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# STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY,
ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

For the year ended 31 March 2017

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<th>Board of Trustees</th>
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<td>D. Simon</td>
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<td>A. Corbett</td>
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<td>R. Farrar</td>
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<td>S. Letchford</td>
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<td>J. Reilly</td>
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<td>Lord Soley</td>
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<td>A. Wilkinson</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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| Company Secretary       | A. Wilkinson |
| Company reg. no.        | 04283131     |
| Charity reg. no.        | 1088844      |
| Registered office       | Room 44d, 4th Floor The Polish Centre 238-246 King Street London W6 0RF |
| Auditors                | Knox Cropper 8/9 Wells Court London EC4M 9DN |
| Bankers                 | CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ |
The Trustees, who are also directors of the Company for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2017. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 and comply with the Charity's Trust Deed, applicable law and the requirements of the “Statement of Recommended Practice” (FRS 102) (Accounting and Reporting by Charities).

1. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 6th September 2001 and registered as a charity in October 2001. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up trustees are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company’s articles are known as members of the management committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 27th September 2016, the following were re-elected, Dale Simon (Chair), Katy Owen (Vice Chair), Anne Wilkinson (Secretary), Rosemary Farrar (Treasurer) and Kruti Patel (Employment Link). Membership of the Board is reviewed annually to ensure that the broadest interests served by Standing Together are represented. Members are sought who have experience and influence in their field. They bring great abilities to bear on their role and in the various offices they hold on the Board. Their roles as Trustees include staff management; implementation of equal opportunities; financial management; a strategic overview of fundraising and strategic planning. Each year a planning and review day is held with trustees. Nine trustees have served on the Board during this year. A full list of Trustees is to be found at the front of this report.

All new trustees receive a pack of key documents to inform them about the company including information on their role and responsibilities. Different trustees may require different content in their induction and the Chair ensures that their individual needs are met. Information on training for management committee members and trustees of charities is kept and updated by staff and offered to new trustees.

All Trustees have signed (a) a Declaration of Eligibility (b) Conflicts of Interest and Register of Interests and (c) a contract between Trustees and Standing Together. Trustees do not receive remuneration or derive any other personal benefit from the activities of the charity.

Management

Standing Together is managed by this highly committed Board of Trustees which meets every quarter. The Board retains a core of founder members and has maintained membership at nine to twelve elected members since registration in 2001.

The Board has fulfilled its role this year in being responsible for the strategic direction and the sound financial health of the company and for ensuring that the activities of the company meet its charitable objectives.

The current trustees have a high level of senior management experience in the Crown Prosecution Service; Police; Community and Social Services; Government; communications, human resources and education and equalities.

We have people who are part of ‘Friends of Standing Together’ who support our work in various ways and to varying degrees. We greatly appreciate their lending their names to our efforts.

The Chief Executive of Standing Together has overall responsibility for the running of the organisation, its development and achievements reporting directly to the Board, supported in financial matters by the Finance Manager and in operational matters by the Partnership Manager and the wider management team. The salary for key management is decided by the Trustees taking into account the skills and experience required, the management
responsibilities, the overall budget constraints and a view of what is appropriate as compared to similar roles in the sector in which we work.

Standing Together is very pleased to have achieved accreditation for the PQASSO Quality Mark at Level 2 and is working toward reaccreditation after the initial period of accreditation has expired. Standing Together is a member of the Fundraising Standards Board.

Financial Management
Standing Together has policies and procedures in place to ensure good financial management and clear audit trails. These include: Finance Regulations; a Finance sub group; quarterly Finance Reports to Trustees; regular review of systems for supporting financial procedures; designated staff with clear roles & responsibilities and an Annual Audit.

Risk Management
Trustees have identified major risks to which the charity may be subjected and have taken the necessary steps to mitigate them. The risks are outlined in the Business Continuity Plan and Risk Assessment and in the plans for each project submitted to major donors. Some of the project work is subject to on-going protocols between Standing Together and its partners. Service level agreements, conditions of grant and contracts are negotiated in advance of receipt of funds and these lay out the roles and responsibilities of each partner and of Standing Together. Standing Together negotiates service level agreements with any voluntary agencies delivering direct services on our behalf, such as ADVANCE, the specialist service provision for survivors of abuse. These agreements are revised annually as applicable. Standing Together negotiates clear terms and conditions with associates carrying out pieces of work on behalf of the organisation.

Securing future funding is the biggest risk for the charity and this challenge has been addressed in the Business Plan (2013-17) and the Four Year Funding Strategy (2013-17). These are monitored by the Chief Executive and the Finance Manager, with the Finance Group, and assessed annually by the full Board. Standing Together has succeeded in diversifying its sources of funding by raising income raised from social enterprise and fundraising events. This undesignated income has assisted the process of forward planning; the management of cash flow and enabled the organisation to maintain and develop its activities to advance its charitable objectives.

Trustees have addressed financial risks to the organisation after two consecutive years of dependence on use of reserves to meet required expenditure. The Trustees are carrying out a review of the reserve policy and the level of reserves held and examine other operational and business risks faced by the Charity. Increased financial controls and established systems have been put in place by the Trustees and the refreshed business plan for STADV will include detailed financial controls on critical costs centres to ensure adherence to next year’s budget.

Health and Safety
Standing Together maintains a Health & Safety policy and designated officers are appointed as Health & Safety, First Aid and Fire Officers to ensure compliance with the company’s policy and with the landlord’s responsibilities towards the company - especially regarding fire, safety and security precautions. The Finance & HR Officer is the trained First Aid Officer.

Premises
Standing Together has been housed in the Polish Centre since its formation and held a succession of leases with POSK who run the Centre. On the 1st April 2016, Standing Together renewed the lease of office space for a term of 3 years ending on 31st March 2019.

Data
All data and I.T. security systems are reviewed regularly for compliance with Standing Together policy, protocols and procedures, as data sharing is an important function of the organisation and the partnerships we facilitate. All systems are fully backed up and copies are kept separately and securely. The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Confidentiality Agreement and Information Sharing Agreement, which governs all our MARACs, have been used as good practice models by other partnerships. Passwords are renewed regularly and revised. All staff have undertaken ‘Methods of Protecting Sensitive Data’ training.
Related Parties
Standing Together Against Domestic Violence is an independent charity. In so far as it is complementary to the charity’s objectives, the charity works closely with other organisations and develops partnerships with voluntary and statutory bodies in support of local and national policies.

Standing Together supports the government’s strategy to address ‘Violence Against Women and Girls’ and sits on the Home Office VAWG Stakeholder Group. STADV also sits on the London Domestic Violence Coordinators Network at MOPAC and the MOPAC VAWG Expert Group, the ACPO Domestic Abuse Stakeholder meeting, the CPS External Consultation Group and the London Criminal Justice Board subgroup for Domestic Abuse. Standing Together coordinates the Domestic Violence Coordinators Network (DVCN) on behalf of their members.

The charity is a member of Women’s Aid (England), a member of NCVO (National Council of Voluntary Organisations) and of ROW (Rights of Women) and EVAW (End Violence Against Women Coalition) and benefits from the information and services they provide.

2. Statement of Intent and Charitable Purposes
Standing Together’s ambition is to promote a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to domestic abuse. To that end, Standing Together has created a Theory of Change. (see Appendix 1 on page 39), to show how STADV works to achieve its intermediate and longer-term outcomes. STADV did this to:

- **Generate a shared understanding** of aims and plans to achieve them.
- **Provide a simple and graphical description that will help to communicate** about the aims of Standing Together.
- **Provide clarity about what data and evidence** will be most important to collect as the organisation looks towards setting up its measurement framework.

It serves as a basis for a more persuasive argument that Standing Together impacts the lives of survivors, statutory agencies and local communities and it will help prepare Standing Together for further investment.

Following this work STADV and with a final goal in mind that a coordinated community response model is embedded in the UK, STADV set out to clarify and update our definition of the Coordinated Community Response and to set a new outcome measurement framework.

**Coordinated Community Response Defined**
The Coordinated Community Response to domestic abuse is a local, whole system approach to the issue.

**Standing Together’s Core Principles underpinning the CCR approach**
- **The only way to respond to the issue of domestic abuse is to work collaboratively through the CCR.**
- **Domestic abuse is caused by, and generates, gender inequality.**
- **Individual experiences of domestic abuse are influenced by gender, age, sexual orientation, ability, race, religion, marital status, immigration, socio-economic position and many other factors: responses must understand the differing needs and potential barriers of the local population and be flexible enough to account for this.**
- **The CCR enables a whole system response to a whole person, recognising the wellbeing and safety needs of victims and survivors, with communities and organisations working alongside them.**
- **Responsibility for safety should not rest solely with individual victims but also with the community and services.**
Perpetrators must be held to account for the harm they inflict, and offered routes to change their abusive behaviours.

A CCR supports organisational responses, it does not replace them: organisations remain responsible and accountable (to their own agencies and to the partnership) for their own responses to domestic abuse, within a context of multi-agency working.

A CCR requires leadership, a shared understanding of domestic abuse and risk, and coordination.

