



**Module: Community Care and
Development**

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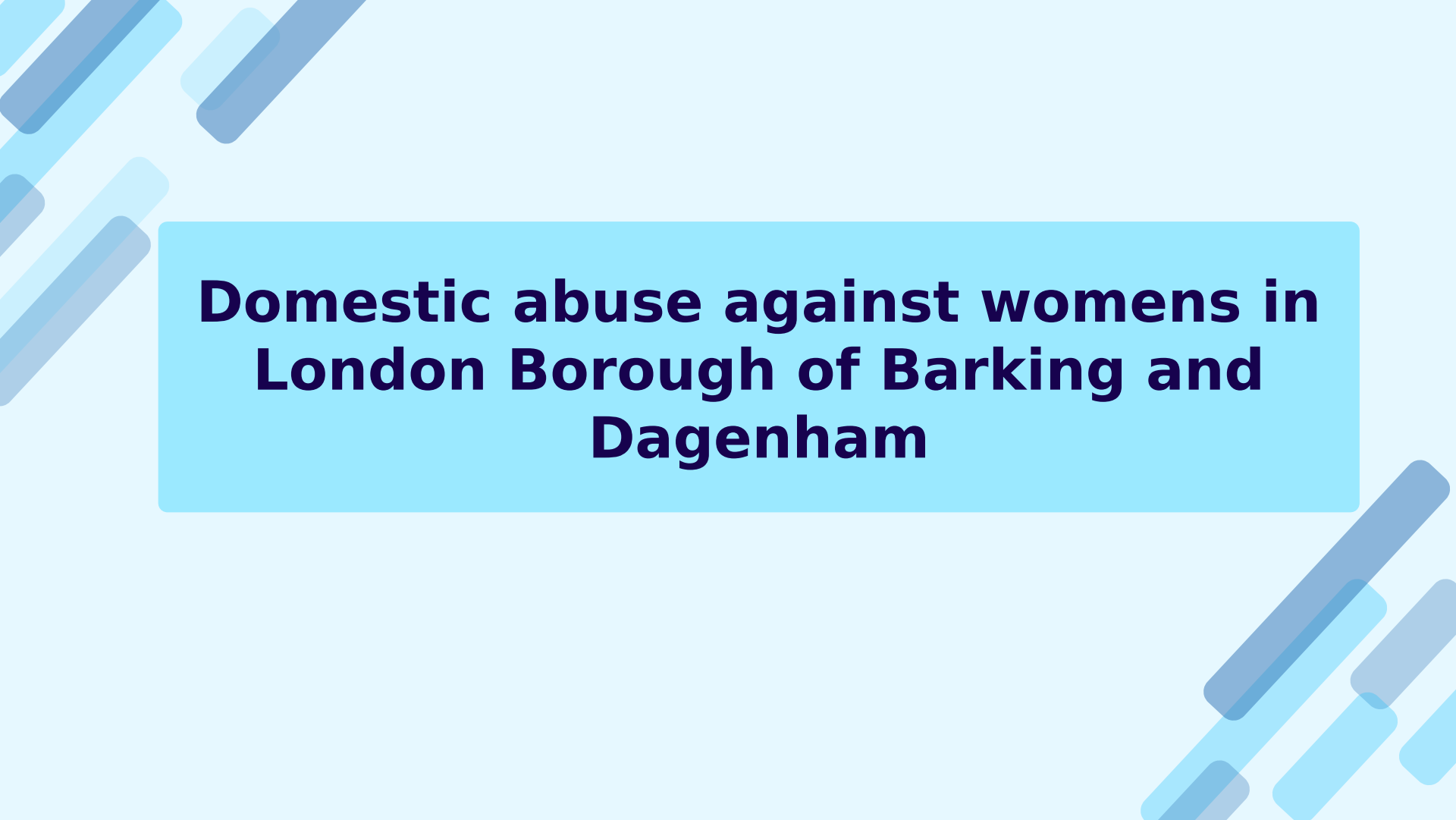
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Domestic abuse against womens in London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

