

Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)

The Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) form is a template for analysing a policy or proposed decision for its potential effects on individuals with protected characteristics covered by the Equality Act 2010.

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty 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

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. 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.

1. Responsibility for the Equality Impact Assessment

Name of proposal: Redesign and Recommissioning of Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Pathway of Support Services, Equalities Impact Assessment

Service Area: Housing Related Support

Officer Completing Assessment: Annais Nourry

Equalities Advisor: Jessica Russell

Cabinet meeting date (if applicable): n/a

Director/Assistant Director: Sara Sutton

2. Executive summary

Domestic abuse falls under the umbrella of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and encompasses other gender-based abuses such as:

- sexual violence and harassment (rape, forced sexual acts, unwanted sexual advances, child sexual abuse, forced marriage, street harassment, stalking, cyber harassment);
- human trafficking (slavery, sexual exploitation);
- female genital mutilation;
- child marriage; and
- harmful practices

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 provides a legal definition of domestic abuse, defining it as: *any single incident or pattern of conduct where someone's behaviour towards another is abusive, and where the people involved are aged 16 or over and are, or have been, personally connected to each other (regardless of gender or sexuality). Behaviour is abusive if it consists of any of the following: physical or sexual abuse; violent or threatening behaviour; controlling or coercive behaviour; economic, psychological, emotional or other abuse. Personally connected means that two people are current or ex intimate partners, family members, or co-parents (including step-parents).*

Further, the act legally recognises that *a child (under 18) who sees, hears, or experiences the effects of domestic abuse, and is related to either party, is also to be regarded as a victim of domestic abuse.* It also recognizes young people aged 16+ as being victims if they experience abuse as set out in the act, within their own relationships.

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.

“Victims who are homeless as a result of domestic abuse have priority need for accommodation. This means local housing authorities have a duty to secure accommodation for victims of domestic abuse if they are homeless through no fault of their own and eligible for assistance. The accommodation provided must be suitable in relation to the applicant and to all members of their household who normally reside with them, or who might reasonably be expected to reside with them.”¹

Although not a statutory duty on tier two local authorities, the commissioning of specialist domestic abuse and wider VAWG support services, is a key component of

¹ Paragraph 315 [Domestic Abuse: statutory guidance \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK](#) accessed 12th December 2024.

the council's response to tackling gender-based abuse, as set out in the council's 10-year VAWG strategy.

This EqIA seeks to understand how experiences of domestic abuse and wider forms of VAWG differ across protected characteristics and identify the ways in which the proposed new commissioned services will have a positive, neutral, or negative impact in their ability to get support and live safely.

Currently, the council takes a hybrid approach in tackling domestic abuse and VAWG, directly delivering support services and commissioning specialist organisations to deliver community, and accommodation-based services.

The table below outlines the current commissioned provision which falls within the scope of the proposed recommissioning:

Service	Primary support type	Detail of service
High Risk Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA)	Community-based	Short to medium term support for cis-women who are deemed at high risk of harm as a result of domestic abuse and VAWG.
Domestic Abuse BAME IDVA service	Community-based	Short to medium term support for ethnically minoritised women who are victim/survivors of domestic abuse and VAWG. This service works across all levels of risk and harm.
LGBTQ+ IDVA service	Community-based	Short to medium term support for victim/survivors from the LGBTQ+ community. This service works across all levels of risk of harm.
Young Persons Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (KIDVA)	Community-based	Medium term support for young women and girls aged 11-18 who are victim/survivors of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence.
Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) coordination service	Community-based	This service coordinates the Haringey MARAC which takes place every 3 weeks and brings agencies together safeguard victim/survivors, and their children, at most risk of harm.
Protect Our Women (POW)	Community-based	Service provides evidence based and age-appropriate education programmes for primary and secondary schools. Recently piloted a young men and boys programme. This service is a preventative programme.
Floating Support	Community-based	One to one support for women identified as standard to medium risk of harm. Capacity of 60 clients at any one time. This service also runs three peer support group programmes.

Refuge Provision	Accommodation	15 units of refuge accommodation for up to 6 months for women and their children fleeing domestic abuse. Support from a caseworker plus up to 6 months of resettlement support upon leaving refuge
Provision Of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Services	Accommodation	By and for ethnically minoritised women's service. 4 units of refuge accommodation for up to 6 months for single women fleeing domestic abuse. Support from a caseworker plus 6 months resettlement support upon leaving refuge. This service also provides floating support for 12 women per quarter.

Service utilisation for the commissioned services above are outlined in the table:

Service	Number of referrals received in 23/24	Number of referrals which lead to ongoing support in 23/24
High Risk Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA)	278	102
Domestic Abuse BAME IDVA service	335	188
LGBTQ+ IDVA service	46	46
Young Persons Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (KIDVA)	16	15
Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) coordination service	-	488
Protect Our Women (POW)	n/a	
Provision Of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Services: Floating Support	365	135
Provision Of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Services: Refuge Provision	90	44
Provision Of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Services: BAME refuge and floating support	91 ²	21

The proposed new commissioned domestic abuse and VAWG services are outlined below:

² Referrals for all London Black Women's Project refuge accommodation sites, not just Haringey commissioned site.

Service	Primary support type	Detail of service
Generalist Domestic Abuse Advocacy and Support (DAAS)	Community-based	<p>A generalist advocacy and support service for all women aged 16 and over experiencing gender-based abuse including but not limited to domestic abuse.</p> <p>This service will work across all risk levels and deliver support which will include but may not be limited to: IDVA for victim/survivors at medium to high risk and floating support for victim/survivors at standard risk.</p> <p>Victim/survivors will be supported for an average period of 6 months, based on individual need.</p> <p>Victim/survivors engaged with the criminal courts and/or family courts will be supported for longer and level of support will vary throughout this process.</p>
Minoritised women's Domestic Abuse Advocacy and Support (DAAS)	Community-based	<p>A generalist advocacy and support service for ethnically minoritised women aged 16 and over experiencing gender-based abuse including but not limited to domestic abuse.</p> <p>This service will work across all risk levels and deliver support which will include but may not be limited to: IDVA for victim/survivors at medium to high risk and floating support for victim/survivors at standard risk.</p> <p>Victim/survivors will be supported for an average period of 6 months, based on individual need.</p> <p>Victim/survivors engaged with the criminal courts and/or family courts will be supported for longer and level of support will vary throughout this process.</p>
LGBTQ+ IDVA service	Community-based	<p>A by and for Independent Domestic Violence and Advocacy service for LGBTQ+ residents of all genders experiencing gender-based abuse</p>

		<p>including but not limited to domestic abuse, aged 16 and over.</p> <p>This service will work across all risk levels and deliver support which will include but may not be limited to: IDVA for victim/survivors at medium to high risk and floating support for victim/survivors at standard risk.</p> <p>Victim/survivors engaged with the criminal courts and/or family courts will be supported for longer and level of support will vary throughout this process.</p>
MARAC coordination	Insourced	<p>A MARAC coordination service to securely convene and coordinate all aspects of the MARAC within the London Borough of Haringey.</p> <p>The service will coordinate the Haringey MARAC to ensure victim/survivors and their children are supported to keep safe and improve outcomes for all victim/survivors, but in particular: Victim/survivors of harmful practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeat referrals where there is little to no engagement with support services • Young victim/survivors • Disabled victim/survivors • Ad hoc closed MARACs e.g., where local professionals are involved and/or a LADO is required. <p>The Haringey MARAC will be coordinated on a 3-weekly basis with emergency MARACs convened when needed.</p>
Domestic and Gender-Based Abuse Prevention and Support for Children and Young People	Community-based	<p>A schools and community-based service to provide education and intervention services for children and young people of all genders who are experiencing, or at risk of, gender-based abuse.</p> <p>This service will educate children and young people about healthy relationships, encourage healthy attitudes in relation to gender, and support the prevention of domestic, and gender-based, abuse in Haringey.</p>

		<p>This will be achieved through a range of different activities including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence based and age/development-appropriate education programmes for primary and secondary aged children • Specialist domestic abuse-related advice to inform the planning, design and delivery of the PSHE agenda/curriculum in schools • Intervention work for young people of all genders aged 11 – 20 • Training and support for teachers and parents
Generalist Refuge Accommodation	Accommodation	<p>A specialist by and for organisation to deliver approximately 9 units of accommodation and support services for all women and their children fleeing domestic abuse and other forms of VAWG.</p> <p>This service will work across all risk levels and support delivered may include but not be limited to casework for women living in refuge and resettlement support.</p>
Ethnically ThisMinoritised women's Refuge Accommodation	Accommodation	<p>A specialist by and for organisation to deliver approximately 9 units of accommodation and support services for ethnically minoritised women and their children fleeing domestic abuse and other forms of VAWG.</p> <p>This service will work across all risk levels and support delivered may include but not be limited to casework for women living in refuge and resettlement support.</p>
Pathway Officer	Inhouse	<p>Pathway officer role to support referring agencies, and in particular Voluntary and Community Sector organisations, to better understand the local service offer, and support them to refer victim/survivors into the most appropriate service.</p> <p>The pathway officer will also build links with externally funded, including pan-London services, to increase partnership working and</p>

