**VAWG - Commonly Used Terms / Acronyms**

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| ASE | Adult Sexual Exploitation  | ‘Survival Sex’ or ‘Sex for Rent’ is performing sexual activities in exchange for basic necessities, accommodation, food, drugs or alcohol.Forcing or coercing people into Sex Work - performing sexual activities in exchange for money.Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking involves the recruitment, movement, harbouring or receiving people through the use of force, coercion, abuse, deception or other means for the purpose of exploitation.‘Cuckooing’ where a perpetrator takes over a victim’s home to facilitate exploitation. |
| AF/MAB | Assigned Female/Male At Birth | Sex assigned at birth, which does not necessarily match a person’s gender identity |
| BWC or BWV | Body Worn Camera or Body Worn Video | A video camera, worn on the helmet or upper body of an officer, which records visual and audio footage of an incident. |
| CARA | Cautioning And Relationship Abuse | CARA sits within the criminal justice system as an early intervention targeting domestic abuse offenders meeting specific criteria to be issued with a Conditional Caution. Under the new two-tier policing framework CARA can be used for offenders receiving a Diversionary Caution. |
| CYC | City of York Council | *Self-explanatory.* |
| CPS | Crown Prosecution Service | *Self-explanatory.* |
| CSAAS | Child Sexual Assault Assessment Service | The CSAAS provides crisis support and forensic medical services to collect any evidence for all children and young people aged 0 to 16 years who have disclosed sexual abuse or assault, or where it is suspected that it has happened. Older young people up to their 19th birthday may also be seen by the CSAAS if they have additional needs or it is deemed to be clinically appropriate. The service is delivered by Mountain Healthcare Ltd. |
| CSA/E | Child Sexual Abuse and/or Exploitation | Child Sexual Abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening – it includes but is not limited to:* rape or assault by penetration
* non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and sexual touching outside of clothing
* non-contact acts such as grooming a child or young person or involving children in looking at or in the production of sexual images, watching sexual activities or otherwise encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways – this can take place online or in person or a combination of both

Child Sexual Exploitation is a specific form of Child Sexual Abuse which occurs where the perpetrator holds some kind of power or control over the victim to coerce, manipulate or deceive them into sexual activity in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or for the financial or status gain of the perpetrator - even if the sexual activity appears consensual |
| CSC | Children’s Social Care | *Self-explanatory.* |
| CSP | Community Safety Partnership | CSPs bring together local organisations with the shared goals of reducing crime and the fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, alcohol and drug misuse and reducing re-offending; there are two CSPs in the NYP area: North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership and Safer York Partnership. |
| DA/DV | Domestic Abuse/Domestic Violence | Definition of “domestic abuse” is set out in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Part 1 as Behaviour of a person (“A”) towards another person (“B”) is “domestic abuse” if A and B are each aged 16 or over and are personally connected to each other, and the behaviour is abusive.Behaviour is “abusive” if it consists of any of the following:* physical or sexual abuse;
* violent or threatening behaviour;
* controlling or coercive behaviour;
* economic abuse;
* psychological, emotional or other abuse;

and it does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a course of conduct. |
| DAC | Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator | There are four DACs within NYP who review all reported DA incidents graded as High Risk. The DACs have specialist expertise and experience in risk assessment and has responsibility for assessing the level of risk and may both recommend the downgrade or upgrade of risk levels so appropriate safety planning and safeguarding actions can be prioritised accordingly. |
| DAJCG | Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Group | DAJCG is a group that oversee the effective commissioning of all domestic abuse support services across York and North Yorkshire; and contract and performance manage all commissioned domestic abuse support services through a single joint Performance & Outcomes Framework. |
| DALPB | Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board | As a result of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, the two North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Partnership Boards were created to provide governance and coordinate multi-agency approaches to domestic abuse within their respective local authority areas. |
| DAO | Domestic Abuse Officer | DAOs within NYP identify and assess risk and liaise with partner agencies as appropriate. They implement safety measures such as requirement for alarms or issuing TecSOS phones and make relevant safeguarding referrals. |
| DAP | Domestic Abuse Practitioner | Local term for Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) who provide specialist support to victims and survivor of DA |
