



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

**Number: 45208**

Welsh Government  
Consultation – summary of response

# Refresh of the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence National Strategy for 2022 - 2026

May 2022

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.  
This document is also available in Welsh.

## **Overview**

The Welsh Government published its Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) National Strategy in 2016. Under Section 3 of the VAWDASV (Wales) Act 2015, the National Strategy must be reviewed and updated following Senedd elections.

A consultation on a draft Strategy was held between 7 December 2021 and 7 February 2022. This document provides a summary of the responses to the consultation.

## **Action Required**

This document is for information only.

## **Further information and related documents**

Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.

## **Contact details**

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## **Additional copies**

This summary of response and copies of all the consultation documentation are published in electronic form only and can be accessed on the Welsh Government's website.

Link to the consultation documentation: [Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence \(VAWDASV\) National Strategy](#)

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## Introduction

1. In December 2021, we published a draft Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence National Strategy for consultation. This will be the second to be published under the duty established by the ground breaking Violence against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015, sets out the approach to be taken by the Welsh Government elected in May 2021. It will cover the period to the end of this administration in 2026.
2. The 2015 Act requires Welsh Ministers prepare and publish a National Strategy which sets out objectives and actions to achieve the purposes of the Act: prevention, protection and support.
3. Our vision is to end violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV) in Wales. VAWDASV is not inevitable. It is more than 'behaviours' of individuals that enable VAWDASV. It is societal norms, attitudes and beliefs that must be challenged as these are what perpetuate, excuse and legitimise VAWDASV
4. Wales has achieved many things in tackling VAWDASV and we have a right to be proud of our record. To be proud of the public authorities who have worked tirelessly to create an environment where VAWDASV is challenged. Proud of the delivery partners who offer support through services which are responsive and values driven. Proud of the survivors who have offered their voice and perspective to help others by informing the way we, as devolved and non-devolved bodies, improve together.
5. Ending VAWDASV is a complex challenge. The Strategy is intended to be an all-Wales strategy defining and leading action within the whole Welsh public sector. It is a strategy for public authorities and the third sector setting out priorities to create a collective sense of endeavour towards shared goals. It is also a strategy for business and wider society to make the changes to norms, behaviours and cultures which will lie at the root of achieving our ambitions. The Strategy seeks to end VAWDASV and therefore must take a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approach including with the voices of experts, victims and survivors at its heart.

## Consultation

6. On 7 December 2021 the Minister for Social Justice published, for consultation, a draft VAWDASV National Strategy. The purpose of the consultation was to gather views and feedback on:
  - Our key priorities for stopping violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence; and
  - The principles of our approach, including the way we will work with our partners.
7. A nine week consultation began on 7 December 2021 and was open for responses until 7 February 2022. Respondents had the opportunity to respond to the

consultation questions online, by email or by post. The consultation document, together with an easy read version and a version for young people, was available on the Welsh Government website. The consultation version for young people included a simplified set of consultation questions.

8. During the consultation period, the Welsh Government held two online information sessions to provide an overview of the draft Strategy , it's aims and proposed approach for partner organisations.
9. A number of partner organisations undertook engagement activity with their service users and staff to ensure the views of those working in the VAWDASV sector and the voice of survivors of VAWDASV were heard. Some of this engagement activity was targeted at young people, using the young people's version of the consultation and simplified consultation questions.
10. The Welsh Government would like to thank those organisations who undertook direct engagement activity during the consultation.

## Who responded to the consultation

11. We received 125 responses to the main consultation and a further 5 responses to the consultation questions published alongside the version of the consultation document for Young People. The Welsh Government would like to thank all those who responded.
12. A list of respondents, excluding those who requested anonymity, is included at Annex 1. Where respondents have asked for their details to be withheld, they are identified as being an 'Anonymous' response to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation. In addition, there were a small number of responses where no name or organisation was included.
13. The respondents represented a range of public, private and third sector bodies, including representative bodies such as trade unions, and individuals. A high proportion of responses were received from those who work in the VAWDASV sector, are survivors of VAWDASV or family/friends of VAWDASV survivors. The table below shoes a breakdown of the respondents by type.