		<p>referrals into these specialist services where there is a gap in local provision.</p> <p>This role with aim to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase awareness of local provision 2. Increase referrals into services, particularly from groups that are currently underrepresented 3. Improve partnership working with externally funded and pan-London specialist services, enabling more Haringey residents to access specialist support, especially where commissioned services cannot meet the need.
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Some changes have been made in the redesign of the DA and VAWG services:

- The combining of the High risk IDVA service and Floating Support service to create a generalist domestic abuse advocacy and support service.
- The combining of the KIDVA and POW service to create a children and young people preventative and intervention support service.
- No change to the total number of refuge accommodation units but the number of units in the Generalist, and the Ethnically Minoritised Women's Refuge Accommodation services have been changed to be more equitable and reflect the demographics and needs of the borough. Generalist refuge units reduced from 15 to 10, and BAME refuge accommodation increasing from 4 to 9.
- The insourcing of the MARAC coordination function.

This assessment seeks to understand how the redesign and recommissioning of domestic abuse and VAWG support services will:

1. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other unlawful conduct prohibited by the act (Equalities Act 2010)
2. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share and people who do not share a relevant protected characteristic
3. Foster good relations between people who share and do not share a relevant protected characteristic

A brief overview of the potential impacts on each protected characteristic is outlined in the table below:

Protected characteristic	Potential impact	Detail and mitigations
Age	Positive	Strengthening provision for children and young people to enable better

		access to preventative and intervention support through one service.
Disability	Neutral	Support for disabled victim/survivors remains a gap in pathway of provision. Number of accessible refuge accommodation units will remain the same.
Gender reassignment	Positive	Continuing to fund a specialist LGBTQ+ IDVA service to support trans and gender-nonconforming victim/survivors.
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	No change in support for pregnant victim/survivors.
Race	Positive	Expansion of the ethnically minoritised Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service and increase in number of refuge accommodation units in ethnically minoritised refuge accommodation contract
Religion or belief	Positive	Expansion of the ethnically minoritised Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service and increase in number of refuge accommodation units in ethnically minoritised refuge accommodation contract
Sex	Positive	Increase in funding for specialist services for women. Continued support for gender non-conforming victim/survivors, and men who are LGBTQ+ Support for cis men remains a gap, this risk will be mitigated via information and awareness raising of pan-London services for cis-men.
Sexual orientation	Positive	Continuing to fund a specialist LGBTQ+ IDVA service.
Socioeconomic status	Positive	Increased provision working across all levels of risk will enable better and more comprehensive support to all victim/survivors.

Mitigations that will be taken to minimise negative equality impacts (if relevant)

No negative impacts have been identified, however some gaps in service provision remain, namely no specialist provision for deaf and disabled victim survivors, and cis, straight men. Pan-London services will be utilised to meet this need in borough, for community-based interventions. Whilst there will be no change to the number of accessible refuge accommodation units in this recommissioning process, Women's

Aid has documented the decline in accessible refuge accommodation in London; with only 19 wheelchair accessible units in the capital³.

Outside the scope of this recommissioning process, but important to note, external funding will be sought to create additional safe accommodation for victim/survivors of domestic abuse and VAWG, and accessible units will form part of any bid.

Whilst we recognise people of all genders experience incidents of domestic abuse and VAWG, women 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 violence perpetrated by men against women, and women's violence against men, namely the amount, severity and impact. Women experience higher rates of repeated victimisation and are much more likely to be seriously hurt or killed than male victims of domestic abuse.

Between April 2022 and March 2023, 2.1 million, or 1 in 25 people aged 16 and over in England and Wales, experienced domestic abuse. In Haringey this equates to approximately 9,000 residents. In her lifetime, one in four women in England and Wales will experience domestic abuse; in Haringey this equates to over 24,000 residents.

³ Women's aid London refuge data, page 16 Table ii [10-Years-of-the-London-Refuges-Data-Collection-Project.pdf \(womensaid.org.uk\)](https://www.womensaid.org.uk/publications/our-publications/factsheets/10-years-of-the-london-refuges-data-collection-project.pdf)

3. Consultation and engagement

3a. How will consultation and/or engagement inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on protected groups of residents, service users and/or staff? Detail how your approach will facilitate the inclusion of protected groups likely to be impacted by the decision.

Consultation and engagement activities have informed the development and design of the new DA and VAWG Pathway of Support Services. This included a formal consultation which took place over the summer and autumn of 2023.

The consultation plan 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).

The broader audience and stakeholders included residents, and friends and families of victim/survivors.

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.

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).

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

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.

Focused interviews were conducted with youth practitioners and young people at Rising Green Youth Hub and Bruce Grove Youth Space.

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.

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.

3b. Outline the key findings of your consultation / engagement activities once completed, particularly in terms of how this relates to groups that share the protected characteristics

Consultation and engagement highlighted a lack of awareness of the breadth of service provision available in Haringey. Whilst most participants of the co-design workshops and survey respondents were aware of some of the commissioned services, none were aware of all the commissioned services available.

The continued need for specialist by and for services, for victim/survivors from Black and minoritised backgrounds, and LGBTQ+ communities, was raised throughout consultation and engagement, both in workshops and the online survey.

The need for specialist provision (both community-based services and safe accommodation) for disabled victim/survivors, particularly those with sensory impairments, was also raised. This is currently a gap in provision.

When asked to design an accessible and visible front door and pathway to support, co-design workshop participants wanted a simple referral process with clear eligibility criteria. Further, it was highlighted that frontline services should be seen as a strength and a key partner in raising awareness of services. Currently, many (non VAWG specialist) frontline services which participated in consultation did not feel they had adequate training to enable them to recognise domestic abuse and VAWG or respond to disclosures in a safe way.

4. Data and Impact Analysis

Note: officers may want to complement their analysis with data from the State of the Borough and ward profiles, found here: <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/about-council/state-of-the-borough>.

Please consider how the proposed change will affect people with protected characteristics.

Data sources

Several data sources have been used throughout this EqIA, and for clarity these are detailed and referenced here. Other data sources used will be referenced in the relevant section.

Data at client level is based upon commissioned Housing Related Support (HRS) VAWG services, between April 2022 and March 2024 and include:

High-risk IDVA service

Minoritised women's IDVA service

LGBT+ IDVA service

Young women and girls IDSVA service

MARAC coordination

IRIS

Refuge accommodation services

Floating support service

Regional research and data which have informed this assessment are:

Population estimates for Haringey are based upon data taken from the 2021 Census wherever possible, as these give the most up-to-date picture in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴

Against Violence and Abuse (AVA) Haringey homelessness, research conducted in 2021 exploring the intersecting experiences of violence and abuse, and homelessness.

Health (JSNA, data sources)

Met police crime data

⁴ [Phase one - Census 2021 topic summaries - Census 2021](#)

National research and data used in this assessment are:

Safelives Insights datasets (21/22)

Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) for the year ending March 2023

Women's Aid On Track national dataset (23/24)

Methodology

All ranges as given below are based on the 95% confidence interval for the population mean. Many of our data are based on snapshots, which represent a sample at a single point in time of the “true” picture. This is known in statistical circles as the “population”. It is important to note, however, that “population” in this context is distinct from the population of Haringey as a whole as usually measured by census data for example.

A result is assumed to be “statistically significant” if the reference value – usually the population of Haringey – does not fall into the range spanned by the confidence interval. Values highlighted in bold red type indicate over-representation for a given group compared to the reference value.

Data suppression has been applied for counts of 3 or less to prevent identification of individuals. This is highlighted with an asterisk where relevant.

The act of performing this Equality Impact Assessment has shown that there are various gaps in recording within services commissioned by Haringey's Housing Related Support team. This is likely, in part, due to incomplete data migration from externally held databases onto Haringey's preferred system. New services will be asked to collect data in a way that allows more nuanced and intersectional understanding of need of residents.

4a. Age

Data

Borough profile:

Table 1: Haringey census data broken down by age and sex

Age	Total:	Sex: female	Sex: male
Population	264,242	136,996	125,246
Children (0-15)	48,238	23,682	24,556
Young people (16 – 25)	31,897	16,629	15,668
Adults aged 26 – 65	158,006	82,171	75,835
Older people 66+	25,701	14,514	11,187

Table 2: Women's Aid On Track 23/24, age breakdown of victim/survivors accessing community-based and refuge services in England and Wales.