**Standing Together’s CCR Approach**

- We put the safety and needs of survivors (adults and children) at the heart of every CCR.
- We ensure that the voices of survivors and their advocates are integral to every CCR.
- We require CCRs cover the spectrum from primary prevention, to early intervention, to crisis responses, and the long-term recovery of survivors and behaviour change of perpetrators.
- Our CCR acknowledges the gendered nature of domestic abuse.
- Our CCR addresses the diverse and intersecting backgrounds, identities and experiences and situations of survivors and perpetrators.
- Our CCR addresses adults, children and young people; survivors and perpetrators.
- Our CCR encompasses all organisations operating in an area (statutory, voluntary, community) plus individuals who live / work in the area, and informal groups / networks located there.
- We require that all local organisations have an equal place and voice in the CCR.
- Our CCR requires coordination, monitoring and accountability mechanisms and leadership.
- Our CCR is flexible and will evolve.
- We ensure that local organisations recognise that they are best placed to identify, and develop, improvements to practice in developing a CCR – and we provide help to them to do this.
- We are committed to providing a consultative, learning and empowering approach to areas developing CCRs.

**Standing Together’s CCR Core Components**

What every CCR will have, regardless of area or local structures; all components adhere to the principles listed above.

- All organisations have developed and agreed a common purpose and approach to domestic abuse including a stated commitment to the CCR.
- Definitions of domestic abuse and risk are agreed and shared by all statutory, voluntary and community organisations.
- A defined structure/mechanism(s) is in place for the coordination, governance and monitoring of the CCR to ensure accountability and to enable a flexible and evolving approach.
- An action plan is in place.
- Written policies and procedures are in place within every organisation covering their response to domestic abuse. Regular compulsory training at every level of the organisation supports these.
- Written policies and procedures are agreed covering multi-agency systems and working (including the MARAC and SDVC). Regular compulsory training supports these.
- An agreed dataset is in place and monitored on a regular basis.
- Survivors’ voices (and the views of their advocates) are regularly sought, listened to and responded to.
- Adequately resourced specialist services are in place to respond to adults, children and young people: survivors and perpetrators.

In 2016-17 we particularly set out to:

- Define our Theory of Change
- Develop a larger profile of the successful operational work done by the STADV team which demonstrates the possibilities of the CCR
- Innovate and work with partners to develop work on the complexity of survivor challenges and experience
• Develop community work based on our findings and knowledge about the need to aid friends, family and social networks to support survivors of domestic abuse
• Develop a wider training strategy and plan based on the breadth of knowledge and experience of the STADV team
• Ensure that wider learning from the Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) chaired by STADV are understood by the staff team and local and national partners

3. Achievements and Performance

We report below on our achievements in meeting the aims of our charitable company.

A. Promoting the development of services to meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence

The Coordinated Response in the Tri Borough

In order to develop our local CCR in the tri borough area in April 2015, STADV worked closely with the VAWG Strategic Partnership for the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (LBHF), the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) and the City of Westminster (WCC) to develop and launch a three-year Strategy. The Strategy was written after considerable consultation with survivors, service users, stakeholders from a range of statutory and voluntary organisations as well as elected members across the three councils. The Strategy details how the Partnership will deliver a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to VAWG; it keeps survivors and children at the centre of its aims and objectives, whilst also holding perpetrators accountable for their actions. The Strategy is focused around the following seven strategic priorities:

1. Access
2. Response
3. Community
4. Practitioners
5. Children and Young People
6. Perpetrators
7. Justice and Protection

It includes a 43-point action plan which provides the framework for the VAWG Partnership to deliver against its agreed objectives.

As of 27th March 2017, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster announced that they would withdraw from service sharing arrangements in Adult Social Care, Children’s Services and Public Health. With effect from 1st April 2018 London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham will no longer be part of the shared services for these named services. The VAWG strategy runs through to the 31st March 2018 and clarification of working relationships/strategy commissioning are currently under discussion.

The Tri Borough VAWG Strategic Partnership

STADV takes the operational lead in delivering the Strategy and is an integral part of the governance structure of the board. The Board is tasked to:

• To ensure the voices and experiences of survivors of VAWG are reflected throughout the Strategy and Action Plan via regular consultation and feedback;
• To monitor progress of targets and objectives against the Shared VAWG Action Plan and assess whether actions and activities, including of the 6 VAWG Operational Groups, are achieving the required outcomes;
• To establish the overall impact of the strategy via quality assurance and performance monitoring frameworks;
• To promote effective links with the work other Strategic Partnerships including the Adult and Children’s Safeguarding Boards and Health and Well-Being Boards;
To incorporate new legislation, policy and guidance alongside ongoing understanding and assessment of local need and recommendations from Domestic Homicide Reviews and serious case reviews; and To report regularly on the progress of the Strategy to each of the three-sovereign borough Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, for which VAWG is a priority area of business.

The Board is informed and influenced by six Operational Groups that each have a coordinator and a chair and work to detailed action plans based on the seven strategic commitments. The groups are:

- Housing
- Specialist Services
- Children and Health
- Risk and Review
- Harmful Practices
- Modern Slavery and Exploitation

These groups provide detailed feedback via coordinators to an Executive group, which meets regularly to monitor the action plans, share information across the Partnership and raise issues and trends to the Strategic Board which have developed in the three boroughs. Standing Together coordinate the first four of those operational groups.

This year is year two of delivery, the Partnership made considerable progress against 31 out of 43 (72%) actions, achieving GREEN status. This represents an increase of 16% from last year. For 9 of the 43 actions, the Partnership made some progress against the actions and 21% of actions achieved AMBER status (decrease of 14%). Finally, for 3 out of 43 actions, the Partnership has not made any progress or has encountered considerable challenges; those actions have given RED status and actions will need to be taken in the final of the strategy to achieve against those outcomes.

The Angelou Partnership (which STADV is a member of) received 3399 referrals for 2175 individuals across the tri-borough area and continued to offer a range of support for a variety of experiences of VAWG and across a range of risk levels.

Standing Together upgraded and revamped the Angelou partnership logo which helped facilitate access to the services it provides.

We have continued to align our work with that of the local safeguarding children & Adults boards. STADV is represented on both and plays an active role in developing the knowledge base and partnership working across all three areas.

**Housing Operational Group**

The overarching aim of the Housing Operational Group is to ensure that survivors and their children receive a consistent, appropriate and professional response when approaching housing services and providers across the tri-borough.

- The Housing Coordinator has worked to increase membership of the Housing Operational Group throughout the year and numbers have been consistent. The structure of the group also changed in 2016/17 and each quarter alternates between a meeting and a focused workshop, which has so far proved successful.
- Funding for the LBHF Sanctuary scheme ran out prematurely during 2016/17, primarily due to demand and scheme was fortunate to receive an additional £3000 funding from LBHF for January-March 2017.
- The Coordinator and Housing IDVA at Advance delivered 3 briefings to Housing Solutions staff during March 2016. Feedback from those who attended was positive and further briefings are scheduled for 2017/18.
Data collection has been a focus over the last financial year, with the group developing a new spreadsheet to make recording easier. Collection stopped during 2016/17; therefore the focus has been on encouraging sharing of data again. Of the data shared with the Coordinator, 840 cases of DA were identified.

The Coordinator presented at the G15 Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) meeting on the importance of separating DA and ASB policies to ensure DA isn’t mistaken for ASB and disciplinary steps are not taken against the survivor. The presentation has been shared and used in various setting since.

Homeless women has been a focus and funding has been secured for a Housing First and homelessness coordinator for 2017/18. In addition, a task and finish group has been set up to develop a safety plan for rough sleeping women and those living in unsettled accommodation.

A theory of change was developed in 2016/17 which details the needs the group is trying to address. This includes a number of outcomes the group should be working towards, including prioritising DA, separating ASB and DA policies and ensuring good partnership working.

Finally, following Advance’s focus group with survivors on housing, the Coordinator developed a Survivor Led Practice document, based on recommendations from the Evaluation and Engagement Officer. Members have been tasked with completing the sections for review.

Children and Health Operational Group

The role of CHC seeks to encourage the implementation of the CCR model in children and health agencies, both statutory and non-statutory, to improve organisational responses to domestic abuse through formal and ad-hoc training, coordination of the Children and Health Operational Group (CHOG), advocacy of best practice through various safeguarding and health meetings and forums, representation of survivors’ and their children’s voices, stand-alone DA policy development and other. It means that CHC engages with a variety of stakeholders such as GP practices, sexual health services, substance misuse services, health visitors, the Children’s Services, Early Years, Health Education Partnership, and front-line domestic abuse service providers in the boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster.

In the last year, one of the main priorities for the CHC was to enhance the knowledge and skills of professionals working in GP Practices to respond to and prevent further domestic abuse by identifying it, screening patients safely, understanding the risk factors in relation to DVA and carrying out actions in accordance to the risks, including referring to the MARAC and domestic abuse services. As a result, 121 professionals working in GP practices were trained (1h briefing) in 2016-2017; 5 GPs received half-day Domestic Abuse Leads/Champions training. Health professionals working in GP surgeries reported an increase in their knowledge of DV and confidence in handling the disclosures because of the training they received. The CHC has also provided DA briefings to 27 additional health professionals such as substance misuse workers and language and speech therapists.

‘Training increased my knowledge and it was very thought provoking’;
‘Training helped identifying my own reluctance to get involved’;
‘Very good presentation. It was helpful to chat and discuss questions to ask if you suspect DV.’