| DASH | Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment | A DASH (sometimes referred to as a DASH RIC assessment) is a risk identification, assessment and management model for DA, stalking and harassment. In NYP, the DASH is incorporated into the PPN, and is shared with referrals into IDAS. |
| DAWFA | Domestic Abuse Whole Family Approach | The DAWFA is now fully embedded and included within the commissioned holistic support services for children & young people affected by domestic abuse in York and North Yorkshire.  |
| DVDS | Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme | DVDS (also known as Clare’s Law) was introduced in 2014 following the tragic death of 36-year-old Clare Woods.  She was murdered by her partner, who had a record of violence against women. Clare’s Law has two parts: the right to ask, and the right to know.* Under the right to ask, any concerned person (a current partner, family member, professional person or-next door-neighbour) has a right to ask the police about someone’s past, if they are worried about their behaviour and think they may potentially be violent
* Under the right to know, the police may proactively let a person know if they are associating with someone who has previously been violent
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| DVPN | Domestic Violence Protection Notice | A DVPN is an emergency non-molestation and eviction notice which can be issued to a perpetrator by the police, when attending to a domestic abuse incident. Because the DVPN is a police-issued notice, it is effective from the time of issue, thereby giving the victim the immediate support, they require in such a situation. |
| DVPO | Domestic Violence Protection Order | DVPOs are a civil order providing protection to victims by enabling the police and magistrates’ courts to put in place protective measures over a longer period. |
| ELP | Evidence-led Prosecutions/Policing | Opportunities to prosecute perpetrators without the support or direct involvement of victims through 'evidence-led prosecutions' for example relying on witness accounts or CCTV footage |
| ERAC | Exploitation Risk Assessment Conference  | Multi-agency information sharing meeting which identifies through shared intelligence women and girls at risk or experiencing all forms of exploitation including county lines and cuckooing, with multi-agency risk management actions agreed |
| FCR | Force Control Room | NYP’s FCR is based at Fulford Road Police Station in York. |
| FLO | Family Liaison Officer | The primary role of a FLO is to gather evidence and information from the family to contribute to the investigation, preserve its integrity. The FLO also provides support and information, in a sensitive and compassionate manner, securing confidence and trust of families of victims of crime (primarily homicide), road fatality, mass disaster or other critical incident, ensuring family members are given timely information in accordance with the needs of the investigation. |
| FOUNDATION | Foundation UK | Foundation provides the commissioned service ‘+Choices’ for perpetrators of domestic abuse aged 16yrs+. Support is available for all genders and regardless of sexual orientation. Foundation assess and provide initial triage to perpetrators and deliver tailored voluntary perpetrator programmes through groupwork or one to one support longer-term where required.Foundation are also commissioned by NYC to provide Therapeutic Support Services to children & young people in North Yorkshire affected by domestic abuse. |
| ICB | Integrated Care Board | ICBs commission most of the hospital and community NHS services in the local areas for which they are responsible; previously CCGs |
| ICH | Illegal Cultural Harms | So-called ‘honour’-based violence or abuse is a diverse range of actions or practices used to control behaviour of individuals within families or communities to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs or ‘honour’ – it includes but is not limited to:* Domestic Abuse, including that perpetrated by other family members
* Rape and Sexual Assault
* Kidnap
* Violence or threats of violence, including murder
* Forced Marriage
* Female Genital Mutilation

Forced marriage where one or more parties do not consent, are unable to consent or consent is obtained using duress, physical violence or threats of violence, or emotional blackmail – forced marriages are not the same as arranged marriages where the couple have the choice whether to accept the arrangement or not.Female Genital Mutilation (“FGM”) involves the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons - also known as ‘Female Circumcision’.Breast Ironing or Flattening involves ironing, massaging, flattening and/or pounding down young pubescent girls’ breasts over a period of time (sometimes years) in order for the breasts to disappear or delay the development of the breasts entirely. |
| IDAS | Independent Domestic Abuse Services  | IDAS is the largest specialist charity in Yorkshire supporting people affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence. IDAS is commissioned to provide support for all victims and survivors of domestic abuse across York and North Yorkshire including refuge and safe accommodation-based services, community-based support and support for C&YP affected by DA, and families affected by Child & Adolescent to Parent Violence or Abuse.IDAS are also commissioned to provide ISVA Services across York and North Yorkshire. Support is available for all genders and regardless of sexual orientation. |
