

**Agenda Item: 9**

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Birmingham Health &amp; Wellbeing Board</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> November 2016</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>DELIVERING THE BIRMINGHAM DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION STRATEGY 2017-2020</b>
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Birmingham City Council</b>
<b>Presenting Officers</b>	<b>Paula Harding</b>

<b>Report Type:</b>	<b>Endorsement and Decision</b>
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**1. Purpose:**

This report introduces the consultation on the proposed Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy; seeks the Board's endorsement of the ambitions of the Strategy and asks the Board to consider whether it is well placed to lead on particular strands of the Strategy.

**2. Implications:**

BHWB Strategy Priorities	Child Health	Y
	Vulnerable People	Y
	Systems Resilience	Y
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		Y
Joint Commissioning and Service Integration		Y
Maximising transfer of Public Health functions		
Financial		
Patient and Public Involvement		
Early Intervention		Y
Prevention		Y

### 3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That Members consider assisting in extending the consultation on the Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy through their organisations and stakeholders as referred to in section 6 of the report;
- 3.2 That the Board considers leading for the city on the implementation of defined strands of the Strategy as referred to in Section 5.

### 4. Background

- 4.1 In June 2015, the Board heard a preliminary analysis of Birmingham's response to domestic abuse. This analysis and the multi-agency review that followed, has led to a refresh of the Birmingham Domestic Violence and Abuse Needs Assessment and proposals for a Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy.
- 4.2 The Commissioning Centre of Excellence and Birmingham Community Safety Partnership are working jointly and with key contributions from partner agencies across Health, Criminal Justice and the Voluntary Sector to achieve a collaborative and co-ordinated multi-agency and city-wide approach to the prevention and early identification of domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse affects every area of Birmingham life and every ambition for the City whether this be for the health, education, safety and opportunity of our citizens, both adult and child, or the City's economy and community cohesion. Tackling domestic abuse therefore has become a shared priority for each of our strategic partnerships in the City.

### 5. The Proposed Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy

- 5.1 The proposed Strategy (Appendix 1) set outs Birmingham's commitment to preventing domestic abuse. It seeks to address the barriers that all citizens face in gaining support and protection and achieving the equality that is needed to end domestic abuse in the City. The key priorities for the Strategy are structure across three areas of prevention: changing attitudes (primary prevention); early help (secondary prevention); safety and support (tertiary prevention)
- 5.2 Clearly each area of domestic abuse prevention contributes to the outcomes sought by the Health and Wellbeing Board. Their specific alignment has loosely been drawn in the 'Plan on a Page' (Appendix 2) but Board Members' particular attention needs to be drawn to:

#### 5.2.1 Changing Attitudes

The scale and increasing prevalence of domestic abuse in the city, represents a major public health issue. Much more needs to be done across the population of adults, children and young people to change how domestic abuse, predominantly as violence against women and girls, is condoned or tolerated.

**We would ask the Board to consider whether the proposals within the strategy to change societal attitudes go far enough, or whether a wider public health approach could be envisaged and realised.**

### 5.2.2 Early Help

The role of trusted professionals, particularly GPs, hospital staff and fire fighters, in being able to identify, signpost and support victims of domestic abuse (both adult and child) much earlier in their experiences, has become an integral part of this strategy and has a firm evidence base.

**We would ask the Board to consider whether the roll-out of programmes such as the IRIS programme, might be an area which the Board would seek to drive.**

The impact of domestic abuse on families with multiple and complex needs is now well understood. The city has previously developed good practice in working with individuals and families experiencing domestic abuse where mental health and substance misuse was a consequence of this abuse. In addition, and more recently, we have seen a growing street population of women with multiple needs.

**We would ask the Board to consider whether it would want to play a part in driving good practice across mental health, substance misuse and domestic abuse services and making sure that those with multiple and complex needs arising from domestic abuse are able to access the specialist services that they may need.**

### 5.2.3 Safety and Support

The role of tertiary prevention in domestic abuse is to ensure that victims and children are safe and protected from harm and the proposed strategy concentrates largely on operational matters of sufficiency, multi-agency co-ordination and integration of arrangements to manage risk and harm, particularly in respect of managing abusers. This involves adequate support, refuge and housing options for victims and children as well as behavioural change programmes for abusers, currently being commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Sufficiency of the response is critical in this level of prevention but the demand comes at a time of reducing public services, which only serve to exacerbate the demand further.

**We would ask the Board to consider its role in supporting a multi-agency commissioning model which strikes the balance between the provision of high risk protection and support for victims and children with earlier intervention and recovery models for both adults and children.**

## 6. Consultation on the Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy

- 6.1 Public consultation on the proposed Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017- 2020 runs from Monday 31 October 2016 to Friday 6 January 2017. Further details together with all supporting documents can be found online at:  
<https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/birmingham-domestic-abuse-prevention-strategy>

**We would ask the Board to encourage its staff and stakeholders to participate in the consultation and help secure the wide engagement with the forthcoming strategy that is needed for change on this level.**

<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy 2017-2020 (Consultation Draft)
2.	Proposed Birmingham Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy (Plan on a Page)



<b>Signatures</b>	
<b>Chair of Health &amp; Wellbeing Board Councillor Paulette Hamilton</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	