The CHOG, one of the operational groups driving the VAWG Strategy, is aimed to look at best practice and areas of concern within children and health agencies. It takes place on quarterly basis. Four CHOG meetings took place the last year, during which the following themes were explored: Women’s Experiences of Social Services in Relation to Domestic Abuse, Overview of Drug and Alcohol Services and H&F Social Care Pilot, Working with/within Communities and Children’s Services, and Recovery and Prevention Support for Children and Young People. Over the course of the year, the CHC worked towards improving the attendance of the core members of the CHOG, with a particular focus on the Children’s Services. The greatest achievement has indeed been the representation of the Children’s Services for all three boroughs in the most recent CHOG meetings.

Acute Trust Project
The Acute Trust Project, funded by the Department of Media Culture and Sports, has completed its first of two years. The project builds on Standing Together’s eight-year relationship with Chelsea and Westminster Trust (CWT) and the five-year Big Lottery funded Domestic Abuse and Maternity Project at Imperial College Health Trust (ICHT). The Acute Trust Project aims to develop and sustain a Trust-wide response to domestic abuse by introducing coordination into CWT and supporting ICHT to move from a department-based response to one that is Trust wide. The project aims to increase trusts’ and professionals’ capacity to respond to domestic abuse through training, development of policy and referral pathways, creation of a network of DA champions and improved multi-agency engagement.

A mid-project evaluation has been completed measuring the impact of the work being undertaken by STADV across CWT and ICHT. The key achievements identified for 2016-17 include:

- **Increased knowledge and confidence by professionals to respond to DA**: The Coordinator has trained over 1500 staff across CWT and ICHT. Training has become increasingly embedded at all levels of the trusts including at induction and within mandatory safeguarding. Staff across both Trusts report feeling more confident and able to respond to domestic abuse because of the training they receive.

- **Embedded network of skilled champions**: Twenty-three new Domestic Abuse Links (DALs) have been trained across various departments within both Trusts. DALs provide an added layer of expertise and sustainability to the DA response and are a key source of support to staff.

- **Clear and accessible policies and referral pathways**: A Trust-wide domestic abuse policy has been completed and accessible to all staff at ICHT. Referral pathways have been established across both trusts and been received positively by staff: ‘[These are] simple, and will make a huge difference.’

- **Increase in enquiry and identification**: At CWH there has been a 221% increase from 2015/16 to 2016/17 in the number of recorded domestic abuse cases across trust. While Trust-wide data is not available at ICHT, there has been a 523% increase in the number of disclosures within Maternity over the year.

- **Improved Multi-Agency Responses**: The Trusts have positively engaged with local Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences. Both Trusts have increased their referrals to MARAC and there are now representatives from CWT and ICHT at the Tri-Borough meetings.

> ‘I think it has changed the way that people will approach things and the changed the way staff will discuss [domestic abuse] with patients and our clients. It increases our awareness of everything…. The training and support you give us… are a large part of making sure that we are equipped to deal with any disclosures’.

### Domestic Abuse and Mental Health Project

Since 2015 Standing Together have partnered with Central and North West London (CNWL) and West London Mental Health Trusts (WLMHT) to develop and improve the response to domestic abuse within Mental Health. This has been done primarily through training, policy development, strengthening of referral processes, creation of internal domestic abuse leads within mental health services, service user consultation and evaluation.

The key achievements of the project in the year 2016-2017:

- **Training**: Training has been a key success of this project. In the past year, the coordinator has trained 522 people across 8 boroughs. Training has becoming increasingly embedded and staff report increased knowledge and confidence in responding to domestic abuse.

- **Partnerships and shared learning**: The project steering group has been successful in driving the project forward. Held quarterly it has been well represented by Advance, CNWL and WLMHT and has been instrumental in identifying and sharing good practice and ensuring the project meets its objectives.

- **Policy Development**: A first draft of a Trust-wide domestic abuse policy has been written for CNWL and is awaiting feedback before being ratified. This process is due to be replicated across WLMHT. These policies will guide and embed the DA response within the Trusts.

- **Co-location of Coordinator**: A co-location contract is in the process of being implemented for the coordinator to spend 1 day per week at WLMHT.
National Health Alliance

The National Health Alliance (NHA) brings together professionals, agencies and academics across the spectrum of health and domestic abuse settings to draw together best practice in health. The partnership creates a mechanism by which to distil and promote effective and innovative practices and support their implementation through:

- identification of best practice models and practical examples being created and adopted across the country;
- working groups to distil best practice models, materials, policies, IT innovations and funding methods;
- Promotion of learning and best practice from early innovators; and
- Provision of practical guidance and support about how to adapt and embed these best practice solutions.

The NHA Coordinator has begun the process of mapping good practice across the country by linking in with health professionals across a number of health settings. Examples of innovative practice have been identified across London, West Midlands, and the North East within community health, mental health and acute trusts. Key themes have been identified around information sharing & confidentiality; data collection; training; champions networks and commissioning with examples of good practice identified in some areas and gaps in others. A meeting was held with key health agencies, Caldicott, NHS England around information sharing & confidentiality and actions taken forward to develop improved responses nationally. Similar workshops will need to be held in other areas. As part of the NHA the coordinator facilitates a national domestic abuse and health meeting with national DA charities (Women's Aid, SafeLives, AVA, Refuge), national health bodies (NHS England, Public Health England, Department of Health, Caldicott) and all collegiate health bodies.

Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC)

The SDVC project aims to maintain over a decade's work by STADV to coordinate the Specialist DV Court at Hammersmith Magistrates Court. The SDVC puts the safety of victims and children at the heart of the court proceedings. This is done by ensuring the Prosecution have all the information needed to provide to the court so that safe and appropriate decisions can be made about bail conditions and sentencing.

Another aim is to ensure that there are no unnecessary delays in proceedings and that information is shared between Criminal Justice agencies, the IDVA and other relevant support services, and most importantly that the victims in the cases are provided with information about the court case as quickly and clearly as possible. In addition, the aim of the SDVC is to hold perpetrators of abuse to account, through the imposition of bail conditions to protect victims and children during proceedings, and to encourage appropriate sanctions which provide perpetrators opportunity to stop their abusive behavior, whilst providing protection and support to the victims.

The role of the Coordinator is integral to achieving these aims. However comprehensive the multi-agency protocol and written procedures developed for the SDVC are, it is what actually happens on each court day, and how information flows between agencies at and after court that is the key test of the effectiveness of the court's operation. By observing the SDVC every week the Coordinator has an overarching view of the whole process and can feed back regularly to practitioners and managers any gaps or barriers in the process as well as identifying good practice. The operational role of the Coordinator involves observing the SDVC every week, recording and communicating results of hearings to practitioners and managers, tracking cases through the court system, performance monitoring against the agreed aims and objectives of the SDVC, developing and implementing protocols and processes in and around the SDVC, contributing to training of key personnel, raising awareness of the benefits of DV courts and sharing best practice ideas and experience locally and nationally.
Ultimately, the Coordinators are responsible for ensuring that the focus on victim/witness safety is maintained throughout the entire SDVC process.

The SDVC Management Group met in June 2016 and January 2017. The in the interim the Westminster DDVC Management Group met and issues from Hammersmith were fed back. In addition, the both Court Coordinators attended court-led meetings (aimed to bring together senior members of partner agencies with the aim of ensuring consistency between the DA Courts ) in May 2016 and February 2017 to provide operational feedback.

This year the work of the SDVC and DDVC Coordinators and the Court Management Groups has included:

• Continued co-location in the police station (as part of Impact Project for H&F) to support officers in robust case file preparation and provide subject-matter expertise.
• Liaising with police regarding the bailing of DA defendants correctly to the DA Courts. This is in context of several changes in police procedures around bailing and listing to court.
• Working with Police, CPS and Probation to ensure that Probation are provided with the information they need in order to prepare pre-sentence reports which can assess risk accurately and inform appropriate sentencing proposals. This has been crucial in light of drastic changes in Probation.
• The SDVC Coordinator produced a report in 2016 comparing sentencing outcomes of DA cases which were heard in the SDVC compared to non-SDVC court days. The findings demonstrated a difference in outcomes; cases sentenced in the SDVC were more likely to be informed by a pre-sentence report and contain a rehabilitative element.
• Representation at London Criminal Justice Board, CPS External Consultation Group, Scrutiny Panel and ACPO to share information and expertise from the coordination of the courts and work with police.

The most significant challenge this year for the SDVC at Hammersmith is the decision by the MoJ to close the courthouse. Standing Together submitted a response to the consultation, and worked with various partners to assist in their submissions, providing data and operational information. Following the decision to close, the Court Coordinators liaised with the court to make the case that the DA Courts should both continue at Westminster. This was successful and the SDVC will continue out of Westminster Magistrates Court on a Thursday.

Dedicated Domestic Violence Court (DDVC) Westminster

The Dedicated Domestic Abuse Court was set up in 2012 to curate a consistent approach to domestic violence throughout the criminal justice system building on the success of the SDAC at Hammersmith. Now in its fifth year, the court continues to evolve good practice and improve the service to victims/survivors ensuring that the focus on victim/witness safety is maintained throughout the entire SDVC process.

The role of the coordinator has integrated well within the working of the court system and our knowledge and expertise is valued and used extensively. The coordinator is now co-located in Charing Cross police station with direct access to CSU officers to influence good practice. The coordinator continues to provide briefings and host new police officers within the DA court as part of their induction process. This has continued to be acknowledged by the police as valuable for them to understand the court process as well using the opportunity for DV awareness raising, enabling officers to be able to advise survivors about cases and hopefully impact on attrition rates.