| IDVA | Independent Domestic Violence Advisor | Known locally as DAPs, the main purpose of an IDVA is to address the safety of victims at risk of harm from intimate partners, ex-partners or family members to secure their safety and the safety of their children. Serving as a victim’s primary point of contact, IDVAs normally work with their clients from the point of crisis to assess the level of risk, discuss the range of suitable options and develop safety plans. |
| ISVA | Independent Sexual Violence Advisor | An ISVA’s main purpose is to provide emotional and practical support for any victim or survivor of all forms of sexual violence or abuse, including historic child sexual abuse. ISVAs can provide immediate advice and safety planning, one to one longer-term support including information on the criminal justice process and what you can expect if you report to the police, and support for (non-abusing) parents of younger victims of sexual abuse. |
| ISS | Integrated Support Services | Dedicated Victim Liaison Officer within the +Choices service works in partnership with IDAS to provide a robust and integrated system of support for the partners and/or ex-partners of the clients that engage with the +Choices programme, with the key aim toincrease their safety and that of any associated children. |
| LGBTQ+ | Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender, Queer, Questioning…. | + is used to ensure we are inclusive to everyone that feels part of the LGBTQ+ community but don’t feel like they fit into the groups listed in LGBTQ |
| MAPPA | Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements | MAPPA is the process through which the police, probation and prison services work together with other agencies to assess and manage violent and sexual offenders in order to protect the public from harm.  It is a system of sharing information and combining resources to maximise the risk management in place for each individual offender. |
| MAPS | Multi-Agency Problem Solving | This is a multi-agency meeting which helps resolve community issues as not all issues can be solved by the policing alone, so partnership work with other organisations (including healthcare providers, emergency services, probation officers and charities) to see how local issues can be addressed. |
| MARAC | Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference  | A MARAC is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local police, health, child protection, housing practitioners, IDVAs, probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors. |
| MASH | Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs | A MASH is a multi-agency single point of contact for all concerns about children and to make sure that children receive the right level of support. |
| MATAC | Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination | MATAC groups established between representatives of NYP, Foundation UK, health, child protection, housing practitioners, IDAS, probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors to tackle the most harmful and serial domestic abuse perpetrators. |
| Misogyny | Misogyny  | Misogyny is a form of sexism which involves a hatred or dislike of women and girls and/or the belief that men are much better than women. |
| NFA | No Further Action | *Self-explanatory.* |
| NICHE | NYP’s Record management system | Records incidents, people, addresses, property, arrests, and case files. |
| NYC | North Yorkshire Council | *Self-explanatory.* |
| NYP | North Yorkshire Police | *Self-explanatory.* |
| Oasis | Oasis Case Management System | IDAS’ Case Management System to record all client records and case notes |
| OEL | Occurrence Enquiry Log (On NICHE) | The OEL is the log of actions on the NICHE record of a person. Entries are made by officers in relation to occurrences within the case/person. |
| OIC | Officer in Case or Officer in Charge | The officer who is currently leading the investigation. They take responsibility for all actions and exhibits related to the case. |
| OPFCC | Office of Policing, Fire, Crime & Commissioning, part of the York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority | *Self-explanatory.* |
| Op Encompass | Operation Encompass | Operation Encompass is a partnership between NYP and schools, academies and colleges which aims to safeguard and support children affected by domestic abuse occurring in their home. The partnership commenced in January 2017 and has been adopted by almost every school in York and North Yorkshire. |
| Op Soteria | Operation Soteria Bluestone | Operation Soteria Bluestone is a national Home Office funded research and change programme, led by the National Police Chiefs’ Council and hosted by the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime bringing together police forces with academics and policy leads to use evidence and new insight to enable forces to transform their response to rape and serious sexual offences. |
| Orcuma | Orcuma ‘FiRST’ Case Management System | the OPFCC’s cloud-based Case Management System which commissioned providers are required to record client journey’s through support services from Referral to Service Exit/Case Closure. |
| PIP 1/2 | Professionalising Investigation Programme level 1/2 | A structured development programme to give the police service and other sectors of law enforcement the skills to conduct professional investigations. It provides consistent registration, examination, training, workplace assessment and accreditation to a national standard. |
