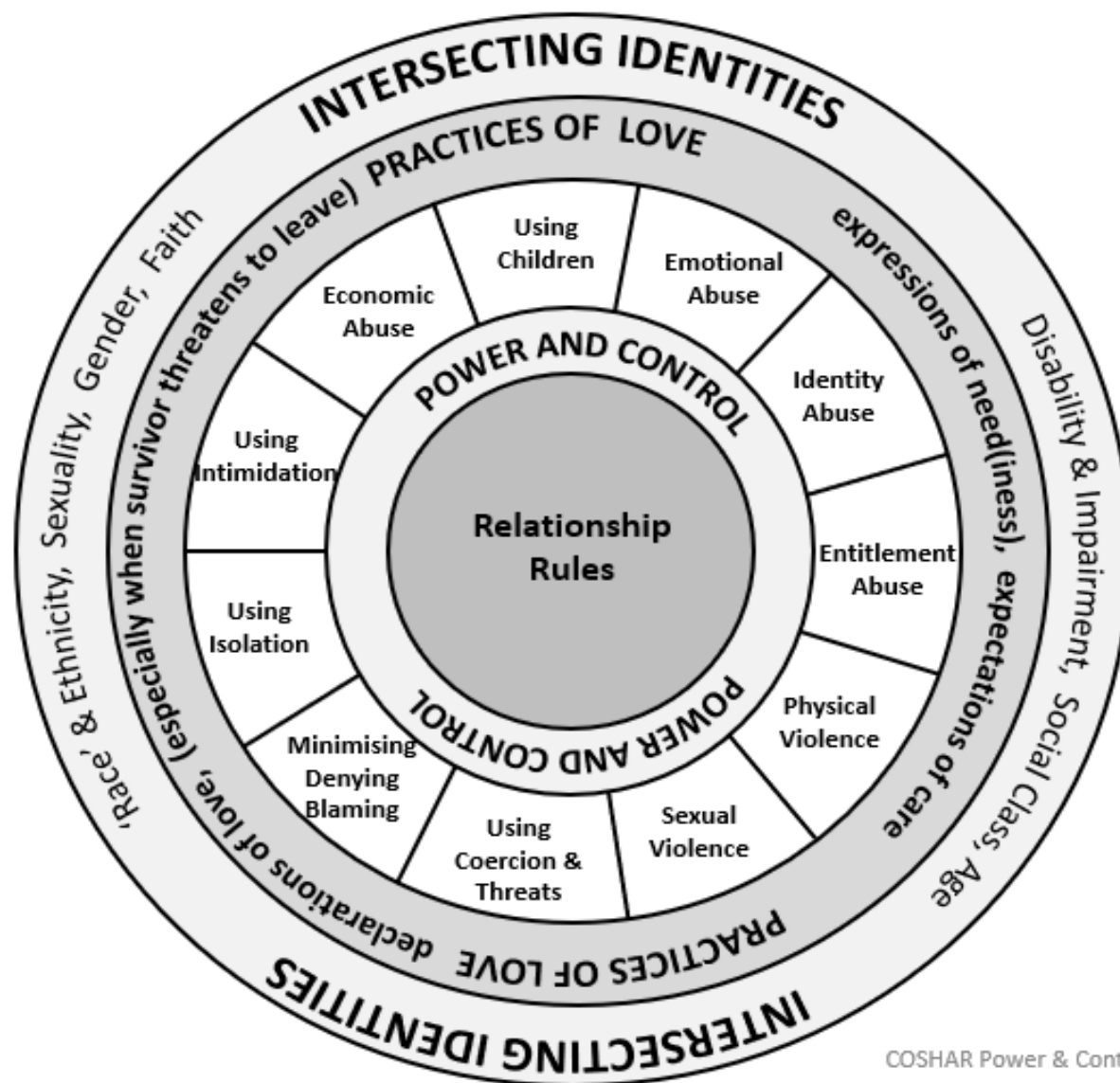
Comparing heterosexual and same sex abuse in relationships  
(COHSAR)

