

National Strategy on Domestic Sexual and Gender-based Violence
Implementation Progress Reporting Template

National Strategy on Domestic Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2010-2014

**2nd Report to Strategy Oversight Committee of
Progress in Implementation of Strategy**

November 2010

Overall Strategic Objective:

The development of a strong framework for sustainable intervention to prevent and effectively respond to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence

Note:

Please complete Column 6 - "Progress to date" for the period up to end Q4 (November) 2010. Priority should be given to Activities due for completion in this period.

Progress towards achieving targets for the remainder of the year should also be reported.

Progress on Activities scheduled for completion in 2011 may also be reported if significant.

Reasons for delays in achieving targets and remedial action planned to achieve completion should also be set out.

Please keep progress note succinct and **contained within column 6 if possible**.

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Reasons for delays in achieving targets and remedial action planned to achieve completion have not been set out in many cases. However, Cosc was informed that resource issues such as staff availability, early retirement, redeployment, T&S issues have had a detrimental effect in many cases.

High-Level Goal 1:

To promote a culture of prevention and recognition through increased understanding of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence

Key objectives

- 1 To increase understanding, recognition and practical information on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence throughout society in Ireland
- 2 To increase understanding and recognition of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence in State-sector organisations
- 3 To raise awareness among young people of domestic, sexual and gender-based abuse.

	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
1	Promote and develop an understanding and recognition of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence among the general public and specific audiences	<p>1.1 Undertake a range of activities including engaging national, local and journal media in delivering articles to the general public, and to specific audiences (including professionals, vulnerable or high-risk groups, older people, etc.),</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to challenge myths • to confront offending behaviour • to increase understanding, recognition, and • to provide practical information on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and services available 	Cosc (with NSC, RAC and NGO participation)	<p>1.1 (a) Targeted Annual Information Programme 2010-2014 developed by Q2 2010 and by Q1 each year thereafter</p> <p>1.1 (b) Annual Programmes implemented by end of programme year</p>	<p>1.1 (a) Information programme 2010-2014 developed. Annual Information Programme 2011 will be developed by January 2011.</p> <p>1.1 (b) Implementation of 2010 Programme is on-going. NGOs representing Travellers and Migrants have been co-opted to the Public Awareness Sub-Committee (PASC) of the NSC. There have been a range of activities in the media: several articles on the National Strategy have been published in journals, it is expected that articles will be published in national newspapers in the near future and Radio and TV interviews have also taken place. Also presentations on the National Strategy and domestic and sexual violence have been given at seminars and conferences nationally. 53 groups have received awareness raising grant funding in 2010 and several applications focussed on the specific audiences in the 2010 plan. A Calendar of</p>

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	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
		<p>1.2 Develop guidance on practical steps to increase personal safety for those most at risk from domestic, sexual and gender-based violence</p> <p>1.3 Agree in partnership with the NGO networks and Cosc a national awareness training pack for all community groups and organisations that receive funding from the HSE</p>	<p>Cosc (with NSC, RAC and NGO participation)</p> <p>HSE</p>	<p>1.2 (a) Guidance and dissemination plan developed by Q4 2010</p> <p>1.2 (b) Implement plan from Q1 2011-2014</p> <p>1.3 Number of groups trained by LHO by Q4 2010</p>	<p>Events has been developed on the Cosc website and the "Your silence feeds the violence" poster campaign is continuing. Cosc are in contact with the Irish College of General Practitioners to further advance this activity.</p> <p>1.2 (a) Guidance principles on practical steps have been developed by PASC and will be forwarded to NSC meeting of 8/12 for approval. The guidance for public use and the dissemination plan will be developed by Q2 2011.</p> <p>1.2(b) The dissemination plan will be implemented annually and will target the General Public, Traveller and Migrant Communities in 2011. Thereafter, it will target the at risk groups identified in the annual information programme.</p> <p>1.3 Training packs for community groups will be developed in parallel with the training packs for HSE front-line staff. See 2.1 below.</p>
2	Promote and develop understanding and recognition of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence across the State sector	<p>2.1 Agree and deliver a suite of national training packs for all front-line staff in different health care settings, from agreed existing materials</p> <p>2.2 (a) Conduct an analysis of training needs for all relevant justice sector organisations including identification of areas suitable for cross-sectoral training</p> <p>2.2 (b) In the light of the training needs analysis, develop and implement training programmes</p>	<p>HSE</p> <p>Cosc (Lead) - training committee and or service-led committees involving An Garda Síochána, Probation Service, Courts Service, Legal Aid Board,</p>	<p>2.1 Number of front-line staff trained by each LHO by Q1 2011</p> <p>2.2 (a) Justice sector training needs identified by Q1 2011</p> <p>2.2. (b) Identification or development of suitable training programmes by Q2 2011</p> <p>2.2 (c) Implementation of</p>	<p>2.1 An audit of training materials available in both voluntary and statutory services has been completed. A plan has been outlined to develop three levels of training: Level 1 – Awareness raising (1hour) Level 2 – DV & SV: facilitating and handling disclosure (half day) Level 3 – Accredited stand-alone and modular training on DV & SV</p> <p>2.2 Three meetings of Justice Sector Training Committee held. Analysis of training being provided undertaken. Additional training needs under discussion.</p>

