

# DHR #LearningTheLessons

Three Borough Response to Domestic Homicide Review

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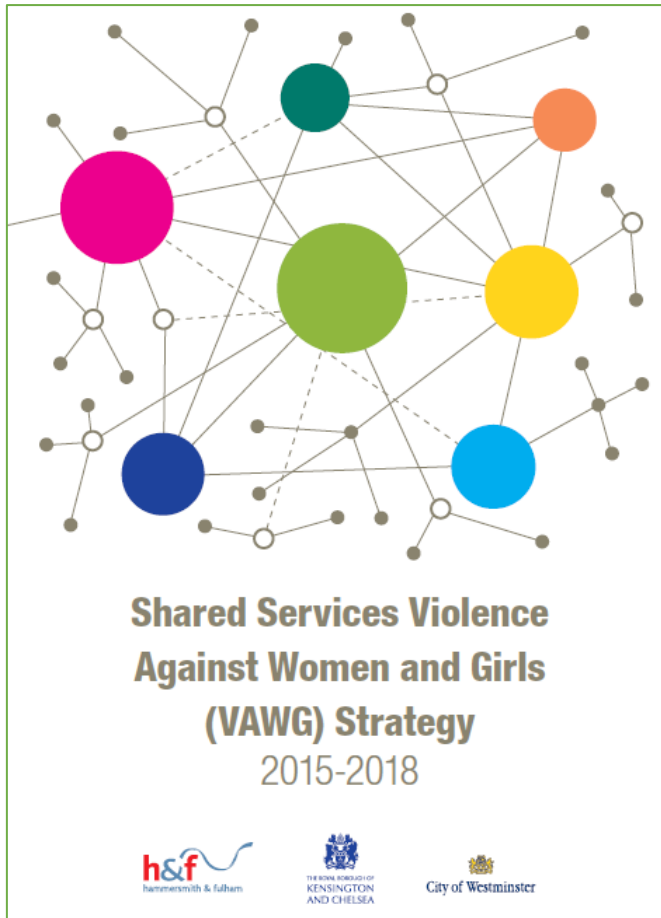
VAWG Strategic Lead



# Three Boroughs at a Glance:



# What is our local response?



Access

Response

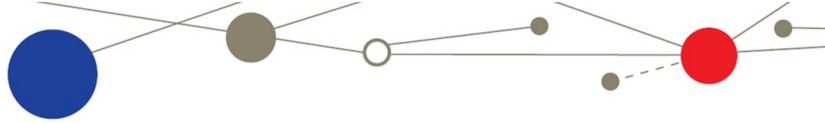
Community

Practitioners

Children and  
Young People

Perpetrators

Justice and  
Protection



# What is the Coordinated Community Response?

A local, whole system approach to addressing Violence against Women and Girls.

*Every agency who has a responsibility for dealing with victims of violence, their children and/or perpetrators, must work effectively within their own agency and with all other agencies who also have that responsibility to secure the safety of the victim and their children and hold perpetrators to account. The process by which this work is integrated and managed is known as the CCR.*

Encompasses broadest response to VAWG addressing risk and need:

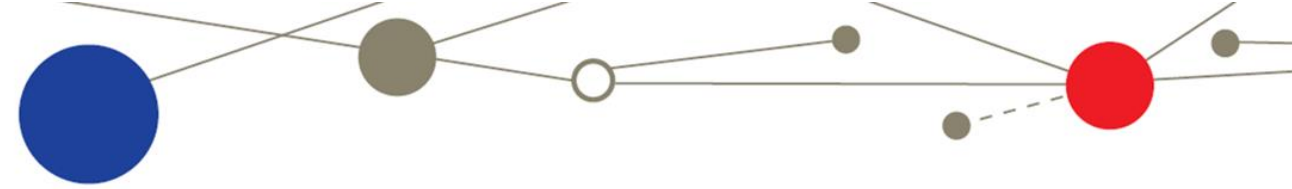
Prevention

Early Intervention

Dealing with Crisis and Risk fluctuation

Long term recovery and Safety

# Our services:



## Angelou Partnership:

ADVANCE  
Iranian and Kurdish  
Women's Organisation  
Women and Girls Network  
Women's Trust  
Solace WA  
Al Hasaniya  
Hestia  
Standing Together  
Galop  
DVIP