Age	On track (Women's Aid) 23/24		
	Community-based	Refuge	All
0-15	n/a		
16-17	1.0%	0.4%	0.9%
18 - 24	16.8%	24.0%	17.5%
25 - 34	33.7%	40.2%	34.3%
35 - 44	27.6%	23.7%	27.2%
45 - 54	12.2%	8.4%	11.9%
55 - 64	4.8%	2.2%	4.5%
65 – 74	1.8%	0.7%	1.7%
75+	0.9%	0.1%	0.8%
Missing data	1.2%	0.2%	1.1%

Target Population Profile 23/24

Table 3: Service user information from commissioned services in the financial year 23/24:

Age	High risk IDVA	LGBT+ IDVA	Floating support	KIDVA	Refuge	Total
0-15 years old	0	1	0	3	0	4
16 - 25 years old	24	21	9	19	12	85
26 - 35 years old	61	11	35	-	11	118
36 - 45 years old	54	8	40	-	13	115
46 - 55 years old	28	4	13	-	0	45
56 - 65 years old	8	1	5	-	0	14
66+	4	0	1	-	1	6
Not known/disclosedd	3	2	9	0	6	20
Total	182	48	112	22	43	407

Table 4: Service user information from commissioned BAME services in the financial year 23/24:

Age	Ethnically Minoritised IDVA		Age	Ethnically Minoritised Refuge and floating support
0-15 years old	-		19 - 21	-
16 - 24 years old	38		22 - 30	4
25 - 34 years old	74		31 - 40	9
35 - 50 years old	134		41 - 50	6
51 - 64 years old	48		51 - 60	1
65+	12		61+	1
Missing data	29		Missing data	0
Total	335		Total	21

The two tables above provide a breakdown by age, of victim/survivors accessing community-based and accommodation-based services in Haringey in the financial year 2023/24. Not all providers record and share data in the same way, which means there are 3 different age groups. However, even with these differences, we can see that most service users were aged between 25 – 50 years old.

Data from On Track (table 2) indicates this is the same nationally. On Track, is a national dataset of victim/survivors accessing Women's Aid members' community-based and refuge accommodation-based services. In the year 23/24, a third of victim/survivors accessing community and refuge services were aged 25 – 34; this age group accessed support services at a higher proportion than any other age group. This data set also shows that victim/survivors aged 25-34 accessed refuge accommodation at a higher rate than community-based services in that year. This

may indicate a higher need for safe accommodation for younger victim/survivors, or highlight the inaccessibility of refuge accommodation for older victim/survivors.

What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic?

A combination of Council held data (commissioned services), ONS 2021 Census data, the State of the Borough report, Crime Statistics for England and Wales, and studies showing national and regional trends.

Detail the findings of the data.

Children and young people

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), for the year ending March 2023, indicates domestic abuse is most prevalent amongst young people aged 16-24, this level of prevalence has been consistent for the last 10 years⁵.

Research by the NSPCC⁶, on 13–17-year-olds, suggests this abuse can begin even earlier in adolescence for large numbers of young people. A quarter (25%) of girls and 18% of boys in the study reported having experienced some form of physical violence from an intimate partner. Additionally, one in three girls (31%) and 16% of boys reported some form of sexual abuse within their relationships. The study also found that girls are more likely than boys to have older partners, putting them at even greater risk of abuse from a young age.

Young people who had been exposed to family violence were nearly four times as likely to have had a relationship than those who had not. This highlights the need for children and young people to be taught about healthy relationships, how to recognise abusive behaviours and access help when needed.

Further, none of the girls in the study had reported the severe physical violence they had experienced to the police. Locally, this is seen in Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) data where the majority of referrals come from the police but in 22/23, only 0.61% of high-risk cases discussed in Haringey were for young women aged 16-17 years old, compared to the national average of 1.3%⁷ suggesting an under reporting of domestic abuse and VAWG experienced by young women and girls. This

⁵ Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 24 November 2023, ONS website, article, [Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales: year ending March 2023](#)

⁶ Barter, C, McCarry, M, Berridge, D and Evans K (2009) Partner exploitation and violence in teenage intimate relationships, NSPCC [Online] Available at: [\(PDF\) Partner Exploitation and Violence in Teenage Intimate Relationships \(researchgate.net\)](#) accessed 18th June 2024

⁷ [Marac Data External Key Findings April 22 to March 23 0.pdf \(safelives.org.uk\)](#) accessed 18th June 2024

is also reflected in police data⁸ which shows the lowest proportion of domestic-abuse related offences and incidents for young women in England and Wales. In 22/23, 43% of violence against the person offences were recorded as domestic abuse related for young women aged 16-19, compared to 54.5% for women aged 30-34.

This implies there are a number of young women and girls in Haringey in abusive relationships or family homes who are not being adequately safeguarded. This could be due to lack of understanding of domestic abuse by professionals (teachers, social services, youth services, police), or lack of understanding of how to properly safeguard young people experiencing domestic abuse (e.g., MARAC or young women and girls IDSVAs referrals).

Adults

For women aged between 20 and 44, domestic abuse accounts for more than half of all 'violence against the person' offences.

This proportion decreases over age, however when we look at domestic homicide rates in England and Wales over three years ending March 2022, women aged 60+ were killed by domestic homicide at a higher proportion than any other age group. 82% of homicides of women aged between 60 and 64, were domestic homicides. Similarly, men over the age of 60 were more likely to be killed in domestic homicide than any other age group, accounting for 52% of all homicides of men aged 70+.

When we look at types of abuse experienced, CSEW data shows 41.5% of sexual offences reported to the police in England and Wales were domestic abuse related for women aged between 40 and 44.

Potential Impacts

The redesign and commissioning of a children and young people (CYP) domestic abuse service will have a positive impact on children and young victim/survivors.

The CYP domestic abuse service will bring together elements of the existing provision (specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence advocacy service for young women and girls, as well as the children and young people education programme), and expand its remit to support young men and boys. The aim of this new service will be to teach children and young people affected by domestic abuse about healthy relationships, thereby acting as secondary and tertiary prevention of domestic abuse and wider forms of VAWG. This will also make it easier for schools and youth services to access support for CYP affected by domestic abuse by consolidating the services into one contract. This will also enable quicker and better referrals between the different elements of the service provision.

⁸ Tables 11 and 17. Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 24 November 2023, ONS website, article, [Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales: year ending March 2023](#)

Further, the service will provide training and support to classroom teachers delivering Relationships and Sex Education, as well as to parents to support them to talk to their children about healthy relationships and VAWG in developmentally appropriate ways.

The creation of the pathway officer will also have a positive impact on victim/survivors of all ages, but especially older victim/survivors, by facilitating referrals from Haringey into pan-London services working with specific demographics including women aged 55 and over.

4b. Disability

Data

Borough Profile

- Disabled under Equality Act – 17.6% of women aged 16 and above, and 13.8% of men aged 16 and above⁹
- Day to day activities limited a lot – 8%¹⁰
- Day to day activities limited a little – 8.7%
- 7.5% of residents people diagnosed with depression¹¹
- 1.7% of residents diagnosed with a severe mental illness¹²
- 0.4% of people in Haringey have a learning disability¹³
- Mental and behavioural disorders were most commonly reported disease category by Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants, followed by musculoskeletal disease¹⁴.

Target Population Profile

Table 5: Number of disabled service users in comparison to Haringey population, Women's Aid's national On Track dataset, and Haringey commissioned services for 23/24

	Haringey (18-64)	On Track (23/24)	HRS (23/24)
Disabled	24,070 (11%)	12,100 (32.8%)	257 (39%)
Visual impairment/blind	2,530	1.5%	1 (0.4%)

⁹ Census 2021 - [Disability, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/disability)

¹⁰ Adult and older people's mental health JSNA 2024 - [JSNA: Focus on adult and older people's mental health \(haringey.gov.uk\)](https://haringey.gov.uk/jsna)

¹¹ State of the borough, Pg. 23, People: Mental Health - [State of the Borough - April 2023](https://haringey.gov.uk/state-of-the-borough)

¹² State of the borough, Pg. 23, People: Mental Health - [State of the Borough - April 2023](https://haringey.gov.uk/state-of-the-borough)

¹³ PHE Learning disability profiles - <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/learning-disabilities#page/0/gid/1938132702/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/102/are/E09000014>

¹⁴ Adult and older people's mental health JSNA 2024, Slide 8- [JSNA: Focus on adult and older people's mental health \(haringey.gov.uk\)](https://haringey.gov.uk/jsna)

Common mental health disorder	48,273 (21 – 24%) ¹⁵	71%	167 (65%)
Physical disability ¹⁶	21,230 (8.5 – 11%) ¹⁷	28.5%	60 (23.3%)
Learning disability	4,460 (2.4 – 2.5%) ¹⁸	12.1%	13 (5%)
d/Deaf	36,000 (15%)	2.6%	4 (1.6%)

What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic?