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		<p>2.3 Work with third-level institutions to include understanding and recognition of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence in curricula including social services and legal studies curricula</p> <p>2.4 Continue to promote issues relevant to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence in training on student care among school professionals</p>	<p>IYJS</p> <p>Cosc (lead) with NSC and NGO participation, HSE, OOP, Institutions concerned</p> <p>D/E&S</p>	<p>training programmes by Q4 2011</p> <p>2.2 (d) Number of justice sector staff trained each year</p> <p>2.3 (a) Develop pilots in some institutions by end Q2 2011</p> <p>2.3 (b) Implement pilots from end Q4 2011 to Q1 2012</p> <p>2.3 (c) Review pilots by end Q3 2012</p> <p>2.3 (d) Extend to other institutions from end Q4 2012</p> <p>2.4 Number of school professionals trained</p>	<p>2.3 A meeting was held with the D/ES and they recommended writing to HEA. In early November the HEA wrote to third-level Registrars and Heads of Student Services asking them to co-operate with and support Cosc's work in this area.</p> <p>Accessed and considered a curriculum and teaching methods handbook developed under the EU Da Vinci Programme</p> <p>The Teaching Council of Ireland has been consulted and given advice on appropriate third-level sector contact organisations.</p> <p>The intention is to consider a pilot based on material developed under the Da Vinci Programme</p> <p>2.4 NO INFORMATION SUPPLIED AS YET</p>
3	Embed domestic, sexual and gender-based violence content in second- and third-level educational institution action on healthy relationships	<p>3.1 Develop and implement sustainable second-level educational programmes, applying learning from Cosc research on schools programmes and from the experience of programmes provided in this area</p> <p>3.2 Develop and implement programme for young people attending Youthreach and similar education programmes</p>	<p>D/E&S(Lead) Education committee, Curriculum support services, Cosc</p> <p>As above</p>	<p>3.1 (a) Develop enhanced programme content by Q2 2011</p> <p>3.1 (b) Number of schools/teachers who have availed of training in enhanced programme each year</p> <p>3.2 (a) Develop content for delivery in Youthreach and similar programmes</p>	<p>3.1 and 3.2 Observations have been received from the Department of Education and Skills on the final draft of the report of Cosc's survey of awareness raising programmes in post-primary schools. The report is being finalised and it will be used to inform further work in relation to these activities.</p> <p>The Department of Education and Skills has commissioned the development of content and resources on domestic and sexual violence for inclusion in the RSE programmes. A working Group is being established to oversee the initiative, which will include the Department, SPHE support staff, a relevant NGO, the National Educational Psychological Service and the Institute of Guidance Counsellors, supported by relevant academic expertise. This will develop a programme initially for second level schools, and then adapt it for suitability within the Youthreach programme for early school</p>

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		<p>3.3 Work with third-level institutions and student media to increase understanding and practical information on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence</p>	<p>Cosc (Lead) with NSC and other NGO participation, Third-level institutions, Student health services</p>	<p>by Q2 2011</p> <p>3.2 (b) Number of schools/teachers who have availed of training in enhanced programme each year</p> <p>3.3 (a) Practical guidance for third-level colleges on risk of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and services available by Q4 2010</p> <p>3.3 (b) Number of colleges involved each year</p>	<p>leavers. The content will reinforce and connect the key messages of relevance in the existing SPHE and RSE programmes, provide background information on trends and risk factors in domestic and sexual violence, and information on where help is available.</p> <p>For teachers and schools, the initiative will also link with the child protection policies already in place in schools, and provide advice on supporting the educational participation of students at risk, working in collaboration with appropriate external agencies.</p> <p>NGOs are anxious that current work being delivered in schools should be taken into account in the work of the committee.</p> <p>3.3 Principles of practical guidance have been developed by the PASC (see page 3, section 1.2 (a)). USI has agreed to pilot a campaign in 4 colleges in early 2011 to increase understanding and provide practical information on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence to third level students. Following evaluation and review the campaign will be rolled out to other colleges.</p>