Type	Number
Public sector (local authorities, health boards, etc)	39
Individuals	31
Third sector	16
Representative bodies	15
VAWDASV sector organisations	11
Unknown	6
Academia	5
Private sector	2

## Key messages

14. There were a number of themes that came through in responses to more than one of the consultation questions. These included:
  - The importance of the voice of survivors being heard to all levels in relation to service planning and delivery, as well as via the National Partnership Board and its sub-groups;
  - Calls for greater emphasis to be placed on the needs of children and young people who are VAWDASV victims;
  - Concerns older VAWDASV victims are treated differently because of their age and for greater awareness of the extent and impact of VAWDASV in this age group;
  - Calls for stronger action against perpetrators were balanced by calls for services for those who perpetrate, or are at risk of perpetration, to divert them via education and support;
  - The need for more detail on how the National Partnership Board and its sub-groups will operate, particularly in relation to membership, linkages with other cross-cutting strategies/plans and duties;
  - Continuing and expanding on the multi-agency approach to tackling VAWDASV and a joined-up approach across the Welsh Government, including more consistent funding approaches, greater sharing of data and a more seamless service for victims;
  - Calls for more consistent, sustainable longer-term funding to allow for greater planning of services and retention of specialist staff;
  - Continually improving our knowledge of what works to tackle VAWDASV and promoting good practice;
  - Developing toolkits for use to raise awareness of VAWDASV and help to tackle its effects in different sectors/settings; and
  - A call for clarity and transparency on the expected outcomes and performance indicators against which progress on delivering against the Strategy will be measured;
15. The Welsh Government has taken these key messages from the consultation responses into account in finalising the 2022-2026 VAWDASV National Strategy.

## Summary of responses

16. All the responses have been considered and will inform finalising the VAWDASV National Strategy and plans for its delivery over the period to 2026.
17. This document summarises the responses to the consultation questions (main consultation document and young people's version). It also incorporates the feedback from engagement sessions with staff, service users, young people and VAWDASV survivors undertaken by our partners. It does not aim to capture every point raised by respondents. It presents the key recurring themes and issues.
18. There were a significant number of issues raised that are more relevant to the delivery of the Strategy than to finalising the Strategy itself. An overview of this

information will be available to those taking forward delivery of the Strategy. It is not considered in this summary report.

19. The consultation document asked eleven questions: eight sought general feedback and the remaining questions for more detailed and relevant to professionals working with victims, survivors and perpetrators of VAWDASV.
20. Not all respondents replied to each question. Some respondents who replied by email provided general responses rather than answering the specific questions. Where this is the case, the response has been included under the most appropriate question. Similarly, we have incorporated feedback from engagement events under the appropriate question.
21. 59 respondents used the online consultation response form to provide their views. The online form allowed respondents to agree or disagree but not to partially agree. A number of respondents who provided email responses which were not on the standard response template chose to note that they partially agreed with the question rather than provide a yes / no answer.
22. As the majority of responses from individuals were received via the online response form, it is evident from the reasons given for their answers to a large number of questions that they have chosen to disagree but it was noted that this was often linked to not being content about the exclusion of a particular aspect of interest or concern to them rather than disagreeing with the strategy in principle.
23. There were a number of responses from the VAWDASV sector that raised very similar points in their responses and quoted the same references.

## **Question 1**

**We have set out our main priorities in the Objectives. Do you think these are the right priorities?**

24. 74 agreed fully and 8 agreed partially with the main priorities as set out in the Strategy's Objectives, while 15 disagreed. Other respondents may have commented, but did not explicitly state their agreement or disagreement with the priorities.
25. The majority of responses that disagreed with the question were from individual respondents or those who did not identify themselves. Care should be taken when considering the number disagreeing because many of these responses were very narrowly focused on specific aspects of VAWDASV which they did not consider were adequately represented in the Objectives.
26. Of those who partially agreed – from responses submitted via email – the majority were from organisations in the VAWDASV sector who raised common concerns about specific aspects of the strategy.
27. Common themes were:
  - Lack of coordination and sharing of information between, and within, different organisations supporting survivors;