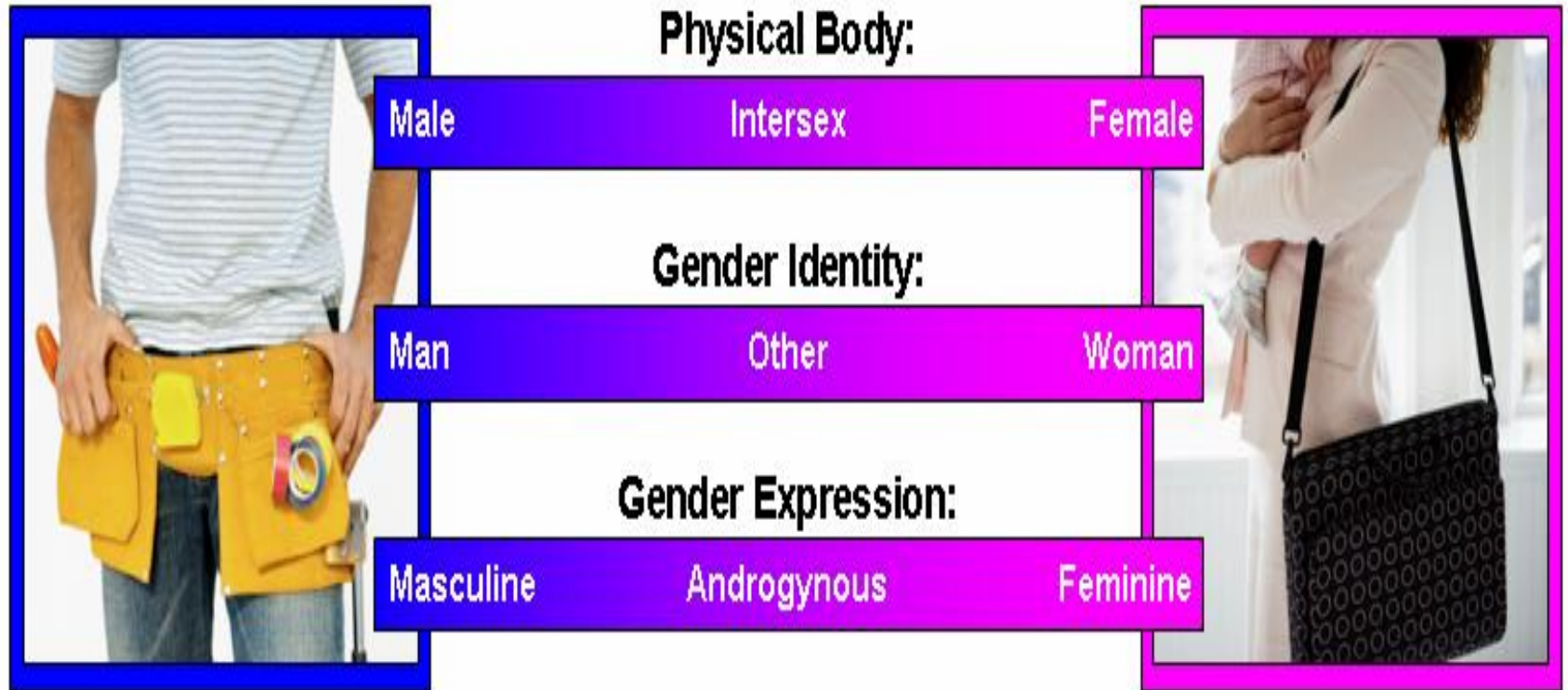
**Relationship rule 1:** the relationship is for the abusive partner  
and on their terms

**Relationship rule 2:** the victim/survivor is responsible for the  
relationship and the abusive partner

Donovan, C and Hester, M (2014) "Domestic violence and sexuality: what's love got to do with it?" (Bristol: Policy Press)







## **Trans experiences of domestic abuse**

### **Out of Sight, Out of Mind**

**80%** had experienced emotionally, sexually, or physically abusive behaviour by a partner or ex-partner

only **60%** of respondents recognised the behaviour as domestic abuse

**73%** experienced at least one type of transphobic emotionally abusive behaviour from a partner or ex-partner

**47%** experienced some form of sexual abuse from a partner or ex-partner

**37%** of respondents said that someone had forced, or tried to force them to have sex when they were under the age of 16

**46%** of respondents said that someone had forced, or tried to force them to engage in some other form of sexual activity when under the age of 16

Roch, A, et al (2010) “Out of sight, out of mind? Transgender people’s experiences of domestic abuse” (Scottish Transgender Alliance)

- ‘Public story’ of domestic abuse
- Fear of homo/bi/transphobia
- Need to ‘out’ oneself, and where that information goes
- Lack of appropriate or specialist services
- Gender stereotyping
- Invisibility in domestic abuse campaigns
- Loss of community
- Preservation of community



- Engagement & visibility
- Service delivery is inclusive
- Staff development
- Avoid assumptions
- Governance





SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITIES – REDUCING OFFENDING



**FEARLESS**

## **SUPPORT FOR ANY LGBT+ PERSON EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC ABUSE**

Visit our website [www.fearless.scot](http://www.fearless.scot) to check if our support is available in your local area and to make a referral.

