



CRIME AND DISORDER OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:	Violence against women and girls (VAWG) strategy 2018
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Policy context:	Our vision is focused around the borough's communities, places, opportunities and connections. The Council has a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce an annual analysis of crime and disorder in the area, which will then be used to create a strategy to reduce these. This is relevant to our vision by ensuring the safety of our communities, and creating safer places; thereby improving opportunities for individuals and businesses. Reducing violence against women and girls is a priority for the Havering Community Safety partnership in their current Community Safety Plan 2018-19.
Financial summary:	No direct financial implications arising from this report.

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Places making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUMMARY

This report provides an update to Members on the Havering VAWG Strategy 2018-2021. The process of creating Havering's latest VAWG strategy has been delayed until now so that we could take into account the Mayor of London's recently released VAWG strategy in March 2018, and align our local priorities with those set by the Mayor's office for policing and crime (MOPAC).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Those members consider the draft VAWG strategy and make recommendations as appropriate.

REPORT DETAIL

Havering Community Safety Partnership produced its first 3 year VAWG strategy in October 2014. This strategy was due to be refreshed in October 2017. However a decision was made by the HCSP to delay this until the launch of the MOPAC VAWG strategy.

Following commitments made in the MOPAC Police and Crime Plan in March 2017, the Mayor of London published his London VAWG strategy 'A Safer City for Women and Girls' in March 2018.

The strategy has three key focuses:

- Preventing Violence against Women and Girls.
- Tackling perpetrators.
- Protecting and supporting victim of VAWG.

MOPAC have developed 85 commitments and these have been divided into two tiers. Tier 1 commitments are considered to be high impact (based on political position, interest (both with partners, the sector and wider)) and short timeframe (for starting – not necessarily completion), and Tier 2 commitments are lower impact over a longer timeframe. There are 54 commitments in Tier 1 with the remaining in Tier 2. Although there are a large number of commitments, not all are relevant to Local Authorities. The key commitments for the Local Authority are reflected in the Havering VAWG strategy action plan. The draft strategy is attached for your consideration.

There has also been a recent consultation bill released by HM Government 'Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse.' Havering completed a joint response to the consultation document with VAWG partners and the LSCB. The ongoing development of the Strategy will further consider any changes made as a result of the consultation bill.

The VAWG strategic group have produced the attached draft VAWG strategy document. Further consultation is required over the summer with service users and wider partners. The final strategy document, action plan, and equality impact assessment will be brought to the HCSP in October for sign off.

The aim is to formally launch the strategy on the 25th of November as part of International Day for the elimination of violence against women.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks: There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, however in preparing the strategy, consideration will need to be given to the level of funding available within approved budgets. The strategy should also need to consider the work carried out by other services within the authority which contributes to these objectives.

Legal implications and risks: This report is in line with the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, Police and Justice Act 2006 and The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007. The Council and other statutory partners including Health have a responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to address crime and disorder within the borough, with a statutory obligation to conduct an annual strategic assessment and produce a Community Safety Plan.

This Committee has a power to review and scrutinise crime and disorder matters and to make reports or recommendations to the Local Authority about the discharge of crime and disorder functions.

Human Resources implications and risks: No direct HR implications arising from this report.

Equalities implications and risks: A full EIA will be completed as part of the strategy refresh and will be made available with the final strategy document.