

## 7. Key messages:

- The safeguarding of both children and adults must be considered;**
- Using domestic abuse language 'victim' and 'perpetrator' is not helpful;
- Police and parents do not want to criminalise these young people;
- If there is current adult-to-adult domestic abuse in the household, this must be addressed before work on CPVA can start;
- Workers trained in Respect and 'Non Violent Resistance' can offer advice to universal services supporting parents and children experiencing CPVA.
- [CPVA Briefing and Toolkit](#) training is available for the children's workforce.
- [Virtual Workshop](#) is available for Adult Services

## 1. What is CPVA?

- There is currently no legal definition, but Northumbria Police define it as "any harmful act or behaviour by a child aged 10-18 yrs, whether physical, psychological, emotional or financial, towards a parent/guardian or carer".
- CPVA may present as a single violent incident but is more likely to be a pattern of behaviour including damage to person or property, threats, stealing from the parent, humiliation or verbal abuse.
- As with adult-to-adult domestic abuse, CPVA includes controlling or coercive behaviour. CPVA is more than being a 'stropky teenager'.

CPVA is a safeguarding concern for adults and children..

## 2. In Northumberland..

- CPVA is particularly relevant in Northumberland because of our Domestic Homicide Review, '[Sarah](#)'.
- This focused on the death of a mother who was stabbed by her 16 year old son who had significant learning and mental health difficulties.
- Regional CPVA practice guidance is available [here](#).**

## 6. Targeted Work

- Children's Social Care has staff trained in 2 different specialist evidence-based interventions:
  - 1. RESPECT** programme which involves work with parent and child separately and together
  - 2. Non-violent resistance (NVR)** which is focused work with the parent only
- Safeguarding adults:** Safeguarding adults' duties apply when an adult with needs for care and support is at risk of abuse and neglect (including domestic abuse/CPVA)
- In accordance with the pathway, Adults and Children's Social Care will work together to develop safety plans.**

## 5. Identifying and Referral

- Northumbria Police identify CPVA via Child Concern Notifications (and Adult Concern Notifications, where appropriate) when they are called to domestic abuse incidents.
- Adults and Children's Social Care use the [CPVA Pathway](#) to consider the safety of the child and the adult
- The CPVA Gatekeeper in MASH will identify next steps based on a CPVA screening tool and risk indicator checklist
- Referrals should be made via One Call (01670 534600)

## 4. Some Possible Signs and Indicators

- Physical violence
- Damage to property
- Abusive to siblings
- Humiliation/belittling
- Theft from parent/family
- Threats to use weapons
- Obsessive use of violent games
- Disengagement from education/emotionally based school avoidance (EBSA)
- Parent fearful of child
- Substance Misuse
- Self harm/suicidal tendencies

## 3. Family Context

- CPVA has no single explanation and can occur in any family. However there are some **vulnerability factors:**
- History of domestic violence and abuse
  - Polarisation of parenting styles
  - Attachment difficulties
  - Bereavement
  - Mental health difficulties including conduct disorders or neuro-developmental disorders
  - Learning difficulties