To speak to someone or arrange local support, call our main office on **0131 624 7266** or email us at [fearlessinfo@sacro.org.uk](mailto:fearlessinfo@sacro.org.uk)

Our support is confidential and non-judgemental.

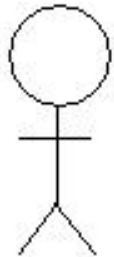


Fearless is a partnership between Sacro, Shakti Women's Aid, Respect and LGBT Youth Scotland, funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund



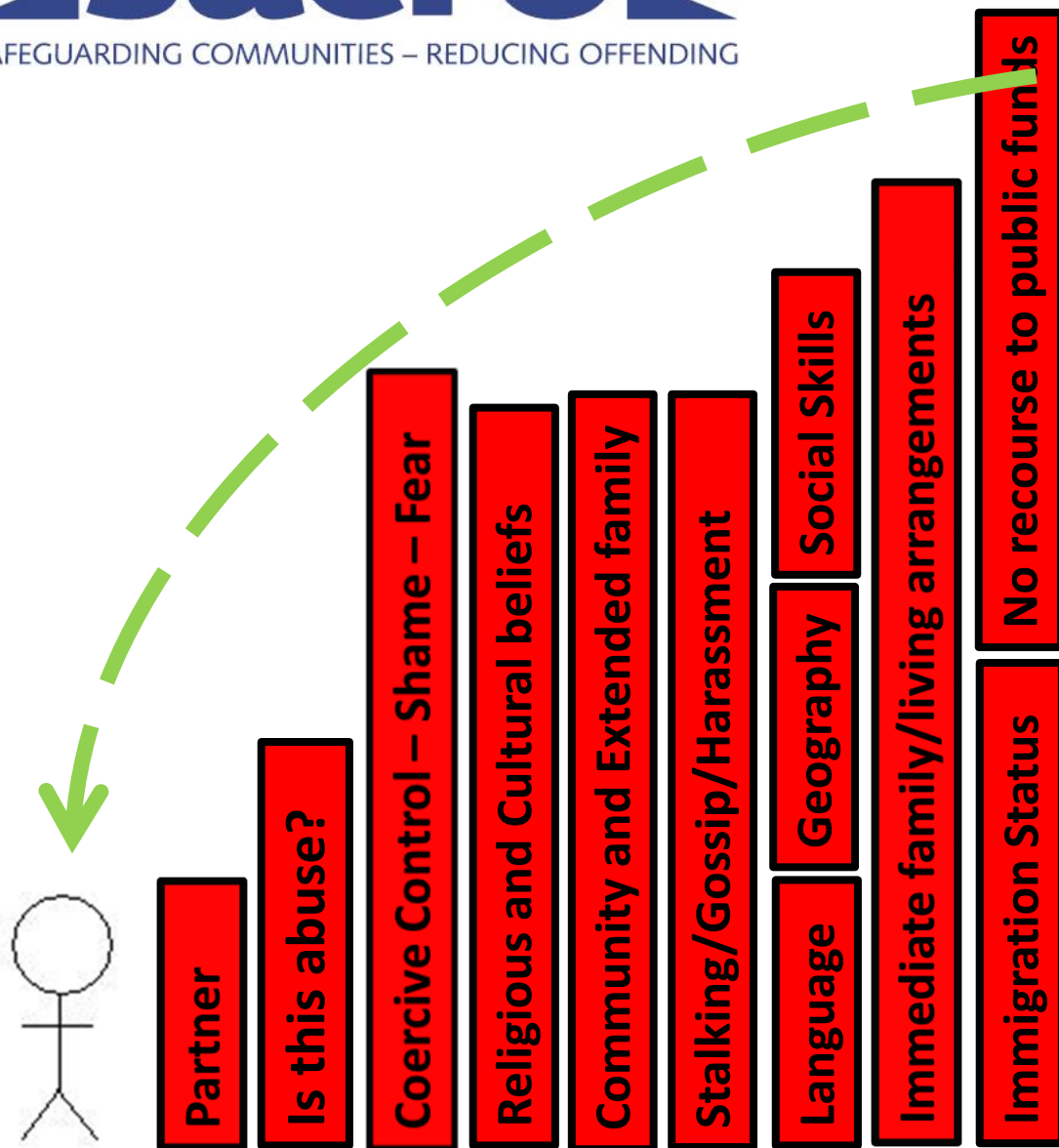


SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITIES – REDUCING OFFENDING