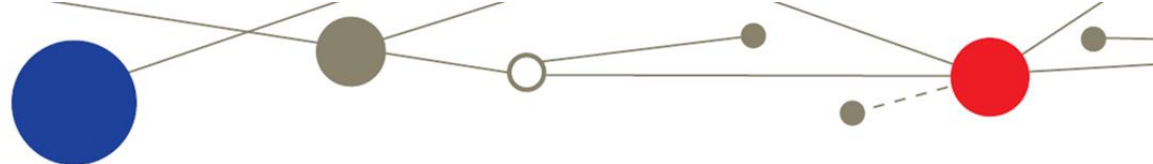
**VAWG Integrated  
Support Service  
(Angelou  
Partnership)**

**VAWG  
Coordination  
Service**

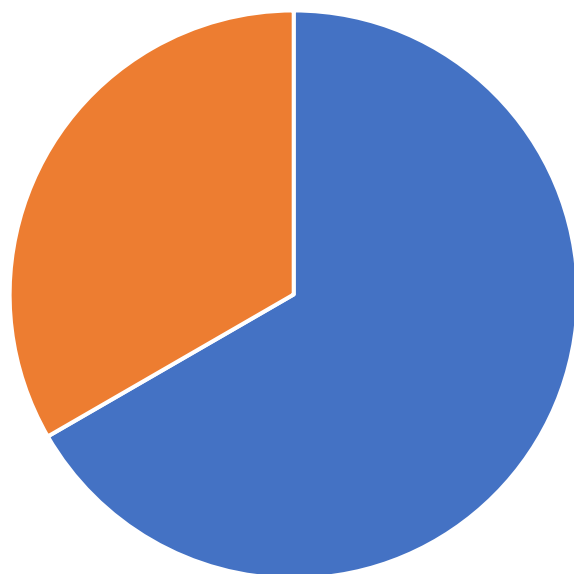
## Standing Together

Specialist Domestic  
Violence Courts  
(SDVC)  
MARAC Coordination  
Operational Groups

# Overview of the Cases

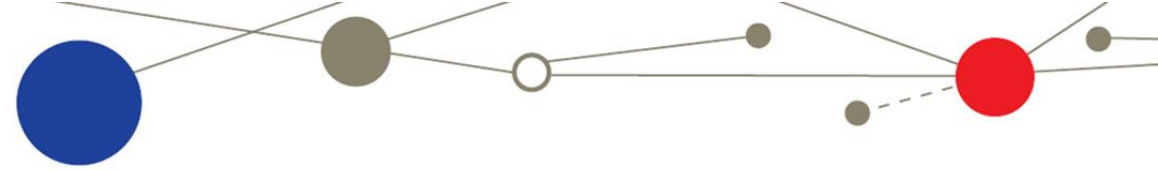


Type of Case



■ IPH ■ AFH

- 8 DHR cases featured Inter-Partner Homicides (IPH).
- 2 DHR cases featured Adult Family Homicide (AFH).



# Key themes:

Lack of  
information  
sharing

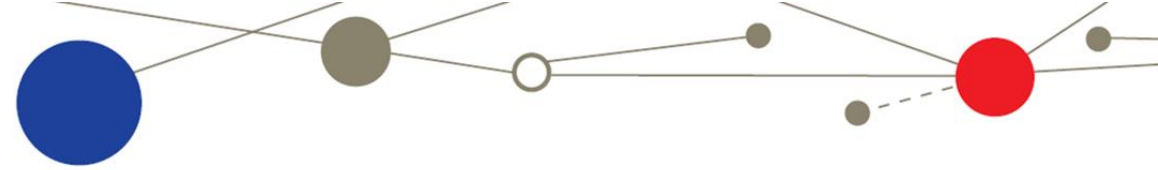
Inadequate Risk  
Assessment

Lack of  
awareness of  
dynamics of DA

Not asking the  
question

Policies and  
procedures not  
being followed

Improving  
referral pathways  
and signposting



# Key Challenges

- Inconsistency in DHR Chairs
- The emphasis is on writing the report whilst no funding put into implementing learning through the action plans
- A need to establish clear lines of accountability of completing actions
- Using learning from DHRs as part of system change improvements
- A need to learn from national best practice and to create consistency in the national approach.





