

# DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROGRAMME

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**Presentation by Ms Lauren Agius**  
Coordinator, Managing Abusive Behaviour.  
**Foundation For Social Welfare Services**  
**for the 20th WAVE Conference**

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**The Importance of Women's Specialist Services**  
**Tackling Violence Against Women**  
**22nd -24th October 2018**



# **DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROGRAMME**

- **From Abuse to Respect through Awareness and Responsibility**
- **Collaboration between women's specialist services and working with perpetrators' programmes**





# A brief history

- **Origin of the Perpetrators' Service**
- **The first Group Programme**
- **Referrals to the group programme**
- **Development of the Service**
- **Focus on the Safety of Women and Children**



# Challenges and way forward

- The original programme was too brief to bring about change and to leave a lasting effect
- A new programme was produced and put into effect for the first time in 2017.
- The current programme consists of 28 sessions, each session lasting 3 hours. The closed group is typically made up of 8-12 members.



DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE  
SEE IT. STOP IT.



# A collaborative approach

- **Feedback and constant contact with women's services.**
- **Most perpetrators were evasive, manipulative, blamed the victim, took little if any responsibility for their abuse and presented as victims.**

A close-up photograph of a woman's eye, showing a greenish-yellow iris and a focused expression. The eye is the central focus of the right side of the slide.

**One Minute**



# **A collaborative approach (cont..)**

- **At intake, the perpetrator is informed of the limits of confidentiality.**
- **If the victim is not known to the victim service, contact is made.**

A close-up photograph of a person's eye, looking slightly to the right. The eye is light-colored with a dark pupil. A yellow rectangular box is overlaid on the lower right portion of the image, containing the text "The Next".

**The Next**





# A collaborative approach (cont..)

- Feedback is obtained regularly and consistently through the domestic violence unit.
- Feedback can be used for confrontation purposes only with the victim's consent and when it is considered safe to do so.
- Any threat to the victim's safety is immediately communicated to the victim's social worker.



# Continued collaboration throughout

- At the end of the group programme, a final evaluation report with recommendations is made by the group facilitators.
- Subsequent plan for a way forward





# Continued collaboration throughout

- Meeting between the couple and their respective social workers.
- Recommendations
- From intake to termination of service, the Domestic Abuse Intervention Programme works with the Domestic Violence Unit with the primary focus on safety for women and children.



# THANK YOU



Foundation for Social Welfare Services



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