

Report for:	Cabinet 15 September 2015	ltem Number:	

Title:	Violence Against Women and Girls; Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel Project Report	
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Report Authorised by:	Bernie Ryan – Assistant Director, Corporate Governance
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	Clifford Hart (Democratic Services Manager) and Rob Mack (Principal Scrutiny Officer)
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	Report for Key/Non Key Decisions: N/A
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1. Describe the issue under consideration

At its meeting on 26 March 2015, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the final report of the Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel project on Violence Against Women and Girls. The report is now being referred to Cabinet for information. A separate report, elsewhere on the agenda, is being submitted for consideration by Members outlining a proposed response to the recommendations of the report.

2. Cabinet Member introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

To note the conclusions and recommendations of the final report of the scrutiny project on Violence Against Women and Girls (Appendix 1).

4. Alternative options considered

N/A

5. Background information



Included in main report.

6. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications

Included in attached report.

7. Comments of the Assistant Director of Corporate Governance and legal implications

Included in attached report.

8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

Domestic violence and abuse are forms of violence against women and girls which disproportionally impact on women and girls. The scrutiny report seeks to tackle victimisation and have a positive impact on women and girls by making a number of recommendations for improving the response by the Council and its partners to domestic violence and other forms of VAWG. This includes a recommendation for the views of service users to be sought, which is good practice from an equalities perspective. The report recognises that men and boys can also be victims of domestic violence, so that the report's recommendations seek to have a positive impact on both genders.

9. Head of Procurement Comments

Included in attached report.

10. Policy Implication

Included in attached report.

11. Reasons for Decision

Included in attached report.



12. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 – 26 March 2015 Overview and Scrutiny Committee Cover Report

Appendix 2 – Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel Project – Violence Against Women and Girls

13. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985