Detail the findings of the data.

The table above compares the rate of disabled victim/survivors who accessed domestic abuse services across England and Wales in the year 23/24 (On Track), to the number of disabled victim/survivors who accessed commissioned VAWG support services in Haringey in the same year (HRS), and the number of disabled Haringey residents from the 2021 census (Haringey 18-64). The table shows the rate of disabled service users in Haringey, is comparable to the England and Wales dataset for rates of disabled, common mental health disorder, physical disability, but is much higher than the rates amongst Haringey's population. The rate of d/Deaf victim/survivors who accessed Haringey commissioned VAWG services is also comparable to the On Track data set, but proportionally lower when compared to the Haringey census data, suggesting there may be an underrepresentation of d/Deaf victim/survivors accessing commissioned services, and similarly Learning disabled victim/survivors.

Research consistently demonstrates that disabled women are twice as likely to experience domestic abuse compared to non-disabled women¹⁹. In the three years ending March 2018, an estimated 3.7% of disabled adults aged 16 to 59 years were subjected to sexual assault (including attempts), compared with 1.9% of non-disabled adults. The same research has shown that disabled men are also more at risk at a rate of about 1.5 times non-disabled men²⁰. Further, the abuse is often perpetrated by

¹⁵ Common Mental Health Disorders, Haringey CCG, Public Health England Fingertips (2017)

¹⁶ Issues with mobility, progressive illness, hearing or visual impairments

¹⁷ Annual Population Survey (APS) results for Haringey, Office for National Statistics, 2022.

An estimated 38,900 out of 198,000 people aged 18-64 have some type of disability.

Prevalence and employment estimates for disabled and non-disabled people by different personal characteristics, Office for National Statistics, 2018.

Estimated 54.4% of people with a disability categorise their impairment as a "physical disability".

¹⁸ Learning disability (baseline estimate) percentage by age group from Projecting Adult Needs and Service Information (PANSI), and applying to 2021 population estimates from Census data. Accessed December 2022.

¹⁹ [Disability and crime, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/disabilityandcrime)

²⁰ Idem table 10

individuals they are most dependent on for care such as intimate partners and family members²¹.

In 22/23, 10.2% of Domestic Abuse offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, the victim/survivor was recorded as disabled suggesting severe underreporting to, or poor recording by, police forces across England and Wales.

Locally, 20% of high-risk cases discussed at the Haringey MARAC in 22/23 involved disabled victim/survivors; proportionally greater than both London and England averages that year²². Further, in 23/24, 39% of clients who accessed a commissioned domestic abuse service in Haringey self-reported at least one disability. Mental health is the most consistently reported disability and/or vulnerability by providers²³.

Research also suggests autistic women and girls may be 2-3 times more likely to experience sexual violence²⁴.

Disabled victim/survivors face an additional barrier when accessing refuge accommodation which is accessible for wheelchair users and victim/survivors with limited mobility. In London the number of wheelchair accessible units has decreased from 21 units in 2016/17, to 5 in 2022/23, and 31 units for women with limited mobility in 2016/17, to 22 in 2022/23²⁵. In Haringey, one unit of commissioned refuge accommodation is wheelchair accessible.

Potential Impacts

- Consider whether the proposed policy/decision will have positive, neutral, or negative impacts (including but not limited to health impacts).

The introduction of a Pathway Officer will have a positive impact on d/Deaf, learning disabled, and other disabled victim/survivors in Haringey in the following ways:

1. Facilitate better access to specialist by and for services such as Signhealth and Respond²⁶, building strong working relationships with these organisations and ensuring they are part of Haringey's Coordinated Community Response to domestic abuse and VAWG.
2. Collate data around need that will enable better commissioning and service provision.
3. Improved access to other community-based services such as mental health services, and in particular counselling delivered in community languages.
4. Wheelchair accessible accommodation continues to be a gap in provision across London and the recommissioning of domestic abuse and VAWG

²¹ Page 6 [Disabled-Survivors-Too.pdf \(safelives.org.uk\)](#) accessed 18th June 2024

²² [Marac data 2022-2023.xls \(live.com\)](#)

²³ Vulnerabilities = mental health is negatively impacted by the abuse, disability = diagnosed mental health disorder that may be a direct result of abuse experienced, or a disorder that makes them more vulnerable and susceptible to abuse.

²⁴ [Evidence That Nine Autistic Women Out of Ten Have Been Victims of Sexual Violence - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)

²⁵ Page 16, table ii [10-Years-of-the-London-Refuges-Data-Collection-Project.pdf \(womensaid.org.uk\)](#), accessed 15th July 2024

²⁶ Signhealth is a national charity supporting d/Deaf victim/survivors, Respond is a national charity supporting victim/survivors with learning disabilities, autism.

services is unlikely to see any change in this. In mitigation, where capital funding is available for accommodation-based services, bids will include wheelchair accessible adapted or built units.

5. New services will be expected to deliver training under the Haringey VAWG Training programme, with the aim of increasing awareness of VAWG and as a result being best able to support victim/survivors at the earliest stage possible.

4c. Gender reassignment

Data

Borough Profile²⁷

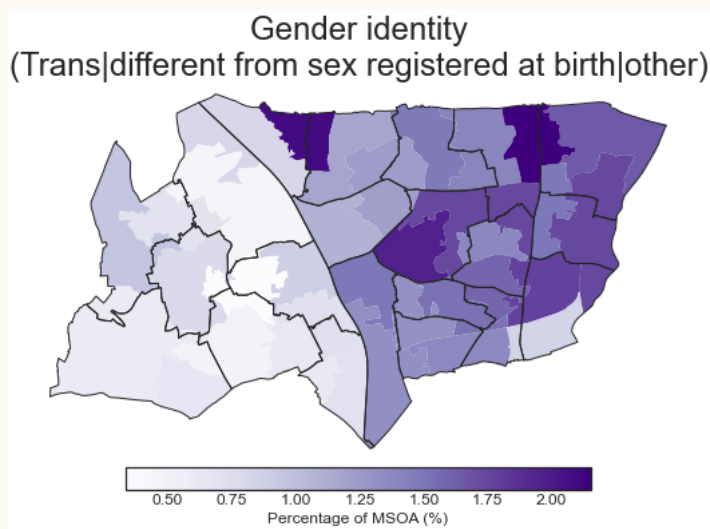
2,686 Haringey residents aged 16 and over (1.24%) identified as a gender different to the one they were assigned at birth – 3rd in London. Residents identifying as a different gender to the one they were assigned at birth were most prevalent towards the east of the borough.

Table 6: 2021 ONS census data for gender identity, Haringey compared to London boroughs

Gender identity	Haringey (16+)²⁸	Rank in London
Gender identity same as sex registered at birth	193,177 (89 – 90%)	30 th
Gender identity different to sex registered at birth (not further specified)	1,377 (0.60 – 0.67%)	4 th
Trans woman	383 (0.16 – 0.20%)	8 th
Trans man	389 (0.16 – 0.20%)	12 th
Non-binary	357 (0.14 – 0.18%)	3 rd
All other gender identities	180 (0.07- 0.10%)	5 th
Not answered	20,137 (9.2 – 9.5%)	4 th
All with gender identity different to sex registered at birth	2,686 (1.3 – 1.4%)	

²⁷ Census 2021 - [Gender identity, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/people-and-population/census2021)

²⁸ 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics



Non-response rates to the sexual orientation and gender identity questions were generally higher in boroughs with a higher proportion of residents identifying as from an ethnic minority background. Locally, non-response rates to both questions were particularly high in the part of South Tottenham bordering Hackney (29% for sexual orientation, 22% for gender identity). This could tentatively be due to poor engagement with the local Jewish community. There were significantly more people identifying as Trans in the Borough.

Detail the findings of the data.

There is limited data on trans victim/survivors, however what data is available suggests that trans victim/survivors experience specific types of abuse that can be linked to their trans identities.

Research in Scotland indicates that up to 80% of trans people have experienced emotionally, sexually or physically abusive behaviour from a partner or ex-partner, but this abuse was only identified as domestic abuse by 60% of participants. The emotional abuse experienced was often transphobic abuse from a partner or ex-partner²⁹.

Other suggests the abuse trans victim/survivors experience is gendered, with trans men more likely to experience abuse perpetrated by a family member, or an intimate partner, whilst trans women are more likely to experience abuse perpetrated by an intimate partner³⁰. The same research also showed trans victim/survivors at a slightly higher risk of so-called honour-based³¹ abuse compared to cis LGB+ victim/survivors.

