



Protecting People Annual Report 2023-2024

Contents

Foreword	3
1 Protecting People in Dundee	6
1.1 What is Protecting People?	6
1.2 Why have a Protecting People Approach	7
1.3 What are the Protecting People Committees?	9
Dundee at a Glance	10
Cross-Cutting Summary	12
Adult Support and Protection Summary	14
Adult Support and Protection Key Achievements and Priorities	15
Child Protection Committee Summary	16
Child Protection Committee Key Achievements and Priorities	17
Alcohol and Drug Partnership Summary	18
Alcohol and Drug Partnership Key Achievements and Priorities	19
Violence Against Women Summary	20
Violence Against Women Key Achievements and Priorities	21

Foreword

As Chairs of the Protecting People Committees/Partnerships, we are pleased to present this report covering April 2023 to March 2024. Following the success of the single annual report last year, the four Committees are continuing to publish one Protecting People Annual Report to demonstrate the cross-cutting nature of the work undertaken. This Annual Report will highlight key cross-cutting and specific achievements, challenges and areas of future work. Alongside the Public Protection 22/23 Annual Report, this report acts as part of the Adult Support and Protection Biennial Report which is a legislative requirement.

There has been a large volume of work undertaken by the four Committees and their partners over the past financial year, with close multi-agency working continuing to be prioritised. A key achievement of the Protecting People Committees was the official launch of the Protecting People Learning & Organisational Development Framework. This Framework brings all learning into one online location that is easily accessible. The training and development opportunities are focused on multi-agency and cross-cutting learning. Committee communication with the workforce and community has been greatly enhanced through the extension of the Digital Communication Graduate role. This has enabled strategic documents to be more public facing in nature and easier to understand. Furthermore, there has been an increased focus on ensuring all the workforce can access trauma-informed learning with resources now being hosted on the Protecting People Learning Framework, along with workshops being offered on a single or multi-agency basis.

There has been significant progress and achievements and a number of these are summarised below.

Amongst the large range of achievements completed by the individual Committees are:

- Adult Support and Protection Committee (ASPC): Progressing actions in the Improvement Plan following the Joint Multi-Agency ASP Inspection, revising procedures in line with new guidance, the Committee hosted an ASP Week to promote ASP learning across Dundee, and a new Adults at Risk Multi-Agency Pathway is now under development and will be a key priority for 2024/25 onwards.
- Child Protection Committee (CPC): Substantial progress improving arrangements for 16/17 year olds; Multi-agency audit of the Adolescent Senior Management Oversight Group.
- Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP): significant progress with the implementation of the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards, launch of the ADP website and wider engagement work, focusing on upstream prevention through the Dundee Alcohol and Drugs Prevention Framework, development of an Investment & Commissioning Plan to ensure financial transparency and best strategic use of resource for greatest impact and the significant increase in the number of people supported to access residential rehabilitation.

- Violence Against Women Partnership (VAWP): Audit of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference, enhanced VAW learning across Dundee through the VAW Learning and Development officer post, the creation of the Young Peoples Intel Briefing to ensure the workforce have up-to-date information on issues facing young people in Dundee, and additional funding was awarded from CORRA to focus on improving aspects of women's health and ensure barriers are reduced for women accessing support services.

Despite these achievements, there are still some challenges to address which are highlighted in the report. The Protecting People Committees have recognised that there continues to be challenges in timely progression with improvement work they have identified. This has been particularly difficult where improvement work has required active input, expertise and skills of people working in frontline protection services coupled with the changing leadership roles. Teams within the workforce have focused on meeting increased demand and complexity of risk that continues to increase in the city, whilst dealing with gaps in normal staff capacity caused by wellbeing, absence and recruitment issues. To address this, there is planned recruitment of additional roles in 2024/25. The work focused on restructuring the Committees and their working groups will also help to focus on key priorities and allow more time to be used for active improvement work within 2024/25.

Funding also remains a challenge, with the public and third sectors continuing to face a very challenging financial landscape during 2023 - 2024. This has impacted across a range of PP services and supports, particularly those delivered in the third sector. National funding arrangements for specialist drug and alcohol and violence against women services continue to pose challenges in terms of sustainability of services and longer-term strategic and financial planning. Many sources of funding are temporary, with short-term allocations and confirmation of funds available being made very close to the start of each financial year. To mitigate this, both the ADP and the VAWP have a sub-group to monitor the availability of funds and the total money in the city for their specific areas to ensure strategic priorities are being addressed. The Partnerships also actively seek out funding opportunities.

To address these challenges and continue improving Protecting People work across Dundee, the Committees and Partnerships will be working together on key cross-cutting areas. The Committees aim to further integrate the work by implementing a new strategic structure in 2024/25 to address risk and vulnerability affecting members of our community collectively. This will see the creation of the Adults at Risk Committee and the Children at Risk Committee, with both VAWP and Suicide Prevention agendas being merged into the new structure. For the time being, the ADP will continue to strategically sit separately. The Committees will also focus on further developing their approach to gathering the views from people they are working with to ensure their voice is heard and informs strategic direction, operational processes and service delivery. An increased focus on prevention activity is also a key priority to understand, respond and prevent future harm experienced within Dundee.

Furthermore, the Committees will work together to implement recommendations from both the Adult Support and Protection Inspection and the Learning Reviews to ensure improvements and outcomes for children, young people, adults and families.

