

Report for: Cabinet - 9 December 2025

Item number: 17

Title: Contract award for the provision of Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Pathway of Support Services

Report authorised by : Sara Sutton, Corporate Director of Adults, Housing, Health

Lead Officer: Zahra Maye Head of Housing Related Support

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision: Key Decision**

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. This report outlines the outcome of an open tender process and seeks Cabinet approval to award three (3) contracts to the successful tenderers for the provision of Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) support services, in accordance with Contract Standing Orders (CSO) CSO 2.01(c) (approval of awards of Contract valued at £500,000 or more)
- 1.2. Subject to approval, the contracts, inclusive of all permitted extensions, will run for a period of six (6) years with anticipated commencement of 1st April 2026 and concluding on 31st March 2032. The total maximum value of the contracts over its full duration shall be £3,029,958 across the three (3) separate contracts.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1. We want to end violence against women and girls in Haringey and enable every woman and girl to live to their full potential. As Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing, I welcome the award of these contracts to specialist organisations who will deliver Haringey's core domestic abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) support services.
- 2.2. These services are essential for Haringey Council to provide to give women and children who experienced domestic abuse the best possible start to recovery and to live a life where they can thrive. They have been designed following significant engagement with residents with lived experience, and individuals and organisations supporting them.
- 2.3. Domestic abuse and broader violence against women and girls affect individuals in different ways depending on their intersectional needs. We need our services to meet the needs reflecting the diversity of our residents, including race, ethnicity,

age, LGBTQ+ identities and immigration status. The different components of this tender ensure we address the range of needs.

- 2.4. These services play a critical role in Haringey's Coordinated Community Response to VAWG, delivering high quality support for victim/survivors and their children throughout their journey to safety and recovery. They reduce risk of harm through safety planning and empower victim/survivors to achieve positive outcomes in, their health and wellbeing, financial resilience, housing, and the criminal and civil justice systems.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 3.1.1. Approve the award of contracts for the provision of Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) support services to the successful tenderers (identified in Appendix 1 - Part B (exempt information) of this report), a period of six (6) years, with anticipated commencing of 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2032 in accordance with CSO 16.01 and CSO 2.01(c). The total maximum value of the contracts over its full duration shall be £3,029,958 across three (3) separate contracts. Breakdown of cost for each contract detailed in Appendix 1 - Part B (exempt information) of this report;

- 3.1.2. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Adults, Housing and Health to consider and approve inflationary increases to the contract for Years 4 to 6. Any such adjustments shall be capped at a level not exceeding the annual rate of increase in the London Living Wage.

- 3.2. That Cabinet notes:

- 3.2.1. Contract pricing shall remain fixed for the initial three (3) years of the contract term, with no provision for adjustment during this period.

- 3.2.2. The provision of Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) coordination has been removed from the 2nd tender process, as this function will be brought in-house. The anticipated commencement of in-house service delivery is April 2026.