²⁹ Page 5 [trans_domestic_abuse.pdf \(scottishtrans.org\)](#) accessed 17th July 2024

³⁰ Page 24 [Galop_domestic_abuse.indd](#) accessed 24th June 2024

³¹ So called Honour based abuse refers to crimes or incidents committed to protect or defend the 'honour' of a family or community.

Trans victim/survivors often face barriers to accessing vital domestic abuse support services. Participants of the Scottish Trans research highlighted trans victim/survivors' concerns that providers would not understand the complexity of trans issues, or that they would face prejudice³².

Women's Aid, a national membership organisation for VAWG services, released a statement in 2022 outlining their position on single-sex services, and the inclusion or exclusion of trans women from these services. The statement defends the right of organisations to exclude trans women from their women-only spaces or services (including those with a Gender Recognition Certificate), as long as they do so lawfully³³ in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 Statutory Code of Practice.

In response, Galop raised concerns about Women's Aid conflating trans women with perpetrators of abuse and violence and is doing so as a voice of power towards a disempowered minority group with far less influence and platform³⁴.

Potential Impacts

The recommissioning of the LGBT+ IDVA service will have a positive impact on trans victim/survivors in Haringey in the following ways:

1. Specialist by and for service for trans victim/survivors which works across all forms of VAWG, recognising that trans victim/survivors are more likely to experience so-called honour-based violence, and trans men more likely to experience familial abuse.
2. As well as a specialist by and for service, all commissioned community-based services will be open to trans women and potential providers will be expected to demonstrate how they will run their services to be safe and welcoming for women, including trans women.
3. Advocacy and support for trans victim/survivors to navigate the housing pathway and access safe accommodation, especially when access to refuge accommodation is restricted. Building strong relationship and partnership working with Star Refuge, the only LGBT+ run domestic abuse refuge in London.
4. Strong and intersectional Coordinated Community Response in Haringey, facilitating better partnership working across domestic abuse and VAWG services.

4d. Marriage and Civil Partnership

³² Page 31 [trans_domestic_abuse.pdf \(scottishtrans.org\)](#) accessed 12th July 2024

³³ [Women's Aid: Single sex services statement - Women's Aid \(womensaid.org.uk\)](#) accessed 12th July 2024

³⁴ [Galop's statement on Women's Aid's position on the inclusion of trans women in single-sex services - Galop](#)

Borough profile

Table 7: 2021 ONS census Marriage and civil partnership data for Haringey

ONS 2021 Census	Total	Women	Men
Never married and never registered a civil partnership	111,667	56,689	54,978
Married or in a registered civil partnership	72,881	35,996	36,885
Separated, but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership	6,036	3,580	2,456
Divorced or civil partnership dissolved	17,792	10,933	6,859
Widowed or surviving civil partnership partner	7,623	6,116	1,507
Total	215,999	113,314	102,685

Table 8: Relationship to perpetrator(s) in MARAC cases heard in Haringey 22/23 and 23/24.

Relationship between victim/survivors and perpetrator(s)	23/24	22/23
Child to parent abuse	45	39
Sibling or Cousin	13	5
Parent/Stepparent to child	18	20
Current intimate partner (including spouse)	161	188
Ex-intimate partner (including ex-spouse)	181	228
Other	3	5
Unknown	2	3

MARAC data for Haringey 23/24, shows the alleged perpetrator is most commonly an ex-intimate partner (including spouse), or a current intimate partner (including spouse). Marriage and civil partnership

Whilst crimes relating to Forced Marriage are flagged in police data, there is still very limited information on the true extent of these abuses. Data from the National Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline shows that London is consistently the second highest source of calls. Despite this, between 2019-2023 on average there were fewer than 10 offences relating to So-Called Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage recorded by police in Haringey per year. This mirrors trends in national data which demonstrate that there is insufficient reporting and recording of Forced Marriage for prevalence and trends to be accurately monitored and understood

A forced marriage is where one or both people do not or cannot consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used to force them into the marriage. It is also when anything is done to make someone marry before they turn 18, even if there is no pressure or abuse.

Forced marriage is illegal in the UK. It is a form of domestic abuse and a serious abuse of human rights.

The pressure put on people to marry against their will may be physical, for example threats, physical violence, or sexual violence; and emotional and psychological, for example making someone feel like they are bringing 'shame' on their family.

4e. Pregnancy and Maternity

- In 23/24, 26 pregnant victim/survivors were engaged with a commissioned domestic abuse and VAWG service in Haringey, two of whom were living in refuge, and one of which gave birth whilst in refuge.

Pregnancy refers to the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

Pregnancy can sometimes be a trigger for the start of domestic abuse, or an increase and escalation in the severity of domestic abuse which was ongoing prior to the pregnancy. Domestic abuse during pregnancy has significant consequences for the woman, foetus, and child. As such, this is a high-risk group in relation to domestic abuse, with pregnancy and maternity being a significant risk factor for victimisation.

Accessing pregnancy and maternity services in Haringey:

Lack of understanding of services and how to access them (i.e., needing to self-refer to maternity services), needing to use interpreters due to lack of materials translated in community languages. Quality of care decreased during labour and postnatal. Respondents reporting being left alone due to understaffing. [Maternity Report Design 280324.pdf \(healthwatchharingey.org.uk\)](https://healthwatchharingey.org.uk/280324.pdf)

Findings of data

Potential Impacts

The recommissioning of the domestic abuse and VAWG services will have a positive impact on pregnant victim/survivors in Haringey in the following ways:

1. Both refuge accommodation services will accept referrals from women and their children, currently only one of the services supports families. The refuge will support women during their pregnancy and will support links into local Health Workers, Children's Services, GP services and schools to provide tailored support.
2. Community-based provision will provide support to women who are pregnant as well as those who are mothers, and include support with parenting, peer support, and understanding the impact of domestic abuse on children.

4f. Race

Data

Borough profile

Table 9: Race data in broad categories, comparing 2021 Haringey census data (Haringey), Women's Aid's England and Wales dataset (On track), and Haringey commissioned VAWG services data (HRS)

Race (16+) ³⁵	Haringey	On track 22/23	HRS 23/24
White ³⁶	126,471 (59%)	70.6%	149 (21.1%)
Black ³⁷	37,134 (17%)	6.4%	139 (19.7%)
Asian ³⁸	19,441 (9%)	10.3%	87 (12.3%)
Mixed ³⁹	12,042 (6%)	3.4%	42 (5.9%)
Any other ethnic group ⁴⁰	20,922 (10%)	2.2%	235 (33.2%)
Missing data / prefer not to say	-	7.1%	57 (7.8%)
Total	216,010	39,698	709

³⁵ ONS 2021 Census data

³⁶ White category -white British, white Irish, white other

³⁷ Black category - Black or Black British African, Black, or Black British Caribbean, any other Black or Black British

³⁸ Asian category – Bangladeshi, Chinese, Indian, any other Asian background

³⁹ Mixed category – White and Asian, White and Black African, white and Black Caribbean, any other mixed or multiple

⁴⁰ Any other ethnic group – Latinx, Arab, any other ethnic group.

Table 10: Race and Ethnicity data, comparing 2021 Haringey census data (Haringey), Women's Aid's England and Wales dataset (On track), and Haringey commissioned VAWG services data (HRS)

Race	Ethnic group	Haringey (16+) ⁴¹	Community-based	Refuge accommodation	HRS (may not add up to 100% due to rounding)
Asian	Bangladeshi	4,819 (1.8%)	10 (1.5%)	10 (17.3%)	20 (2.8%)
	Chinese	3,848 (1.5%)	5 (0.8%)	1 (1.7%)	6 (0.8%)
	Indian	5,838 (2.2%)	9 (1.4%)	9 (15.5%)	18 (2.5%)
	Pakistani	2,162 (0.8%)	9 (1.4%)	11 (19%)	20 (2.8%)
	Other Asian	6,413 (2.4%)	21 (3.2%)	2 (3.4%)	23 (3.2%)
Black	Black African	24,855 (9.4%)	50 (7.7%)	8 (13.8%)	58 (8.2%)
	Black Caribbean	16,339 (6.2%)	25 (3.9%)	5 (8.6%)	30 (4.2%)
	Other Black	5,272 (2.0%)	51 (7.9%)	0	51 (7.2%)
Mixed / multiple	White and Asian	3,915 (1.5%)	0	0	0*
	White and Black African	2,574 (1.0%)	5 (0.8%)	0	5 (0.7%)
	White and Black Caribbean	5,325 (2.0%)	11 (1.7%)	0	11 (1.5%)
	Other Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	6,742 (2.6%)	26 (4%)	0	26 (3.7%)
White	White British	84,298 (31.9%)	50 (7.7%)	7 (12.1%)	57 (8.1%)
	White Irish	5,701 (2.2%)	1 (0.2%)	0	1 (0.1%)
	Gypsy or Irish Traveller	235 (0.1%)	1 (0.2%)	0	2 (0.3%)
	Roma	2,004 (0.8%)			

⁴¹ 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics, accessed December 2022

	Other White	58,343 (22.1%)	87 (13.4%)	2 (3.4%)	89 (12.6%)
Other	Arab	2,525 (1.0%)	14 (2.2%)	3 (5.2%)	17 (2.4%)
	Any other ethnic group	23,030 (8.7%)	218 (34%)	0	218 (30.8%)
Prefer not to say			1 (0.2%)	-	1 (0.1%)
Unknown			55 (8.5%)	-	55 (7.8%)
TOTAL		216,010	649	58	707

Table 11: Race and ethnicity data comparing Haringey MARAC data for 22/23, and Safelives MARAC data for all London boroughs in 22/23.