# DHR Protocol Outline:

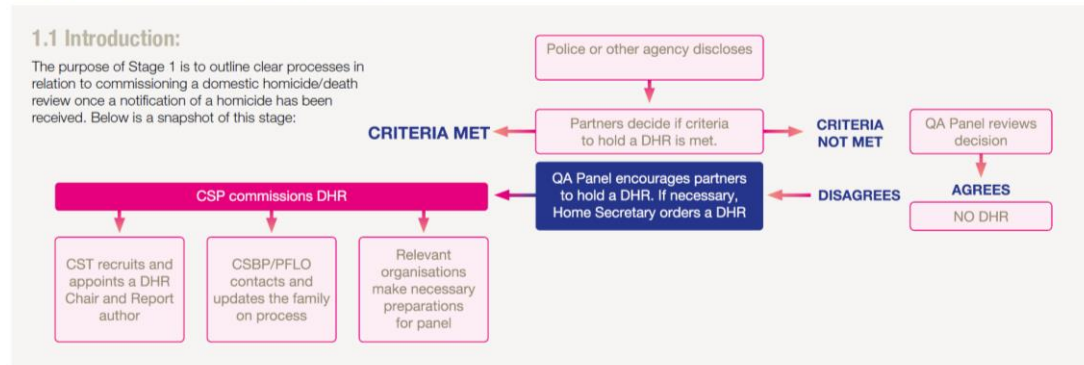
- Stage 1: Commissioning a DHR
- Stage 2: Conducting the Review
- Stage 3: The Overview Report
- Stage 4: Completion and Sign Off
- Stage 5: Dissemination and Learning

Each stage to include:

1. Introduction and Process
2. How the CSP is involved
3. What we expect from DHR Chair
4. What to do when problems arise
5. What best practice looks like
6. Involvement of the family

# Stage 1: Commissioning a DHR

## Stage 1: Commissioning a DHR



## 1.2 Roles and Responsibilities

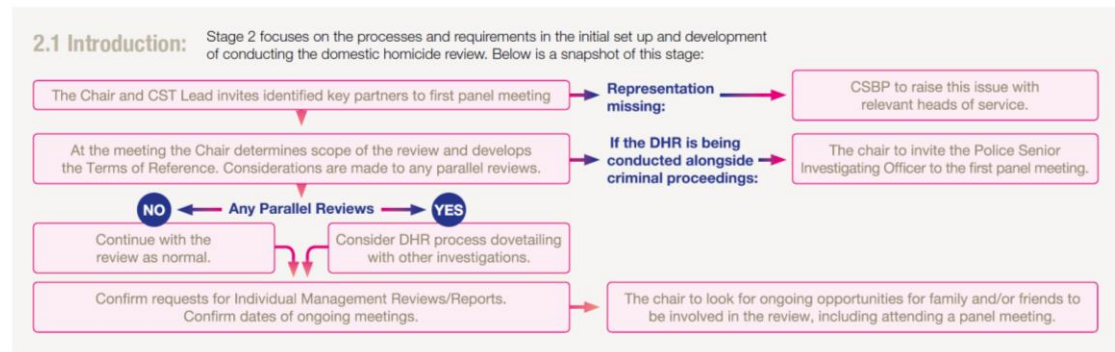
Role of the Community Safety Programme Board (CSPB):	Community Safety Team Roles and Responsibilities:	Involvement of Family:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Police notify CSPB chair of homicide/death.</li> <li>CSPB considers any parallel reviews and then decides to undertake a DHR</li> <li>CSPB notify Home Office of decision to undertake a DHR.</li> <li>CSPB notifies family of the decision to undertake a review (via a Police Family Liaison Officer) (Appendix 1: Family Template Letter)</li> <li>CSPB informs relevant organisations to identify a panel meeting representative and to secure records.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Safety Team (CST) sends letter to CSPB Chair to seek approve to undertake a DHR (Appendix 2: Notification Template letter)</li> <li>CST undertakes a call out for review chair and author (Appendix 3: Application Form)</li> <li>CST interviews and selects chair.</li> <li>CST draws up a contract with chair (Appendix 4: Contract)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Either the PFLO or an advocate contacts the family and provides an explanation of the DHR process with clear opportunities for contribution.</li> <li>Chair/Police works with the family to develop a genogram to identify key family members.</li> <li>In suicide cases, there will not be a FLO so the CST to directly contact family to notify and to offer support.</li> </ul>

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- Ensure transparency in recruitment of chair through a tender process.
- Clear evidence which demonstrates the expertise of the chair. Chair application to be accompanied by previous Home Office letters from previously published DHRs and reference from previous borough.
- Timely notifications to family and Home Office from CST & CSPB.
- To benchmarking best practice against similar DHRs and learning highlighted by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner.
- Roles and responsibilities are clearly understood by all involved.
- All involved to consider any early issues equality, diversity and intersectionality.