- 3.2.3. No bids were received for Lot 3, which relates to the LGBTQ+ Independent Domestic Violence and Advocacy (IDVA) Service. Additionally, tenders received for Lot 4 (Generalist Refuge Accommodation) and Lot 6 (Domestic and Gender-Based Abuse Prevention and Support for Children and Young People) did not meet the published evaluation criteria and were therefore disqualified from further consideration. Please see Appendix 3 - Part B (exempt information) of this report for more information.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1. There is an identified need to support victim/survivors and their children who are at risk of or experiencing domestic abuse, with prevention and early intervention support as well as crisis response.
- 4.2. The Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Pathway of Support Services aims to keep victim/survivors and their children safe by providing community-based, specialist Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) support for adults and children and young people, emergency accommodation via refuge accommodation, and education and prevention for children and young people.
- 4.3. The recommendation to award contracts to the successful tenderers is based on the outcome of a competitive procurement process, during which all submitted tenders were evaluated against the published award criteria. In accordance with procurement regulations, the contracts are proposed to be awarded to the Most Advantageous Tenderers, as determined by the evaluation outcome.
- 4.4. The organisations recommended for contract award submitted robust proposals that demonstrate substantial expertise and a clear commitment to delivering high-quality, appropriate care and support to victim/survivors of DA and VAWG. The tenders also highlight the providers' extensive local knowledge, well-established partnerships with both statutory and non-statutory organisations, and a proven track record in delivering relevant services. These attributes are deemed essential for the effective and sustainable delivery of services under the respective Lots.
- 4.5. Furthermore, the successful tenders submitted a strong proposal demonstrating a clear commitment to Social Value by supporting employment pathways for ex-offenders and the unemployed, engaging with local schools and colleges through educational outreach, and strengthening the regional economy via local supply chain engagement. Health and wellbeing were promoted through initiatives (such as smoking cessation, obesity, substance misuse), and physical activity, alongside support for older, disabled, and vulnerable individuals. Additionally, equality, diversity, and inclusion training will be delivered across staff and suppliers, with employees granted access to comprehensive wellbeing programmes.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1. **Deliver Inhouse** – This option was considered but ultimately rejected, as it is not viable for the following reasons:
 - 5.1.1. A defining characteristic of IDVA services is their independence from the police and the local authority, particularly where victim/survivors have a mistrust and/or fear of the criminal justice system and Children's Social Care. Insourcing this provision could jeopardise victim/survivor engagement with support services thus potentially increasing their level of risk of harm and even death.
 - 5.1.2. The council does not have the infrastructure and expertise to deliver 'by and for' culturally appropriate services which meet the needs of Haringey's communities including ethnically minoritised women and LGBTQ+ communities. By and for organisations are defined as, organisations designed and delivered by and for

people who are minoritised (including race, sexual orientation, transgender identity, age, and religion). These services will be rooted in the communities they serve and may include wrap-around holistic recovery and support that address a victim/survivor's full range of intersecting needs, beyond purely domestic abuse support¹.

- 5.1.3. It should however be noted that the decision was made to insource the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) coordination, and inhouse delivery is expected to commence April 2026. The decision to insource was based on the need for effective partnership working with the police, value for money for the council, and to expand the remit of the MARAC Coordinator to also deliver a sexual exploitation and harms panel.
- 5.2. **Do nothing** – This option was discounted as the council has a statutory duty to provide safe accommodation and support to survivors of domestic abuse; refuge provision is one of the key services that fulfil this duty, and community-based services provide essential support to victim/survivors and their children on their journey to safety and recovery.
- 5.3. **Hybrid Model** – A hybrid model with both directly delivered and commissioned domestic abuse and VAWG services supports a strong Coordinated Community Response where agencies and communities work together to respond to violence against women and girls, (priority one of the council's 10-year Violence Against Women and Girls strategy 2016-2026). Delivering the MARAC inhouse, and continuing to deliver support via Hearthstone, alongside the commissioning of services from specialist and experienced organisations will benefit vulnerable residents, offering a range of expertise that is trauma-informed, person centred and culturally specific.

6. Background information

6.1. Legislation

- 6.1.1. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 provides a legal definition of domestic abuse, defining it as, *(A) pattern of abusive behaviour in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain control over another intimate partner. The abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological. Domestic abuse is a crime of assault where the victim is a current or former spouse, parent, child, or any person who has or had a dating or intimate relationship with the abuser.*
- 6.1.2. Further, the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 legally recognises children (under the age of 18) as victim/survivors of domestic abuse if the child sees or hears, or experiences, the effects of the abuse, and is related to the adult victim/survivor or perpetrator. It also recognises young people aged 16+ as victims of domestic abuse if they experience abuse as set out in the act, within their own intimate relationships.

¹ Definition of 'by and for' has been taken from England and Wales Domestic Abuse Commissioner's 2022 report '[A Patchwork of Provision: How to meet the needs of victims and survivors across England and Wales](#)' page 33.

6.1.3. Lastly, the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 gave victim/survivors priority-need under the Housing Act 1996 Section 189 when presenting to councils as homeless or at risk of homelessness because of domestic abuse.

6.1.4. Victim/survivors experiences of domestic abuse, and their ability to access support will vary depending on intersectional identities and multiple disadvantage, as well as understanding of domestic abuse and VAWG, and awareness of support available.