We would like to thank all the members of the Protecting People Committees for their continued support and commitment to this work and express a great appreciation to all staff across the agencies who work hard to protect the people of Dundee every day.



Elaine Torrance
Chair of Adult Support and Protection Committee and Child Protection Committee.



Pamela Dudek
Chair of Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.



Ann Hamilton
Chair of Violence Against Women Partnership.



1. Protecting People in Dundee

“Dundee’s future lies with its people. They deserve the best this city can give them. We will provide the protection they need, when they need it, to keep them safe from harm.”

1.1 What is Protecting People?

Protecting People (PP) is the term that we use in Dundee to describe our work to protect children, young people and adults from abuse, neglect and harm. Our approach to PP includes:

- Child protection
- Adult support and protection
- Violence against women and girls
- Alcohol and drugs
- The management of sexual and violent offenders (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements)
- Suicide prevention

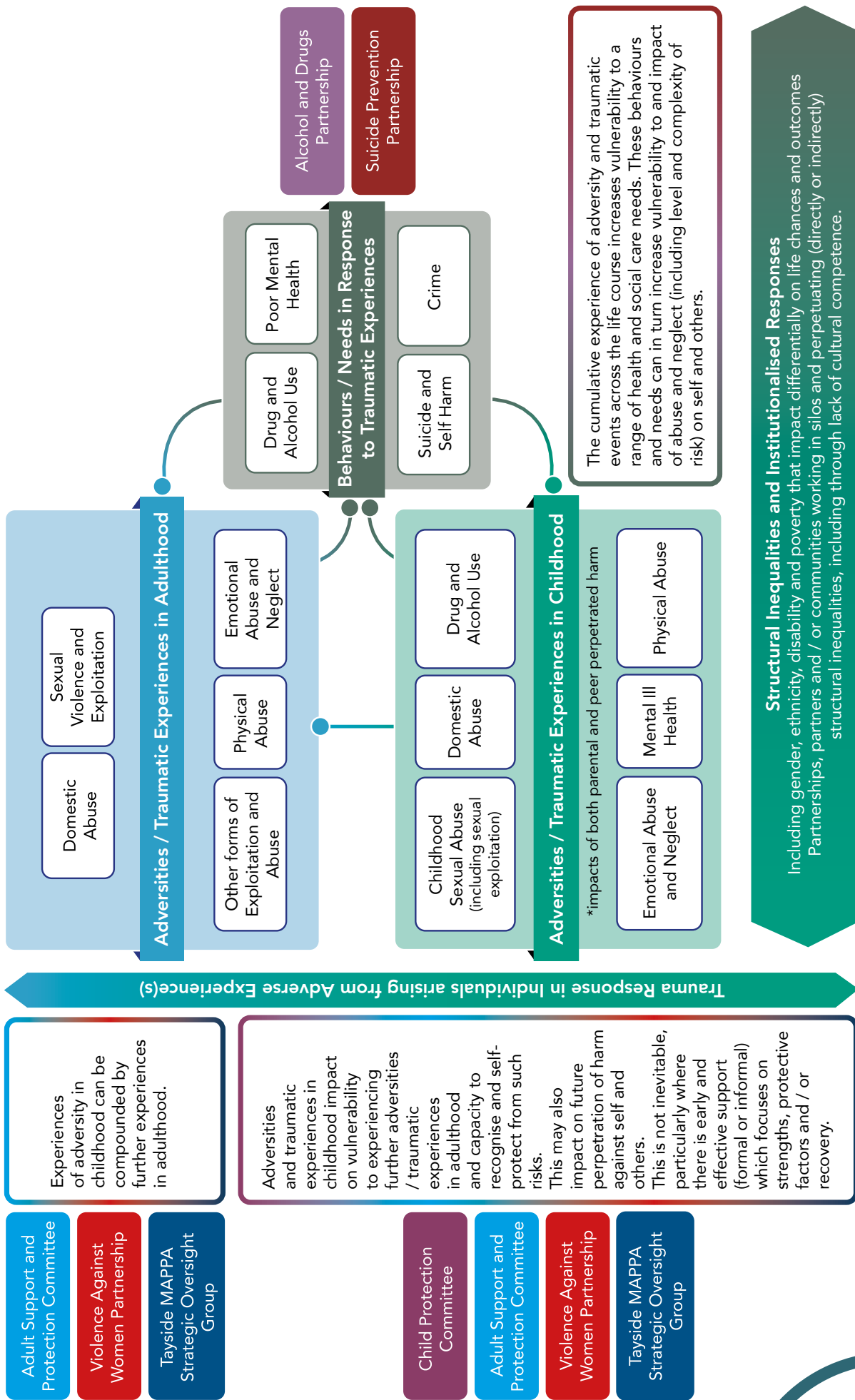
By working together agencies from across the public sector (for example, Dundee City Council, NHS Tayside, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service), third sector (voluntary and community organisations) and independent sector (such as social care providers) aim to:

- Improve arrangements for identifying and supporting people who have been harmed or are at risk of harm. This includes involving people who have experienced harm and who have been supported through PP services in helping to improve services and supports;
- Raise awareness of PP issues across communities, including signs that people might be at risk of harm and how to report this;
- Work together with communities to help to prevent harm happening in the first place;
- Support the workforce who deliver PP service, including through learning and development activities; and,
- Monitor data and other types of information about the impact services and supports have on vulnerable people, so that services can learn from what is good and work together to change things that need to be improved.

