

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities)

Date: 9th June 2014

Subject: Inquiry into tackling domestic violence and abuse – draft scrutiny report

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. This year, the Scrutiny Board had undertaken an in-depth inquiry into tackling domestic violence and abuse, with a particular focus on improving the early detection and referral of victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse.
2. In acknowledging the complexity and cross-cutting nature of this area of work, the Children and Families Scrutiny Board and the Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board were also invited to nominate a representative to assist in undertaking this inquiry. Terms of reference for this inquiry were agreed by the Board in September 2013.
3. This inquiry has now concluded and the Board is in a position to report on its findings and recommendations resulting from the evidence gathered. The Board's draft report will follow and be made available in readiness for today's meeting when Board Members will be asked to formally consider and agree its report.
4. Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 13.2 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be reported to the Scrutiny Board and considered before the report is finalised". Any advice received will be reported at the Board's meeting for consideration, before the Board finalises its report.

5. Once the Board publishes its final report, the appropriate Director(s) will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

Recommendations

6. Members are asked to consider and agree the Board's report following its inquiry into tackling domestic violence and abuse.

Background documents¹

7. None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.