

# 1. Victim services – structure and funding

- Legal framework
  - The Social Services Act includes target groups, among them victims (and perpetrators) of IPV
  - Binding regulations and general advice since 2014 from the National Board on Health and Welfare, with complementary handbook
    - The regulations and general advice target the social services as well as health and dental care
- Funding
  - Municipalities are responsible for individual and family services, which is primarily financed from municipal taxes and partly through government grants and fees
  - The county councils at the regional level are responsible for health care and medical care. Activities are financed primarily from county council taxes and to some extent from fees and government grants
- Specialized services for victims
  - E.g. information and advice; counselling; help to arrange permanent accommodation; support in parenting; mediation of contact with voluntary organizations and other actors; help with contact with health care and other authorities (e.g. the police and tax agency); financial aid; shelters; national helpline; trauma treatment; coordinated individual plan when a person is in need of support both from the health care and social services; emergency department specialized on rape (regional differences); Barnahus (“children's house”) placement outside the home

## 2. Pressing issue(s)

1. Strengthen the implementation of existing regulations and support material
  - E.g. risk assessments are often lacking in contacts with the victims of violence
2. Strengthen cooperation on individuals
  - E.g. lack of cooperation to prevent repeated violence
3. Develop working methods
  - E.g. contact with healthcare ceases despite a need for continued care
4. Review the need for regulation
  - E.g. Lack of security planning to protect the victims of violence

# 3. Victim and perpetrator services

- Social services have a comprehensive responsibility to offer victims and perpetrators support and treatment
- Support and treatment to perpetrators can only be offered with regard of victim's safety
- Same entity for victims and perpetrators can:
  - facilitate exchange of information between professionals
  - increase professional's competence regarding partner violence
  - safety measures may be a challenge