Services also work together across Tayside, and with national organisations to share learning, resources and best practice.

1.2 Why have a Protecting People approach?

In Dundee an integrated PP approach informs all our work to protect people at risk of harm. We know that many people in Dundee have multiple, complex and changing needs which typically arise from experiences of abuse, neglect and trauma through their lives. The graphic below describes the interconnected nature of PP work and how experiences of trauma can impact life experiences and outcomes.



1.3 What are the Protecting People Committees?

The PP Committees are the groups where agencies come together to lead, plan and evaluate their work to protect people from harm. These groups have a strategic focus – this means that they take an overview across all the arrangements in Dundee for PP, looking for key themes and priorities where good practice can be spread across services or where there are gaps and areas for improvement. They are also focused on multi-agency working, each individual agency will also have their own, internal arrangements for making sure their PP responses are in place and are of a good quality.



Each of the Committees is led by an Independent Chair. This is someone who does not work for local agencies and has significant knowledge, skills and experience in specific areas of PP, as well as experience of leading services, change and improvement. They have an important role in supporting and leading improvement work, as well as challenging local agencies where they think improvement is needed.

The wider membership of the Committees is made up of representatives from the public, third and independent sectors. As well as senior officers, some Committees have community representatives who have experience of harm and PP services (either themselves or as a family member). The Committees are also supported by a number of working groups where staff who work in protection services contribute to developing good practice and planning and implementing improvements.

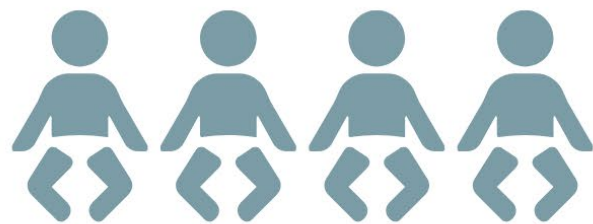


DUNDEE is Scotland's fourth largest city

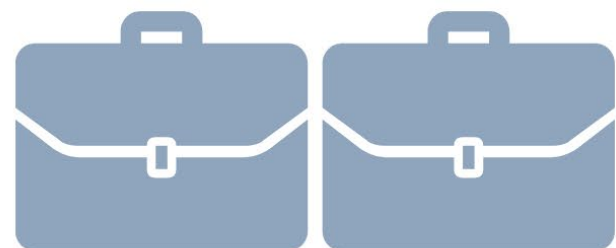
2nd highest population density in Scotland.



7/8 Wards in Dundee contain data zones that are in the **20%** most deprived in Scotland.

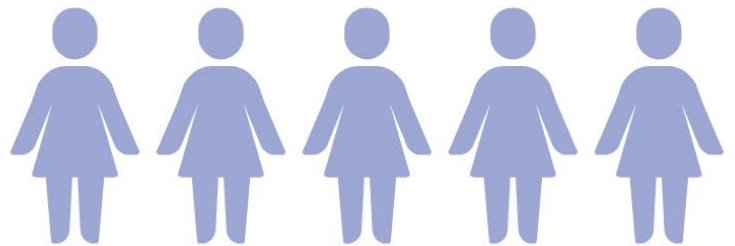


Estimated that **43%** of **children aged 0-15** live within the 20% most deprived data zones.



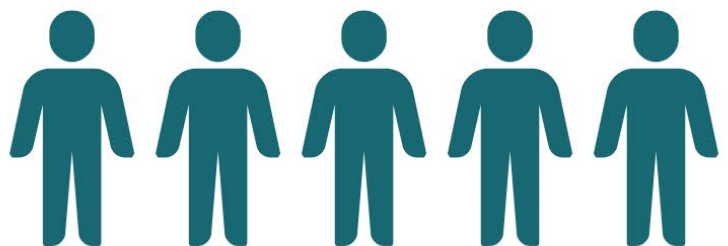
Dundee's 2022 population was estimated to be

148,100



76,100 Females

Life expectancy: 79.1 years



72,100 Males

Life expectancy: 73.5 years

75% of those aged **16-64** years in Dundee City were economically active.

30 Suicide probable suicides in Dundee in 2023, **73% of which were male.**



528 Sexual crimes recorded by Police Scotland



A rate of 35.4 per 10,000 population (census 2011 rates)

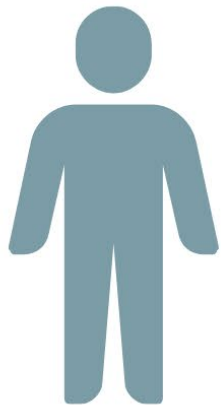
19 Child Protection orders issued in 2023/24



2,743 Domestic abuse incidents reported. Increase of **2.8%** on last year.



30 Drug-specific deaths in 2022 a **decrease of 36%** from 47 in 2021. **69%** of those who experienced a drug death resided in the most deprived areas in Dundee.



36 Alcohol-specific deaths in 2023.

Imprisonment rate: Dundee City retained the **highest rate** of arrival **3.4** per **1,000** in 2022-2023



Cross-Cutting Key Achievements in 2023-2024

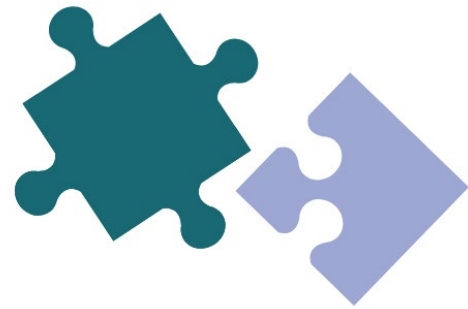
The official launch of the **Protecting People Learning & Organisational Development Framework**, bringing all learning into one place (online location) that is easily accessible and adopts a tiered approach.