Our influence on the process regarding restraining orders both imposition and applications to discharge puts the safety of victims at the forefront and continues to improved our relationships with partner agencies including Children’s Services, Adult Social Care and Learning Disability Teams.

The Court Management Groups continue to meet on a quarterly basis alternating between Hammersmith and Westminster. In addition, the both Court Coordinators attended court-led meetings (aimed to bring together senior members of partner agencies with the aim of ensuring consistency between the DA Courts ) to provide operational feedback.

The coordinators represent STADV on several levels including CPS VAWG Scrutiny Panel, CPS External Consultation Group, LCJB Delivery Board, West Area DI Meeting, ACPO.

The DDAC coordinator has been involved with agencies in the South West Area in consultation and discussions resulting in a bid to the Home Office Transformation Fund with a view to setting up a Specialist Court in their area.

A challenge to the coordinators has been the closure of Hammersmith Court. They have been successful in convincing HMCTS to continue the SDAC at Westminster. The proposal put forward by the coordinators has
been accepted in full and Hammersmith SDAC moves to Westminster on 15/06/17. To facilitate this Westminster DDAC has moved to a Tuesday as part of the proposal to offer a more comprehensive cover for DA victims over the working week.

**Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)**

The MARAC is nationally accepted as an essential mechanism for addressing the safety of those at high risk of serious harm or homicide from domestic violence. The aim of the MARAC is to provide a fully co-ordinated holistic response to high risk domestic violence cases by:

- Sharing information to increase the safety, health and well-being of victims – adults and their children;
- Determining whether the perpetrator poses a significant risk to any particular individual or to the general community;
- Constructing jointly and implementing a risk management plan that provides professional support to all those at risk and that reduces the risk of harm;
- Reducing repeat victimisation;
- Monitoring service delivery by all agencies;
- Improving agency accountability; and
- Improving support for staff involved in high risk Domestic Violence cases.

Standing Together coordinates the MARAC to provide support to high risk survivors of domestic violence in the five London boroughs of Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea, Westminster, Ealing and Haringey.

Standing Together build annual review into all their projects so that we assess achievements with partners and/or facilitate the use of the SafeLives Self-Assessment process to provide external feedback on the MARAC processes. This provides a space where agencies can set aside the targets which they may be working to in their individual agencies a focus instead on the safety of survivors, within the coordinated multi-agency response. Standing Together provides quarterly feedback on MARAC processes that are also fed into each of the local areas VAWG strategies to promote safety and best practice. Below is information on the key achievements from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 in each of the MARACs for the five Boroughs.

**In Hammersmith & Fulham** the MARAC meets monthly and has met 12 times this year and with one MARAC Plus held and no emergency MARACs held. 347 cases have been discussed and risk-reduction plans created, 88 (25%) of them were repeat cases; 57 (16.4%) had a disability; 15 (4.3%) were male victims; 173 (49.9%) involved people from minority ethnic communities, local minority ethnic population is 55%. In 2 (0.9%) cases the survivor was lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. 316 children were involved in MARAC cases in the last year. There were a broad range of 11 referring agencies to the MARAC cases including the top four referring agencies of the IDVA service (29%), Police (29%), Children’s Services (12%) and Housing (6%). A MARAC Chair Forum was held in Hammersmith & Fulham in November 2016, facilitated by Standing Together, for the Chairs in all five of the Standing Together coordinated MARACs to provide a space for the Chairs to review processes and share best practice.

**In Kensington & Chelsea** the MARAC meets monthly and has met 12 times this year with no emergency MARACs held. 204 cases have been discussed and risk-reduction plans created, 47 (23%) of them were repeat cases; 44 (21.6%) had a disability; 8 (3.9%) were male victims; 115 (56.3%) involved people from minority ethnic communities, local minority ethnic population is 60.7%. In 5 (2.5%) cases the survivor was lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. 145 children were involved in MARAC cases in the last year. There were a broad range of 11 referring agencies to the MARAC cases including the top four referring agencies of the IDVA service (28%), the Police (22%), Family & Children’s Services (15%) and voluntary sector (14%). The Lead MARAC Coordinator met with the Serious Youth Violence Coordinator and Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator in April 2016 to discuss MARAC membership. These agencies are both now non-core members of the RBKC MARAC and the meeting have the added value of these agencies’ expertise.
In Westminster the MARAC meets monthly and has met 12 times this year with one MARAC Plus held and no emergency MARACs held. 289 cases have been discussed and risk-reduction plans created, 65 (22%) of them were repeat cases; 57 (19.7%) had a disability; 10 (3.5%) were male victims; 157 (54.3%) involved people from minority ethnic communities, local minority ethnic population is 64.8%. In 9 (3.1%) cases the survivor was lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. 254 children were involved in MARAC cases in the last year. There were a broad range of 11 referring agencies to the MARAC cases including the top five referring agencies of the Police (20%), Housing (19%), IDVA service (16%), Voluntary Sector (12%) and Children’s Services (11%). This financial year Westminster MARAC met best practice on referrals with a disability for the first time since it started in 2008/9. A new referral form for the MARAC was developed in quarter 2, 2016-17, that was consistent for all MARACs in the Tri-Borough. This form is clearer and quicker to complete than the previous Excel spreadsheet form in Westminster.

In Ealing the MARAC meets on a three-weekly basis and has met 17 times this year with no emergency MARACs held. 440 cases have been discussed and risk-reduction plans created, 48 (11%) of them were repeat cases; 89 (20.2%) had a disability; 10 (2.3%) were male victims; 318 (72.3%) involved people from minority ethnic communities, local minority ethnic population is 70%. In 3 (0.7%) cases the survivor was lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. 449 children were involved in MARAC cases in the last year. There were a broad range of 12 referring agencies to the MARAC cases including the top four referring agencies of the IDVA Service (26%), Police (26%), Voluntary Sector (16%) and Children’s Social Care (15%) and the Voluntary Sector Services (14%). The Ealing MARAC has met best practice on volume of referrals of survivors from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities for the past two financial years.

In Haringey the MARAC meets on a three-weekly basis and has met 17 times this year with four emergency MARACs held. 368 cases have been discussed and risk-reduction plans created, 75 (20%) of them were repeat cases; 68 (18.5%) had a disability; 29 (7.9%) were male victims; 227 (61.7%) involved people from minority ethnic communities, local minority ethnic population is 65.3%. In 20 (5.4%) cases the survivor was lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. 296 children were involved in MARAC cases in the last year. There were a broad range of 12 referring agencies to the MARAC cases including the top four referring agencies of Police (46%), the IDVA service (13%), other Voluntary Sector Services (12%) and primary care services (7%). The Haringey MARAC Coordinator added links to the Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) to assist with sharing relevant risk information and action-planning around perpetrators of abuse at the MARAC.

All Areas Standing Together works closely with partner agencies in all five areas to ensure all relevant members of staff are familiar with the MARAC process, and their role and responsibilities within it by providing MARAC briefings, inductions and workshops. The MARAC briefings are half hour sessions that are slotted into team meetings at partner agencies to raise awareness about the MARAC and how to refer. MARAC Inductions are an hour session with new MARAC Representatives or key staff members in partner agencies to support them with their role and encourage participation in MARAC. The MARAC workshops are half day multi-agency practice development workshops that provide SafeLives Champions training to staff so they can act as champions within their agency on the MARAC process. In the last year, the MARAC team provided 57 inductions, 39 briefings and 9 workshops, training a total of 762 staff on the MARAC. This financial year also saw the introduction of the Modus database to provide further consistency and accuracy in record keeping across all Standing Together’s MARAC areas.

Feedback Standing Together receives feedback on its MARACs from external bodies such as SafeLives and peer reviewers as part of the MARAC self-assessment process and the MARAC stakeholders in the form of MARAC Representative feedback in quarterly reports and throughout the year. Feedback from attendees at MARAC training is also collected and survivor feedback via frontline service Advance for victim/survivors referred to our local MARACs. Below are some of the comments received about Standing Together’s MARACs and MARAC training.

- It will allow me to recognise risk factors and how to manage these risks, who to contact and how. Student Nurse, Tri-Borough MARAC Workshop Attendee.
- I will be able to discuss this training with other colleagues and feel more confident in advising staff. Housing Association Casework Officer, Tri-Borough MARAC Workshop Attendee.
- Knowledgeable trainer, clear explanations. Haringey MARAC Workshop Attendee.
- Gives me the knowledge and awareness on how to carry out safe assessments on Victim/Survivor. I gained excellent knowledge on the MARAC and how to carry out or follow through referrals. K&C Floating Support caseworker, Tri-Borough MARAC Workshop Attendee.
Really helpful course in identifying role of MARAC and process. Vital role in safeguarding families from domestic violence. **Ealing MARAC Workshop Attendee.**

Great facilitator, she kept it interesting and interactive. **Haringey MARAC Workshop Attendee.**

Better able to assess risk in my role of GP. This will allow me to identify and refer for MARAC assessment in a more timely fashion. I am also better able to explain to the victim what the process is and what to expect. **GP, Tri-Borough MARAC Workshop Attendee.**

Useful learning about MARAC especially when dealing with domestic abuse. **Ealing MARAC Workshop Attendee.**

I thoroughly enjoyed the training. I only had a vague idea about MARAC before but this has been a well-thought out training session and I feel well-informed. **Tri-Borough MARAC Workshop Attendee.**

Good resources provided, interactive workshop. **Haringey MARAC Workshop Attendee.**

The Marac was well attended by well-prepared members who came with relevant research and engaged well throughout. **Peer Reviewer of RBKC MARAC**

Barriers to engagement with IDVA and other support were also discussed and the group looked at creative ways to reach clients. **Peer Reviewer of RBKC MARAC**

Victim/survivor's voice was clear and actions clearly responded to their needs and the risks identified by agencies. **Peer Reviewer of RBKC MARAC**

The abuse declined and it created a great deal of security at that time – it was great for the situation to be taken seriously which created safety. **Survivor of domestic abuse about their referral to MARAC (feedback via Advance).**

Best MARAC I've ever been referred to – I heard back from housing, and from social services. Previously I've never heard anything back from anyone. **Survivor of domestic abuse about their referral to MARAC (feedback via Advance).**

It felt very beneficial – with locks, I was contacted by my housing officer and gate was fixed – so much stuff was dealt with that I felt exposed to and insecure about.” **Survivor of domestic abuse about their referral to MARAC (feedback via Advance).**

**Events**

We ran our Blooming Strong Campaign again to mark November 25th the UN day for the elimination of violence against women and in December hosted a West London Conference on Intersectionality which received excellent feedback, 47 of the 52 evaluations returned described as an excellent event.