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High-Level Goal 2:

To deliver an effective and consistent service to those affected by domestic and sexual violence

Key Objectives

- 4 To increase confidence in service provision for those affected by DV and SV
- 5 To promote high standards in service provision
- 6 To strengthen intra- and inter-organisational co-ordination to improve service effectiveness and consistency
- 7 To improve protection and support for victims
- 8 To address offending behaviour by perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence

	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
4	Ensure information on services is available to victims in user-friendly formats	<p>4.1 Promote effective dissemination to victims of accessible and consistent information on domestic, and sexual violence by State organisations</p> <p>4.2 Continue to encourage and support effective dissemination of information on domestic and sexual violence services provided by non-State organisations</p>	<p>Cosc (Lead) and all relevant State services</p> <p>Cosc (Lead) and all relevant NGO services</p>	<p>4.1 Accessible and consistent information effectively disseminated by State organisations</p> <p>4.2 (a) Effective and strategic support provided to NGOs to deliver service information to victims</p> <p>4.2 (b) Improved service awareness levels among victims</p>	<p>4.1 PASC has carried out reviews evaluating the websites of a number of relevant state organisations in terms of accessibility and consistency. Cosc are in the process of liaising with the organisations with regard to the review findings. Further reviews will be completed and followed up.</p> <p>4.2 Cosc awarded 53 grants totalling 293,504 euro in funding to 47 groups under the 2010 scheme which provides grant funding to local and national groups to raise awareness of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and the services that are available to victims. An evaluation of the 2010 grant scheme will be carried out in Q1 2011 and improvements will be implemented in the 2011 scheme.</p>
5	Ensure reasonable opportunity is provided for disclosure of domestic and sexual violence	5.1 Agree and implement an assessment form with domestic violence questions for routine use for all staff in different health care contexts/environments with specific target groups	HSE	<p>5.1 (a) Assessment form agreed by Q1 2010</p> <p>5.1 (b) Number of staff who received assessment forms at training by LHO by Q4 2010</p>	5.1 To progress this work, agreement has been reached to develop a process of routine enquiry by all staff in the A&E context. Meeting of Working Group 20 th January 2011. Assessment form to be agreed following from outcome of meeting in January.

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		<p>5.2 Identify and promote best practice to encourage disclosure of domestic and sexual violence in relevant sectors including justice, housing, and education sectors</p>	<p>Cosc (Lead) Justice and Tripartite Committee, local authorities, D/EHLG, D/E&S</p>	<p>5.1 (c) Number of screening forms completed 5.2 (a) Proposals for non-health sector disclosure (including suitable pilot) developed by Q4 2011 5.2 (b) Pilot implemented by Q2 2012 5.2 (c) Pilots reviewed (including number of forms completed) by Q2 2013 5.2 (d) Action taken in light of review by Q4 2013</p>	
6	<p>Promote clear, high-quality standards in service delivery for victims and perpetrators of domestic, and sexual violence</p>	<p>6.1 Publish a new edition of the <i>Victims Charter and Guide to the Criminal Justice System</i>, outlining the commitments to victims generally, and victims of sexual, domestic and gender based violence in particular, made by the eight State criminal justice agencies.</p> <p>6.2 Identify best practice models for service delivery for victims and perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence</p>	<p>Victims of Crime Office (Lead), Cosc and all relevant bodies</p> <p>Cosc (Lead) and all relevant bodies</p>	<p>6.1 <i>Victims Charter</i> published by Q1 2010</p> <p>6.2 Information on best practice models identified and circulated to service providers by Q3 2010 and regularly</p>	<p>6.1 The <i>Victims Charter and Guide to the Criminal Justice System</i> was published by the Minister for Justice and Law Reform in July 2010. It contains definitive commitments to the victim of crime on behalf of one voluntary sector organisation (the Crime Victims Helpline) and eight criminal justice agencies (An Garda Síochána, the Courts Service, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), The Probation Service, The Prison Service, the Legal Aid Board, the Coroner Service and the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal).</p> <p>It also clearly sums up the law in relation to victims and provides an extensive list of useful contact details including website addresses. By week ending 12 November 2010 copies of the Charter in six other languages will be available on the web.</p> <p>6.2 & 6.3 Best Practice Models Following completion of an initial project framework paper, there has been a change of direction in relation to how to proceed with the project. Essentially information is needed on the means of identifying best practice in the first place. A literature review to help inform that process is currently under way.</p>

