



# Violence Against Women and Girls Draft Strategy 2016-2026

Consultation  
1 August – 26 September



Territorial Policing

TOTAL POLICING



Haringey

Clinical Commissioning Group

**Haringey**  
LONDON

# Introduction

This strategy sets out our 10 year ambitions (2016-2026) for addressing and preventing violence against women and girls in Haringey.

The consultation on the strategy runs from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

**Our strategy covers 4 key priorities:**

## **Priority 1:**

**Developing a Coordinated Community Response**

## **Priority 2:**

**Prevention**

## **Priority 3:**

**Support for victim/survivors \***

## **Priority 4:**

**Holding perpetrators accountable**

The Strategy will enable:

- all partners to be clear about our agreed priorities for the next 10 years and embed these within their own organisations and strategic plans, including joint plans
- all residents to understand and feel able to contribute towards making Haringey a safer and healthier place for all
- victim/survivors to feel supported to seek help and empowered to lead safe lives, free from abuse
- perpetrators to know that their behaviour will not be tolerated and where they can seek support for abusive behaviour.

This strategy has been developed in partnership with a wide range of statutory, voluntary and community organisations from across Haringey. We have utilised existing evidence around 'what works' in addressing and preventing violence against women and girls. We will ensure that we co-produce all of our action plans with communities and survivors to ensure that we deliver meaningful change.

## **Why are we consulting on the violence against women and girls Strategy?**

- We value your views on our proposals as we want you to help us develop these priorities so that they make a real and sustainable difference to the safety and wellbeing of Haringey's residents. Feedback from the consultation will help us develop a plan to implement the strategy.

\* We use the term victim/survivor rather than 'victim' or 'survivor' to recognise the different stages that people who have experienced VAWG are at in their journey to recovery and independence.

- We want to encourage you to take part by reading this document and responding to the questions set out in the consultation chapter at the end.
- The full draft strategy is available at [www.haringey.gov.uk/vawgconsultation](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/vawgconsultation)

## **What is Violence Against Women and Girls?**

Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) is both a form of discrimination and a violation of human rights. Locally we have adopted the United Nations Declaration on Elimination of Violence against Women, which defines violence against women as:

*'Any act of gender based violence that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women [or girls], including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty' (1993, Article 1)*

The definition incorporates a wide range of abusive behaviours including physical, sexual, financial, emotional and psychological abuse.

It is important that Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) is not seen as a series of incidents or assaults which an individual experiences. Violence against women and girls describes violent and oppressive patterns of behaviour and practises, which achieve power and control over women and girls. It impacts on the physical safety, health and emotional well-being of individuals and impacts on families, carers, children and the community as a whole.

Violence against Women and Girls includes violence that is targeted at women or girls because of their gender or affects women and girls disproportionately. Examples of this type of violence are:

- Sexual violence, abuse and exploitation
- Sexual harassment and bullying
- Stalking
- Trafficking and forced prostitution
- Domestic violence and abuse
- Coercive and controlling behaviour
- Female genital mutilation
- Forced marriage
- Crime committed in the name of 'honour'

## **What do we mean by community?**

We see community as an umbrella term that covers groups of people who share common interests, faith, ethnicity, sets of experiences or who share a common characteristic such as living in the same neighbourhood, being in a particular population group or sharing a common culture.



## What do we know about violence against women and girls in Haringey?

While we know that violence against women and girls is a major problem in the borough, it is difficult to get detailed information on how many women and girls this affects each year in Haringey as there is underreporting and many victim/survivors do not come to the attention of services.

