

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

26 APRIL 2017

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

DOMESTIC ABUSE STRATEGY

SUMMARY

The multi-agency Domestic Abuse Steering Group has produced a revised Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy (2017-22) for the borough. The new strategy builds on the work of preceding years and strengthens the focus on working together as local partners, agencies and communities to prevent individuals from becoming victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse.

Our strategic approach will support professionals to identify and deal with the earliest signs of abuse, stop abuse before it happens, prevent abusive behaviour from becoming entrenched and prevent perpetrators from moving from one victim to the next. Critically, it will provide victims and their families with support before a crisis point is reached.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Health & Wellbeing Board:

1. Endorse the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2017-2022
2. Endorse the Domestic Abuse Action Plan for 2017/2018
3. Consider how the Domestic Abuse Strategy is to be launched.

DETAIL

1. The following partnerships have been consulted on the Draft Domestic Abuse Strategy:

Adults Health & Wellbeing Partnership
Children & Young People Partnership
Safer Stockton Partnership
Local Safeguarding Children Board
Teeswide Adults' Safeguarding Board (via Business Support Unit)

2. Feedback has been considered by the Domestic Abuse Steering Group and minor amendments to the draft Strategy were agreed.

3. The draft action plan for 2017/18 has been developed in consultation with the DA Steering Group.
4. The Strategy is scheduled to go to Cabinet on 18 May 2017 and, in line with the Council's Constitution, to full Council for formal agreement on 21 June 2017.

LAUNCH OF DOMESTIC ABUSE STRATEGY

5. Following consideration by Cabinet in May and agreement by Council in June, the Domestic Abuse Strategy will be formally launched. Members of the Board are asked to consider how they would like the formal launch of the Strategy to occur.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. The strategy highlights the legislation relating to tackling domestic violence and abuse. Any financial implications associated with implementing the action plan will be discussed in the adult and children & young people joint commissioning groups.

RISK ASSESSMENT

7. Risk will be considered as part of implementation and of any options for future commissioning or service development.

CONSULTATION

8. The content of this paper is as a result of consultation.

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