6.2. **Local Need**

6.2.1. Office for National Statistics (ONS) figures show that in 22/23, 5.7% of women, and 3.2% of men in England and Wales over the age of 16 experienced domestic abuse; in Haringey this would mean approximately 6,459 women and 3,286 men were subjected to domestic abuse in that same year.

6.2.2. People of all genders experience incidents of inter-personal violence and abuse, the services will predominantly work with women, who are considerably more likely to experience repeated and severe forms of abuse, including sexual violence. They are also more likely to have experienced sustained physical, psychological or emotional abuse, or violence which results in injury or death. There are important differences between male violence against women and female violence against men, namely the amount, severity and impact. Women experience higher rates of repeated victimisation and are much more likely to be seriously hurt² or killed than male victims of domestic abuse³.

6.2.3. Domestic abuse incidents and crimes remain underreported to the police, but they do offer an insight into the rates of offences in Haringey. In the year 24/25, 2,830 domestic abuse offences were reported in Haringey, at a rate of 9.9 per 1,000 population; of those 628 were recorded as domestic abuse offences with injury. In the same year, 910 sexual offences were reported and recorded to the police, at a rate of 3.2 per 1,000 population. These figures do not provide information on the number of victim/survivors, or how many were repeats incidents and crimes, nor do they include incidents where the police were called out, but following investigation, was not deemed an offence or crime.

6.2.4. In 23/24, 280 households (103 families and 177 single victim/survivors) approached Haringey Council for safe accommodation and were given priority need as victim/survivors of domestic abuse.

6.3. The Domestic Abuse and VAWG Pathway will provide independent support for victim/survivors, which is responsive to local need, to Haringey's Black and Ethnically minoritised communities. The award of these contracts will complement and enhance (Hearthstone) which is the councils directly delivered specialist support for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and ensure as many victim/survivors as possible are supported to safety. Together, Hearthstone and the commissioned Domestic Abuse and VAWG Pathway will form the Haringey VAWG

² (Walby & Towers, 2017; Walby & Allen, 2004)

³ (ONS, 2020A; ONS, 2020B)

Partnership.

- 6.4. Hearthstone will continue to support victim/survivors of all genders who are currently experiencing domestic abuse and manage the Sanctuary Scheme which enables households at risk of domestic abuse to remain safely in their own homes where possible.
- 6.5. The Domestic Abuse and VAWG Pathway will contribute to the delivery of a safer Haringey, increasing safety and security for the borough's most vulnerable groups, and reducing Violence Against Women and Girls as set out in the council's Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2025; and deliver on the Labour Manifesto 2022-2026 commitment of specialist targeted inclusive support services run by and for women, with support for disabled, LGBTQ+ survivors, and women facing multiple disadvantages.

6.6. **Consultation and Engagement**

- 6.6.1. Consultation and engagement activities to inform the redesign of the commissioned Domestic Abuse and VAWG services, commenced in 2020 but was halted due to the covid-19 pandemic, however three new services (the BAME IDVA, LGBTQ+ IDVA, and Young Persons' IDVA) were created and awarded via an RFQ process.
- 6.6.2. The competitive tender process restarted in 2023, with further consultation and engagement activities, benchmarking with other London boroughs, a review of the current service provision, and a needs analysis completed. The learnings from these activities informed the redesign of the pathway of support services to ensure they meet the needs of Haringey residents. This was carried out by a cross-organisational task and finish group, with additional representation from primary care and police.
- 6.6.3. The consultation activities included a wide range of engagement across targeted and broader audiences and stakeholders. Targeted audiences included voluntary and community sector partners, health and social care workers, schools and colleges, faith leaders, and council staff equalities network. The targeted audience was identified to ensure as many of the protected characteristics as possible were reached alongside the expertise and knowledge of specific sectors (e.g., health, and homelessness).
- 6.6.4. The broader audience and stakeholders included residents, and friends and families of victim/survivors.
- 6.6.5. Face to face and online co-design workshops were held and participants from the following cohorts actively invited: experts by experience, children and young people workforce, referring agencies, and residents.
The aims of the workshops were threefold:
 - 1. Identify the strengths and gaps in current provision
 - 2. Explore how partnership working between services could be improved