- Education will be key to preventing VAWDASV through promoting healthy relationships;
  - Calls for fewer, smarter Objectives to better focus attention on what needs to be done;
  - Greater support is needed to encourage victims to leave abusive relationships as they are often tied to abusers by financial resources or the lack of available support in their local area.
28. Some responses included suggestions for re-wording Objectives, which have been considered as part of the process to revise and finalise the Strategy. However, it has been decided to retain the wording used in the consultation document as these reflect a continuation of the progress towards stopping VAWDASV begun under the same objectives in the first 2016-2021 VAWDASV Strategy. We will take note of the suggestions for changing the objectives as part of the approach to delivering on the Strategy's objectives.

## **Question 2**

**Do you think the overall approach we will be taking, as set out in the sections on the Blueprint, is the right one to stop violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence ?**

29. 62 respondents fully agreed, 2 broadly agreed and 28 disagreed with the overall approach, as set out in the Strategy.
30. Of those who disagreed, a common reason for disagreeing was the call for more detail on how the Strategy would be delivered and its progress monitored. This phase of the work will be taken forward by the new National Partnership Board and its sub-groups so it was not appropriate to speculate on their plans during the consultation.
31. Common themes were:
- The importance of the voice of survivors in service planning and delivery, and at all levels in the proposed governance structures;
  - Education will be key to preventing VAWDASV through promoting healthy relationships;
  - Unacceptable physical and verbal behaviour must be challenged in all settings (not just in school) from a very young age;
  - Stereotypes are harmful – whether in the media or ‘excused’ behaviour (e.g. boys will be boys in response to rough play);
  - Inconsistent, non-sustainable funding needs to be tackled
  - Inequitable access to support services, especially in more rural areas
  - The need for greater join up between services supporting survivors, including appropriate information sharing.
32. Responses included:
- Calls for more coordination across funding streams (e.g Welsh Government, Home Office, etc) to allow for more consistent, sustainable services;



- Concern that focusing on workplace and street harassment could dilute the need to tackle inappropriate behaviour in all settings;
- More cross-cutting working within Welsh Government and across partner organisations will improve the ability to tackle factors which can increase the likelihood of VAWDASV (e.g. housing, homelessness, substance misuse, mental health, etc).

### **Question 3**

**We have set out the principles which underpin the National Strategy. Do you agree with them?**

33. 77 respondents fully agreed, 7 broadly or partially agreed and 10 disagreed with the principles that underpin the Strategy. Of those who only partially agreed, the majority of responses were from specialist VAWDASV sector organisations who raised specific issues but were generally in agreement with the principles underpinning the Strategy.
34. Common themes were:
- Ensuring the survivor voice is heard;
  - Calls for a greater focus on children as victims of VAWDASV – whether they are the victim of abuse or live in households where abuse happens;
  - Need for improved training for front line services as there is still a presumption that men are perpetrators and VAWDASV is not well understood or recognised in LGBTQ+ relations and relationships between older people;
  - More investment for working with perpetrators and for greater signposting of available support;
  - Workplace harassment needs to focus on appropriately dealing with the perpetrator as well as supporting the victim;
  - Organisations need to be supported in dealing with employees who perpetrate VAWDASV outside the workplace.
35. Responses included:
- Calls for further information on how the VAWDASV Strategy will link with other strategies/plans and duties in relation to race, LGBTQ+, human rights, children’s rights;
  - The importance of being informed by lived experience (from survivors) and evaluation of what’s worked, as well as what hasn’t worked.

### **Question 4**

**Do you agree with our immediate priorities?**

36. 63 respondents agreed, 9 partially agreed and 19 disagreed with the immediate priorities set out in the Strategy. The majority of the nine respondents who partially agreed with the immediate priorities were VAWDASV sector organisations.
37. Common themes were:

- Need for improved training for front line services to encourage victims to come forward and ensure they understand the needs of victims and do not belittle a victim's experience (e.g. "it was only banter");
- Development of training/education materials and a toolkit for engagement (coherently with the National Training Framework), alongside promotion of positive 'normal' role models;
- More support and programmes are needed for perpetrators, together with greater focus on holding them accountable and enforcing the law;
- Calls for more joined up, longer-term sustainable funding for VAWDASV – from the Welsh Government and other bodies – which tackles potential causes of VAWDASV such as substance misuse, mental health, etc);

38. Responses included:

- Concerns raised by a male respondent about being falsely accused of inappropriate behaviour to the extent he has modified his working practices to avoid this (e.g. never being alone in a room with a woman);

## **Question 5**

**What do you think is the most important thing we can do to stop violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence?**

39. 104 respondents either replied to this question or we were able to assign comments in a more general consultation response to this question.