The Protecting People Committees focussed on **improving their approach to learning reviews**, with Dundee and Angus working towards jointly developing a new Dundee and Angus Public Protection Learning Review Protocol that introduces a single process for undertaking reviews.

The Digital Communications Graduate Trainee role between Protecting People and Dundee City Council Communications Service was extended. This has allowed the Committees to continue to **improve their communications** and develop new digital channels and materials and improve the accessibility of information produced by the Committees.

All **trauma training** and learning resources are now hosted on the Protecting People Learning Framework.

A plan has been developed and implemented around organisational culture change relating to **trauma-informed leadership and trauma-informed practice**.

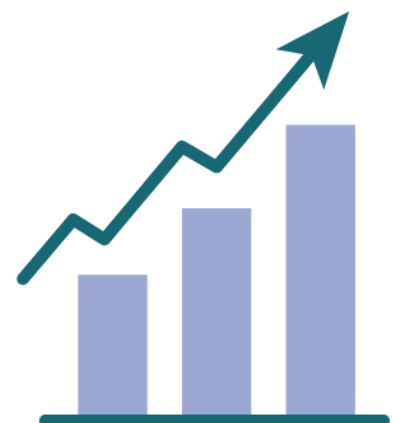


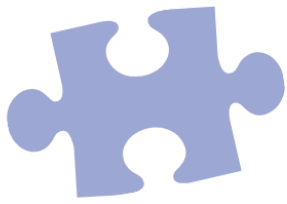
Challenges

Sourcing, delivering and releasing staff for training beyond basic/awareness level. This continues to be a challenge with staff who have attended training having capacity to share and implement their learning and improvement ideas with their own service/team. Increased use of the **PP L&OD Framework** hopes to address this. Plans are in place to make the Framework landing page more user friendly.

Implementing improvement work. This has been particularly difficult where improvement work has required active input, expertise and skills of people working in frontline protection services coupled with the stretched capacity of leadership. This will be addressed through building the PP team capacity through additional jobs.

Improving communication and engagement. One size does not fit all - different audiences have different needs and preferences. Within the resources available it can be challenging to meet everyone's need and there often must be a process of prioritisation. Committees will continue to be proactive in their approach to communications and work collaboratively to maintain enhanced communication and design capacity required.





Challenges

Continue embedding lived experience.

It is important that we continue to embed and expand this work but ensure that all lived experience work is trauma informed and meaningful and not tokenistic. Additionally, clear feedback loop processes need to be deeply embedded within any lived experience work. Recruitment of an Authentic Voice Coordinator in 2024/25 will help improve lived experience work within the PP Committees.

Increasing focus on prevention and early intervention.

Due to strained capacity within frontline and strategic teams, it does not always allow for this focus to be at the forefront, with resources being assigned to crisis-driven responses. We hope to address this by recruiting a Graduate Trainee in 2024/25 to assist on the implementation of the **Dundee Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Prevention Framework**.

The public sector continues to face very challenging financial landscape. This has impacted a range of Protecting People services and supports, particularly those delivered in the third sector. Protecting People Committees have focused on taking positive action to mitigate risks associated with financial challenges where possible. This includes the continued work of the ADP Commissioning Group and the VAWP Funding Group.



Key Priorities for 2024-2025

Enhance our focus on suicide prevention by hiring a suicide prevention coordinator and develop a new delivery plan that reflects the national Suicide Prevention Strategy.

Further integrate our work on PP, implementing a new strategic structure that will help the COG and Committees to implement priorities for improvement by integrating VAWP, Suicide Prevention, ASP and CPC.

Focus more on prevention activity, including taking a trauma-informed approach to understanding, responding and preventing future harm.

Enhance our approach to quality assurance and learning reviews, making sure that these activities inform learning and development and lead to improvements in outcomes for children, young people, adults and families.

Expand our approach to experiential data collection, making sure that feedback from people involved in protection processes, services and supports is at the centre of our quality assurance approach.

Focus on making changes to our **strategic and service development** approaches to enhance the meaningful impact of lived experience.

Continue embedding a gendered approaches to PP service delivery.