3. Designing a visible and accessible front door and pathway into domestic abuse and VAWG services.

- 6.6.6. Recognising the likelihood of participants being affected by domestic abuse and VAWG, the workshops were designed to create a safe space and foster trust between facilitators and participants. This was achieved through a psychologically informed environment (private room, playing calming music, fidget toys on the tables, having plants and low lighting), clear communication (directions on how to find the venue with greeters outside, sharing the agenda ahead of the workshops) and having activities that enable participants to engage in different ways (discussions in pairs or small group, wide group discussion, online anonymous comments, written contributions).
- 6.6.7. In addition to the co-design workshops, 10 floating workshops were delivered to:
- Harmony Hall Sheltered Housing scheme
 - Carers Reference Group
 - Quality, Performance, and Outcomes Subgroup
 - Hornsey Library (drop in session)
 - Multi-faith forum
 - Haringey Neighbourhood Watch
 - Residents' Voice Board
 - Women's VCS network
 - Roj Women's Association
 - Assunnah Islamic Centre Women's Group
- 6.6.8. The floating workshops were not as structured as the co-design workshops, instead they were conversations facilitated by the Public Health VAWG team. Each group was asked what type of support was needed, where they would seek help for themselves or a loved one, what barriers would prevent them from accessing support, and how they would want to find information about service provision in the borough.
- 6.6.9. Focused interviews were conducted with youth practitioners and young people at Rising Green Youth Hub and Bruce Grove Youth Space.
- 6.6.10. A further two online surveys were designed, one for residents and victim/survivors who are experts by experience, and the second for partner agencies working with victim/survivors. Experts by experience are individuals with lived experience of domestic abuse and other forms of VAWG and have accessed specialist DA or VAWG services.
- 6.6.11. The consultation used a range of online, in person outreach and was circulated widely using the Council's communications networks including e-magazines and social media.

6.7. **Learnings from Consultation and Engagement**

- 6.7.1. Feedback from the VAWG consultation and engagement activities clearly showed there is a continued need for specialist by and for services, particularly for ethnically minoritised women. Throughout the co-design workshops the level of currently commissioned specialist services was highlighted as a strength.
- 6.7.2. The need for longer term support throughout the victim/survivor's journey to recovery, (not just at crisis point) was strongly evidenced by experts by experience who engaged in the consultation process (i.e., individuals with personal experience of domestic abuse and VAWG).

6.5. Procurement Process

- 6.5.1. A competitive procurement process was initiated on 6th December 2024. However, due to a limited number of submissions and the absence of bids for critical service areas (such as Generalist Domestic Abuse Advocacy and Support Services (DAAS), LGBTQ+ IDVA and MARAC Coordination), the tender was withdrawn prior to evaluation of any bid received.
- 6.5.2. Following the withdrawal, feedback was sought from organisations that had registered interest but did not proceed to tender submission. Although the response rate was low, key insights indicated that the published budget envelopes for individual lots were insufficient. These allocations had remained unchanged from the previous contract awarded several years ago and did not reflect current market conditions, including inflationary pressures, the increase in Employer's National Insurance Contributions announced by the UK Government in October 2024, or the broader financial impact of the cost-of-living crisis.
- 6.5.3. Considering this feedback and taking into account the council's financial position, a decision was made to revise and increase the budget allocations for key service areas. This adjustment aimed to enhance market interest and secure a more competitive and representative response. Additionally, it was agreed that MARAC coordination would be removed from the second tendering process and instead be delivered in-house from April 2026.
- 6.5.4. The re-tendering commenced on 24th June 2025 with a virtual Preliminary Market Engagement (PME) event, attended by 13 organisations. The session outlined commissioning intentions, shared key information, and allowed potential providers to ask questions and offer feedback. To ensure transparency and mitigate any competitive advantage, the presentation slides and questions & answers from the PME event were uploaded to the procurement portal alongside the Invitation to Tender (ITT) documentation. This ensured that all suppliers had equal access to the same information, supporting a fair and open procurement process.
- 6.5.5. Subsequently, On 4 July 2025, a Contract Notice (UK4) was published on the Central Digital Platform (CDP) (also known as the Find a Tender Service), for the 'Open Procedure' in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023.
- 6.5.6. The Invitation to Tender (ITT) and supporting documents were made available via the Council's e-sourcing portal, Haringey Procurement and Contract System (HPCS), enabling electronic access and submission for potential bidders.