### However... we do know that:

- In the rolling year from April 2015 to March 2016: Haringey had the 5<sup>th</sup> highest rate of recorded domestic abuse in London (22 recorded incidents per 1000 population). There were 2787 domestic abuse incidents, a 21% increase on the previous 12 months. 592 sexual offences were recorded which represents nearly 10% increase in sexual offences from the previous 12 month period
- Of all contacts to Children and Young People Services in Haringey 70-80% involve domestic abuse.
- More than 1 in 5 women have been subject to stalking or harassment at some point in their lives. This means that 5000 women in Haringey will have been stalked.
- An estimated 3,500 women and girls are affected by female genital mutilation in Haringey, with 115 victim/survivors reported between April 2015 and March 2016 and we also know that there are high, but hidden levels of forced marriage and crimes committed in the name of 'honour'.
- The Everyday Sexism campaign which was set up to catalogue the experiences of women being sexually harassed on a regular basis has received over 100,000 submissions since its inception in April 2012.

## What are we proposing to do, in partnership with the whole community, for the next 10 years?

**Our vision over the next 10 years is for Haringey to become one of the safest boroughs in London for women and girls in which no form of abuse is tolerated.**

Our ambitions are to develop a coordinated community response to Violence against Women and Girls where:

1. Community groups play a key role in building the resources of victims to help deliver lasting improvement in their lives.
2. Community groups and champions provide safe spaces for disclosure and know how to respond appropriately.
3. Views that condone or support violence against women and girls are challenged and changed.
4. Education and community initiatives promote positive attitudes.
5. All services are trained and supported to take active steps to identify signs of abuse.
6. All services are equipped to support victim/survivors in a way that delivers lasting improvement in their lives.
7. Perpetrators of abuse are held accountable for their actions and supported to change their behaviour.
8. Perpetrator programmes support the safety and recovery of victims.

## What is our starting point?

Locally we have adopted some key statements to inform our response to violence against women and girls:

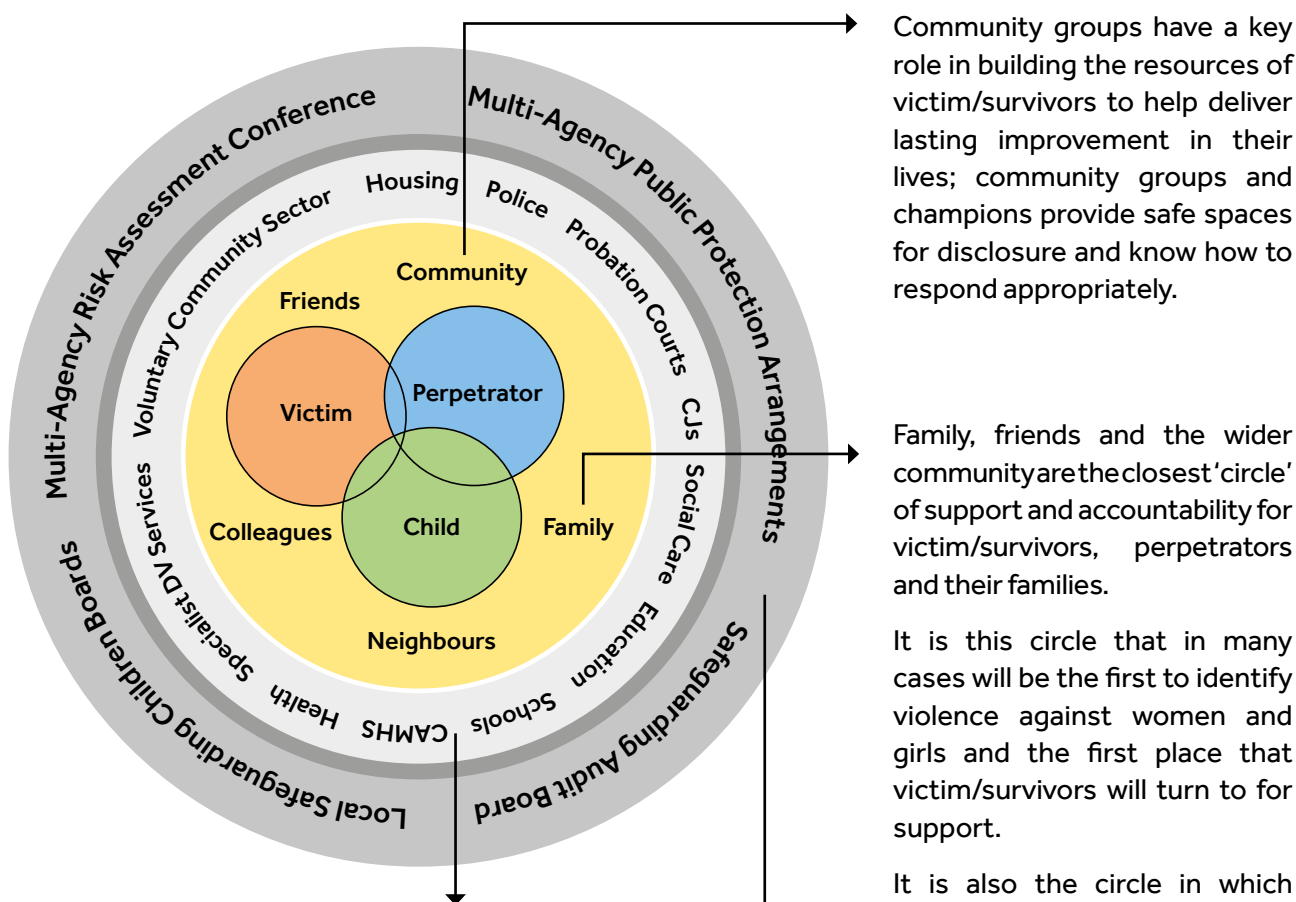
1. Violence against women and girls is an abuse of human rights.
2. Women and girls are disproportionately victims of the forms of abuse and crimes that are listed in the definition of violence against women and girls.
3. Too often women and girls are blamed for this form of abuse; the onus needs to be on our communities to create safe spaces where women and girls can disclose if they're experiencing abuse and seek support.
4. Perpetrators are responsible for their behaviour.
5. Perpetrators and abusers of violence against women and girls are overwhelmingly men, but men and boys can also be victims of some of these forms of violence.
6. Violence against women and girls is about power and control of women's behaviour and sexual agency by partners or family members, which reinforces gender inequality.
7. A coordinated community response, where agencies and the community work together, is the only effective way to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls.
8. Abuse can take place regardless of gender, class, income levels, ethnicity, faith, ability, sexuality or age although some people are at greater risk of some of the forms of violence including disabled women, young women, LGBT women and men and older women.
9. The forms of violence against women and girls are not discrete strands – they are often connected in a continuum of abuse. Victims often experience more than one form of this violence at any one time, or during their experience of abuse.
10. Haringey is an extremely diverse borough and a 'one size fits all' approach to supporting victim/survivors will not be effective. We need a person-centred approach to effect real change in the borough.

# Priority 1: Coordinated community response

## Why a coordinated community response?

- Our starting point: a coordinated community response, where agencies and the community work together, is the only way to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls.
- Our ambition: To have a coordinated community response to violence against women and girls in Haringey.

## The Coordinated Community Response Model



Community groups have a key role in building the resources of victim/survivors to help deliver lasting improvement in their lives; community groups and champions provide safe spaces for disclosure and know how to respond appropriately.

Family, friends and the wider community are the closest 'circle' of support and accountability for victim/survivors, perpetrators and their families.

It is this circle that in many cases will be the first to identify violence against women and girls and the first place that victim/survivors will turn to for support.

It is also the circle in which the attitudes that facilitate violence against women and girls are 'located'. It is within the community that these attitudes are most effectively challenged.

The agencies in this circle are involved in a variety of capacities when help is sought by victim/survivors of violence against women and girls. They are the first professional points of contact where abuse can be identified and support given.

Information and Advice services must effectively signpost victim/survivors to the right support.

It is essential that training equips front-line staff to respond effectively.

There needs to be information sharing between partners so that support for victim/survivors is joined up.