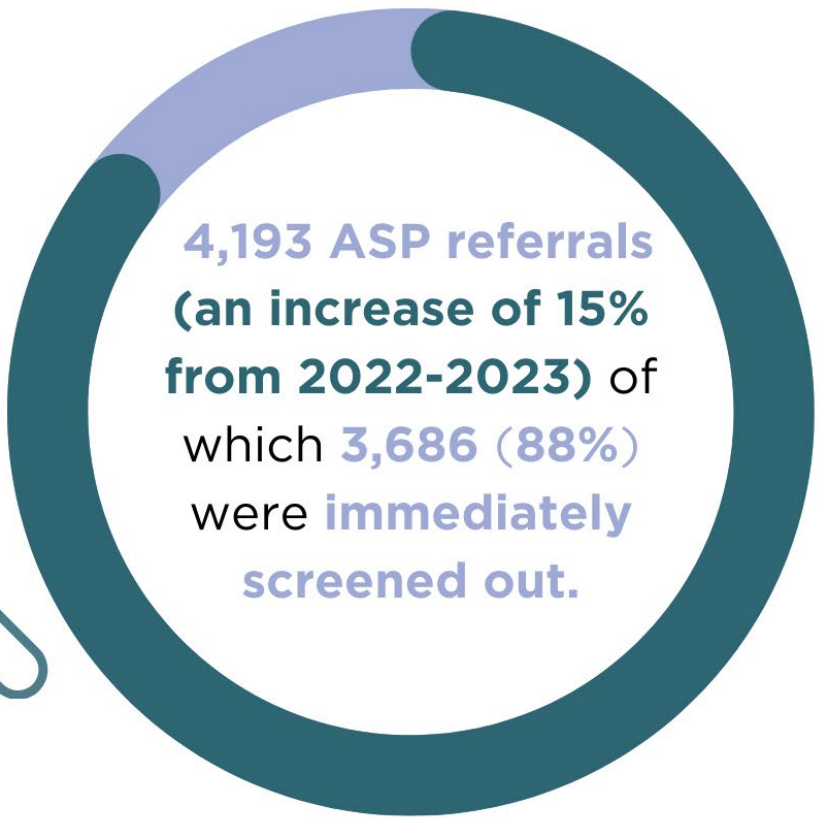
DUNDEE

Adult Support and Protection (ASP) 2023-2024

101
ASP
investigations



91 Initial case conferences were held.

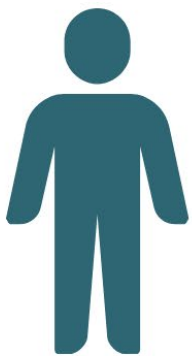


Type of harm reported in ASP investigations

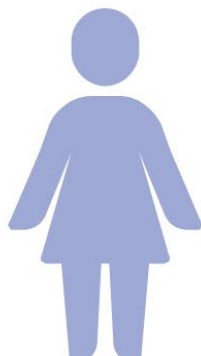


of harm happens most at home.

The age group most at risk

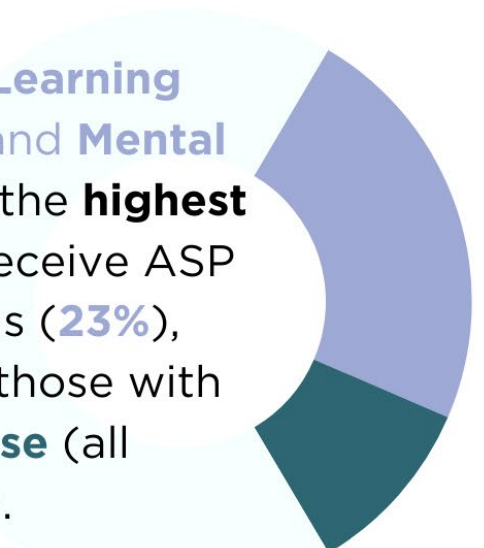


40-64 years old males (38%)



25-39 years old females (28%)

Adults with **Learning Disabilities** and **Mental Health** form the **highest group** that receive ASP investigations (23%), followed by those with **Substance Use** (all types) (10%).



Key Achievements in 2023-2024

The **Committees key processes and strategic leadership were rated as 'effective'** in the Joint Inspection. In response, the Committee has developed a Joint Multi-Agency Improvement Plan to address six key areas of improvement.

The **Committee hosted an ASP Week to promote ASP learning across Dundee.** Events were widely attended with understanding being enhanced for the majority of participants.

Learning has been progressed from the Ms. L Significant Case review.

The **Committee began the process of developing a new Adults at Risk Pathway** to ensure robust support for people who do not meet the criteria for support under ASP legislation.



Key Priorities for 2024-2025

Continue to **implement the recommendations** and subsequent action plan from the **Ms. L Significant Case Review**. This includes evaluating the impact of changes made.

Continue to implement the recommendations and subsequent action plan from the **Joint ASP Multi-agency Inspection**.

Complete the design of the new Adults at Risk pathway and work with partners to implement this into practice.

Develop the Adult Support and Protection specific Learning Framework, while taking into consideration the new National Code of Practice to enhance staff confidence in their professional judgment and decision making.

Integrate the new **National ASP Code of Practice** into the local Dundee Procedures and launch them to the multi-agency workforce.

Implement the new **National ASP dataset** locally.

Develop renewed **committee data set and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**.

DUNDEE

Child Protection Committee
(CPC) 2023-2024



160

Children and Young People subjected to Initial and Pre-birth Child Protection Plan meetings

2,326



Police CP Concern reports.