Equalities - Race and Ethnicity	Haringey MARAC	Safelives MARAC data, London
Total Black and Other Racially Minoritised Ethnicity Population	44.1%	46.4%
Total Black and Other Racially Minoritised Ethnicity Population (including White - Other)	69.2%	-

Findings of data

Race and ethnicity data is recorded for 709 victim/survivors who were referred into Haringey commissioned VAWG services in the year 23/24. This data is broken down into refuge accommodation-based services, and community-based services to show the nuances in types of services needed and accessed across different racial and ethnic categories.

Tables 10 and 11 compares service data to Haringey census data; in 2021, more white residents over the age of 16 were living in Haringey than any other race and ethnicity, followed by Black and any other ethnic group. Asian and mixed represent the smallest race category. Whilst White residents make up the largest racial group in Haringey, representing 59% of the borough population, only 21% of victim/survivors who accessed commissioned services identified as White.

Data from commissioned services shows that in 23/24, victim/survivors who accessed support overwhelmingly identified as 'any other ethnic group', followed by 'White'. Broken down into smaller categories, 'White other' was the second largest group (this category would include Eastern European and depending on how race and ethnicity is self-reported could also include Turkish), followed by 'Black other'. Black and ethnically minoritised women accessed refuge accommodation at a much higher proportion than white women and the Haringey population, indicating a greater need for safe accommodation.

The number of high-risk cases discussed at MARAC for black and other racially minoritised ethnicity population is slightly lower than the London average. However, when the category 'White Other' is included, this figure increases to 69.2%. The inclusion of the category white other is useful to an extent, on the one hand this category will include victim/survivors who are ethnically minoritised and may face discrimination and barriers as a result of their ethnicity, however this category also includes victim/survivors who will not face discrimination or challenges as a result of their ethnicity, e.g., white Canadian, or white French.

There are further limits in what the quantitative data can tell us about the level of need across different racial and ethnic categories, largely due to the different ways providers, and victim/survivors record and self-report race and ethnicity. The data available can be used a starting point to understand how accessible services are and to Haringey's diverse communities.

Research shows Black and minority ethnic victim/survivors access support much later than white victim/survivors; in other words, Black and minority ethnic victim/survivors suffer abuse for longer before getting help. This can result with them experiencing more serious violence and abuse⁴².

The Domestic Abuse Commissioners 2022 Summary report, A Patchwork of Provision shows that Black victim/survivors were more likely to want or need access to refuge accommodation, compared to any other ethnic group⁴³. This is reflected in the commissioned data, where Asian Bangladeshi, Black African, and Asian Pakistani are overrepresented across refuge accommodation compared to the Haringey population yet, most ethnic groups are underrepresented across the community-based services.

Need for independent services: Black and ethnically minoritised victim/survivors more fearful or mistrustful of statutory services, particularly social services and family courts, greater need for independent services who can advocate on their behalf⁴⁴. This mistrust extends to other support services such as mental health services or interpreters.

Refugees and asylum seekers' experiences of domestic abuse and wider forms of VAWG is also well documented. Research shows refugees and asylum seekers experience abuse and trauma as part of their migration and post-migration stories and often at the hands of multiple perpetrators⁴⁵.

Insecure (or perceived) immigration status is weaponised by perpetrators, who use the fear of deportation and separation from their children, to exert coercive and controlling abuse, also known as 'Immigration abuse', on their victims⁴⁶.

⁴² Page 16 [FINAL-Reframing-the-links.pdf \(womensaid.org.uk\)](#) accessed 24th June 2024

⁴³ Page 5 [DAC Mapping-Abuse-Survivors Summary-Report Feb-2023 Digital.pdf \(domesticabusecommissioner.uk\)](#) accessed 24th June 2024

⁴⁴ Page 6 [DAC Mapping-Abuse-Survivors Summary-Report Feb-2023 Digital.pdf \(domesticabusecommissioner.uk\)](#) Accessed 24th June 2024

⁴⁵ Page 13 [FINAL-Reframing-the-links.pdf \(womensaid.org.uk\)](#) accessed 24th June 2024

⁴⁶ Page 2 [FINAL-DOC Firewall-Report 2023 V2.pdf \(domesticabusecommissioner.uk\)](#) accessed 24th June 2024

Black and ethnically minoritised women escaping abuse often experience additional barriers to accessing support services or may be excluded from these services. This is due to unfamiliarity, information gaps in service provision, cultural or religious incompatibility, and a lack of appropriate language services. Additionally, Black and ethnically minoritised victim/survivors often face repeat victimisation in the form of racism and discriminatory cultural stereotypes, which minimises their experiences of abuse. Women who have inadequate experiences of mainstream services, as a result of isolation, institutional racism, harmful stereotyping, and inability to access supportive networks as a result of language barriers, are more likely to return to an abusive relationship.

Specialist by and led VAWG organisations for Black and ethnically minoritised communities are developed to respond specifically to the needs of different communities and individuals who face multiple barriers to accessing support services. Such organisations are independently developed, led and delivered by and for Black and ethnically minoritised women, and many women may never access support unless it is from a Black and/or ethnically minoritised led service. As such, services led by and for Black and ethnically minoritised women are an essential part of an effective service model.

Potential Impacts

The recommissioning of Domestic Abuse and VAWG services will have a positive impact on victim/survivors from ethnically minoritised backgrounds in Haringey for the following reasons:

1. Strengthening of specialist by and for services for ethnically minoritised victim/survivors. Both the refuge accommodation, and community based domestic abuse support services will be expanded to enable more victim/survivors from ethnically minoritised backgrounds to access specialist services.
2. Longer support for ethnically minoritised victim/survivors: including floating support, group and peer work in the ethnically minoritised women's domestic abuse service will enable victim/survivors to access support throughout their journey to recovery and safety.
3. Creation of the Pathway Officer will facilitate more referrals to pan-London specialist services that are not commissioned by the council. Giving victim/survivors better access to services and strengthening the Coordinated Community response in Haringey through partnership working.
4. New services will be expected to deliver training under the Haringey VAWG Training programme, with the aim of increasing awareness of VAWG and as a result being best able to support victim/survivors at the earliest stage possible.

4g. Religion or belief

Table 12: Comparison of religions or beliefs held by Haringey population to service users of Haringey commissioned community-based and refuge accommodation VAWG services.

Religion	Haringey	HRS community-based services	HRS Refuge
Buddhist	2,274	1	1
Christian	86,801	136	16
Hindu	3,123	4	6
Jewish	5,944	1	0
Muslim	24,839	174	25
Sikh	716	2	2
Any other faith	5,282	44	0
No faith	70,379	110	8
Not known/disclosed	16,639	152	-
Missing data	-	25	-
Total	197,997	649	58

Most of Haringey residents aged 16 and above identified as being part of a religion or faith in the ONS 2021 Census. A third reported no faith and just under 8% did not disclose any information. Christian and Muslim Haringey residents make up the largest faith groups in the borough, and this seen reflected in commissioned services, although more Muslim victim/survivors accessed services in 23/24 than Christian victim/survivors.

Potential impact:

The recommissioning of DA and VAWG Pathway of Support Services will have a positive impact on victim/survivors from ethnically minoritised backgrounds in Haringey for the following reasons:

1. The expansion of the Ethnically Minoritised Women's Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service and the increase in number of units in the Ethnically Minoritised Refuge Accommodation Service will enable more choice, representation, and specialist support to victim/survivors from diverse religious backgrounds and beliefs.
2. The creation of the Pathway Officer will increase awareness of, and referrals to, externally funded and pan-London by and for services, e.g., services for Jewish victim/survivors.

4h. Sex

Data

Table 13: Haringey 2021 Census data broken down by age and sex

Age	Total	Sex: female	Sex: male
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Population	264,250	137,003	127,247
Children (0-15)	48,240	23,583	24,557
Young people (16 – 24)	27,943	14,281	13,662
Adults aged 25 – 64	160,349	83,474	76,875
Older people 65+	27,718	15,565	12,153

What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic?