6.5.7. The service was tendered in six (6) Lots:

- Lot 1 – Generalist Domestic Abuse Advocacy and Support (DAAS)
- Lot 2 – Ethnically Minoritised women’s Domestic Abuse Advocacy and Support (DAAS)
- Lot 3 – LGBTQ+ IDVA
- Lot 4 – Generalist Refuge Accommodation
- Lot 5 – Ethnically Minoritised women’s Refuge Accommodation
- Lot 6 – Domestic and Gender-Based Abuse Prevention and Support for Children and Young People

6.5.8. To maximise economies of scale, tenderers were permitted to bid for one, multiple, or all Lots. However, to promote service diversity and mitigate delivery risks, no tenderer could be awarded more than three (3) Lots.

6.5.9. By the closing date of 11 August 2025, a total of twenty-six (26) organisations had registered their interest via the procurement portal and accessed the tender documentation. Of these, five (5) organisations formally notified their withdrawal from the procurement process. Strategic Procurement requested feedback from these organisations; however, no responses were received.

6.5.10. Six (6) organisations proceeded to submit tenders across five (5) Lots. Some of these submissions covered multiple Lots, indicating broader interest and capability across the scope of the tender. Also, it is noted that no tenders were received for Lot 3. Tenderers who submitted tender(s) are listed in Appendix 1 - Part B (Exempt Information) of this report.

6.5.11. All tenders were checked for completeness and compliance a with condition for participation as well as whether or not they are excluded, excludable or Debarment list before quality and price evaluations.

6.5.12. All tenders that passed the compliance checks were evaluated using the Most Advantageous Tender (MAT) methodology, with a weighting of 60% for quality, 30% for price, and 10% for social value. The evaluation criteria and their respective weightings were clearly set out in the tender documents and further clarified during the tendering process.

6.5.13. The scores for quality, price, and social value were combined to determine the overall MAT score. The tenderer achieving the highest combined score for each lot was recommended for contract award. Details of the tender evaluation outcomes, including the breakdown of scores achieved by each tenderer for each lot, are provided in Appendix 1 – Part B (Exempt Information) of this report.

6.7. Transition and Contract Management

6.7.1. Contract management will be incorporated into the Contract. Key Performance Indicators and methods of measurement are integrated within the service specification and will be monitored through contract monitoring meetings and reports.

- 6.7.2. Monitoring meetings will be held monthly for the first three months and quarterly thereafter. The purpose of monthly monitoring meetings will be to examine the implementation of the service, monitor delivery of the service at an operational level and to foster partnership working to facilitate early resolution.

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024 to 2026 and High-level Strategic Outcomes

- 7.1. The Domestic Abuse and VAWG Support Services will contribute to the 'reduction in Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)', a key area in the Safer Haringey outcome in the council's Corporate Delivery Plan 2024 – 2026.
- 7.2. The Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Support Services directly contribute to the following high level strategic outcome in the council's Corporate Delivery Plan 2022 – 2024:
- Healthy and Fulfilling Lives - All adults are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, with dignity, staying active, safe, independent and connected in their communities
 - A Safer Borough - A borough where all residents and visitors feel safe and are safe.
- 7.3. The Council's VAWG Strategy (2016 – 2026) highlights the importance of partnership working to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls.
- 7.4. This is outlined in Priority 1: *Developing a Coordinated Community Response* which details the following desired outcomes:
- A wide range of community organisations, community centres, libraries, faith communities and informal support networks of mutual support work together in a coordinated way meaning the best outcomes for victim/survivors.
- 7.5. Priority 2: *Prevention*, states the following outcome:
- 'Ensure violence against women and girls is more visibly addressed by anti-gang initiatives as well as wider initiatives around ASB and extremism.'

