



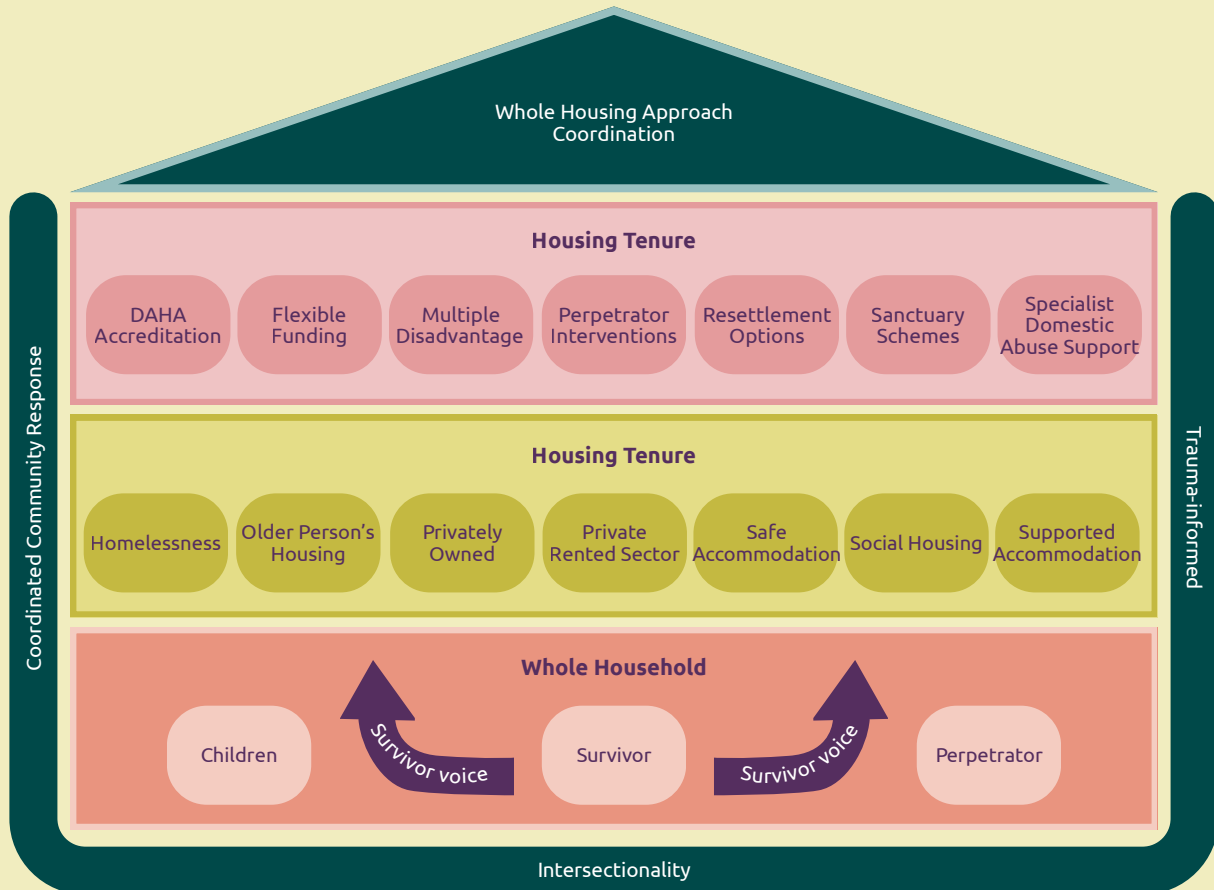
WHOLE HOUSING APPROACH

PILOT EVALUATION: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2022-2024

WHAT IS THE WHOLE HOUSING APPROACH?

The Whole Housing Approach (WHA) is an evidence-based framework for addressing the housing and safety needs of survivors of domestic abuse in a local authority area.

In 2022, Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse (STADA) partnered with Cheshire East Council to pilot all the WHA components in a single local authority for the first time.



MISSION

- Improve access to safe and stable housing for survivors
- Ensure access to a range of housing options and initiatives tailored for domestic abuse

AIMS

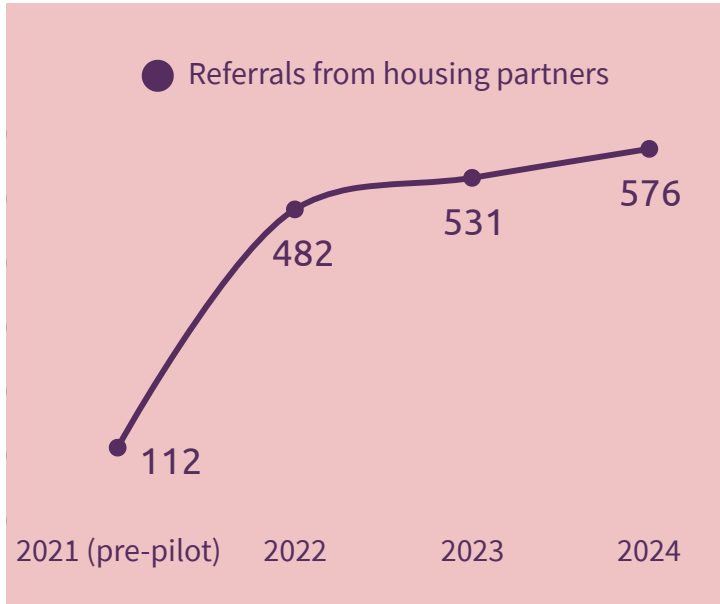
- Create earlier identification and intervention for domestic abuse through mobilising stakeholders across all tenure types
- Reduce the number of survivors made homeless
- Increase tenancy sustainment options
- Bring together the housing and domestic abuse sectors (coordinated community response)

