

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC ABUSE

Summary

The fourth evidence-gathering session for the Committee's review of Children affected by Domestic Abuse will consider information from the NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board, as well as survey feedback from local Primary Care Networks.

Detail

1. The **NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board** (NENC ICB) was identified as an important contributor to this review as part of the initial scoping process and has therefore been asked to provide a response to the following lines of enquiry:

- *What roles / responsibilities do ICBs have in relation to domestic abuse (in particular duties involving children)?*
- *What work (pertinent to Stockton-on-Tees) has NENC ICB been involved with in relation to domestic abuse (and its impact upon children)?*
- *Who / what is the responsible person / role within your organisation regarding written safeguarding policies / training / submitting referrals?*
- *How are NENC ICB staff supported in relation to domestic abuse (e.g. training course options and any available data on the uptake of these)?*
- *Does the NENC ICB highlight / raise awareness of the issue of domestic abuse (and its impact upon children) and support services? If so, how / how often (include examples)?*
- *Are there any ongoing or proposed national / regional ICB-related initiatives regarding this scrutiny topic?*
- *Working with SBC and its partners with regards domestic abuse – how does this operate; is this effective; is there anything that could strengthen current arrangements?*
- *Any views on key areas of future focus relating to this scrutiny topic (e.g. existing challenges that need to be addressed)?*

A presentation has been prepared and is included within these meeting papers. The NENC ICB Strategic Head of Commissioning (Tees Valley) and NENC ICB Deputy Director of Nursing – Safeguarding are scheduled to be in attendance to give a summary of this submission and address Committee comments / questions.

2. Recognising the importance of primary care within the context of this scrutiny topic, the Committee was keen to engage with local practices. A survey was therefore developed and issued to the Borough's four **Primary Care Networks (PCNs)**:

- Billingham and Norton PCN
- BYTES PCN
- North Stockton PCN
- Stockton PCN

A paper detailing and reflecting upon the responses received has been produced and is included within these meeting papers. The NENC ICB Head of Primary Care – Tees Valley (who co-ordinated this survey) and a local GP Partner are scheduled to be in attendance to give a summary of this submission and address any Committee comments / questions.

3. In advance of this session, Members may again wish to familiarise themselves with some associated background material in relation to this scrutiny topic:
 - **Home Office: Domestic Abuse – Statutory Guidance (Jul 22)**
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62c6df068fa8f54e855dfe31/Domestic_Abuse_Act_2021_Statutory_Guidance.pdf (see pages 91-97: Agency Response to Domestic Abuse – Health)
 - **GOV.UK: Victims in their own right? Babies, children and young people’s experiences of domestic abuse**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/babies-children-and-young-peoples-experiences-of-domestic-abuse/victims-in-their-own-right-babies-children-and-young-peoples-experiences-of-domestic-abuse-accessible#chapter-five-the-role-of-health-services>
(see Chapter five: The role of health services)
 - **Stockton-on-Tees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2028**
https://www.stockton.gov.uk/media/3841/Domestic-Abuse-Strategy-2022-28-Accessible/pdf/Stockton-on-Tees_Domestic_Abuse_Strategy_2022-28_Final_Accessible.pdf?m=1674053753577
4. A copy of the agreed scope and plan for this review is included for information.

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