# Stage 2: Conducting the Review

## Stage 2: Conducting the Review



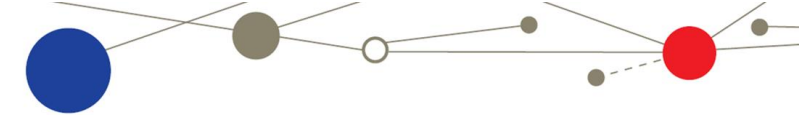
## 2.2 Roles and Responsibilities

Role of the CSPB:	Roles and Responsibilities:	Involvement of Family/Friends:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversee the quality of the review and ensure timeframes are observed.</li> <li>Ensure agencies are represented on the review panel and support the CST/Chair in following up with partners.</li> <li>To ask for updates on progress of the report and to have a standing item agenda on the CSPB agenda.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Clearly explain purpose and process of DHR to panel members through robust Terms of Reference. Ensure the high quality of Individual Management Reviews (IMRs) and provide support where needed.</p> <p><b>CST:</b> Arrange meeting dates, book rooms and support the chair in establishing first meeting. Ensure panel is diverse and fund additional representation where necessary.</p> <p><b>Panel Members:</b> Ensure senior representation at meetings who have not been involved in the case. Meaningfully contribute to the report through IMRs and panel meetings. Implement learning at the earliest opportunity. Ensure the high quality of IMRs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be contacted by the chair who introduces themselves and explains the DHR process.</li> <li>To be asked by the chair if and how they want to contribute to the review.</li> <li>To be given the opportunity to understand and influence the scope of the review including the Terms of Reference.</li> <li>To be kept up to date on the progress off the report.</li> </ul>

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- The right people are on the review panel who are strategic in the role. The same person consistently attends meetings going forward.
- Emerging learning is implemented at the earliest opportunities without needing to wait for the development of DHR or action.
- All IMRs follow an agreed template which include meaningful recommendations for their own agency.
- Family and friends are involved at the earliest stage of conducting the review.
- An intersectional approach is adopted throughout the development of the DHR.

# Stage 3: The Overview Report



## Stage 3: The Overview Report

### 3.1 Introduction:

The purpose of Stage 3 is to outline what is required from the body of the overview report and the process towards making the report sign off ready. Below are the key criteria that the report needs to meet:



### 3.2 Roles and Responsibilities:

Role of the Community Safety Programme Board	Roles and Responsibilities:	Involvement of Family:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The CSBP is updated on progress of the DHR through quarterly monitoring reports provided by the DHR Chair (Appendix X Monitoring Report Template)</li> <li>The CSBP supports in addressing any emerging issues or problems.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Panel Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel members are actively contributing to the Report and attending all necessary meetings.</li> <li>Comments and feedback are provided in a timely manner and to deadlines.</li> <li>Panel members jointly develop and own the action plan.</li> <li>Panel members keep their teams and managers up to date on all progress.</li> </ul> <p><b>CST:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book rooms and send invitations for all meetings.</li> <li>Liaising with CSPB when needed or if problems arise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular engagement and updates on progress are provided by the chair, including the timeline expected for publication.</li> <li>The family's comments are included in the report.</li> <li>Names are chosen by or with the agreement of family members</li> <li>Family are invited to attend a panel meeting.</li> </ul>

- Ensuring timescales are met
- The report includes robustly evidenced analysis
- Strong SMART recommendations
- Diverse contribution to the report.
- Shared responsibility in action plan via a Coordinated Community Response Model.
- Actions in the report are linked to wider VAWG strategic aims and objectives.
- A post panel meeting is held to agree and/or co-produce the action plan.