40. Common themes were:

- Encourage prevention through increased emphasis on education in healthy relationships throughout the education system (in an age-appropriate way), including using this as a means of targeting awareness / information at parents;
- Greater education / information for the general public about all forms of VAWDASV – for them to challenge unacceptable behaviour but also to recognise that they may be a victim of VAWDASV themselves;
- Need for greater understanding of older people as VAWDASV victims, including acknowledgment that this is separate to generic 'elder abuse';
- Challenge stereotypes and unsatisfactory role models in all forms of media (including pornography) and promote positive role models
- Greater coordination between different organisations a victim of VAWDASV will need to deal with, including greater information sharing;
- Ensure that 'minor' incidents, such as cat-calling, are taken seriously so an individual's behaviour doesn't escalate to VAWDASV;
- Consideration of appropriate ways to challenge cultural differences and prevent them from impacting on activity to tackle VAWDASV;
- Greater enforcement to hold perpetrators to account, through increased perpetrator convictions but also support programmes;
- Increased, longer-term and more sustainable funding for VAWDASV sector;
- Greater promotion of how to get help if affected by VAWDASV and what support can be available (financial, housing, childcare, etc).

## **Question 6**

**Do you think there is anything we should be doing as part of this Strategy that can have a positive effect on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language?**

41. 68 respondents replied to this question. In addition, a small number of respondents noted that they felt they were not able to provide useful comments as they were not Welsh speaking themselves. There were also two respondents who asked if this question was serious or suggested it was irrelevant as “even a Welsh speaking attacker would understand the word NO”.
42. Common themes were:
- Individuals who experience trauma, such as VAWDASV, are more likely to disclose information in their main language and will gain greater benefit from support services in their main language;
  - Need to ensure fair and equal delivery of services in the Welsh language;
  - Bilingual materials should always be available but need to increase the availability of Welsh speakers providing support;
  - Queries about provision of services (including during Court proceedings) in other languages, including British Sign Language;
  - The need to appreciate cultural difference as well;
  - Concerns about the cost implications for third sector organisations of providing bilingual services (for translation as well as Welsh speaking staff) – this should be factored into funding awards.
43. Responses included:
- Being supported in an alternative language can unintentionally minimise their experience of trauma and abuse, leading to potentially inaccurate assessment and risk assessment processes;
  - Need to appreciate that demand for Welsh language services will be lower in some areas and that services should be provided as appropriate for the area;
  - Concerns about attracting Welsh speakers to lower-paid roles;
  - Potential reluctance to use VAWDASV support services if they are not available in an individual’s language preference;
  - Greater availability and promotion of opportunities for staff in public sector organisations to be supported to learn Welsh.

## **Question 7**

**Are there any other things you think we should be doing to stop violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence , or do you have any other comments?**

44. 91 respondents replied to this question or provided general comments that we were able to allocate to this question.
45. Common themes were:

- Strategy is adult oriented – needs more to incorporate children (including very young children and babies) and particularly to focus on violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence girls;
- Greater focus required on preventative strategies and risk factors to minimise the risk of VAWDASV happening;
- Increase both male and cultural ownership and recognition of unhealthy behaviours through supporting and empowering individuals and communities;
- Engagement and communications are vitally importance - run campaigns for longer, explain the different types of abusive behaviour and ensure materials are available in a variety of mediums, including easy read (with pictures/illustrations);
- Perpetrators can continue their harassment during the criminal justice process (e.g.via social media) so ongoing support is required for victims and greater holding of perpetrators undertaking this behaviour to account;
- Calls for more investment in perpetrator programmes, more robust sentencing of perpetrators, including the requirement to complete an appropriate behaviour change programme;
- Importance of backing the Strategy up with sufficient resources to ensure it succeeds;
- Longer-term, sustainable funding model for the sector to allow recruitment and retention of specialist staff and capital expenditure for supported / refuge accommodation, as well as adequately funded services for perpetrators, victims and survivors;
- Calls for collaborative working with representative from ethnic minority communities, including churches, mosques, etc as women with lived experience of VAWDASV are more likely to seek help / support within their community;
- Importance of cross-Governmental working and greater join up between partner organisations (to target factors such as tackling poverty, substance misuse, housing, homelessness, mental health, etc);
- Ongoing commitment to research, evaluation and performance monitoring.

46. Responses included:

- Making it easier for people to share their stories and not feel ashamed as if it's their fault – take to stigma out of having been abused and tackle those perpetrating abuse by making it publically unacceptable (same way as drink driving, smoking indoors, etc);
- Perceptions of safety in public places impacted by issues such as inadequate / reduced levels of street lighting, reduction in CCTV coverage, better public transport and poorly lit public spaces;
- Staff in pubs, clubs, etc should be trained to be more aware of potential VAWDASV and provide more support to those potentially being targeted;
- Concern for the impact of online gaming, extremism and radicalisation in promoting, or developing, misogynist attitudes (including the increase of lone wolf / INCEL behaviour);
- Concern over potential changes to access via self ID to single sex spaces which enable victims to feel safe – one option would be to develop separate services for transwomen, which could reflect their needs;

- Financial concerns for VAWDASV victims and survivors exacerbated by issues with UK Government benefits systems;
- Need to provide support for those who are sexually exploited and for those with No Recourse to Public Funds
- Greater clarity on links between the VAWDASV National Strategy and Child Sexual Abuse National Strategy;
- A number of actions that could be taken within education settings;
- Calls for fast-tracking of VAWDASV cases in the criminal justice system to better protect victims.

## **Question 8**

### **How should we measure progress and success in delivery the things outlined in this Strategy?**

47. 99 respondents replied to this question..

48. Common themes were:

- Responsibility and accountability for delivering against the Strategy must sit with the National Partnership Board;
- Develop and publish clear outcome measures, baseline data and a benefits realisation plan;
- Ensure outcome measure and performance indicators align with evidence required by other strategies/plans to minimise the burden on organisations for collecting data;
- Ensure data, including equality data, is recorded and reported across all partner organisations and service providers;
- Qualitative data is as important as quantitative data;
- All partner organisations must be held accountable for delivering against the Strategy – at local, regional and national levels;
- Undertake a comprehensive population based needs assessment (which includes children and young people) to ensure commissioned services have the required capacity;
- Ensure any communications campaign and the National Training Framework has robust evaluation measures;
- Ensure evaluation of the new RSE curriculum in schools – its impact and not just its delivery;
- Seek feedback from communities on whether they feel safer;
- Crime and Home Office data must not be used as a sole measure given the number of unreported VAWDASV incidences;
- Any review of National Indicators should be done in collaboration with survivors and the specialist VAWDASV sector;
- Capture data on people's attitudes and beliefs surrounding VAWDASV and incidences of sexual harassment.

49. Responses included:

- Concern there appears to be little evaluation of the 2016-2021 Strategy – reflecting on the past as well as creating new evaluation strategies is needed;

- A multi-agency reporting system for all involved agencies to access and view, through each local authority in Wales;
- Suggestions were also made for key performance indicators.