To celebrate International Women’s day on March 8th we held a seminar with international speaker Professor Evan Stark speaking on coercive control and national expert Dr Emma Katz on the impact on children and on mothering and the practical dilemmas this poses in relation to safeguarding procedures.

One delegate responded ‘I thoroughly enjoyed the event. I appreciated hearing speakers who were passionate and knowledgeable about the information they were presenting. The presentations made me think about my daily work and the families I work with’.

**Domestic Violence Coordinators Network**

The DVCN provides a forum for DV/VAWG Coordinators to share expertise, up-to-date research and best practice in the field of VAWG. Every year two national conferences are held for DVCN members on innovative practice and emerging new evidence.

On the 17th November 2016, the DVCN held a National Conference entitled ‘Children living with Coercive Control: Access to Justice and Recovery’. In response to the deep dive theme for the joint targeted area inspections, ‘Children Living with Domestic Abuse’, the event brought together national experts and up-to-date evidence and best practice from across the country on how best to meet the needs of children living with domestic abuse. The event was well attended with 86 professionals registered for the event.
Feedback from the DVCN National Conference held on 17th November 2016 were:

"Everything was great. Thank you so much for putting together such an excellent programme. It's reenergising, inspirational and always gives me room to think about our priorities and approaches."

"Excellent speakers. I really liked the format – themed speakers and then Q+A."

"A fantastic event and I am so glad that I was able to make it."

"The talk from Mandip Ghai and Dr Marsha Scott were particularly engaging and inspiring for me. Janis Watson's account of children's stories was really powerful. Emma Katz was very good and very interesting."

Training

Training in best practice is crucial to achieving the best coordinated community response to domestic abuse. Standing Together believes that three core areas of practice need to be covered in order to adequately equip staff to respond safely and effectively to the issue:

- Understanding the dynamics of an abusive relationship
- Skills and tools to support survivors
- Engaging with perpetrators

This year the Training Department trained:

- 116 staff on the local open access multi agency programme
- 225 staff across Housing & Early Help in the London Borough of Waltham Forest
- 64 staff within a London homelessness charity

The Training Department has also developed and delivered two new advanced skills training programmes:

- Domestic Abuse: Children, Parenting & Safeguarding
- Domestic Abuse: Mental Health, Trauma & Self Care

We have also piloted an introductory course on the intersection between Adult Safeguarding and domestic abuse with Hertfordshire Council.

Here are a few of the feedbacks from the courses held:

"This has been one of the most powerful and useful courses I've completed in 18 years with the Council"

"The five-day course has been helpful and inspiring as well as confidence building"

"This has taught me so much and I now look at domestic abuse completely differently. It is by far the best training I have ever had"

Domestic Homicide Reviews

Standing Together has been involved in the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) process from its inception and has built a body of knowledge and skills that we believe is invaluable. We offer a complete and inclusive approach that delivers high quality overview reports and independent chairing. We are, as far as we know, the only dedicated DHR team in the country. Our team consists of a DHR Manager, two dedicated DHR Administrative staff based in the Standing Together offices as well as our pool of Associates who act as Chairs for the DHR’s. Our team of associates are highly skilled and experienced and are experts in the field of domestic violence. We currently have 3 internal DHR Chairs (CEO, Partnership Manager and Senior Projects Coordinator) Our experience of a coordinated community response and domestic violence partnerships ensures we balance the needs of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP), panel agencies with the sensitivities of the victim’s and perpetrator’s families. We believe in DHRs and feel they can deliver change in an area where change is needed.

The newly appointed Senior Co-ordinator now takes the lead on DHR Dissemination as the project aims to embed learning from our DHRs locally and nationally.
These were the projects key achievements during the year ended 31st March 2017:

- Standing Together is now chairing/successfully chaired 63 Domestic Homicide Reviews. 25 of these reviews are now published.
- Last year, with funding gained from Comic Relief we worked in partnership with the Child and Women Abuse Studies Unit at London Metropolitan University to analyse and compile findings from 32 STADV authored DHR National Overview Reports. These findings were published during the 16 days of action in 2016 on our website.
- This report is our contribution to fully highlight the learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews as most of us recognise the need for national, regional and local work required to embed a true coordinated community response (CCR) to domestic abuse. In essence much of what we have learned from the DHRs outlined in this report demonstrates what can happen in absence of a CCR.
- On the back of this report the Home Office has commissioned STADV in partnership with the organisation AAFDA (Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse) to deliver workshops on DHR findings, the new DHR Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance 2016 and implementing Action Plans. We have successfully delivered these workshops in
  - Central London
  - Bristol
  - Enfield
  - Newcastle upon Tyne
  - North Wales Region
  - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
  - Sheffield
  - Lewisham
- In addition, we have responded to individual areas requests to share the learning from our DHRs. On the 4th May, the DHR Manager and Senior Coordinator spoke at Teeside Domestic Abuse and Adult Safeguarding Conference on the 4 May 2017.
- In September 2016, the DHR team was invited to become a member of the Home Office Domestic Homicide Review QA Panel, which sits monthly and reviews all the national reports.

Feedback from Community Safety Partnership on STADV DHR service provision:

“The admin service that was provided alongside the independent chairing was invaluable. During the tendering process, some providers only chaired the panel without offering the admin service - this would have meant a huge time burden on our internal team.”

“The Chair was excellent …. knowledgeable about all relevant DA issues, her ability to recall specific dates/incidences showed she had a good grasp of the case details. Her ability to manage a panel which consisted of so many partner agencies was also excellent.”

Feedback from workshops:

“This workshop has been very useful in updating our protocol and for feeding back to our DHR Sub Group. I enjoyed learning about the updates in the guidance and findings from the research.”

“The training was great. The DHR guidance + process session was very informative. The discussion and opportunity to raise questions was very good. I am more informed on panel members and feel empowered to raise any concerns with the chair of the panel.”

Feedback from Adult Safeguarding conference:

“thank you for delivering your session at our recent conference. ….a number of delegates commented that your presentation was very interesting and useful to their job roles.”
Domestic Violence: Coordinating the Intervention (DVCI)

The DVCI project builds on the pioneering principles of the Coordinated Community Response (CCR) Model. It was first conceived by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and STADV due to the identification of a gap in knowledge and skills to effectively deliver this best practice approach. At a London and UK-level, training is currently focused on front-line professionals and there is no professional development to support the role of VAWG/DV strategic leadership and coordination.

The project includes a partnership of four European organisations including STADV and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (United Kingdom), Asociatia Catharsis (Romania) Dimitra Education & Consulting S.A (Greece) and Region de Murcia (Spain). The project is partly funded by Erasmus +, the European Union funding programme for education, training, youth and sport.

The DVCI aims to increase the skills and expertise of professionals, including statutory commissioners and policy makers, who are responsible for leading and coordinating responses to domestic violence and other forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG).

The project’s key aims and objectives include:

- To share good practice and develop an EU core curriculum and competencies for the DV Strategic Coordination role, involving relevant agencies with responsibility for dealing with DV and VAWG
- To develop nationally-adapted curricula for developing and delivering a coordinated community response to DV in the UK, Greece, Romania and Spain
- To pilot and accredit innovative work-based Vocational Educational Training (VET) to 160 professionals with responsibility for leading or coordinating DV interventions in four national contexts (45 in UK and Romania and Greece, 25 in Spain).
- To raise awareness of the need to improve skills of DV coordinators at a local, national and EU level national and promote the EU curricula and training to support improved services for victims of DV and VAWG.

The project started in November 2016. So far, two transnational meetings have taken place in London and Thessaloniki (Greece). The Senior Coordinator has developed a template and carried out a training needs analysis exercise with DV/VAWG Coordinators/Commissioners and Policy Leads based in England. Members of the DVCN, the Pan-London MOPAC VAWG Network and North East End VAWG Network were involved. The research template for the training needs analysis was translated and adapted by partners for use in the other three countries. Findings from the analysis in all four countries were presented at the transnational meeting in Greece and will inform the EU core curriculum.

In Search of Excellence: Consultancy work done for local authorities and others

Standing Together uses its widely commended framework, “In Search of Excellence: A Guide to Effective Domestic Violence Partnerships” to work with over 60 local authorities to date. This includes a review of policies and practice and the supporting data; interviews with key professionals; consultation with survivors of domestic violence and is designed to give feedback and practical advice for the immediate use of the partnership.

