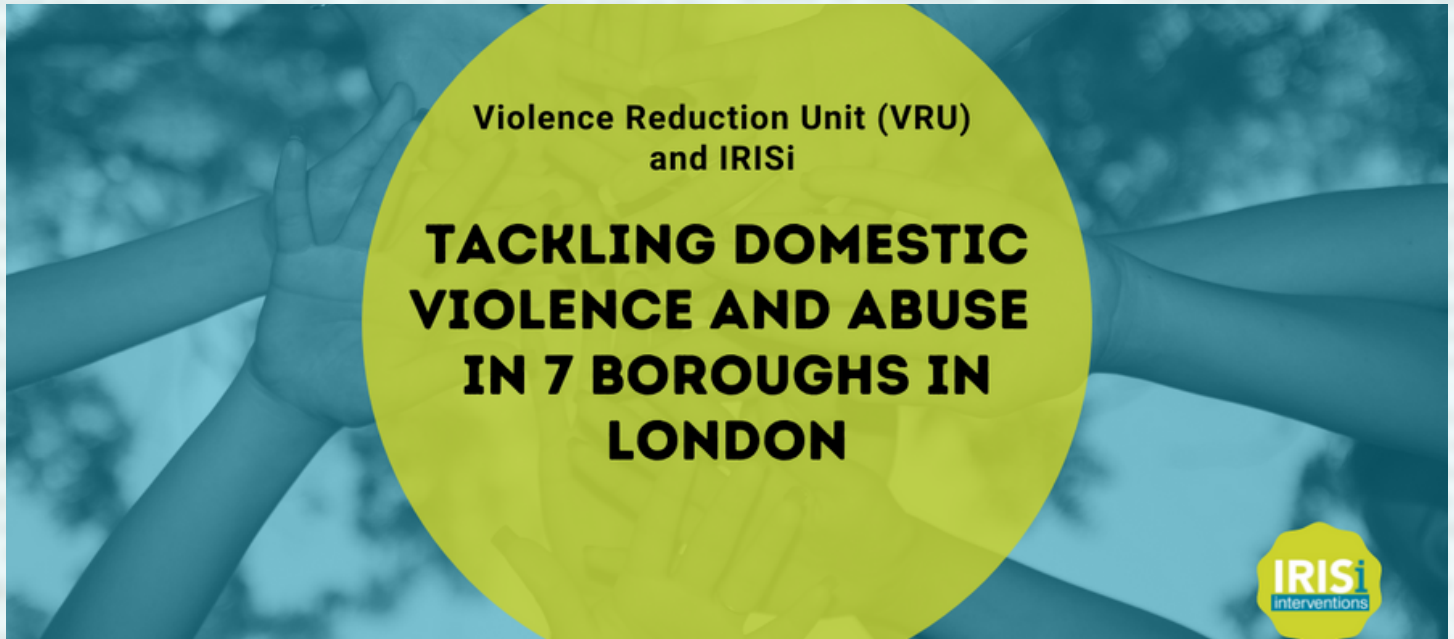


IRISi NEWS

IRISi
interventions

Fev-Mar 2022
Vol.10



IRIS in 7 boroughs programme comes to an end with many reasons to celebrate!

Thanks to funding from the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), the IRIS Programme was delivered in 7 boroughs in London from January 2020 to March 2022. The initiative was one of many supported by the Mayor's Office for Police and Crime in London (MOPAC).

Set up in 2019, the VRU was originally established to take a different approach towards tackling violence, including DVA. Using IRISi's expertise and know-how in this field, the VRU commissioned the organisation to deliver a 12-month programme divided into 2 phases: the first designed areas to receive the IRIS programme were **Tower Hamlets, Croydon, and Barking and Dagenham**; then, the initiative also reached **Brent, Ealing, Westminster, and Hammersmith and Fulham** in its second and final phase.

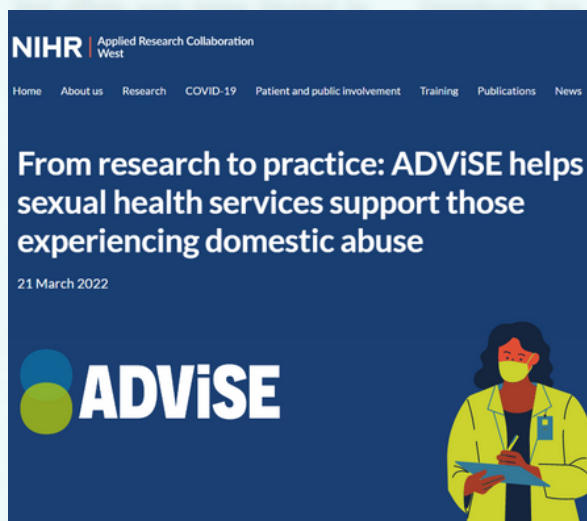
As always, the IRIS programme was delivered in partnership with local, specialist DVA organisations. The first three sites were launched just before the first lockdown, which brought up several challenges, especially because the programme had to be immediately adapted from face to face to online training, advocacy and support. Phase 2 sites were launched in October 2020.

The operational delivery of IRIS in 7B programme ended last 31st March 2022, and to celebrate our achievements, we asked the IRIS Advocate Educators and the Clinical Leads from phase 1 and phase 2 sites to share their experiences with the IRIS Programme up until now. These are their words!

[>> PHASE 1 SITES \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

[>> PHASE 2 SITES \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

From research to practice: ADViSE helps sexual health services support those experiencing domestic abuse



ADViSE (Assessing for Domestic Violence and Abuse in Sexual Health Environments) is an evidence-based training and referral programme developed by IRISi with the help from National Institute for Health Research Applied Research Collaboration (NIHR ARC West). ARC West researchers evaluated the ADViSE pilot in Bristol and East London. They found the intervention acceptable and it was welcomed by both patients and staff. The researchers also used the findings to refine ADViSE, in collaboration with domestic violence and abuse survivors, commissioners, sexual health staff and the IRISi team. They recently published a news story about this initiative! [READ MORE>>](#)

25,523 survivors heard: IRISi National Report, a review of IRIS Programmes in England, Wales, the Channel Islands and Northern Ireland to March 2021

We are happy to announce the launch of our newest National Report that comprises data up to March 2021!

Here are some of the main findings presented:

- Between April 2020 and March 2021, IRIS Programmes have received 4,979 referrals, totalling **25,523 referrals** – which means 25,523 survivors have been heard.
- In the fiscal year ending in March 2021, **6 new sites have commissioned IRIS**. While every site is unique, we continue to support each one to increase the identification and referral of Domestic Violence and Abuse to improve the safety of service users.



- There were **39 sites actively referring to IRIS between April 2020 and March 2021**. This is the largest number of active sites since the IRIS Programme became commissionable.
- There are currently **1,104 fully trained and actively referring practices**. In total, 1,275 general practices have been trained across the UK since 2013. [READ MORE>>](#)

Would you like to give us a hand?

Do you have something to share about IRISi, IRIS or ADVISE - such as the impact of the intervention, suggestions or feedback? We would love to hear from you! Please email us at geisa.davo@irisi.org.