Introduction

- **2.4 million adults withstand domestic abuse in England and Wales in 2022**
- **Domestic abuse is usually concealed and unreported to authorities** (Office of National Statistics, 2022)

Victim characteristics:

- **1.7 million victims in England and Wales in 2022** (Office for National Statistics, 2022)
- **Prevalence of mortality due to domestic abuse: domestic homicide rose by 16% in 2022 compared to 2021 in England and Wales** (NPCC, 2022)



What is domestic abuse

Sexual and physical violence

Violent behaviour

Threatening attitude

**Controlling and coercive
behaviour**

**Psychological and emotional
abuse** (National Centre for Domestic
violence, 2023)



(www.north-norfolk.gov.uk, n.d.)



Location

Barking and Dagenham is a London borough

Geographical location: Eastern part of London

Formed in 1965 (Britannica, 2023).



Demographics of the community

Population: 218,00 inhabitants

Age: young population with just 9% over 65

Country of origin for residents: over 58% born in the UK

Sex: over 51% women

Marital status: 42% adults are in a civil partnerships or married

Household size: almost 35% part of a 4 or more household with over 62% of households being comprised of a single family

Economic status: 58% residents are employed and 22% have no professional qualifications
(Barking and Dagenham Council, 2021)

Diversity

Ethnic groups: 45% white and 55% Asian, black and mixed
(Varbes, 2020)

Religion: 45% Christians, 24% Muslim (www.lbbd.gov.uk, 2021)

Highest population growth in England (Office of National Statistics, 2021)



(swellcast.com, n.d.)

Prevalence of domestic abuse in the community

Highest police reports rates of Domestic Abuse in London

78% of victims are women

93% of abuse initiators are men (Barking and Dagenham Domestic Abuse Commission Report APPENDIX 1, n.d.)

26% young people consider hitting or being hit by a partner acceptable (COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP, 2021)

Health risks of domestic abuse

Physical injury

Chronic pain

Femicide

Trauma

Unwanted pregnancy

Sexual transmitted diseases

**Adverse mental health issues: depression,
suicide attempts, Post-Traumatic Stress
disorder (WHO, 2012)**



Policy and legislation

**Safeguarding Adults as part of the Care Act
2014**

Equality Act (2010)

Housing Act (1996)

Homelessness Act (2002) (Local Government
Association, 2015)

Human Rights Act (1998) (UK Government, 1998)



Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Domestic Abuse Commissioner

Domestic Abuse Protection Notice

Domestic Abuse Protection Order

Strengthening support for victims

Changes in statutory response

Provision of accommodation

**Creation of statutory presumption for special
measures for victims**

Clare's Law (GOV.UK, 2021)



Existing means of communication

- **Internal support providers:**
Refuge Charity
Excel Woman's Centre
DV Flag East
Domestic and Sexual Violence Service
- **London support providers:**
Ashiana Network
London Survivors Gateway
- **National support providers:**
National Domestic Abuse Helpline
Respect Phoneline (www.lbdd.gov.uk, 2021)



(Excel Woman's Centre, n.d.)

Use of digital media and technologies for community development

The Citizens' Alliance Network

Local platform BDCAN (www.lbdd.gov.uk, 2021)

WE BELIVE YOU (LBDD, 2023)

Barking & Dagenham Mutual Aid

Barking & Dagenham Community Hub (Facebook, n.d.)



Recommendations

Community level:

Awareness of toxic masculinity and promote positive examples in the community

Development for community support spaces for women-only (Barking and Dagenham Domestic Abuse Commission Report APPENDIX 1, n.d.)

National level:

Additional funding for women's organisations (UN Women, n.d.)

Improve collaboration between organisations

Preventative measures through education (United Kingdom

Conclusions

Domestic abuse is an important Health and Social Care issues, the prevalence in the borough of Barking and Dagenham being the highest in London. Victims are often women and underreport abuse because of stigma. Domestic abuse is detrimental to both physical and mental health. Barking and Dagenham borough community care projects aim to reduce incidence. Support and preventative legislation continues to evolve in the UK as risks become more known.

Thank you!

**Do you have any
questions?**



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