Other consultancy undertaken by STADV has been for the London boroughs of Lambeth, Richmond and Wandsworth, as well as Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner. Standing Together has also worked with AVA (Against Violence and Abuse) and RESPECT to conduct a feasibility study for the MOPAC for the use AAMR sanctions (Alcohol Abstinence Monitoring Requirements) for domestic abuse perpetrators.

Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA)

The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) is a partnership between 3 organisations; Standing Together Against Domestic Violence, Peabody and Gentoo. These organisations have a longstanding commitment to tackling Domestic Abuse sharing best practice and practising innovation. At STADV we have six years of
experience coordinating our local housing operational group which tested and debated much of the content of what is now the DAHA accreditation standards.

Over five million people live in affordable housing in England and Wales, and the new housing-centered approach has been welcomed by Government. Abuse often happens in the home, so the housing sector is well placed to help stop it. Housing organisations have a key role in tackling domestic abuse as they and their contractors have unique entry to the hidden spaces occupied by perpetrators and individuals experiencing abuse. They are often in residents homes and neighbourhoods, and when properly trained are ideally placed to spot, respond to it and link to DA specialist services and multi-agency working.

Housing Organisations throughout the UK often have different approaches to dealing with Domestic Abuse and by its accreditation process, DAHA aims to work with housing providers to standardise the housing sector’s response to domestic abuse - ensuring that victims are identified and supported and wherever possible domestic abuse is prevented from occurring. The accreditation process brings together best practice from Housing Providers across the UK in responding to Domestic Abuse.

The accreditation process examines key elements of service delivery and is an assessment tool for organisations to allow organisations to analyse current working practices and to implement an action plan, working with DAHA, to improve service delivery. This includes ensuring housing professionals respond to the issue in a coordinated and consistent way.

The areas assessed for accreditation are:

- Policy and Procedures
- Case Management, Monitoring and Evaluation
- Risk Management
- Inclusivity and accessibility
- Holding perpetrators accountable: Support Enforcement and Prevention
- Partnership working
- Training
- Publicity and Awareness.

Since DAHA was launched in September 2014 over 150 organisations across the UK have expressed an interest in working towards the standards, with 10 organisations currently in the process of being accredited. DAHA has support from Government and across the domestic abuse and housing sectors. John Bentham, Homelessness and Domestic Abuse Policy Lead, Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) said

“Domestic abuse is an insidious crime. Housing professionals can play a vital role in identifying and tackling it yet too often their role is overlooked and under-appreciated. The launch of DAHA which brings together the expertise of Gentoo, Standing Together and Peabody is a most welcome step forward. Supporting others to ensure a consistent and coordinated response will no doubt help keep victims safe. I hope more and more housing organisations adopt DAHAs best practice, recognise the impact domestic abuse has on our communities and understand what action they can take.”

**Strategic Influence**

Standing Together serves on the following boards, panels, working groups and networks, sharing experience and expertise to our mutual benefit with:

- External Consultation Group of the Crown Prosecution Service, Crown Prosecution Service
- Crown Prosecution Service Scrutiny and Involvement Panel, Crown Prosecution Service
- The London Mayor’s Expert Group on Violence Against Women and Girls
- The Department of Health group developing a domestic violence pathway for Health
- End Violence Against Women Coalition
STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2017

- Home Office VAWG Stakeholders Group
- Labour Party Victim’s Task Force

STADV was honoured to host.

STADV spoke at numerous local, national and international conferences including:
- Women’s Aid,
- University of Bristol
- Viridian Housing
- Shelter
- London Borough of Lewisham
- Cordis Bright
- Inside Government
- London Heads of Community Safety, London Councils
- RESPECT
- Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
- Northeast Violence Against Women and Girls Network
- Healthcare Conferences Ltd
- New Philanthropy Capital- Systems Change
- Westminster Forum

4. Financial Review

Standing Together is a small charity working in a field where resources are limited and funding tends to be short term and insecure. The charity is successful in retaining experienced staff against this background and in recruiting skilled and qualified staff to vacancies and to the new posts created this year. The Chief Executive could concentrate on local, national and European work while the Partnership Manager and team of coordinators provided the core services, now in three London Boroughs. Their work is supported by the finance and administration team. Good financial management continues to be the key to achieving stability and ensuring the sound future for the organisation.

For the financial year 2016/2017, total incoming resources increased by 34% from £962,285 to £1,285,241. This is as a result of new contracts and additional funding secured during the year. This was matched by increased expenditure of 35% from £1,009,792 to £1,358,469. As at year end the net decrease of funds was £73,228 (2016: £47,507). The organisation is aware that full cost recovery must be achieved for all new projects and is working towards this aim for existing projects.

Principal Funding Sources in 2016-17

Summary

The principal funding sources of income to specific projects of Standing Together have been statutory sector grants from local authorities in London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (LBHF), Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea (RBKC), Westminster County Council (WCC), Haringey Council, London Borough of Ealing and central government including Home Office, Department of Culture, Media and Sport and MOPAC.

The income from fees, contracts and consultancy has been crucial again this year. Standing Together is very grateful for the support of grant making bodies and individuals from the public.
The following is a summary of funders % of support & education income to prevent domestic violence:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>% of Total Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Authorities</td>
<td>£737,196</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Government</td>
<td>£340,503</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Gift Grants</td>
<td>£62,155</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy</td>
<td>£45,233</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Community</td>
<td>£39,798</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,224,885</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Local Authorities:

- **Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences**
  Under the Tri-borough Shared Services partnership project the councils contributed £220,969 towards the coordination of the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) in LBHF, Westminster CC, RBKC; the operational costs of the Partnership Manager role and the Designated Domestic Violence Courts and Abuse Surgeries.

  Haringey Council and London Borough of Ealing provided respective funding of £49,855 and £50,000 for the coordination of MARACs.

- **National Health Service Hammersmith and Fulham**
  We also greatly appreciate the continuing support of the LBHF NHS maintained at £66,000, which reflects the view we share of the essential role which health professionals have in identifying and supporting survivors of domestic violence.

- **Domestic Abuse Project in Social Care**
  Standing Together piloted a domestic abuse project in LBHF social care in partnership with ADVANCE and Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP). In this year £135,000 was received to provide co-located specialist support in both Child Protection & Early Help services so that family service practitioners would have on site access to support their work with families where domestic abuse is an issue.

- **Housing Coordinator and Sanctuary Scheme**
  LBHF Housing Options have made £10,000 available to carry out the work of the Housing Operational Group. They have increased the funding to deliver the Sanctuary Scheme from £16,000 to £19,000. The scheme provides safety of survivors of domestic violence who remain in their own homes by providing an integrated response to their needs.

- **Domestic Homicide Reviews**
  Standing Together are commissioned by local authorities to chair Domestic Homicide Reviews which are chaired by freelance Associates and internal staff. During the year the income generated was £171,372.

- **Impact Case Development Analyst**
  LBHF via the MOPAC London Crime Prevention Fund allocated £15,000 to the role of the Special Designated DV Court Coordinator who support victims and witnesses with the aim of reducing violence against women and girls through increased number of solved crimes and improved efficiency of the court system.

Central Government:

- **Home Office**
  Standing Together received £15,000 to complete the funding needed for the MARAC in LBHF and a further £15,000 towards the coordination of the Haringey MARAC.

Funding of £30,000 was awarded for the development of the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) self-assessment toolkit for housing providers, which supports an early intervention approach in promoting earlier identification of abuse in private as opposed to public space, and enables signposting to support services.
We were successful in receiving £30,000 for DHR Dissemination project, during the year. In partnership with AAFDA we conducted seven regional workshop events which focus on Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) learnings, action plans and refresher for existing DHR chairs.

- **Department of Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS)**
  DCMS awarded Standing Together £310,906 from the Tampon Tax Fund for a period of 2 years commencing on 1st April 2016. During the year £155,453 was received to create a health alliance for domestic abuse and develop innovative approaches to provide mental health support for those at risk of domestic violence.

- **Mayor’s Office for Policing & Crime (MOPAC)**
  Standing Together lead on a consortia arrangement with Respect and Against Violence and Abuse (AVA) to conduct controlled testing and feasibility study on the use of Alcohol Abstinence Monitoring Requirement (sobriety tags) on domestic abuse offenders in the Tri-borough. Funding of £95,050 was approved whereby Respect and AVA were paid £9,950 each and ADVANCE was paid £20,000 to provide survivor support.

**Charitable Gift Grants:**

- **The Social Investment Business**
  On behalf of the Cabinet Office £48,655 was contributed for meeting the objectives of the Impact Readiness Fund

- **Shepherds Bush Housing Association**
  Shepherds Bush Housing Association contributed £10,000 funding towards the role of the SDVC Coordinator post which provided case tracking and analysis as part of the Impact Project.

- **Comic Relief**
  During the year, Comic Relief granted £2,500 towards Standing Togethers’ purpose to share learnings and findings from DHRs.

- **Al Khair Foundation**
  Al Khair contributed £1,000 towards an emergency hardship funds for survivors of domestic violence.

We value enormously the support of all our partners in the statutory sector and the confidence they have in us.

**European Community:**

- **Erasmus Domestic Violence Coordinating the Strategic Intervention (DVCI)**
  Erasmus has funded Standing Together in partnership with RBKC and other European parties to develop accredited training for VAWG Coordinators. The contract is for 2 years commencing on 1st November 2016 and £26,658 was received in the year.