496

Initial Referral Discussions

126

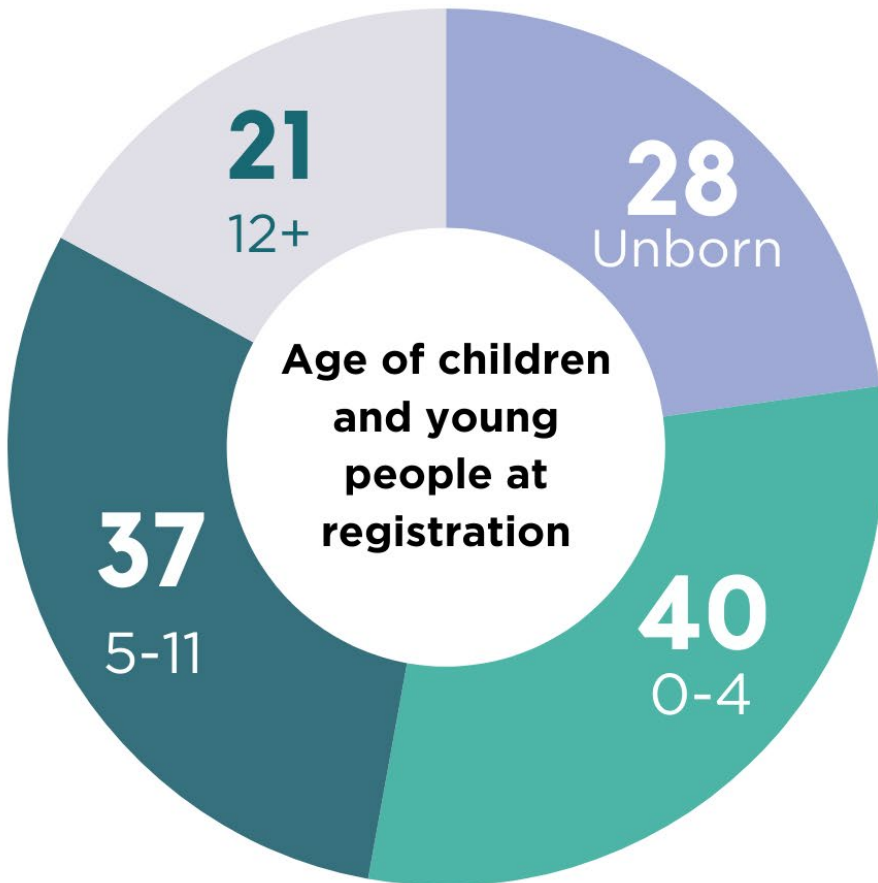


children **added** to Child Protection Register in 23/24.

102

Children and young people **removed** from the Protection Register in 23/24 and provided with alternative support.

At end of 23/24, there were **68 children on the Protection Register.**



Most **frequently recorded concerns** for children being placed on the Protection Register:

Domestic Abuse (48%)

Parental Mental Health (48%)

Parental Drug Use (42%)

Key Achievements in 2023-2024

The CPC conducted a **multi-agency audit of the Adolescent Senior Management Pathway**, with recommendations to be implemented in 2024/25.

Working with **care experienced young people, the CPC developed the Charter and framework**, to include the views and influence of children and young people within policy, planning and service delivery. The CPC met with champion groups at Morgan Academy regularly to develop the Charter, framework and resource pack. This formally launched in June 2023, with engagement sessions taking place in the following months.



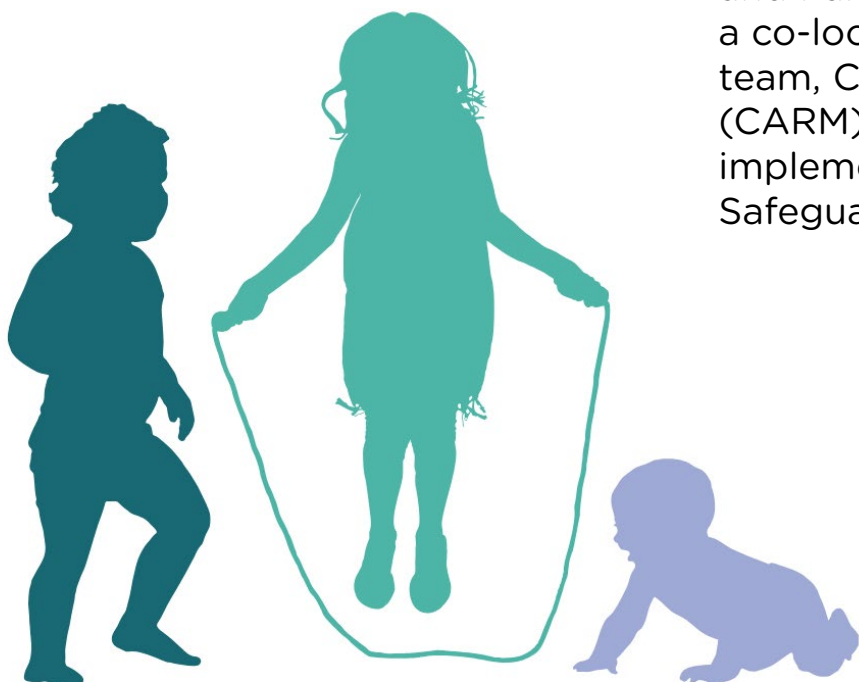
Key Priorities for 2024-2025

Implement improved interface between the work of the **strategic committee and frontline services** following our recent workforce survey results.

Develop a **broader understanding of independent advocacy provision** and reach (relating to child protection and associated processes).

In alignment with the **Authentic Voice project** continue to develop the inclusion of lived experience voice in our work and fully implement the Children's Charter.

Finalise new arrangements following the **multi-agency review** led by the Dundee City Council (DCC), Children and Families Service - to include a co-located multi-disciplinary team, Care and Risk Management (CARM) procedure review and implementation of Contextual Safeguarding.