8. Carbon and Climate Change

- 8.1. There are no direct implications on the Carbon and Climate Change agenda included in this report.

9. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Director of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

9.1. Finance

- 9.1.1. This report seeks to award contracts for the provision of Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Pathway of Support Services to the successful tenderers. The contracts will last for three years commencing April 1st,

2026, with an option to extend for a further three years. The aggregated contract value totals £1,514,979 or £504,993 annually.

- 9.1.2. The Housing Related Support (HRS) General Fund (including the VAWG budget) will be utilised to fund these contracts with an agreed contribution from the Public Health Grant. As the contracts are built into the budgeted contract schedule there is limited financial risk to the council.

9.2. Procurement

- 9.2.2. Under the Procurement Act 2023 (PA23), Domestic Abuse (DA) and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) services fall within the category of health and social care services. As such, they are subject to the Light Touch Regime (LTR), which provides contracting authorities with greater flexibility in procurement approaches where the full application of procurement rules may be inappropriate or unsuitable.
- 9.2.3. The procurement was conducted in compliance with Section 9 (Light Touch Regime) of the Procurement Act 2023, including the publication of relevant transparency notices on the Central Digital Platform.
- 9.2.4. The procurement process has demonstrated best value, with the successful tender submitted within the Council's approved financial envelope. Contract prices will remain fixed for the initial three (3) years of the contract term which represents cost avoidance and best value in the current market. Furthermore, the awarded contracts are expected to deliver social, economic, and environmental benefits to residents, underpinned by Social Value commitments that will be formally embedded within the contractual provisions. Further details outlined in the Appendix 1 – Part B (Exempt Information) of this report.
- 9.2.5. The recommendation to award the contracts to the successful providers is in accordance with CSO 2.01(c) and as outlined in Section 4 of this report.
- 9.2.6. The Housing Related Support Team will actively manage the contract through regularly monitoring the contract on a monthly/quarterly basis to ensure key performance indicators are met and service outcomes are delivered. This should ensure that any challenges regarding service delivery can be met and resolved early on reducing the risk of service failure or poor performance.

9.3. Legal

- 9.3.1. The Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was consulted in the preparation of the report.
- 9.3.2. Strategic Procurement has confirmed that a competitive process under the light touch regime was carried out to procure the contracts in the report.
- 9.3.3. Pursuant to the provisions of the Council's Contract Standing Order (CSO) 2.01(c), Cabinet has power to approve the award of a contract where the value of the

contract is £500,000 or more and as such the recommendation is paragraph 3 of the report is inline with the Council's CSO.

- 9.3.4. The recommendation in paragraph in 3.1.2 of the report to delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Adults, Housing and Health to consider and approve inflationary increases to the contract for Years 4 to 6 is in line with the provisions of Part 4 Section F paragraph 1.3(a) of the Council's Constitution and also in line with law. Cabinet has power under the Local Government Act 2000 to delegate the discharge of any of its functions to an officer (S.9E (Discharge of Functions)).
- 9.3.5. The Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) see no legal reasons preventing the approval of the recommendations in the report.

9.4. Equality

- 9.4.1. The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 9.4.2. The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation.
- 9.4.3. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.
- 9.4.4. The proposed changes and provisions have been assessed against the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 in the accompanying Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) (Appendix 2).
- 9.4.5. The EQIA demonstrates that the overall impact is positive for most groups, with targeted improvements to support inclusion and accessibility across diverse groups.
- 9.4.6. Neutral impacts exist for those groups falling under the protected characteristics disability and pregnancy and maternity.

10. Use of Appendices

- 10.1. Appendix 1 – Part B of the report – Exempt Information
- 10.2. Appendix 2 – Equalities Impact Assessment
- 10.3. Appendix 3 – Proposed Services
- 10.4. Appendix 4 – Profile of existing Services

11. Background papers

11.1. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 11.1.1. This report contains exempt and non-exempt information. Exempt information is contained in the exempt report and is not for publication. The exempt information is under the following category: (identified in the amended schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 (3)) information in relation to financial or the business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).