- **Daphne**
  Safe at Home project received £9,900 to support the training of housing providers in tackling domestic violence.

- **Convey**
  CESIE contributed £3,240 to fund the Convey project, which aims to prevent violence through an online educational tool.

**Training Fees**

Standing Together raises income from our educative consultancy and from our training courses. This fulfils our objective of sharing best practice. The diversification in our income gives the charity a measure of independence. These funds are not designated and so have been re-invested in our charitable activities or carried forward to ensure good cash flow at year end and to begin development work ahead of receipt of specific funds. This has enabled Standing Together to be flexible and responsive to change. Most importantly this independent income has been invested in maintaining the high quality of the work we do.
Donations
We are very thankful to the Ian McTaggart Trust for their generous donation this year. Donations and fundraising from BLCFL, Waitrose, Williams Morris Sixth Form School, Every Click, Just Giving and the Free Association have been greatly appreciated.

Many individuals commit to regular monthly payments, with some generous occasional donations. Gift Aid is claimed whenever this is applicable and adds significantly to the amount raised. All donations and events help to keep our organisation independent, critical and effective.

In Kind
Standing Together’s agreement with ‘EUSA’ (an umbrella organisation) to take student work experience placements from American Universities to assist our staff and learn about short term project work is an on-going success. Interns each year complete six week placements to our mutual benefit, bringing their skills and enthusiasm to our work and learning a lot in the process.

We have also benefitted from various volunteers who have come to help in their areas of interest.

Financial Results
The Income and Expenditure Accounts disclose incoming resources for the year of £1,285,241 (2016: £962,285) and expenditure of £1,138,469 (2016: £1,009,792). The total reserves stand at £247,967 (2016: £321,195) of which £27,856 is restricted, £6,786 is held on behalf of the Domestic Violence Coordinators Network and £213,325 is unrestricted. Of the unrestricted fund, £200,000 has been designated for contractual liabilities, leaving a balance of £13,325 as unrestricted free reserves.

Standing Together receives most of its funding in the form of grants directed into support for specific projects. Additional core funding is obtained from diverse sources. At present, the core funding is sufficient to cover Standing Together’s overheads and administration costs.

Investments
Apart from maintaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity’s funds are to be spent in the short term leaving few funds for long term investment. We maintain our good management of funds between the current and savings accounts which has seen the interest increase slightly this year. To ensure security of our deposits under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, Trustees have placed part of the designated reserve to two further providers.

Reserves Policy
The Board of Trustees has examined the charity’s requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should aim to be three months of the expenditure. Budgeted expenditure for 2017-2018 is currently £1,291,152. The present level of unrestricted reserves available to the charity is £220,112.

6. Plans for the Future
Each year, Standing Together staff and Trustees meet to review our objectives and priorities for achieving our charitable aims.

In 2016-17 Standing Together, we particularly set out to:

- Promote our communications plan with regard to the Coordinated Community Response to domestic abuse
- Establish impact measurement based on work done with New Philanthropy Capital and funded by the Cabinet Office’s Impact Readiness Fund
- Promote the DA Health Alliance which will highlight best practice to embed DA practice in acute health trusts
- Continue the dissemination of learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)
• Develop the SAFE projects in the Tri-boroughs which is a partnership with religious leaders and communities in relation to domestic abuse
• Promote the use and efficacy of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts

7. Conclusion

Standing Together Trustees are proud of the way the organisation, and its staff, have sustained their performance and commitment in very difficult times. We are now able to focus on maintaining what we do whilst expanding in areas which will see the biggest impact. The main areas are learning from domestic homicide reviews (DHRs), our widening focus on learning from our health team and nurturing the continued success of the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance and the Domestic Violence Coordinators Network. We are intent on sharing our understanding of the best ways to implement and sustain a coordinated community response to domestic abuse. There is no other organisation in the country that maintain the level of activities aimed to establish the CCR in all areas of our community and services.

Despite all our success we must never forget that our success remains dependent on the financial support we receive and the operational partnerships we develop and nurture. We have existed for just under two decades and been party to a vast improvement in understanding and practice. We aim that next year our CCR model our lessons learned are more widely known and accepted.

What was true all those years ago continues to reinforce the underlying principles by which we operate. We must keep the safety of survivors and children at the core of our activities. Alongside this we must hold perpetrators to account AND those agencies that have a responsibility to respond to those victims or perpetrators. Standing Together we make that change.

8. Statement of Trustees’ Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law and the law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Charity Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:-

• Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
• Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
• Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
• State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
• Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

• The Trustees confirm that, in the case of each of the persons who are Trustees at the date of this report, the following applies:
• So far as each Trustee is aware there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the Company’s auditors in connection with preparing their report) of which the Charity’s auditors are unaware; and
• Each Trustee has taken all the steps necessary to make herself/himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company’s auditors are aware of that information.
Relationship with Funders
- No Trustee had any relationship with any of the main funders except as a Trustee of Standing Together
- In so far as the Management Committee is aware:
  - There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
  - The Management Committee have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This Report is agreed and signed at the AGM by the Chair of Standing Together Dale Simon, on behalf of the Board of Trustees on 12 October 2017.

Dale Simon
Trustee/Director
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF 
STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

We have audited the financial statements of Standing Together against Domestic Violence for the year ended 31 March 2017 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, including the income and expenditure account, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including the Financial Reporting Standard 102, ‘The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland’.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Board of Trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the Responsibilities Statement of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Trustees (who are also the directors of Standing Together against Domestic Violence for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Board of Trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Report of the Board of Trustees to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2017, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.
Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Report of the Board of Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees’ remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all of the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Board of Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees."

Kevin Lally (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of:
Knox Cropper
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
8/9 Wells Court
London
EC4M 9DN

12 October 2017

Knox Cropper Chartered Accountants is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations and legacies</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13,612</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable activities</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>986,987</td>
<td>281,608</td>
<td>1,268,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3,034</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1,003,633</td>
<td>281,608</td>
<td>1,285,241</td>
<td>962,285</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENDITURE ON:
Charitable activities | 1,093,057 | 265,412 | 1,358,469 | 1,009,792 |

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** 5 | 1,093,057 | 265,412 | 1,358,469 | 1,009,792 |

Net expenditure | (89,424) | 16,196 | (73,228) | (47,507) |

**NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS** | (89,424) | 16,196 | (73,228) | (47,507) |

**TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 APRIL 2016** | 309,535 | 11,660 | 321,195 | 368,702 |

**TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2017** £ 220,111 £ 27,856 £ 247,967 £ 321,195

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities. None of the Charity’s activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial years.
**STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**  
Company limited by guarantee  (registered company no. 04283131)

**BALANCE SHEET**  
As at 31 March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2017 (£)</th>
<th>2016 (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>251,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td></td>
<td>255,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>507,362</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(259,395)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>247,967</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>247,967</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 247,967</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 321,195</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funds**

Unrestricted funds:
- Designated funds | 12 | 206,786 | 202,597 |
- General fund | 12 | 13,325 | 106,938 |

Restricted funds | 12 | 27,856 | 11,660 |

**£ 247,967** | **£ 321,195**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and the section 1a of the Financial Reporting Standard 102. The financial statements were approved, and authorised for issue, by the Board of Trustees on 12 October 2017 and signed on their behalf by:-

DALE SIMON, Trustee

[........., Trustee]

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements
### CASH FLOW STATEMENT
For the year ended 31 March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash flows from operating activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit for the financial year</td>
<td>(73,228)</td>
<td>(47,507)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustments for:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Increase)/decrease in debtors</td>
<td>(174,553)</td>
<td>7,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in creditors</td>
<td>144,742</td>
<td>85,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>(3,034)</td>
<td>(2,019)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>(106,073)</td>
<td>43,690</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash flows from investing activities**
- Return on investment - interest receivable: 3,034, 2,019

**Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents**
- (103,039), 45,709

**Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2016**
- 358,874, 313,165

**Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2017**
- £ 255,835, £ 358,874

**Components of cash and cash equivalents**
- Cash at bank and in hand: 255,835, 358,874
1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice ‘Accounting and Reporting by Charities’ (FRS 102), applicable to smaller entities and the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust’s ability to continue as a going concern. In preparing the accounts, no restatement was required in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102.

Company status
Standing Together against Domestic Violence is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

Fund accounting
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the Charity's core services are treated as unrestricted.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the note 12.

Incoming resources
All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income, it is probable that the amount will be received and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants and donation received are deferred when conditions are attached, for example when they relate to a specific future period.

Resources Expended
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Support costs, which cannot be directly attributed to particular activities, have been apportioned proportionately to the direct staff costs allocated to the activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2017

**Tangible fixed assets**
The Charity does not comply with the Charities SORP in that, assets costing less than £5,000 are written off to the SOFA to their anticipated residual value.