The University of Lancashire conducted an independent evaluation of the pilot. Their full report and executive summary of findings and recommendations will be available via the STADA website. This summary of key achievements has been prepared by STADA based on those findings.

WHAT DID THE WHA PILOT ACHIEVE?



MORE DOMESTIC ABUSE IDENTIFIED BY HOUSING PARTNERS



There was a year on year increase in referrals to the Domestic Abuse Hub from local authority housing teams, housing associations, sheltered housing, and supported accommodation

1,589

referrals in total



MORE SURVIVORS SUPPORTED TO REMAIN IN THEIR OWN HOMES



506

Homes secured through sanctuary scheme and target hardening

This is an average

increase of

128%



in installations from the year before the pilot began



SURVIVORS MORE LIKELY TO HAVE HOMELESSNESS PREVENTED

By the end of the pilot:



98%*

of survivors at risk of homelessness and owed support by the local authority were prevented from becoming homeless

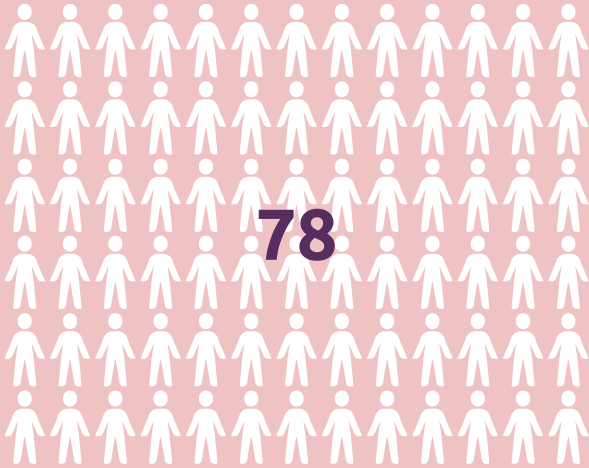
Compared to 63% in the year before the pilot began

* Of homeless applicants at risk of homelessness because of domestic abuse and accepted by the local authority under the Prevention Duty

WHAT DID THE WHA PILOT ACHIEVE?



MORE PERPETRATORS HELD TO ACCOUNT



Perpetrators removed from survivors' homes through the local authority homelessness pathway

464

Professionals trained in how to identify and respond to domestic abuse



“ It’s been a really positive thing...it feels like we’re all having the same conversations and on the same page ”

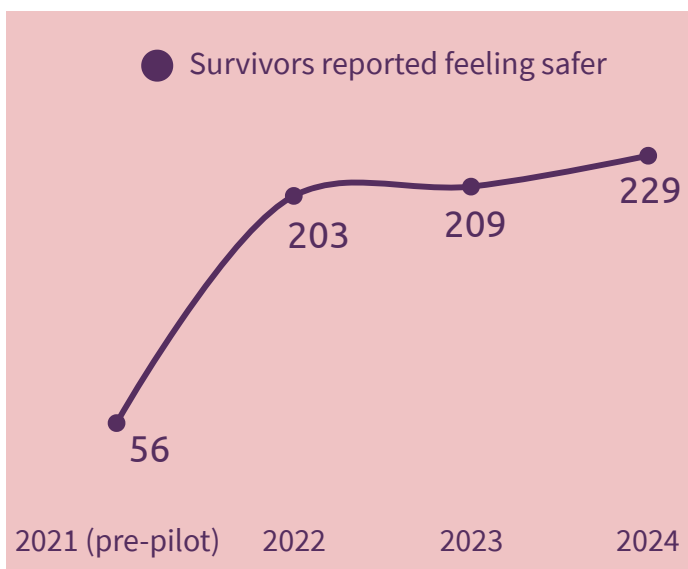
- Housing Team

“ It doesn’t matter who answers the phone, that survivor is going to be dealt with appropriately from that first telephone call ”

- Housing Team



MORE SURVIVORS FEELING SAFE



There was a year on year increase in survivors who reported feeling safer after receiving local authority specialist domestic abuse support

641

Survivors in total

COST BENEFIT

A thorough cost-benefit analysis found that the WHA is a highly cost-effective intervention and offers exceptional social value.

For every £1 invested in the model

£10.20

in public sector savings is generated*



£1.20

is saved in directly attributable local authority housing costs for every £1 spent

Public sector savings can be seen across:



Housing



Criminal justice



Health



Education

WHAT DID SURVIVORS IN CHESHIRE EAST TELL US?