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	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
		<p>6.3 Encourage improvements to service delivery based on consideration of suitable best practice models</p> <p>6.4 Identify and promote suitable state service responses in relation to domestic and sexual violence for vulnerable or high risk groups (including Travellers, people with a disability, older people, migrants, and young people)</p> <p>6.5 Work in partnership with the national NGO networks to develop standardisation within specialist domestic violence services</p> <p>6.6 Implement the recommendations on standardisation of sexual assault services as set out in the National Review of SATUs</p> <p>6.7 Ensure that the <i>Children First: National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children</i> are being adhered to by all specialist domestic violence services</p>	<p>Cosc (Lead)</p> <p>Cosc (Lead) OOP</p> <p>HSE (Lead)</p> <p>HSE (Lead)</p> <p>HSE</p>	<p>thereafter</p> <p>6.3 At least 2 best practice models considered annually</p> <p>6.4 Development of intervention responses for the most vulnerable groups by Q4 2011</p> <p>6.5 Number of standards in place in all HSE-funded services by Q4 2010</p> <p>6.6 SATU review report implemented by Q4 2010(funding dependencies)</p> <p>6.7 Child protection policies in place in all HSE-funded services, based on requirements of <i>Children First</i>:</p>	<p>6.4 A draft of the report on mapping of domestic and sexual violence services in Ireland has been circulated for observations to relevant stakeholders. First there was a round of consultations with the suppliers of data sets – the Rape Crisis Network Ireland and Safe Ireland - following which amendments were made to the draft report. The draft report was then circulated for observations to the HSE and the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Observations received from the HSE are under consideration and observations have yet to be received from the DEHLG. The next step will be to circulate the draft report to the National Steering Committee and to the three organisations which deal with the domestic violence perpetrator programmes.</p> <p>6.5 Agreement has been reached to produce a draft “standards document” in January 2011. Preliminary discussions on content has taken place with HIQA, Dublin Homeless Agency and the HSE Oversight Implementation Group.</p> <p>6.6 Most of the recommendations are now fully implemented. All six SATUs are operational. All units now moving towards provision of STI prophylaxis at time of initial attendance at unit and on-site STI screening at review visit. All units developing pathways for patients who do not wish report an incident to An Garda Síochána but require a health check and supportive care. The second edition of the Interagency Guidelines for the investigation and taking of forensic samples have recently been published and a 2nd cohort of Clinical Nurse Specialists (SAFE) have commenced training in RCSI with linked clinical placements.</p> <p>6.7 An audit has been carried out by the specialist networks (SAFE Ireland and RCNI) of all HSE funded DV/SV services to examine how many of their members have child protection policies in place in line with Children First requirements. This information will be examined by the HSE Standards Working Group.</p>

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	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
		<p>6.8 Develop and disseminate guidelines on working with children in domestic violence situations</p> <p>6.9 Ensure the assessment form for children at risk will contain key questions about domestic violence</p> <p>6.10 Ensure the assessment form for children at risk regarding domestic violence contains questions regarding children's welfare</p>	<p>HSE</p> <p>HSE</p> <p>HSE</p>	<p><i>National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Duty to Care - Q3 2010</i></p> <p>6.8 Best practice guidelines outlined, disseminated and covered in service level agreements - Q4 2010</p> <p>6.9 Number of children identified at risk re DV are followed up</p> <p>6.10 As above</p>	<p>6.8 & 6.9 & 6.10 A Child Care Manager has recently been drafted as Development Officer from the North West. Colin Harrison has been asked to address above in conjunction with Kevin Webster, a Social Work Team Leader in Dublin Mid Leinster, who has produced a guide for Social Workers, <i>Practice Document on Domestic Violence: a guide to working with children and families</i>. The work by Barnardos Northern Ireland on risk assessment for children will also be considered as part of this work.</p>
7	Promote inter-agency co-ordination through multi-agency projects	<p>7.1 Promote and further develop practices and protocols on inter-agency referrals and co-operation based on best practice</p>	<p>Cosc (Lead) Justice and Tripartite Committees, HSE, Garda Síochána, Courts Service, Probation Service</p>	<p>7.1 (a) Assess extent to which specific referral protocols required by end Q4 2010</p> <p>7.1 (b) Agree protocols in 3 key areas by end Q4 2011</p> <p>7.1 (c) Agree further protocols required by end Q4 2012</p> <p>7.1 (d) Implement by end 2014</p>	<p>7.1 The RACs and NGO networks have been asked to identify inter-agency referral occurrences and opportunities where protocols might be required.</p>