| PPN | Public Protection Notice | NYP Officers must complete a PPN where they believe that a child or adult is at risk of harm, and for all Domestic Incidents, even if they don't meet the threshold of Domestic Abuse. |
| RASSO | Rape and Serious Sexual Offences | Rape involves penetration of the vagina, anus or mouth with a penis without consent.Assault by penetration of the vagina or anus using anything other than a penis without consent.‘Stealthing’ is removing a condom during sex without the other person knowing.Choking, slapping or spitting on someone during sex without their consent.Getting someone to engage in sexual activity without their explicit or informed consent.Sexual assault is touching someone in a sexual way without consent such as kissing, ‘rubbing against’ or grabbing them.Voyeurism is secretly watching other people in sexual or other private acts to gain sexual pleasure, including ‘Up-skirting’ or ‘down-blousing’ |
| RSO | Registered Sex Offender | An RSO is a person who is convicted or cautioned in relation to a sexual offence or has committed a sexual offence but been found not guilty due to insanity or a disability, they are added to the sex offenders register. |
| SSF 4/5 | Safer Streets Funding 4/5 | Home Office funding allocated to the OPFCC to tackle neighbourhood crime, VAWG and anti-social behaviour. |
| Sanctuary | Sanctuary Scheme  | Sanctuary Schemes provide enhanced physical security measures (also known as Target Hardening) to a home or the perimeter of the home, alongside specialist support and advice to enable victims, survivors and their children to remain safely in their own homes if they choose to do so. The Sanctuary Scheme is only appropriate when the perpetrator is no longer living in the property.  |
| SARC | Sexual Assault Referral Centre | Mountain Healthcare Ltd is commissioned as part of a YatH Regional service to provide crisis support, forensic medical services and aftercare to adult (16yrs+) victims of RASSO from Bridge House in York. The service is completely confidential, and victims do not have to give any personal information or report an incident to the police in order to get help. |
| SCPO | Serious Crime Prevention Order | A Serious Crime Prevention Order is a civil order which the Crown Court can make if you are convicted of a ‘serious offence’. It includes offences such as drug trafficking and importation, people trafficking, arms trafficking, prostitution and child sex offences, armed robbery, bribery, computer misuse offences and environment offences. |
| SOLO | Sexual Offences Liaison Officer | Response officers who have completed specialist training to provide an enhanced service to victims of sexual offences |
| SHPO | Sexual Harm Prevention Order | A SHPO can be applied to anyone convicted or cautioned for a specified sexual or violent offence, including offences committed overseas. The court needs to be satisfied that the order is necessary for protecting the public from sexual harm. They prohibit offenders from doing anything described in the SHPO and can include a prohibition on foreign travel.  |
| SOPO | Sex Offenders Prevention Order | A SOPO contains prohibitions on an individual doing any of the things stipulated. These might include having unsupervised contact with anyone under the age of 18 or being present in certain places such as schools or play parks.Any prohibition contained needs to be justified in relation to the risk posed by the individual and must be capable of being policed effectively. |
| SPO | Stalking Protection Orders | SPOs are civil orders that can be applied for by police, to safeguard adult or child victims of stalking behaviour. They can be applied to anyone aged 10 years old and above who displaying stalking behaviours towards a victim.An order can be applied for, if an officer has reasonable cause to believe a SPO is necessary to protect a victim from a suspect who poses a risk of stalking. Although the SPO is a civil order, the criminal threshold needs to be met for a full order to be obtained. There is no requirement for the subject to have prior convictions for a SPO to be applied for and granted. |
| SPOC | Single Point of Contact | A SPOC refers to a single person or team within NYP or partner agencies, who are designated as the point of contact for all incoming communications from a victim. |
| SRO | Sexual Risk Order | An SRO can be made where a person has committed an act of a sexual nature and there is reasonable cause to believe that it is necessary – *even if they have never been convicted* – to protect members of the public. It prohibits offenders from doing anything described in the order, including foreign travel. |
| SSAIDP | Specialist Sexual Abuse Investigators Development Programme | Specialist Training to provide Sexual Assault Investigators with the knowledge to perform their role professionally to leading standards |
| S&H | Stalking & Harassment | Stalking and Harassment in any form can be perpetrated by an ex-intimate partner, a stranger or anyone known to the victimStalking is a pattern of obsessive and unwanted behaviour which in isolation could appear trivial but cause their victim severe fear or anxiety – it includes but is not limited to:* watching or ‘spying’ on someone without their consent, including monitoring their online activity
* following someone without their consent
* turning up uninvited or loitering or hanging around someone’s home, education or workplace, etc
* sending unwanted or malicious messages or other contact