“

They were so understanding...nothing like any other Council I've ever been around

”

“

Without that [flexible funding grant] I wouldn't have been able to move...they helped me out massively

”

“

I'm no longer scared inside my house...I just can't wait to start this new life

”

“

They've given me a new life...I feel strong now

”

* Some of these fiscal benefits are efficiency gains, and only some will translate into cashable savings.

ANNA'S STORY

Green path: The WHA interventions we delivered and associated costs

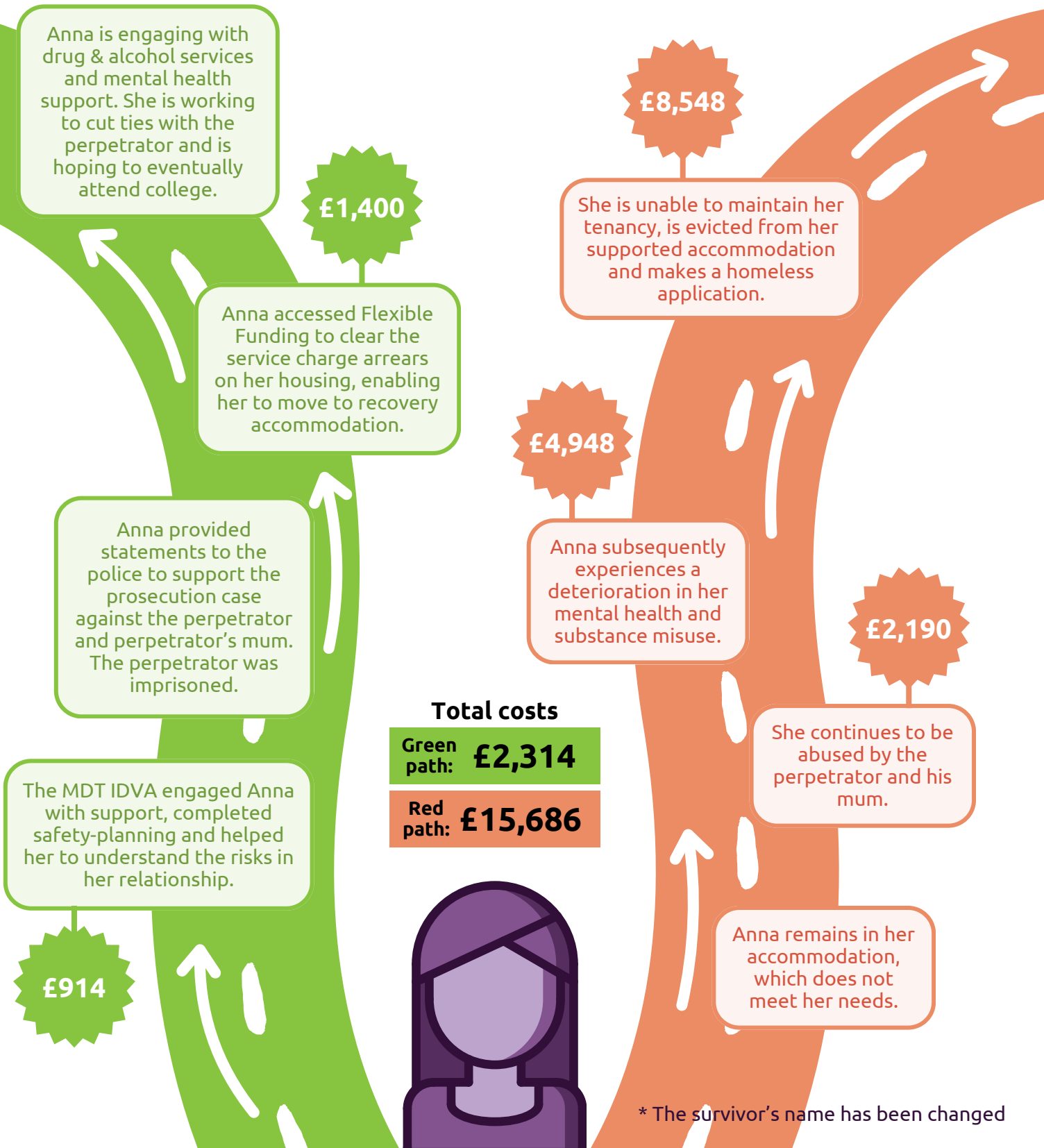
Red path: The likely outcomes and costs prevented or delayed

(costs calculated using the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Unit Cost Database)

Anna* was living in supported accommodation and was experiencing domestic abuse from her partner. She experienced childhood trauma, which led to mental health problems and substance misuse. The perpetrator's mum was also presenting a risk to Anna.

Service charge arrears had accrued on Anna's accommodation, preventing her from moving to housing that would better meet her needs. Anna was receiving IDVA support, but her IDVA was struggling to engage her.

At this point, Anna was referred to the Multi-Disciplinary Team IDVA under the WHA.



Whole Housing Approach

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Standing Together is a registered charity in England and Wales (1088844) and is a company by limited guarantee in England and Wales (4283131)