# Stage 4: Completion and Sign-Off

## Stage 4: Completion and Sign-Off

### 4.1 Introduction:

The purpose of Stage 3 is to outline what is required from the body of the overview report and the process towards making the report sign off ready. Below are the key criteria that the report needs to meet:



### 4.2 Roles and Responsibilities:

Role of the Community Safety Programme Board	Roles and Responsibilities:	Involvement of Family:
<p>The DHR report is sent to the CSPB in advance of the meeting to review.</p> <p>The CSPB sign off the report and accompanying action plan.</p> <p>Once the report has been signed off by the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel, the CSPB to send the DHR to all panel members who are to forward onto their teams.</p>	<p><b>Chair:</b> The Chair to get sign off from the panel before submitting to the CSPB.</p> <p>If required, the chair to present the report to the CSPB and make necessary changes.</p> <p>To make any changes requested by the Home Office.</p> <p><b>Panel Members:</b> To sign off the report and action plan from their respective teams.</p> <p>Observe timelines to ensure the report can be completed in a timely fashion</p>	<p>The family should be included throughout the process and updated of any changes to the report or to timelines.</p> <p>The family's comments should be included in the final version.</p> <p>The family should have oversight of the report before it is submitted to the CSPB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Chair to liaise with family to determine appropriate publication date.</li> </ol>

- The report, executive summary and action plan should be completed within six months of the CSPB signing off the DHR – unless an alternative timescale was formally agreed.
- Any delays should be communicated to the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel and the CSPB.
- The family should be updated at every stage and consulted throughout.

# Stage 5: Dissemination and Learning

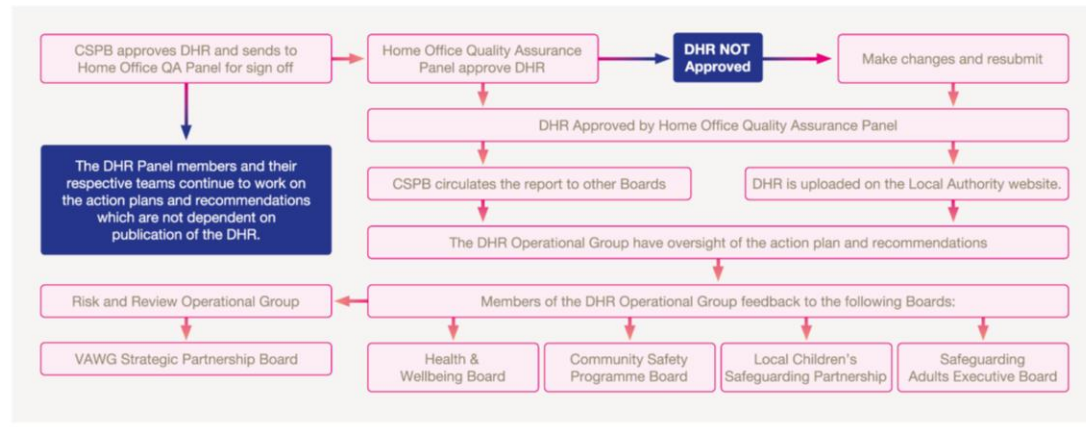
## Stage 5: Dissemination and Learning

### 5.1 Introduction:

The purpose of this stage is to outline what is required to ensure that the lessons and learning from Domestic Homicide Reports are embedded into practice and the action plan is effectively implemented and monitored. Below are the key actions that need to be undertaken for dissemination of learning:

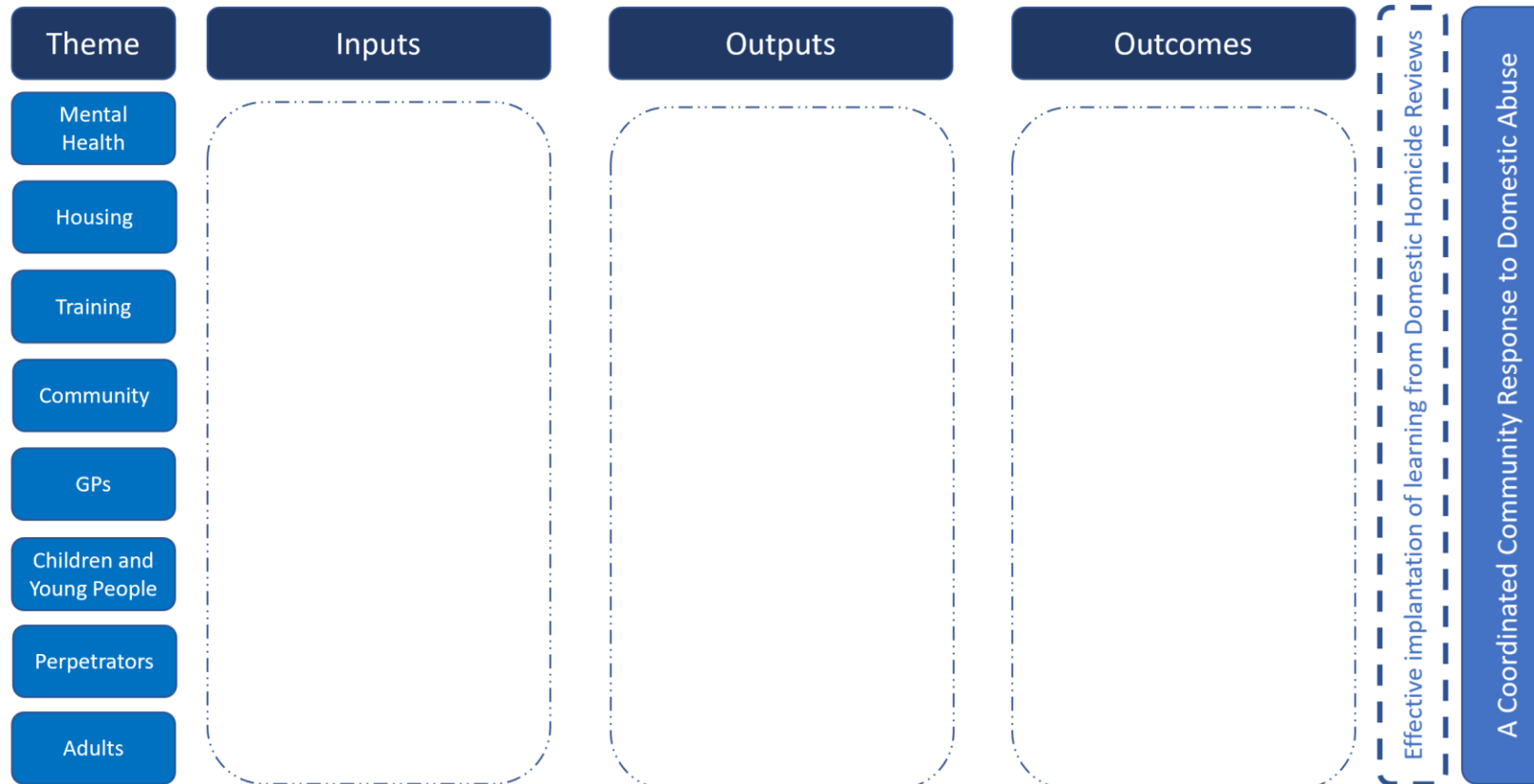


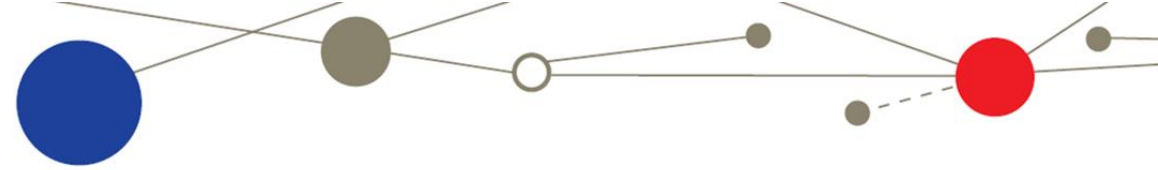
### 5.2 Governance Process and Structure:



- DHR to be a standing item agenda at the CSPB
- Shared ownership of report and actions
- Actions are completed to deadlines
- Learning targeted at both strategic and operational levels
- DA Commissioner is kept up to date on local learning.

# DHR Theory of Change





# DHR Forward Plan

- Embed the DHR Protocol
- Amalgamating all the action plans and focusing on emerging themes of learning through a theory of change model
- Look to hold focused workshops and joint learning events to disseminate learning
- Draw upon learning from national DHRs, SCRs etc.
- Work closely with the new DA Commissioner in implementing learning.