* sending or leaving unwanted presents or ‘gifts’
* damaging or interfering with someone’s property
* physical or sexual assault

‘Cyber-stalking’ uses the internet and other technologies to harass or stalk another person online.Harassment is any unwanted behaviour or contact which makes the victim feel distressed, humiliated or threatened.  |
| SH | Street Harassment | Street Harassment does not just occur in the street, and can occur in a number of different settings such public transport, pubs, clubs and other entertainment venues, workplaces and educational settings - it includes but is not limited to:* leering or unwanted staring
* sitting or standing uncomfortably close to someone
* making sexually explicit comments or gestures, including ‘wolf whistling’
* asking unwanted questions about someone’s sex life
* unwanted sexual attention or asking for sex, including repeated pressure to go on a date and/or have sex
* ‘up-skirting’ or ‘down-blousing’ is taking pictures or filming up someone’s skirt or down their top without them knowing
* flashing or exposing your genitals in public
* groping is unwanted sexual touching anywhere on the body, which could be sexual assault
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| SVT | Supporting Victims Team | SVT are the in-house OPFCC team who help and support anyone who has been a victim of crime in NY. They provide free advice and information to support victims and direct or refer them to the support service that is best suited to them. |
| Target Hardening | Target Hardening | A range of reasonable and proportionate security measures (not simply a lock change) that reinforce the perimeter of a victim or survivor’s property, including all easily accessible doors and windows as a standard. The additional security measures aim to increase physical safety of victim and survivors by preventing or delaying perpetrators from gaining access to the property and to increase the victim or survivor’s feelings of safety. |
| TecSafe | Technically Safe Phones (formally TecSOS) | An emergency call facility for high risk domestic abuse victims. The device​ has been designed to look like a broken mobile phone; it enables the victim to contact the police in the event of an emergency. The phones have a tracking facility, to enable FCR the ability to track the location of the caller. |
| THRIVE | Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation Opportunities, Vulnerability of victim & Engagement level required to resolve the issue | THRIVE is about providing an appropriate and proportionate response, rather than having a “one size fits all” approach to certain types of crime.  In some cases, that will mean the police deal with some incidents in a different way to how they were handled in the past.  For example, it may be possible for some issues to be resolved over the telephone, rather than a visit from an officer. THRIVE methodology is a recognised technique in policing and is used by NYP since 2014, as part of a move towards a more victim-centred approach to policing.  |
| VAWG | Violence Against Women and Girls | VAWG refers to any act of violence or abuse that disproportionately affects women or girls and is usually perpetrated by men; however we recognise that men, boys and non-binary people can also be victims of these crimes and women can be perpetrators. |
| VCS | Victim Contact Scheme | The VCS is a scheme where if a victim of a violent or sexual crime, where the offender is sentenced to 12 months or more is given a Victim Liaison Officer. The Liaison Officer lets a victim know how long the offender will be in prison for, if there are any changes to their sentence, and when they will be released. They also provide guidance such as how to challenge a parole decision if the Parole Board decides the offender is safe to release. |
| ViSOR | Violent and Sex Offenders Register | ViSOR is a central store of confidential, up-to-date information about offenders which the police, prison and probation service all have access to across the UK. It is vital for the sharing of intelligence and enables the transfer of information when an offender moves area. It records the details of sex offenders, violent offenders and terrorism offenders. |
| VLO | Victim Liaison Officer | Dedicated officer to ensure that risk management and support planning is informed by the victim/survivor experience, and that victim safety remains at the centre of services. |
| VPS | Victim Personal Statement | The VPS gives victims an opportunity to describe the wider effects of the crime upon them, express their concerns and indicate whether or not they require any support. Provisions relating to the making of a VPS and its use in criminal proceedings are included in the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (Victims' Code. |
| VRR | Victims’ Right to Review | The VRR scheme provides a victim with a specifically designed process to exercise the right to review certain CPS decisions not to start a prosecution or to stop a prosecution. If a new decision is required, it may be appropriate to institute or reinstitute criminal proceedings. |
| WCU | Witness Care Unit | The WCU manages the care of witnesses and victims who are required to provide evidence in court. |
| WSA | Whole System Approach | Whole Systems Approaches involve identifying the various components of a system and assessing the nature of the links and relationships between each of them |
| YatH | Yorkshire and The Humber Region | *Self-explanatory.* |