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		7.2 Provide guidance on data protection implications of information sharing across services	ODPC and Cosc DJELR	7.2 (a) Guidance developed and disseminated by Q4 2010 7.2 (b) Provide for any necessary legislative change	7.2 The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner has indicated its availability to provide input to any initiative or guidance brought forward in this area and will highlight best practice where that is relevant. ODPC have referred Cosc to a guidance document recently developed by IYJS which might usefully be adapted or developed. IYJS have provided Cosc with a copy of the document. Meeting arranged with ODPC for early January.
8	Improve collaboration and information sharing in relation to service provision	8.1 Promote opportunities for networking, sharing information and best practice across State agencies 8.2 Regular liaison between Cosc and the HSE Assistant National Director for Children and Families Social Services and the HSE Assistant National Director for Older Person's Services regarding progress on all HSE-related action on domestic and sexual violence 8.3 Support Regional Advisory Committees to improve collaboration and the implementation of national policies on domestic and sexual violence 8.4 Explore areas of work to identify those suitable for cross-border co-operation to address domestic and sexual violence	Cosc (Lead) Cosc and HSE HSE Cosc (Lead) with advice from NSC, RAC and	8.1 (a) Effective meetings of NSC and related committees (ongoing) 8.1 (b) Conduct annual reviews of collaboration activity at regional/national level. 8.2 Progress made on HSE-related domestic and sexual violence actions 8.3 Effective meetings of RAC and related committees (ongoing) 8.4 (a) Areas of work to identified by Q3 2010	8.1 (a) All scheduled meetings of the NSC and its sub-committees have taken place and agreed actions have been followed up. 8.1(b) RACs requested to review collaboration activities in their specific regions. 8.2 Regular liaison between Cosc and Office of the Assistant National Director, Children & Families Social Services and with HSE Elder Abuse Steering Group. 8.3 Development Officers have provided extensive support to RACs. HSE has played a significant part in interagency work. Review of operation of RACs conducted by HSE and key learning points presented to NSC on 22 nd September 2010 and disseminated to RACs. 8.4 Meeting held between Cosc and N.I. counterparts in Depts of Justice and Health, Social Services and Public Safety. Some areas for mutual development and cooperation identified and further meeting to be held in January 2011. Also awaiting input from RACs on cross-

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			NGOs; D/FA, HSE, Garda, Courts Service, Probation Service	8.4.(b) Consider setting up projects to take forward suitable areas of work by Q1 2011	border issues.
9	Ensure reasonable accessibility to counselling services for victims of domestic and sexual violence	<p>9.1 Review the availability of counselling services as part of its work on standardisation and improved data collection within HSE-funded services for victims of domestic and sexual violence</p> <p>9.2 Develop proposals for improvement</p>	HSE (Lead) with HSE-funded services for victims of domestic and sexual violence	<p>9.1 Review completed by Q1 2011</p> <p>9.2 Proposals for improvement developed and implemented by services and the HSE by Q2 2011</p>	<p>9.1 This work has not yet been advanced.</p> <p>The Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime made a grant of €10,000 to the Women's Therapy Centre for 2010. This centre is a privately operated centre which primarily deals with referrals from women's support services.</p>
10	Ensure effectiveness and consistency in housing responses	10.1 Develop policy guidance for local authorities on their housing remit in relation to domestic violence, setting out a clear understanding of domestic violence and the importance of housing as a homelessness preventative and responsive action. The guidance would also cover the range of accommodation options to be considered and implemented by local authorities covering preventative, emergency and long-term accommodation solutions with related housing supports, as necessary, to help persons maintain their new housing tenancies.	D/EHLG (Lead) through Cross-Departmental Team on Homelessness, in consultation with the National Homeless Consultative Committee, as appropriate; Cosc, Local authorities, HSE	<p>10.1 (a) Policy guidance to be developed through the Cross-Departmental Team on Homelessness with Cosc, in consultation with the National Homeless Consultative Committee, as appropriate. This guidance will be supported by research on relevant aspects, experience, and best practice internationally.</p> <p>10.1 (b) Policy Guidance developed by Q4 2010, to address matters</p>	10.1 (a) and (b) A small working group has been established by the Dept of Environment, Heritage and Local Government with representatives from D/EHLG, Cosc, HSE and the Local Authority Managers Association. First meeting to be arranged for early in 2011.