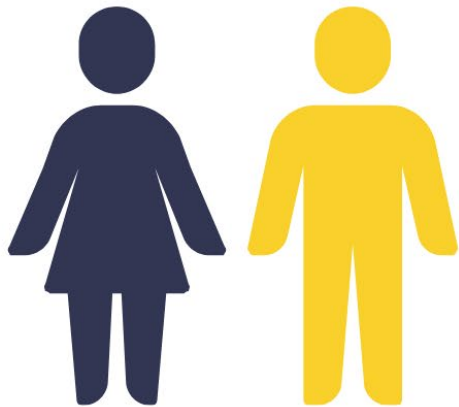
DUNDEE

Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) 2023-2024

Dundee had **30 drug-specific deaths** in 2022 confirmed by the Tayside multiagency Drug Death Review group.

Average age for deaths was 45-49

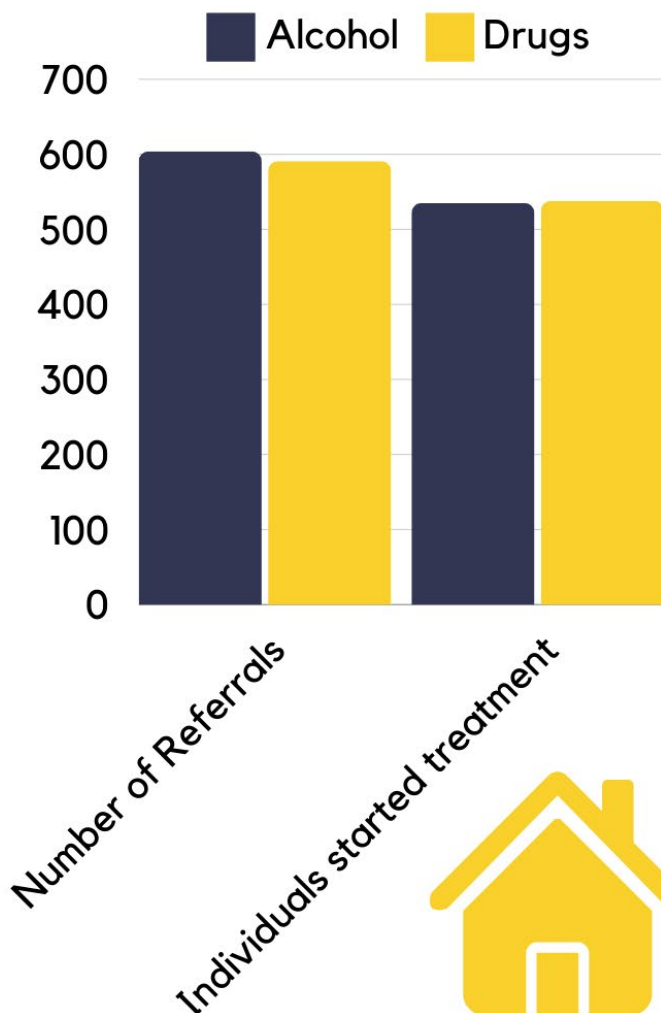
In 2023, there were **192 Near-Fatal Overdoses (NFODs)** incidents.



36 Alcohol-specific deaths in Dundee in 2023



42 (74%) of the Tayside drug deaths in 2022 occurred amongst people who lived in areas of the greatest socioeconomic deprivation (SIMD 1 and 2).



1,221

Naloxone kits were distributed in 2023/24 (8% decrease from previous year)

Individuals in the most deprived areas of Dundee accounted for:



Key Achievements in 2023-2024

There has been **continued progress with the implementation of the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards**. The most recent benchmarking report confirms that improvements to service provision in Dundee have been achieved, with Dundee scoring green for MATs 1-5 and provisional green for MATs 6-9 (MAT 10 was not included).

The **ADP soft launched their website**, with the webpage since going live. This website includes a comprehensive list of support services in Dundee and hosts public facing documents.

The **Dundee Alcohol and Drugs Prevention Framework** was published and is now hosted on the ADP website.

The **ADP Commissioning Group developed an Investment & Commissioning Plan** to ensure financial transparency. This group also leads on the allocation and management of funding for substance use service provision.

The **ADP successfully obtained CORRA funding** to progress various projects across the city.



Key Priorities for 2024-2025

Continue the progress that has been made with the implementation of all **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards**.

Fully implement the **residential rehabilitation pathway**.

Finalise the set-up of the **drug checking service**.

Collaborate with other partners through the **Year of Kindness** role to address stigma.

Increase the rollout of the **Planet Youth** approach so it is available in all high schools in Dundee.

Ensure **Independent Advocacy** support is fully available.

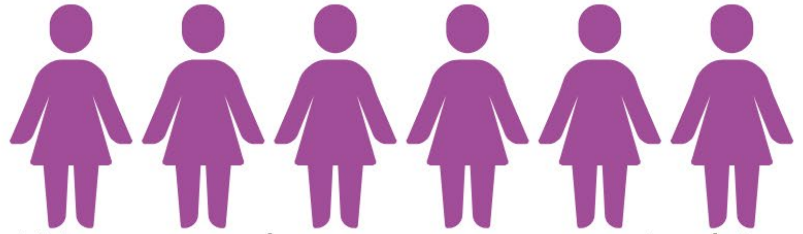
Refresh communication pathways to ensure staff and communities are aware of the available services and how to access them.

Embedding the **Dundee Alcohol and Drug Prevention Framework** with stakeholders.

Continue to support the work with local communities through the **Decentralised Funding**.