## **Question 9**

### **Do you agree with the scope of the Strategy?**

50. 74 respondents agreed, 2 partially agreed and 8 disagreed with the scope of the Strategy. The majority of the eight respondents disagreeing with the scope of the Strategy were from individual respondents.
51. Common themes were:
- Calls for acknowledgment of the progress already made since the 2015 Act to be better reflected in this Strategy
  - More explicit reference is needed to girls (as opposed to just women) and to children and young people in general;
  - More focus on sexual violence – at present the Strategy seems more concentrated on domestic abuse;
  - Greater reference is needed to factors linked with VAWDASV incidences such as substance misuse, mental health, etc;
  - Incorporating the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) recommendations to UK and devolved Government to take effective measures to ensure women in vulnerable situations have effective access to employment opportunities, housing and social security.
52. Responses included:
- Call for more focus on the needs of older people;
  - Should the focus be on addressing the existing issues before adding in new things (like street and workplace harassment) which risk diluting provision if no additional funding is available;
  - Acknowledging that it is the abuse that defines the scope of the Strategy, not the gender or otherwise of the perpetrator or survivor is important;
  - Men must be part of the solution at all levels;
  - More support for victims is needed to avoid criminal proceedings being withdrawn following pressure from the perpetrator;
  - Any education programme needs to be wider than a whole school approach of awareness sessions and be linked in with local support agencies;
  - “Women’s safety is not the issue, male violence is”.

## **Question 10**

### **We have proposed governance arrangements, which include working with key partner organisations and a number of sub-groups/workstreams to tackle specific issues? Do you think working together in this way will improve coordination of work to stop violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence?**

53. 69 respondents agreed, 7 partially agreed and 15 disagreed with the proposed governance arrangements. The majority of those respondents who only partially

agreed with the proposed governance arrangement were VAWDASV Sector organisations.

54. Common themes were:

- Calls for the Ministers for Education and Health to be members of the National Partnership Board;
- Transparency in appointing / agreeing the membership of the National Partnership Board;
- Good track-record in Wales of collaboration and multi-agency approaches to delivering positive outcomes – this must be continued and improved further;
- Building on existing arrangements where they have been proved to be strong, efficient and effective;
- Sub-groups/Workstreams need to be able to hold local and regional partnerships to account;
- Governance structure must include survivors, perpetrators, children and young people, employers and trade unions as well as front-line workers in support services;
- Need for the National Partnership Board to have close links with other accountable bodies such as Community Safety Partnerships, Public Service Boards, Regional Safeguarding Boards and Substance Misuse Areas Planning Boards;
- Calls for a sub-group / workstream covering children and young people and consideration of whether sub-groups / workstreams are needed for the constituent parts of VAWDASV.

55. Responses included:

- Concern the proposed sub-groups / workstreams don't appear to clearly link with the objectives, approaches and principles – this will need to be explained in their terms of reference;
- Suggestions for sub-groups / workstreams on communications, training and early intervention / prevention;
- Calls to avoid “death by sub-group” by having a single over-arching workplan for the National Partnership Board and each sub-group / workstream working towards shared goals.

## **Question 11**

**Are you a professional, working with victims, survivors and perpetrators of VAWDASV?**

56. 41 responses answered YES to this question – some responses were from individuals, some were organisational responses and some were feedback from groups of organisations.

## **Consultation with young people**

57. The Welsh Government would like to thank BAWSO, Children in Wales, NSPCC, New Pathways, Welsh Women's Aid and Young Wales for their support in developing a young people's version of the consultation document.

58. The consultation document for young people asked five questions, which were based on those in the main consultation document. They were:
- Do you think our strategy will help stop VAWDASV?
  - What problems do you think we might have in stopping VAWDASV in Wales?
  - What is the most important thing the Welsh Government could do to stop VAWDASV?
  - How will we know if our plans to stop VAWDASV are working?
  - Is there anything else you would like to say about stopping VAWDASV in Wales?
59. In addition to being available as an online questionnaire, these questions were used by partner organisations during direct engagement with young people. We would like to thank those organisations who undertook facilitated workshop or focus groups.
60. Given the small number of responses to the survey and the format of feedback from the engagement session, we are presenting a combined list of common themes raised by young people:
- Victims and survivors need to be treated with respect by those in authority and providing services to support them;
  - Create an atmosphere where victims feel confident about speaking up without their own behaviour being called into question - stop “victim blaming”;
  - Using current legislation in the strongest way possible to tackle perpetrators and to make those who may perpetrate VAWDASV think twice about their behaviour;
  - Encouraging and supporting reporting of VAWDASV, together with better monitoring of reported cases will provide an indication of whether things are improving;
  - More information (including downloadable leaflets) on what support is available and how to access it;
  - Better awareness of the signs of VAWDASV for frontline staff in education and healthcare to identify and support victims of VAWDASV earlier;
  - Improved education on healthy relationships (from an early age) and awareness raising of all aspects of VAWDASV, including within different cultural and religious communities and education settings;
  - Work to tackle male attitudes and how this influences their behaviour and affects women and girls;
  - Concern about the role of social media in VAWDASV;
  - Greater funding and coordination of support services;