A combination of council-held data, and the census.

Detail the findings of the data

Seven of the 10 commissioned DA and VAWG services support cis and trans women and the LGBTQ+ IDVA service, MARAC coordination, and POW, work across all genders.

Haringey has a higher proportion of residents identifying as female compared to those identifying as male according to the 2021 ONS census. This difference increases with age and is in part due to increased life expectancy for women. The gap has increased since the 2011 Census which tentatively may be due to reduced international migration in the wake of Brexit and travel restrictions during the coronavirus pandemic.

As the term VAWG suggests, cis women are disproportionately more likely to be subjected to domestic abuse and other forms of gendered abuse than cis men. The Crime Survey for England Wales 22/23, estimates, 5.7%, or 1.4 million women experienced domestic abuse, compared to 3.2% or 751,000 of men. In Haringey this means approximately 9,000 residents, or 6,000 women and 3,000 men, aged 16 years and above experienced domestic abuse in 22/23.

Cis women are also more likely to die by domestic homicide than any other form of homicide. 2/3 of women killed between April 2019 and March 2022, were victims of domestic homicide. One in eight cis men killed in the same time period, were killed by domestic homicide⁴⁷.

Cis men are more likely to be perpetrators of abuse, regardless of the sex and gender of the victim. Of the 249 cis women domestic homicide victims between April 2019

⁴⁷ Table 21 from ONS Crime Survey for England and Wales 22/23, Domestic Abuse prevalence and victim Characteristics data set.

and March 2022, the suspect was a cis man in most cases (241). In the majority of cis women domestic homicides, the suspect was a cis man partner or ex-partner (74.7%), whereas in the majority of cis men domestic homicides, the suspect was a cis man family member (66.1%).

Limits of the data

Commissioned services provide data on service users however this data is aggregated therefore there are limits to what we can learn from it. It is unclear in the LGBTQ+ IDVA service for instance, which works with victim/survivors of all genders, what the specific needs are of men compared to women. Therefore, whilst we can see the service has supported a number of men in 23/24, it is not possible to take an intersectional approach to understanding need.

Potential Impacts

Recommissioning VAWG services will have a positive impact on cis women experiencing domestic abuse and other forms of VAWG. Providing essential services to keep cis women safe and rebuild support networks as well as increasing financial stability, access to safe accommodation, and health and wellbeing outcomes.

The Children and Young People service will educate children and young people, aiming to reduce levels of VAWG by teaching children and young people about healthy relationships, consent, emotional wellbeing, and breaking domestic abuse cycles by providing emotional support for young people growing up in abusive households.

New services will be expected to deliver training under the Haringey VAWG Training programme, with the aim of increasing awareness of VAWG and as a result being best able to support victim/survivors at the earliest stage possible.

4i. Sexual Orientation

Data

Borough profile

- 12,167 Haringey residents aged 16 and over (5.63%) identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or other (LGB+) – 9th in London
- Any sexuality other than straight or heterosexual, Haringey 12,167 residents aged 16 and above (5.63%) – 9th in London

Table 14: Haringey 2021 census data broken down by sexual orientation, and rate compared to all other London boroughs

Sexual orientation	Haringey	Percentage	Rank in London
Straight or heterosexual	180,100	83.4%	25 th

Sexuality	HRS 23/24 (total referrals)		HRS 22/23 (total referrals)	
Straight or heterosexual	662	72.5%	847	86.3%
LGBQ+	69	7.5%	71	7.2%
Missing / not answered	182	20%	64	6.5%
Total	913	100%	982	100%

Additional data sources

Data

⁴⁸ Sexual orientation, UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

Between 4.7 and 6.1% of Londoners aged 16 or over were estimated to identify as lesbian, gay, or “Other” in 2020.⁴⁹ Currently available estimates at a more local level (for example from the ONS Subnational sexual identity estimates, UK: 2013 to 2015) have very large statistical uncertainties and are therefore unreliable for practical purposes. The “Haringey (16+)” figures given below assume that Haringey is representative of London as a whole. Data from the 2021 Census has for the first time given accurate and reliable figures at borough and lower levels; for further detail see below.

Inner London boroughs generally had a higher proportion of LGBTQ+ residents, which may be related to a younger population with more students. Census data suggest Haringey has the highest proportion of LGBTQ+ residents for an outer London borough, and more than Westminster and City, Hammersmith & Fulham, Wandsworth, Greenwich, and Kensington & Chelsea.

Data also suggests LGBTQ+ victim/survivors are more likely to have self-harmed and/or have drug and alcohol misuse in the 12 months prior to accessing support services, are more likely to experience high levels of risk and harm, and have complex needs compared to non-LGBT+ victims and survivors⁵⁰.

They are more likely to experience isolation and family breakdown and a significant proportion of LGBTQ+ people experience familial abuse related to their sexuality and/or gender identity⁵¹. Further, fleeing familial abuse and violence can result in LGBTQ+ victim/survivors using dating apps to find somewhere to sleep, or engaging in survival sex work.

Research on LGBTQ+ young peoples’ experiences suggest they are more likely to face violence, develop substance misuse issues and be exposed to sexual exploitation than their non-LGBTQ+ peers⁵²

Recent research suggests that people who are autistic may express a wider range of sexual orientations compared to their peers in the general population⁵³. Research also suggests autistic women and girls may be 2-3 times more likely to experience sexual violence⁵⁴.

⁴⁹ [Sexual orientation, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/peopleandplaces/populationandmigration/sexualorientationandgenderidentity).

⁵⁰ Page 26 [Free to be safe web.pdf \(safelives.org.uk\)](https://safelives.org.uk/free-to-be-safe-web.pdf) accessed 5th June 2024

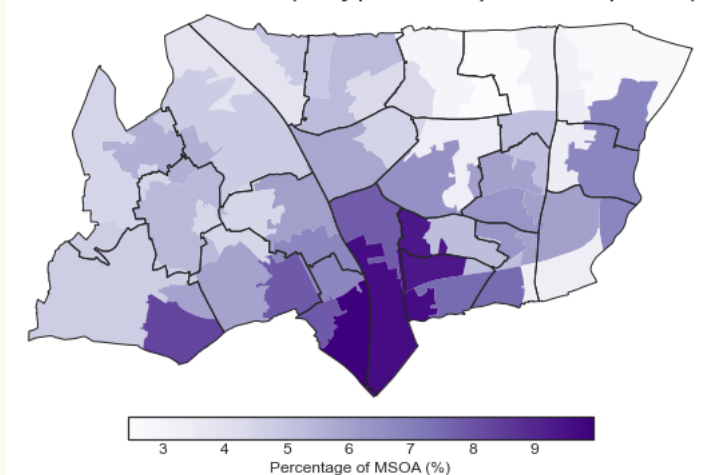
⁵¹ [Galop-LGBT-Experiences-of-Abuse-from-Family-Members.pdf](#) accessed 18th June 2024

⁵² Page 16 [akt-thelgbtq2byouthhomelessnessreport2021.pdf](#) accessed 18th June 2024

⁵³ E. Weir, C. Allison, and S. Baron-Cohen, [The sexual health, orientation, and activity of autistic adolescents and adults](#), Autism Research 14, 2342 (2021)

⁵⁴ [Evidence That Nine Autistic Women Out of Ten Have Been Victims of Sexual Violence - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)

Sexual orientation (Gay|Lesbian|Bisexual|other)



Locally there is a greater proportion of residents identifying as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Other (LGB+) towards the south of the borough.

Potential Impacts

The recommissioning of the LGBT+ IDVA service will have a positive impact on LGB+ victim/survivors in Haringey in the following ways:

5. Specialist by and for IDVA service for LGB+ victim/survivors which works across all forms of VAWG.
6. Advocacy and support for LGB+ victim/survivors to navigate the housing pathway and access safe accommodation, and tertiary health services including alcohol and substance misuse, and mental health services.
7. Strong and intersectional Coordinated Community Response in Haringey, facilitating better partnership working across domestic abuse and VAWG services and ensuring strong links with Haringey's LGB+ communities and victim/survivors can easily access support when needed.

4j. Socioeconomic Status (local)

Data

Borough profile

Table 16: number of reported domestic abuse offences in 2023/24 at Haringey ward level

Ward	Number of reported offences 23/24
Northumberland Park	261
Tottenham Central	236
Bruce Castle	224
White Hart Lane	220
Noel Park	219

Woodside	215
West Green	177
Tottenham Hale	162
Harringay	151
Hornsey	144
St Ann's	134
South Tottenham	129
Seven Sisters	124
Hermitage & Gardens	95
Bounds Green	94
Stroud Green	88
Muswell Hill	75
Fortis Green	69
Highgate	67
Crouch End	56
Alexandra Park	45

Met police data for 23/24 shows 2,989 domestic abuse offences were reported in Haringey, of those 768 were domestic abuse offences with injury. This figure does not include incidents where the police were called out, but following investigation, was not deemed an offence or crime.