DUNDEE

Violence Against Women Partnership (VAWP) 2023-2024

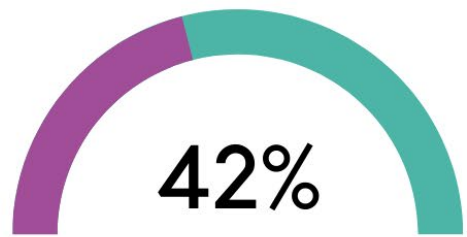
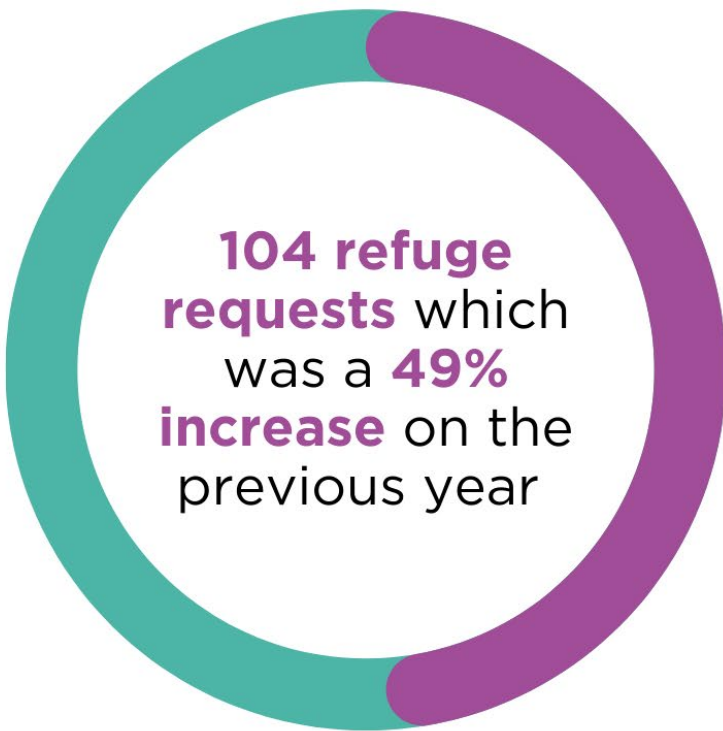


Women who were presented to services were predominantly **31 - 40 years.**

Third Sector Organisations in 2023/24 supported:

2,218 
Women

225 
Children and Young People



of total **referrals** to women's specialist services were **made by Police.**

2% increase in referrals to specialist service compared to 2022/23

257 women and young people sought support from local specialist support services for rape and sexual assault

285 cases discussed at Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference in 2023/24.

6% Increase on previous years.



Key Achievements in 2023-2024

An **audit of the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)** was carried out with recommendations being made and progressed.

Expanded and coordinated the Partnership's approach to **learning and development** through a dedicated role.

Enhanced approach to the **promotion of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence (GBV)**.

Hosted a **conference dedicated to technology and violence against women and girls**, to highlight the changing nature of GBV in a modern world.

Development and launch of both the **Young People's Intel Briefing paper and the Gendered Services Bulletin** to ensure the workforce are informed about current local themes.



Key Priorities for 2024-2025

Develop a VAWG Prevention Framework by focussing on the root causes of GBV, namely women's inequality and how GBV impacts women and girls through the life course.

Increase capacity and efficiency in the MARAC process.

Continue to develop sustainable and collaborative approach to VAW funding locally and nationally.

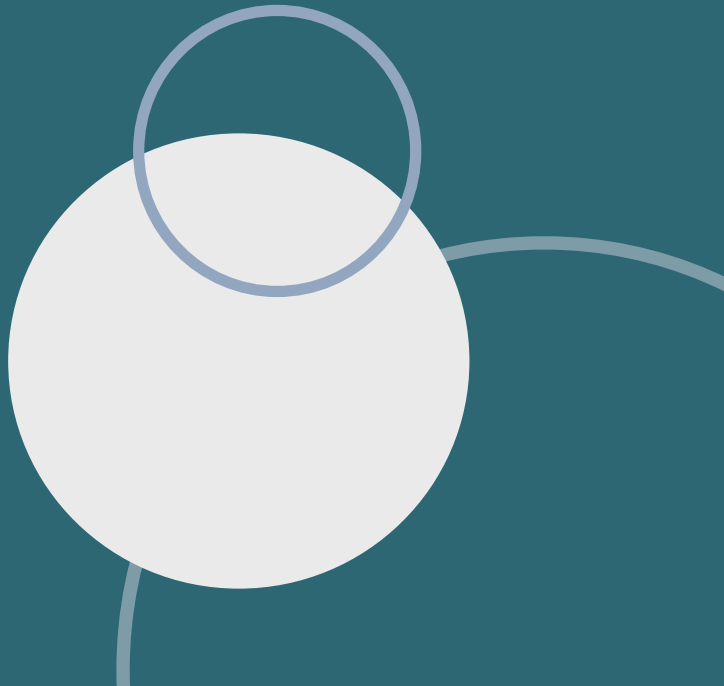
Increase local work focussing on young people's experiences of GBV within their own intimate relationships.

Continue to grow the following of the StandTaygither Instagram account to ensure a greater cascading of GBV-related education within the public.

To raise the profile of 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence within Dundee by investing more resources into the promotion of the campaign.

Further develop the work of the Young People's Intelligence Group and ensure intel is widely disseminated throughout the workforce by creating and dispersing a workforce briefing paper.





Protecting
People
in Dundee

dundeeprotects.co.uk