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		<p>10.2 In the context of minimising the extent of victim homelessness arising from domestic violence, evaluate approaches and experiences of initiatives such as safe rooms, security support, etc., and consider role in Irish context</p>	As above	<p>relating to: 1. Assessment of housing need and consistent application of 'homelessness' 2. Housing allocation policies 3. Nature and extent of provision of emergency accommodation</p> <p>10.2 Evaluation completed by Q4 2011 with consequential programme of action developed</p>	
11	Examine a one-stop-shop option for greater accessibility to services for victims of domestic and sexual violence	<p>11.1 Develop proposals for multi-agency one-stop shop for victims of domestic and sexual violence</p> <p>11.2 Implement pilot of one-stop shop</p> <p>11.3 Review pilot and implement outcome of review</p>	Cosc (Lead), HSE, Garda Síochána, FSA, D/CRGA	<p>11.1 Proposals developed by Q4 2010</p> <p>11.2 Pilot implemented by Q3 2011</p> <p>11.3 (a) Pilot reviewed by Q3 2012</p> <p>11.3 (b) Proposals revised and implemented by Q3 2013</p>	11.1 A committee representing support services and state agencies has been established by Cosc. The discussion paper developed in Q1 has been updated. Attempts to identify a successful OSS in N.I. and UK has been problematic due to UK change of government leading to policy reviews and staff changes HSE, Cosc is continuing efforts to identify a OSS site for a investigative visit by representatives of committee.
12	Minimise attrition in domestic and sexual violence cases, where appropriate	<p>12.1 Develop a greater understanding of the extent and nature of attrition in domestic and sexual violence cases</p> <p>12.2 Develop proposals to minimise attrition in domestic and sexual violence cases, where appropriate, including an examination</p>	<p>Cosc (Lead) Justice Committee, Garda Síochána, Courts Service, DJELR</p> <p>As above</p>	<p>12.1 Justice Committee to consider attrition research and to make proposals to Cosc by Q4 2010</p> <p>12.2 Proposals considered and implemented on a</p>	12.1 Justice Committee has met three times to consider research on the issue of attrition. Discussion papers have been developed and discussed. Attrition at initial reporting stage, investigation stage and court process stage has been considered and proposals will be finalised in the coming weeks. Next meeting Jan 14 2011.

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		of the feasibility of pre-trial hearings in sexual violence cases		phased basis if necessary	
13	Use vetting arrangements to provide greater protection for victims of domestic and sexual violence	<p>13.1 Improve legislative provisions on vetting</p> <p>13.2 Strengthen vetting arrangements for those who may come into contact with potential victims of domestic and sexual violence</p>	D/H&C, OMCYA, DJELR	<p>13.1 Vetting legislation improved and brought into operation by Q4 2011</p> <p>13.2 Legislation effectively enforced (ongoing)</p>	
14	Strengthen measures to manage the risks posed by sexual and domestic violence perpetrators	<p>14.1 Provide for pre-sentence risk assessments for the courts in relation to convicted sexual violence perpetrators</p> <p>14.2 Further develop current risk management arrangements for convicted sexual violence perpetrators</p> <p>14.3 Explore the feasibility of multi-agency risk management arrangements for unconvicted sexual violence perpetrators</p> <p>14.4 Develop and implement risk management arrangements for high-risk domestic violence perpetrators</p>	<p>DJELR Management of Sex Offenders Group, Prison Service, Garda Síochána</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Cosc (to facilitate)</p> <p>Cosc (to facilitate) Justice Committee</p>	<p>14.1 Policy formulated in light of finalised Report of Management of Sex Offenders Group by Q4 2010</p> <p>14.2 Implementation (including bringing into operation of legislation) by Q4 2011</p> <p>14.3 Feasibility of multi-agency approach explored by Q2 2013</p> <p>14.4 Domestic violence perpetrator risk management model developed and implemented by Q4 2013</p>	14.1 Cosc is continuing to monitor progress of, and contribute to, the work of the working group on the integrated management of high risk offenders.
15	Strengthen measures to deal with sexual violence perpetrators	<p>15.1 Monitor and review implementation of new prison treatment programme for convicted sexual violence perpetrators</p> <p>15.2 Integrate custodial and community intervention programmes for convicted sexual violence perpetrators</p>	<p>DJELR, Prison Service</p> <p>DJELR, HSE, Probation</p>	<p>15.1 Sexual Violence programmes reviewed by end 2013</p> <p>15.2 Review operation of community</p>	15.1 Cosc is continuing to monitor progress on the implementation of the new prison treatment programme for convicted sexual violence perpetrators through the working group on the integrated management of high risk offenders.