Of those offences, the location is known for 2,985 offences, down to the safer neighbourhood team/ward level. The east of the borough has the highest number and rates of offences reported and recorded by the met police.

Income⁵⁵

- Haringey is the 4th most deprived in London as measured by the IMD score 2019 (where 1 = most deprived). The most deprived LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas or small neighbourhood areas) are more heavily concentrated in the east of the borough.
- An estimated 26% of all households in Haringey, and 17% of Haringey residents aged 16-65, receive Universal Credit as of August 2022.⁵⁶ These average figures hide significant financial inequality in the borough – the proportion of households on UC in Tottenham and Northumberland Park is around four times higher than the most affluent areas (Crouch End, Highgate, Muswell Hill).

An estimated 34% of employee jobs in the borough are paid less than the London Living Wage of £13.15 per hour – the highest in London (and indeed nationally

⁵⁵ Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, ONS, 2019

⁵⁶ Stat-Explore, Department for Work and Pensions, accessed 3rd January 2023.

once local adjustments are accounted for).^{57,58} This figure is even higher for part-time roles (estimated at 70%), highlighting the impact of “the gig economy” in Haringey.

Educational Attainment⁵⁹

While Haringey’s proportion of students attaining grade 5 or above in English and Mathematics GCSEs is higher than the national average, it performs worse than London.

5.5% of Haringey residents have no qualifications.

What data sources will you use to inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on people under this protected characteristic?

A combination of council-held data, the census and studies showing national and regional trends.

Detail the findings of the data

Socio-economic deprivation can make a victim/survivor more vulnerable to different forms of abuse, such as economic abuse, research shows that ‘male’ control of income and low socioeconomic status in terms of insufficient family income and living in rented houses are strong predictors of abuse.

However, it is important to state that DA can and does happen everywhere, regardless of socio-economic background, and does not mean domestic abuse is more prevalent in the east of the borough because there are high levels of deprivation or higher rates of DA incidents reported to the police. Domestic abuse and wider forms of VAWG affect all sections of society and there are other reasons which may explain why reporting is higher in the east of the borough compared to the west for example, neighbours may be more likely to call the police due to dense population and higher likelihood of overhearing abuse.

The cost-of-living crisis has had a negative impact on their incomes with a quarter of respondents to the Women’s Aid survey in 2022, needing access to food banks⁶⁰. Further, two thirds (66%) of survivors reported abusers were using the cost-of-living increase and concerns about financial hardship as a tool for coercive control. Lastly, the survey highlighted how increases in costs over the last few years have limited victim/survivors’ ability to leave abusive relationships.

Potential Impacts

⁵⁷ Employee jobs below the real living wage 2022, Sakinah Abdul Aziz and Joe Richardson, Living Wage Foundation, November 2022

⁵⁸ Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2022, Office for National Statistics

⁵⁹ Source: Annual Population Survey 2019 (via nomis)

⁶⁰ [The cost of living - Women’s Aid \(womensaid.org.uk\)](https://www.womensaid.org.uk)

The recommissioning of Domestic Abuse and VAWG services will have a positive impact on victim/survivors from socio-economically deprived backgrounds in Haringey for the following reasons:

1. Increased provision working across all levels of risk will enable better and more comprehensive support to all victim/survivors.
2. New services will be expected to co-locate across the borough with local community groups of services to ensure visibility of support available and to ease access to support for victim/survivors.
3. New services will be expected to deliver training under the Haringey VAWG Training programme, with the aim of increasing awareness of VAWG and as a result being best able to support victim/survivors at the earliest stage possible.

5. Key Impacts Summary

5a. Outline the key findings of your data analysis.

Domestic abuse and wider forms of VAWG affects people across all protected characteristics, however how, local, regional and national data demonstrate how abuse can differ across protected characteristics and affect a victim/survivor's ability to flee. The redesign and recommissioning of domestic abuse and wider VAWG services, will have a positive impact on victim/survivors across protected characteristics.

5b. Intersectionality

The understanding and recognition that discrimination and structural inequalities combine and overlap to negatively affect how one is perceived and experiences the world.

People of all sexes and 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 hurt⁶¹ or killed than male victims of domestic abuse⁶².

This Equality Impact Assessment has therefore for the most part, looked at how the DA and VAWG Pathway of Support Services redesign will impact women victim/survivors who also have one other protected characteristic.

Our understanding of local need and how intersecting identities (more than two protected characteristics) impacts type and severity of domestic abuse, and access

⁶¹ (Walby & Towers, 2017; Walby & Allen, 2004)

⁶² (ONS, 2020A; ONS, 2020B)

to support services, is limited. This is due to how data is collected by providers which is aggregated, so whilst we may be able to see number of ethnically minoritised women who access services, we are not currently able to understand how many of these women are also disabled, LGBTQ+, their religion etc. Case studies which are submitted on a quarterly basis (1-2 per service), provide valuable quantitative insights into the experience of victim/survivors and their intersecting identities, however we lack any data on rates of victim/survivors who are being referred into services but declining support. An intersectional understanding may enable providers and the Haringey VAWG Partnership to adapt its service provision to make services more accessible for victim/survivors.

Positive impact:

Victim/survivors will have greater choice in service they wish to access based on need, preferences and intersecting identities e.g., a black trans woman will have the choice to access an Ethnically Minoritised specialist service, or an LGBTQ+ specialist service based on where she feels most safe and what her support needs are.

We have considered the findings of this EqIA to create provision which acknowledges the varying impacts of VAWG on all protected characteristics. Our provision will ensure that these impacts are positive, and that those protected by equality legislation continue to be at the centre of Haringey's VAWG provision. A commitment has been made through the implementation of these services to prioritise specific actions which will promote an intersectional approach to preventing, recognising, and responding to the compounding inequalities and risks that some individuals may experience as a result of their ethnicity, race, disability, age, sexuality, gender identity, and immigration status.

5c. Data Gaps

Where appropriate we have consulted with relevant groups including victim/survivors of domestic abuse and wider forms of VAWG, and specialist services that support victim/survivors on their journey to safety and recovery. With this in mind we feel we have managed to consult with as many relevant groups as possible this process.

6. Overall impact of the policy for the Public Sector Equality Duty

Summarise the key implications of the decision for people with protected characteristics.

The new DA and VAWG Pathway of Support Services will not result in identified direct or indirect discrimination for any group that shares the relevant protected characteristics. The new services will aim to respond to the needs of residents and increase capacity of services to enable more partnership working between services as well as key stakeholders (i.e., referring agencies). The creation of the Pathway Officer will support working between commissioned services and with externally funded/pan-London services.

7. Amendments and mitigations

7a. What changes, if any, do you plan to make to your proposal because of the Equality Impact Assessment?

Further information on responding to identified impacts is contained within accompanying EQIA guidance

No major change to the proposal: the EQIA demonstrates the proposal is robust and there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

7b. What specific actions do you plan to take to remove or mitigate any actual or potential negative impact and to further the aims of the Equality Duty?

Not applicable

Lead officer: Annais Nourry

Timescale: TBA by Strategic Procurement

Please outline any areas you have identified where negative impacts will happen because of the proposal, but it is not possible to mitigate them.

Not applicable

Please provide a complete and honest justification on why it is not possible to mitigate them:

Not applicable

7. Ongoing monitoring

Summarise the measures you intend to put in place to monitor the equalities impact of the proposal as it is implemented.

- **Who will be responsible for the monitoring?**
The Commissioning Officer.
- **What the type of data needed is and how often it will be analysed.**
Data sources mentioned above will be reviewed, quarterly monitoring workbooks providing both quantitative and qualitative data will be submitted by commissioned providers.
- **When the services will be reviewed and what evidence could trigger an early revision**
As part of the commissioning cycle, need and impact of services will be monitored quarterly, and a needs analysis conducted after year two of the contracts, to allow for any changes within initial contract period (three years) and before extension period is approved and begins (year 4).

- **How to continue to involve relevant groups and communities in the implementation and monitoring of the policy?**

On an ongoing basis we will ensure the voices, insights and experiences of people with protected characteristics continue to feed into the council's understanding of DA and VAWG. A peer review panel will be convened, who will work with the commissioner and VAWG Programme Lead to review progress towards the vision and commitments set out in council's VAWG Strategy and aims and outcomes as set out in the DA and VAWG Pathway of Support Services Specification document.

Date of EQIA monitoring review:

8. Authorisation

EQIA approved by (Assistant Director) [Maddie Watkins]

Date

TBC

9. Publication

Please ensure the completed EQIA is published in accordance with the Council's policy.

Please contact the Policy & Strategy Team for any feedback on the EQIA process.