## **Welsh Government response**

61. Your views are important in contributing to plans to stop violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.
62. The Welsh Government is grateful you everyone who has participated in this consultation – whether through submitting a response or participating in the engagements events facilitate by partner organisations.



63. As a summary document, not all the points made in the responses may have been reflected fully. Each response has been considered and the absence of issues or suggestions does not mean they have been disregarded. This is especially true where responses cover issues related with delivering against the Strategy. This information, together with suggestions made by respondents, will be available to those taking forward the blueprint approach to progress the Strategy.

### **Next steps**

64. We have used the feedback in the consultation responses to update the draft Strategy. The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence National Strategy 2022-26 to coincide with the first meeting of the National Partnership Board that will oversee the blueprint approach to implementing the Strategy.

## Annex 1: List of respondents

Responses were received from:

- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
- Angela Gould
- Audit Wales
- Barnardo's Cymru
- Bethany Anne Hillier
- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
- Caerphilly County Borough Council
- Cair UK Ltd
- Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
- Cardiff Council
- Cardiff Metropolitan University
- Cardiff Women's Aid
- Carmarthen Domestic Abuse Service
- Carol O'Byrne
- Children in Wales
- Chwarae Teg
- Company Chemists Association
- Crickhowell Town Council
- Criminal Justice Partners (HMCTS, HMPPS & YJB)
- Cross Party Group on Violence against Women and Children
- Cymorth Cymru (supported by Tai Pawb)
- Denbighshire County Council
- Dewis Choice (Centre for Age, Gender & Social Justice, Aberyswyth University)
- Dr Olga Jurasz, The Open University (Law School)
- Dr Omolade Femi-Ajao, The University of Manchester
- Equality and Human Rights Commission
- Estyn
- Grassroots community organisations combined response
- Gwent VAWDASV Regional Partnership
- HEFCW
- Hywel Dda University Health Board
- Information Commissioner's Office (Wales)
- Institute of Alcohol Studies
- IRISi
- Jane Finch
- Joan Filce
- Joanne Davies
- Keith Brelstaff. Town Councillor
- Larry Stoter, Volunteer Adviser, Citizens Advice
- Learning Disability Wales
- Llamau
- Merched Cymru
- Monmouthshire County Council

- Mudiad Meithrin
- National Federation of Women's Institutes – Wales
- National Safeguarding Team, NHS Wales
- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (VAWDASV)
- New Pathways
- North Wales Vulnerability & Exploitation Board
- NSPCC
- Older People's Commissioner for Wales
- Older People's Commissioner for Wales - Stopping Abuse Action Group
- Our Streets Now
- Pauline Gristwood
- Penarth Town Council
- Plattform
- Pobl Group
- Police Federation of England and Wales
- Policing in Wales Partners
- Pontardawe Town Council
- Public Health Wales
- Royal college of Nursing
- South Wales Fire And Rescue Service
- South Wales Police
- Sport Wales
- Stepping Stones
- Sue Warner
- Susan Cunningham
- Swansea Council
- Swansea Women's Aid
- The Anna Phillips Foundation
- The Company Chemist Association
- The Disabilities Trust
- The Drive Partnership
- The University and college Union (UCU) Wales
- Thrive Women's Aid
- UNISON Cymru Wales
- Unite the Union
- Vale of Glamorgan Council
- Wales Assembly of Women
- Wales Safer Communities Network
- Wales Strategic Migration Partnership
- Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
- Welsh Women's Aid
- Women's Equality Network (WEN) Wales

In addition, 33 respondents requested to remain anonymous and 7 respondents did not provide details of their name or organisation.