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	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
		<p>15.3 Develop best practice actions for dealing with sexual violence perpetrators in the community and outside the criminal justice system</p>	<p>Service, Garda Síochána, Prison Service</p> <p>Cosc (to facilitate), Garda Síochána, HSE</p>	<p>programme provision by end 2012. Implement review outcome by end 2013</p> <p>15.3 Identify best practice suitable for implementation by end 2013</p>	
16	Strengthen measures to deal with domestic violence perpetrators	<p>16.1 Strengthen Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes to ensure their greater effectiveness</p>	<p>Cosc (Lead) with Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme Committee</p>	<p>16.1 (a) Plan (including mechanisms for co-ordination with victim support services and capture of victim feedback) developed by Q3 2010</p> <p>16.1 (b) Plan implemented from Q2 2011</p> <p>16.1 (c) Increased co-operation and co-ordination with victim support services</p>	<p>16.1 Further meetings of the Perpetrator Programmes Committee took place on 1 September and 1 December. The committee advises Cosc on the development and implementation of policy and practice in relation to domestic violence perpetrator intervention programmes.</p> <p>A particular focus of Cosc is reviewing data collection practices by a selection of domestic violence perpetrator programmes. This will facilitate the examination of the efficiency and, to a limited extent, the effectiveness of these programmes. A programme reporting template has been designed by Cosc and has been issued to Perpetrator Programmes for completion.</p> <p>A draft Perpetrator Programmes Plan has been prepared and circulated to Perpetrator Programmes for observations. It is expected that the text of the plan will be finalised by the end of Q4 2010.</p> <p>A current focus is linking by the Perpetrator Programmes with victim support services.</p> <p>As regards the Perpetrator Programmes Outcome Study, due to one of Cosc's research officers resigning to take up other employment, this project has been placed on hold pending the availability of further resources.</p>
17	Update the law on sexual offences	<p>17.1 Review and improve legislative provisions on sexual offences</p>	<p>DJELR with Cosc</p>	<p>17.1 (a) Sexual offences legislation brought into operation by Q4 2011.</p> <p>17.1 (b) New legislation effectively</p>	<p>17.1 Legislation currently under development by DJLR</p>

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	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
18	Update the law on domestic violence to give further protection to victims	18.1 Improve legislative provisions protecting victims of domestic violence	DJELR with Cosc	<p>enforced (ongoing)</p> <p>18.1 (a) New domestic violence provisions brought into operation by Q4 2010</p> <p>18.1 (b) New legislation effectively enforced (ongoing)</p>	<p>18.1 <u>General amendments to the Domestic Violence Act 1996</u> The Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill published on 30/8 provides for amendments to the Domestic Violence Act 1996. An amendment to the Act will allow a person to apply for a safety order against a person with whom he or she had a child in common even if the couple concerned never lived together. Technical amendments will also ensure that opposite-sex and same-sex cohabiting couples have equal access to safety orders or barring orders. Residency requirements for an applicant fro a Safety Order to be removed. Second stage of the Bill commenced on 4/11 and is to resume on a date to be decided.</p> <p><u>Amendment of s.10 of the Domestic Violence Act 1996 to provide for a presumption of service by post for orders made under the Act</u> A proposal has been made by Cosc to the Civil Law Reform Division of the Dept. with a view to the change being made as a Committee Stage amendment to the Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill.</p> <p><u>Amendments to s.17 of the Domestic Violence Act 1996 to provide for the anonymity of parties to proceedings for breaches of orders made under the Act</u> Proposed amendments by Cosc are included in a Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill which is with the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel in The Attorney General's Office .</p>

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High-Level Goal 3:

To ensure greater effectiveness of policy and service planning

Key Objectives

- 9 To improve the effectiveness of policy planning through improved data capture and data co-ordination
- 10 To ensure that policy development and service provision planning are evidence-based and take account of the experience of victims
- 11 To ensure greater co-ordination between relevant organisations
- 12 To provide a solid foundation for future actions on domestic and sexual violence