**Partner**

**Coercive Control – Shame – Fear**



**bright  
CHOICES**

 **scottish  
women's aid**  
changing **attitudes** changing **lives**



**NSPCC**

**• EDINBURGH •**  
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL



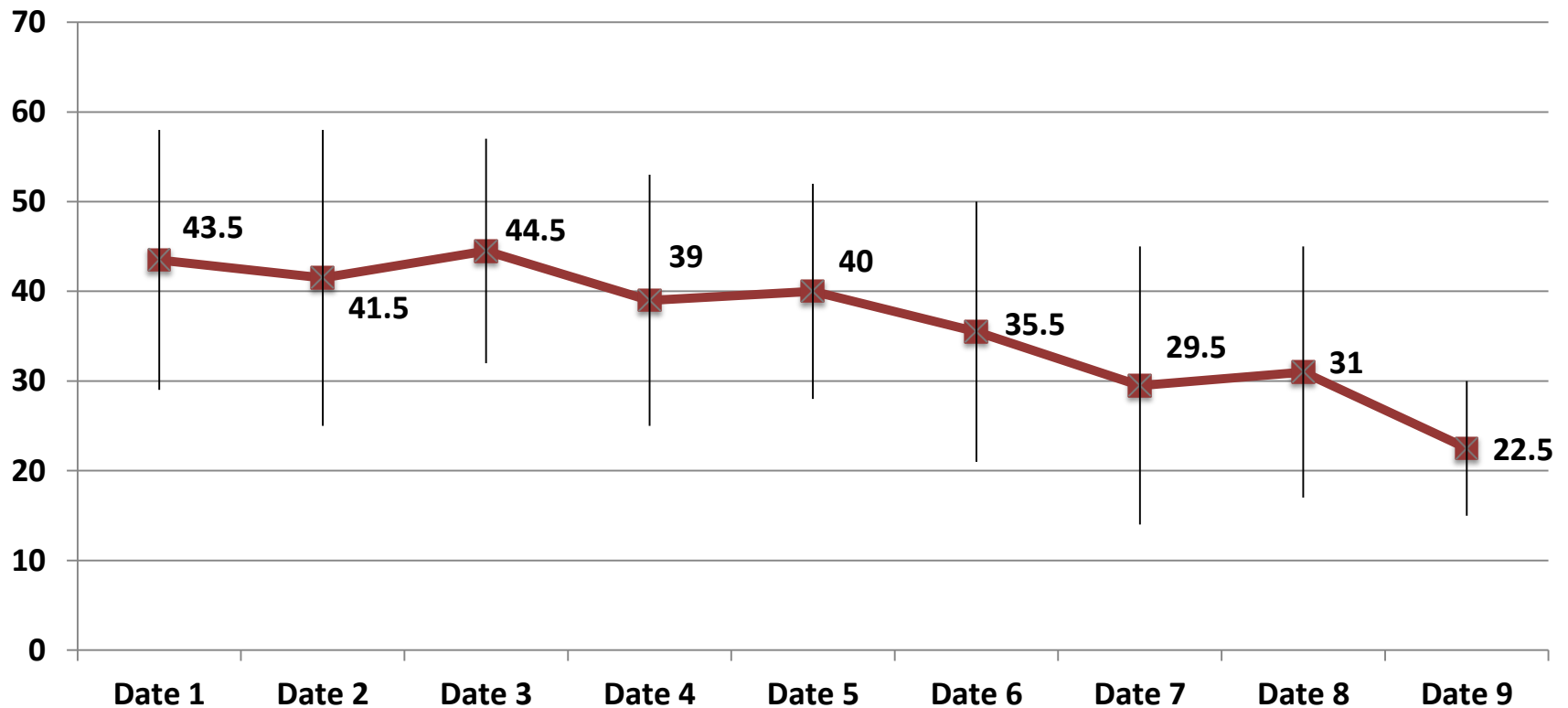
**AMIS**  
ABUSED MEN IN SCOTLAND

**NHS**  
Lothian



# Evidence for Service Effectiveness

**Trend in Risk Reduction over number of months engaging with  
Bright Choices: Service Users: June 2015-December 2016**



Thank You

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