The outer circle is where the safety and risk management procedures sit that take a multi-agency approach to supporting victim/survivors and holding perpetrators accountable.

### **What do we know?**

- The elements of a coordinated community response (see diagram above) are in place – Haringey has a strong community that can be supported to address violence against women and girls.
- No single agency can be responsible for ending violence against women and girls.

### **Where do we want to be in 10 years?**

- All victim/survivors have the confidence to disclose violence against women and girls; this triggers immediate efforts to connect victims to specialist support organisations to deliver long term, person-centred change.
- The 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.

### **What are we, in partnership, going to do?**

- Ensure that our model means that any disclosure of violence against women and girls will trigger immediate efforts to support the victim/survivor, including connecting them to community initiatives that can reduce their isolation, increase their confidence and provide them with a supportive network.
- Work with community groups to co-design the guidance and support they need to create safe spaces, deal with disclosures and connect victims to support.
- Develop a community response where everyone feels that they have a role to play – everyone feels 'this relates to me' when they see or hear communication messages about supporting friends and family or about safely holding perpetrators to account.

# Priority 2: Prevention

## Why is prevention a priority?

- Our starting point: violence against women and girls is an abuse of someone's human rights and must be prevented.
- Our ambitions: Views and behaviours that condone or support violence against women and girls are challenged and changed; Education and community initiatives promote non-abusive, healthy ways of relating.

## What do we know?

- Violence against women and girls is a continuum of abuse (from sexual harassment through to homicide) defined by power and control, which reinforces gender inequality.
- Prevention is fundamentally about challenging and changing views and behaviours that perpetuate violence against women and girls and encouraging healthy ways of relating.
- Witnessing or experiencing abuse in their home lives or own relationships can have a significant impact on young people's ability to participate fully in school life and achieve academically.

## Where do we want to be in 10 years?

- Everyone knows about all forms of violence against women and girls and everyone across all our services and communities is involved in preventing abuse.
- Haringey is a borough that has a zero tolerance to violence against women and girls and rates of reporting of all forms of violence against women and girls have increased but a shift in attitudes means that less violence is happening; robust data enables us to target interventions and assess their effectiveness.

## What are we, in partnership, going to do?

- Work with all communities across the borough to ensure that everyone has the language to describe, and has an understanding about, what healthy relationships are and ensure that everyone is on message about not tolerating or condoning violence against women and girls.
- Ensure high quality relationship education in schools and other youth settings as well as providing resources for parents, carers and guardians; support the facilitation of youth champions/peer supporters, recognising that young people will often disclose abuse to other young people, and equip them with the skills, knowledge and experience to support other victims.



# Priority 3: Support for Victims

## Why is this a priority?

- Our starting point: Haringey is a diverse borough and a 'one size fits all' approach to supporting victim/survivors will not be effective. We need a person-centred approach to effect real change in the borough.
- Our ambitions: All services are trained and supported to take active steps to identify and respond to signs of abuse; services are equipped to support victim/survivors in a way that delivers lasting improvement in their lives.

## What do we know?

- We know that victim/survivors often have to tell their stories up to 16 times before they are listened to and provided with support. We know that providing targeted interventions and a personalised approach at an earlier stage means better outcomes for victims as well as saving money for services.
- Victims of abuse face a range of barriers (financial, fear, multiple disadvantage, 'cultural' and so on), to reporting abuse and we need to support them to overcome these barriers to facilitate disclosure.

## Where do we want to be in 10 years?

- Where violence against women and girls is identified in a family, risk and need assessment for all members of a family takes place at the same time and leads to wrap-around support for families.
- All interventions are trauma-focused and treat victim/survivors as individuals based on an understanding of their existing resources and vulnerabilities, and the resources they need to achieve independence.