**Operating leases**
Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is incurred.

**Pensions**
The company is part of a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds 2017</th>
<th>Restricted Funds 2017</th>
<th>Total Funds 2017</th>
<th>Total Funds 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>£13,612</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£13,612</td>
<td>£26,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. INVESTMENT INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds 2017</th>
<th>Restricted Funds 2017</th>
<th>Total Funds 2017</th>
<th>Total Funds 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest receivable from:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank interest</td>
<td>£3,034</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£3,034</td>
<td>£2,019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Charity does not comply with the Charities SORP in that, assets costing less than £5,000 are written off to the SOFA to their anticipated residual value.
### 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 986,987</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 281,608</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,268,595</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grants & contracts for services:
- Support and education to prevent domestic violence: £943,277
- Membership fees: £6,838
- Fee income: £36,872

**Total Funds 2017**: £1,224,885

**Total Funds 2016**: £903,363

### Analysis of grants & contracts for services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 943,277</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 281,608</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,224,885</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 903,363</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 26,658</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 933,021</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **London Borough of Hammersmith &**: £110,000
- **Tri Borough Funding**: £206,169
- **Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea**: £206,169
- **Hammersmith & Fulham NHS**: £66,000
- **Home Office-HOPS**: £90,000
- **Shepherd Bush Housing Association**: £10,000
- **MOPAC Sobriety Pilot**: £95,050
- **Big Lottery**: £48,655
- **MOPAC Victim Fund**: £9,800
- **Impact Readiness Fund**: £48,655
- **Westminster City Council**: £49,855
- **Haringay Council**: £50,000
- **Ealing Council**: £151,372
- **DH Review**: £151,372
- **Imperial Health Care Charitable Trust**: £15,633
- **HMP Treasury**: £45,233
- **Sara Charlton Foundation**: £3,240
- **DAHA Consultancy**: £1,000
- **EEC Convey Project**: £9,900
- **EEC-Erasmus DVCI**: £26,658
- **Comic Relief**: £2,500
- **Other grants**: £2,500

**Total Funds 2017** for Support and education to prevent domestic violence: £1,224,885
5. RESOURCES EXPENDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Staff costs</th>
<th>Other direct costs</th>
<th>Support costs</th>
<th>Total 2017</th>
<th>Total 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of charitable activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and education to prevent domestic violence</td>
<td>£791,724</td>
<td>£469,101</td>
<td>£97,644</td>
<td>£1,358,469</td>
<td>£1,009,792</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources expended include:

- Auditors’ remuneration:
  - Audit fee 2017: £2,355, 2016: £3,180

Details of staff costs are given in Note 7.

Details of Support costs is given in Notes 6.

6. SUPPORT COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total 2017</th>
<th>Total 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises and office costs</td>
<td>65,082</td>
<td>54,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication &amp; IT</td>
<td>21,625</td>
<td>10,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and professional</td>
<td>8,582</td>
<td>7,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditors’ audit fee</td>
<td>2,355</td>
<td>3,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£97,644</td>
<td>£75,934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. **STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>687,572</td>
<td>590,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social security costs</td>
<td>62,940</td>
<td>57,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension costs</td>
<td>31,774</td>
<td>23,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other staff costs</td>
<td>9,438</td>
<td>6,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 791,724</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 678,245</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The average weekly number of employees, calculated as full time equivalents, during the period was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management Team</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct project staff</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Team</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One (2015: nil) employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 between £60,001 to £70,000.

During the year, key management received an aggregate salary and benefits of £192,065 (2016 - £153,062).

8. **TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

During the year, no members of the Board of Trustees received any remuneration (2016 - £NIL). no members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £NIL (2016 - £NIL).

9. **DEBTORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Due within one year</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 251,527</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 76,974</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade debtors</td>
<td>113,840</td>
<td>76,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued income</td>
<td>122,664</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other debtors</td>
<td>13,523</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 251,527</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 76,974</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social security and other taxes</td>
<td>19,773</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT creditors</td>
<td>31,539</td>
<td>53,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accruals</td>
<td>158,083</td>
<td>60,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>£ 259,395</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 114,653</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deferred income
- Amount deferred in the year: **£ 50,000**
- Balance at 31 March 2017: **£ 50,000**

11. Taxation

The Charity is a registered charity, and therefore is not liable for income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.
### 12. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brought Forward</th>
<th>Incoming Resources</th>
<th>Transfers and Investment gains/(losses)</th>
<th>Carried Forward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DESIGNATED FUNDS**
- **Designated Fund**: £200,000
- **DVCN Funds**: £2,597
  - £6,838
  - (£2,649)
  - £6,786

| £202,597 | £6,838 | (£2,649) | Nil | £206,786 |

**RESTRICTED FUNDS**
- **London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham**: (£74,000)
- **Hammersmith & Fulham NHS**: (£66,000)
- **Shepherd Bush Housing Association**: (£10,000)
- **Mopac Victim Fund**: £10,660
  - (£10,660)
- **MOPAC Sobriety Pilot**: (£95,050)
  - (£91,690)
  - (£3,360)
- **EEC-Daphne**: (£9,900)
  - (£3,531)
  - (£6,369)
- **EEC-Erasmus DVCI**: (£26,658)
  - (£11,008)
  - (£15,650)
- **Imperial Health Care Charitable Trust**: £1,000
  - (£1,000)

| £11,660 | £281,608 | (£265,412) | Nil | £27,856 |

**SUMMARY OF FUNDS**
- **Designated Funds**: £202,597
  - £6,838
  - (£2,649)
  - £206,786
- **General Funds**: £106,938
  - £996,795
  - (£1,090,408)
  - £13,325
  - £309,535
  - £1,003,633
  - (£1,093,057)
  - £220,111
- **Restricted Funds**: £11,660
  - £281,608
  - (£265,412)
  - £27,856
  - £321,195
  - £1,285,241
  - (£1,358,469)
  - £247,967

The Designated funds are intended to enable the charity and its partners to conduct their activities fully, in the event of a loss of funding, so that an orderly winding up of its projects may be achieved.

### 13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Designated Funds</strong></td>
<td>206,786</td>
<td>13,325</td>
<td>27,856</td>
<td>247,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Funds</strong></td>
<td>206,786</td>
<td>13,325</td>
<td>27,856</td>
<td>247,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted Funds</strong></td>
<td>206,786</td>
<td>13,325</td>
<td>27,856</td>
<td>247,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funds</strong></td>
<td>206,786</td>
<td>13,325</td>
<td>27,856</td>
<td>247,967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

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14. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2017 the Company had annual commitments under non- cancellable operating leases (all for land and buildings) as set out below:

Operating leases which expire:
within one year 44,254 44,254
within two to five years 43,657 87,911

£ 87,911 £ 132,165

The cost of operating lease during the year was as follows:
Office lease charges for the year £ Nil £ Nil

15. PENSION COMMITMENTS

Pension costs in note 7 relate to payments made to a defined contribution pension scheme. The charitable company’s liability is limited to making the payments due to the scheme on a timely basis. The liability at the 31 March 2017 is £4,970 (2016 : £8,940).
16 Comparative Statement of Financial Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds 2016</th>
<th>Restricted Funds 2016</th>
<th>Total Funds 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and legacies</td>
<td>26,375</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable activities</td>
<td>636,735</td>
<td>297,156</td>
<td>933,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>2,019</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>665,129</td>
<td>297,156</td>
<td>962,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENDITURE ON:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable activities</td>
<td>716,256</td>
<td>293,536</td>
<td>1,009,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</strong></td>
<td>(51,127)</td>
<td>3,620</td>
<td>(47,507)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2015</strong></td>
<td>360,662</td>
<td>8,040</td>
<td>368,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2016</strong></td>
<td>£ 309,535</td>
<td>£ 11,660</td>
<td>£ 321,195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Define, promote and apply CCR model across STADV’s services.
Encourage new areas to undertake the CCR model.
Develop CCR model in practice.
Build evidence of impact of CCR model.
Codify and communicate CCR model in UK.
Chairing domestic homicide reviews.
Campaign on local DVA strategy and policy.
Build local relationships with key stakeholders.
Safety audits.
Training for statutory professionals.
Coordinate local partnership activities - SDVC - Children and young people - Health - Housing - Mental health - MARAC.
Raise community awareness.
Partnership with local and national DVA campaigns.

Policy change outcomes:
- Central government is more aware of and understands the CCR model.
- UK agencies are more aware of and understand the CCR model.

Local agency outcomes:
- Leadership commitment to DVA is increased.
- Organisations develop a culture of commitment to DVA.
- Agencies have and use coordinated policies and procedures surrounding DVA.
- Professionals’ methods of working become more survivor-focused.
- Professionals are more aware of the signs and symptoms of DVA.
- Partnership working is improved.
- Survivors are more able to access the support they need through multiple channels.
- Professionals feel confident in identifying and responding to incidents of DVA.

Community outcomes:
- Communities are aware of signs and symptoms of DVA.
- Communities are able to signpost survivors to appropriate DVA services.
- Communities understand how and are empowered to respond to DVA.

Accountability line:
- Central government recognises the importance of the CCR model.
- Statutory requirement to adopt CCR model.
- CCR model is embedded in the UK.
- Domestic violence and abuse is eradicated.

Life outcomes:
- Perpetrators are held to account and change their behaviour.
- Survivors enjoy long term emotional wellbeing.
- Women in the community feel safer.
- Communities are aware of signs and symptoms of DVA.
- Communities are more able to access the support they need through multiple channels.
- Transmission of intergenerational violence is prevented.
- Communities understand how and are empowered to respond to DVA.
- Communities are able to signpost survivors to appropriate DVA services.

Policy change outcomes:
- Lessons from DHRs are better learned.

* Including STADV’s preventative work in schools.

STADV and key strategic partners understand the CCR model and how it should be applied.