

## Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Perpetrator Service – Approval to procure</b>
<b>Decision Maker:</b>	<i>Helen Oakerbee</i>
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	<i>Barry Mugglestone</i>
<b>SLT Lead:</b>	<i>Neil Stubbings</i>
<b>Report Author and contact details:</b>	<i>Sarah Strang</i> <a href="mailto:sarah.strang@havering.gov.uk">sarah.strang@havering.gov.uk</a> 01708434471
<b>Policy context:</b>	<i>Domestic Violence reduction is a key priority within the Havering Community Safety Plan 2022-2025 and the pending VAWG (Violence Against Women Girls) strategy 2025-2028</i>
<b>Financial summary:</b>	All funding for the project will come from external funding and will not impact on the general fund.  £15,000 from MOPAC London Crime Prevention Fund over 6 months.  The six months is to enable a procurement process to take place.
<b>Relevant OSC:</b>	<i>People</i>
<b>Is this decision exempt from being called-in?</b>	<i>Yes, it is a non-key decision by a member of staff</i>

**Non-key Executive Decision**

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

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well      **X**

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

## Part A – Report seeking decision

### DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

This report seeks approval to extend the Council's existing Domestic Violence Perpetrator Service contract with Cranstoun (Company number 03306337) for six months at a total value of £15,000 to allow a full commissioning process to take place. The newly procured service that will run from 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2029.

The reason for the extension is due to MOPAC funding for 2025-29 not being confirmed until 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

### AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

#### **Part 3.3 Scheme of Delegations - Functions Delegated to Officers Scheme 3.3.3 Powers common to all Strategic Directors**

##### **1. General**

1.1 To take any steps, and take any decisions, necessary for the proper management and administration of their allocated directorate, in accordance with applicable Council policies and procedures.

##### **2. Expenditure**

2.1 To incur expenditure for their allocated directorate within the revenue and capital budgets as approved by the Council, or as otherwise approved, subject to any variation permitted by the Council's contract and financial procedure rules.

### STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

This decision is required to enable the continuation of the MOPAC funded Domestic Violence Perpetrator Service. Although current funding for this service ceases on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 MOPAC confirmed funding for 2025-2029. However, the timing of this grant confirmation does not allow for the procurement process required to achieve service continuity.

Statistics show a significant number of domestic violence cases in Havering. From 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025, there were 2,663 domestic violence crimes and 627 domestic violence incidents recorded in the borough.

Cranstoun are currently coming to the end of a three-year contract for a domestic violence perpetrators provision at the end of March 2025.

On 17<sup>th</sup> Feb MOPAC confirmed continued funding via London Crime Prevention Fund to continue to deliver a perpetrator programme to March 2029.

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To ensure there is no break in service for this much needed project, this report seeks a six-month extension of the current Cranstoun contract to enable us to start the procurement process.

To date 215 referrals have been made to the programme with 159 perpetrators completing the programme and 137 women engaging with partner support. Notably, 100% of women utilizing the partner support service reported feeling safer following their partners' engagement with the programme. The service is currently oversubscribed, with a waiting list, as the full quota of 25 perpetrators are currently enrolled in the programme.

The council is seeking a six-month contract extension to the existing contract to prevent a gap in this crucial provision while the contract goes back out for a re-tendering process. The terms of the MOPAC grant agreement does not limit the council using the funding to extend the existing contract.

The council intends to commission a three and a half year domestic violence perpetrator service to provide support to perpetrators of domestic violence living in Havering through 1:1 work and group sessions which will run from October 2025 – March 2029.

The council has confirmed funding of £120,000 over four years from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) London Crime Prevention Fund.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

- 1. To cease current provision whilst we commence the procurement process.**-This option was rejected as we do not want a break in service due to the high levels of Domestic Abuse in the Borough.
- 2. Do nothing** - If we do nothing, this will negatively impact both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse in the borough. Victims will not receive the partner support service and perpetrators will not receive support to try and change their abusive behaviours towards their partners.

### **PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION**

*Havering Community safety Partnership (HCSP) 6 February 2025*

### **NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER**

Name:

**Non-key Executive Decision**

Designation:

Signature:

Date:

## Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The Council has the general power of competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything an individual may generally do subject to any limitations. The recommendation in this report is in keeping with these powers.

Officers are satisfied that the incumbent provider referred to in this report has performed the service to a satisfactory level and now seek to extend the contract for a period of 6 months.

This report sets out the need for an extension that has been brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority could not have foreseen, as permitted by Contract Procedure Rule 19.1(iii).

This provision can only be relied upon where the increase in price does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract. The total value of the 3 year original contract was £90,000 and the increase in price for this extension amounts to only 16.7% of the original contract value.

In accordance with Contract Procedure Rule 19.8, the reasons and authority to extend the contract must be recorded in writing and loaded onto the Council's preferred e-tendering suite.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The six month extension of the Domestic Violence Perpetrators programme is valued at a cost of £0.015m as evidenced on the emailed agreement in principle, which will be funded through the 2025/26 allocation of the MOPAC grant. The grant is claimed in arrears and there is no financial risk to the local authority.

Whilst Community Safety have been informed of their spending allocation for the next four years, funding from MOPAC is Indicative. A break clause within the agreement will be needed in case funding were to cease.

The indicative funding from MOPAC is £30,000 per annum confirmed for four years.

Procurement of the new contract will need to take into consideration the partial use of the 2025/26 £0.030m allocation. Also, there will be a requirement for the new contract to be in existence only for the time period for which funding has been secured. If the new contract were to begin in October 2025 it would run for 3.5years till March 2029.

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### **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)**

There are no HR implications as this is an extension of the existing contract and there are no TUPE implications.

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### **EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

*The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:*

*(i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;*

*(ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;*

*(iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.*

*Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.*

*The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.*

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

There is no real impact expected from the extending the current domestic violence perpetrator service on the environment or climate.

To help minimise carbon emissions, workers will be encouraged to use public transport where possible. However, it is acknowledged that the majority of mentoring will take place in and around the town centre where, where services are within walking distance.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

*None*

### **APPENDICES**

None

**Non-key Executive Decision**

**Part C – Record of decision**

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

**Decision**

Proposal agreed

Signed



Name: Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection

Date: 27 March 2025

**Lodging this notice**

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

**For use by Committee Administration**

This notice was lodged with me on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**Executive Decision Report Audit Trail**

Position/Title	Directorate	Date Sent	Date received	Date Cleared
	Cabinet Lead			
	Member			
	SLT Director			
	Legal			
	Finance			



**Non-key Executive Decision**

Human  
Resources  
Equalities  
Health  
Democratic  
Services