## What are we, in partnership, going to do?

- Ensure that safeguarding procedures include all violence against women and girls referral pathways and procedures, ensuring professionals and victim/survivors know how to access support to signposting.
- Ensure that women have a choice of specialist support services, designed with real survivor input, based on what they feel is the most appropriate and making sure that small, specialist organisations who provide support to particular groups (BME, disability, LGBT, older women etc.) are involved in the partnership.
- Facilitate all organisations supporting victims of violence against women and girls to develop skills practice around asking the right questions to elicit disclosures and to discuss risk and safety planning as well as exploring the victim's own wishes and feelings around support.

# Priority 4: Perpetrator Accountability

## Why is this a priority?

- Our starting point: perpetrators are responsible for their behaviour – it is a chosen intentional behaviour.
- Our ambitions: perpetrators of abuse are held accountable for their actions; the levels of violence they perpetrate decrease.

## What do we know?

- Perpetrators of violence against women and girls are overwhelmingly men, but men and boys can also be victims of some forms of violence against women and girls.
- A multi-pronged approach with criminal justice interventions and support to change behaviour as well as support for the non-abusing partner has been proven to be most effective with perpetrators and reduce rates of violence against women and girls.
- In the wider context of violence against women and girls, perpetrators can be intimate partners but also wider family members, sometimes in collusion with the community.

## Where do we want to be in 10 years?

- Haringey has zero tolerance to abuse; women and girls feel safe at home, in public places and on public transport.
- Haringey holds perpetrators to account through a range of interventions that decrease risks to victims and their wider family members, provide appropriate penalties, as well as provide specialist support to identify and change behaviour
- All services are equipped to recognise and address *patterns* of abuse, and identify perpetrators of coercive and controlling behaviour as well as recognising the 'charm bias' of perpetrators.
- Perpetrator programmes lead to sustainable behaviour change in perpetrators, and are connected to specialist services so that the safety of the victim/survivor is always maintained.

## What are we, in partnership, going to do?

- Commission perpetrator programmes and fully integrate them into the wider response to violence against women and girls, so as to inform risk assessments, training for frontline staff, support for community groups, and delivery of communications campaigns.
- Ensure effective multi-agency working between perpetrator and children and young people services as well as wider family services are strengthened to increase perpetrator accountability.
- Work with the CPS and other criminal justice partners to increase the percentage of successful criminal justice outcomes for victim/survivors and increased accountability for perpetrators across all strands of violence against women and girls.

# Haringey's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy Consultation 2016

## How can you respond to this consultation?

We are consulting on Haringey's Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, a plan in which we set out our approach to addressing and preventing violence against women and girls.

We are proposing to focus on 4 priorities for the Violence against Women and Girls Strategy. These priorities are:

### Priority 1:

**Coordinated Community Response**

### Priority 2:

**Prevention**

### Priority 3:

**Support for Victim/Survivors**

### Priority 4:

**Perpetrator Accountability**

We would value your views on our suggested strategic priorities to ensure they make a real and sustainable difference to the lives of Haringey's residents.

Feedback from this consultation will be used to help develop a plan to implement the strategy.

Please complete the questions by the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and e-mail your response to: [vawgconsultation@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:vawgconsultation@haringey.gov.uk) or post to Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy Consultation, Public Health Directorate, Level 4, River Park House, 225 High Road, London N22 8HQ. You can also complete the consultation online at [www.haringey.gov.uk/vawgconsultation](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/vawgconsultation)

## Q1. Are you responding as a:

Local resident

Public sector organisation

Local business

Local community or voluntary sector organisation

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q2. If responding on behalf of an organisation/business, please give the organisation's name**

## Priority 1: Coordinated Community Response

**Q3. Looking at the CCR diagram (on page 6), how can we best support victims as a whole community?**

**Q4. What can we all do better to support victims?**

**Q5. Do you have any additional comments?**

## Priority 2: Prevention

**Q6. Can you suggest other actions we can take to prevent violence against women and girls?**

No  Yes (please specify below)