	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
19	Improve data on domestic and sexual violence	19.1 Work with all relevant organisations to develop and improve domestic and sexual violence data (including data collected for administrative and research/policy purposes)	Cosc (Lead) data committee, HSE, Garda Síochána, Probation Service, Courts Service, CSO, OOP	19.1 (a) Data plan developed by Q4 2010 19.1 (b) Data plan implemented by Q2 2011	19.1 Work on finalising the report on the data project is complete. Extracts from the data project report were circulated to the Cosc-led Data Committee with a view to informing the committee's work. The inaugural meeting of the Data Committee took place on 25 th November, 2010. Committee members include representatives from the HSE, An Garda Síochána, the Courts Service and the Central Statistics Office. A priority of the committee is the development of a data plan. A further meeting of the committee is scheduled to take place on 3 rd February.
20	Ensure improved impact evaluation	20.1 Develop an evaluation framework for assessing cross-organisational strategic impact to ensure maximum system effectiveness 20.2 Encourage consultation with representative groups in the development of policy and services	Cosc (Lead), HSE, Garda Síochána, Probation Service, Courts Service, OOP and Independent external organisation Cosc (Lead) with NSC and NGO participation	20.1 Effective arrangements to monitor and review organisational response in place in all key State organisations by Q4 2012 20.2 Consultation held with representative groups on development of policy and services – ongoing	20.1 In October, 2010 a Project Background Paper was prepared. The purpose of the paper was to outline some general ideas in relation to the implementation of Action 20. The next step is to test, on a trial basis, the thinking in the paper on a manageable area of activity under the National Strategy in order to see what lessons can be learned from the test. 20.2 Regular meetings of NSC held and bilateral meetings held with NGO groups representing immigrants, women working in prostitution, support services for women etc. Presentations made to all RACs and to other stakeholders by Cosc Exec Director and discussions held with RAC Chairs and members.

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	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
21	Promote the design of planned research to ground policy development and service planning	21.1 Encourage the development of a co-ordinated research programme	Cosc (Lead), HSE, OOP	<p>21.1 (a) Co-ordinated research programme planned and implemented each year</p> <p>21.1 (b) Research disseminated and policy implications followed up – ongoing basis</p>	<p>21.1 The research programme for 2010 was reconsidered in the light of developments and revised.</p> <p>A first draft of the research programme for 2011 was prepared and is being considered. When finalised the programme will be disseminated and this will include publication on the Cosc web-site.</p> <p>As regards co-ordination of the programme for 2011, a request for information from stakeholders on their current plans for research work is on the RAC agenda for 2011 and will also be included in the next edition of the Cosc e-zine.</p>

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High-Level Goal 4: To ensure efficient and effective implementation of the National Strategy

Key Objectives

- 13 To ensure that all actions within this strategy are monitored and progressed in a timely and comprehensive manner
- 14 To ensure that due account is taken from the lessons learned of the implementation from this strategy

	Action	Activities	Lead body and Implementation structure	Progress indicator	Progress to Date
22	Monitor progress in the implementation of this strategy	<p>22.1 Collate bi-annual reports on strategy progress</p> <p>22.2 Liaise on draft progress reports</p> <p>22.3 Submit progress report, including material derived from liaison process, to Oversight Committee</p>	Cosc (Lead) to collaborate with Govt Depts, State agencies and NSC and report to Oversight Committee	<p>22.1 Bi-annual reports collated on time</p> <p>22.2 Liaison takes place bi-annually on draft progress reports</p> <p>22.3 (a) Reports, including material derived from liaison process, submitted to Oversight Committee on time</p> <p>22.3 (b) Strategy Progress report submitted to Government on time</p>	<p>22.1 Reports for Strategy Oversight Committee (SOC) collated and disseminated in June and December 2010.</p> <p>22.2 Draft reports issued to NSC in June and December 2010 prior to Strategy Oversight Committee meetings. Also issued to RACs for comments prior to June meeting of SOC. Scheduling of reporting did not permit collective RAC comments to be sought prior to submission of December report to SOC. However, individual RAC member's comments were considered where received. Consideration to be given to scheduling of future SOC meetings to allow for better consultation on reports.</p> <p>22.3 Reports submitted to Strategy Oversight Committee on 9 June 2010 and 9 December 2010. Report to be submitted to Secretary General's Group and to the Government in early 2011.</p>

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23	Ensure effectiveness of strategy implementation	23.1 Review effectiveness of strategy to prepare for future work	Cosc (Lead)	<p>23.1 (a) Conduct comprehensive first review of progress by end Q2 2012 and second review by end Q2 2014</p> <p>23.1 (b) Prepare review reports for Oversight Committee by end Q3 2012 and by end Q3 2014</p>	
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