**Q7. What is the best approach to take with young people to prevent violence against women and girls in the future?**

## Priority 3: Support

**Q8. Are there any other ways we could better support victim/survivors?**

No  Yes (please specify below)

**Q9. What more could you do to support your friends/families and neighbours?  
What support would you need to do this?**

## Priority 4: Perpetrators

**Q10. What do you think we should have as our approach to perpetrators?**

**Q11. How do you think we could best engage people within the community to safely tackle perpetrators?**

**Q12. Do you think we are missing anything important from our priorities?**

No       Not sure       Yes (please specify below)

# About you

These questions help us understand who has answered this survey – the answers will be confidential. Please only answer if you are completing the questionnaire as an individual and as a Haringey resident.

## Q13. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-25
- 26-35
- 36-45
- 46-55
- 56-65
- 66-75
- 75+

## Q14. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

## Q15. What is your sex/gender?

## Q16. What is your ethnic group?

- White - British
- White - Irish
- White Other - Greek / Greek Cypriot
- White Other - Turkish
- White Other - Turkish / Cypriot
- White Other - Kurdish
- White Other - Gypsy / Roma
- White Other - Irish Traveller
- Black or Black British - African
- Black or Black British - Caribbean

- Asian or Asian British - Indian
- Asian or Asian British - Pakistani
- Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi
- Asian or Asian British - East African Asian
- Mixed - White and Black African
- Mixed - White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed - White and Asian
- Chinese
- Any other ethnic background (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

## Q17. What is your religion?

- No religion
- Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant, & all other Christian denominations)
- Buddhist
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Any other religion (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

## Q18. Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?

- Heterosexual or Straight
- Gay or Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.**

Please complete the questions by the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and e-mail your response to: [vawgconsultation@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:vawgconsultation@haringey.gov.uk) or post to Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy Consultation, Public Health Directorate, Level 4, River Park House, 225 High Road, London N22 8HQ. You can also complete the consultation online at [www.haringey.gov.uk/vawgconsultation](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/vawgconsultation)

# Support services



We recognise that Violence Against Women and Girls may have affected you personally. If you need support after reading or completing this consultation, please contact:

National Support Services	Contact Details
National Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247 or <a href="http://www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk/">www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk/</a>
Men's Advice Line	0808 801 0327 or <a href="http://www.mensadviceline.org.uk/">www.mensadviceline.org.uk/</a>
Respect phone line (for perpetrators)	0808 802 4040 or <a href="http://www.respect.uk.net">www.respect.uk.net</a>
Forced Marriage Unit	0207 0080151 or <a href="mailto:fmufco.gov.uk">fmufco.gov.uk</a>
IKWRO	0207 920 6460 or <a href="http://www.ikwro.org.uk">www.ikwro.org.uk</a>
FGM Helpline	0800 028 3550 or <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk/fgm">www.childline.org.uk/fgm</a>
Karma Nirvana	0800 5999247 or <a href="http://www.karmanirvana.org.uk">www.karmanirvana.org.uk</a>
FORWARD (for FGM)	<a href="http://www.forwarduk.org.uk">www.forwarduk.org.uk</a>
Paladin (for stalking)	020 3866 4107 or <a href="http://www.paladinservice.co.uk">www.paladinservice.co.uk</a>

Haringey Support Services	Contact Details
IDVA Service	0300 012 0213 or <a href="http://www.niaendingviolence.org.uk">www.niaendingviolence.org.uk</a>
Solace Women's Aid	0808 802 5565 or <a href="http://www.solacewomensaid.org">www.solacewomensaid.org</a>
Hearthstone	020 8888 5362
IMECE	020 7354 1359 or <a href="http://www.imece.org.uk">www.imece.org.uk</a>
North London Rape Crisis	0808 801 0305 or <a href="http://solacewomensaid.org/get-help/north-london-rape-crisis/">http://solacewomensaid.org/get-help/north-london-rape-crisis/</a>

If you provide services for victims of any form of violence against women and girls and want to get involved in our partnership, please let us know.