

## Notice of NON KEY Executive Decision

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	Domestic Violence Perpetrator Service – Approval to re-tender
<b>Decision Maker:</b>	<i>Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection</i>
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Barry Mugglestone
<b>ELT Lead:</b>	<i>Neil Stubbings, Strategic Director of Place</i>
<b>Report Author and contact details:</b>	<b>Sarah Strang</b> <a href="mailto:sarah.strang@havering.gov.uk">sarah.strang@havering.gov.uk</a> 01708434471
<b>Policy context:</b>	Violence reduction continues to be a key priority within the Havering Community Safety Plan 2022-2025 and the Havering VAWG strategy 2025-2029.
<b>Financial summary:</b>	<p>All funding for the project will come from external funding and will not impact on the general fund.</p> <p>£0.105m from MOPAC London Crime Prevention fund over 3 years and 6 months</p> <p>Subject to funding being available after the first 3 years and 6 months, the contract may be extended for a further 1+1 years.</p>
<b>Relevant Overview &amp; Scrutiny Sub Committee:</b>	Places Overview & Scrutiny Sub Committee
<b>Is this decision exempt from being called-in?</b>	Yes, it is a non-key decision by a member of staff

**Non-key Executive Decision**

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**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 x
- Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

## Part A – Report seeking decision

### DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

This decision paper seeks approval to re-tender the procurement of a Domestic Violence Perpetrator Service at the value of £0.030m per year over a term of 3 years and 6 months with an optional extension of 1 year and a further optional extension of 1 year (3½ + 1 + 1 year term) at the overall maximum value of £0.165 to start on the 1st October 2025.

### AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

#### ***Part 3 Responsibility for Functions of Havering's Constitution***

Section 3: Functions delegated to officers

Scheme 3.3.3: Powers common to all Strategic Directors

#### **4. Contracts**

4.1 To approve commencement of a tendering process for all contracts below a total contract value £1,000,000.

#### **Notice of delegation of responsibility for functions in accordance with:**

Paragraph 5.1 of Part 3.3

Neil Stubbings, Strategic Director of Place delegated functions within Scheme 3.3.3 to Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection.

### STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

From 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 there were 2,629 domestic violence offences, with 613 domestic violence with injury offences.

Experiencing domestic abuse can have a profound detrimental impact on both the physical and mental wellbeing of both direct victims and those who witnessed the abuse repeatedly. The intervention to the perpetrator with a good track record of delivering the outcomes is likely to have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing.

The council has carried out a violence against women and girls (VAWG) needs assessment that informed the production of the council's VAWG strategy 2025-2029 and VAWG action plan 2025-2029, which are background papers. The strategy aims to prevent violence against women and girls and provide intervention for victims and perpetrators.

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Cranstoun approached Havering in 2020-21, having received a one-off funding of £30,000 from an Essex based benefactor to pilot a Domestic Abuse perpetrator programme. Subsequently after the pilot, the Mayor's Office of Policing And Crime (MOPAC) awarded Havering funding for the continuation of a perpetrators programme. Cranstoun were successful in the tender process and were granted the contract to provide services up until March 2025.

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

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

In March 2025 there was an agreed extension of contract to allow time for the re-tendering process to begin with no break in service.

For the duration of the contract up until March 2025, 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 using 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.

Due to the evidential success of the existing programme, the council intend to re-tender another similar provision. The council has made a grant agreement for funding of a provisional total of £120,000 from MOPAC. £15,000 of the funds are allocated to fund the current contract extension, leaving confirmed funding of £105,000 over 3 years and 6 months from the MOPAC London Crime Prevention Fund. However, extending the period by an added 2 years (1+1) would require an extra £30,000 per annum from MOPAC. This will be dependent on the availability of funds at the time.

MOPAC Funding was confirmed in February 2025 and remains in place until March 2029. The council made a decision to accept its MOPAC London Crime Prevention Fund grant allocation for 2025 to 2029 in the acceptance of Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF) 2025-2029 key executive decision, which is a background paper.

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

**Do not re-commission the service** - This option was rejected. Whilst there are other services available in Havering for perpetrators of domestic abuse, the men referred for this programme will not hit the criteria of the other existing programmes. These programmes are also at risk of ending in March 2026 if there is no continued MOPAC funding. Funding is available from MOPAC to utilise, and it would be a missed opportunity for Havering and leave a gap in provision for a specific cohort of residents.

**2. Collaboration with other boroughs** - This option is rejected. The other Boroughs within the Borough Command Unit have not chosen to invest in a perpetrator

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programme. The Havering Community Safety Partnership consider that to truly break the cycle of abuse in families we need to tackle perpetrators robustly.

**PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION**

None

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

Name: Sarah Strang

Designation: Community Safety Officer

Signature:

Date: 16 July 2025

## **Part B - Assessment of implications and risks**

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The council must provide or arrange for the provision of services, facilities or resources, or take other steps, which it considers will contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by adults in its area of needs for care and support; contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by carers in its area of needs for support; reduce the needs for care and support of adults in its area and reduce the needs for support of carers in its area in accordance with section 2 of the Care Act 2014. The council is making a decision to procure domestic violence prevention services for that purpose.

The Council has power to procure a contract for the services through section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, which allows the council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of its functions and under its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that an individual may do subject to certain limitations. None of the limitations apply to this decision.

The proposed contract value is below the applicable light touch threshold stipulated in the Procurement Act 2023 (PA) of £663 540. Therefore, it is not subject to the full PA regime.

The grant agreement with the Mayor's Office of Policing And Crime (MOPAC) allows MOPAC to reduce, suspend, or withhold grant payments, or require all or any part of the grant money to be repaid if the grant money is not spent on the projects for which it is granted, or if MOPAC's ability to provide the grant is affected due to an internal policy decision or due to funding cuts, among other reasons. The contract with the provider will contain similar provisions enabling the council to reduce, suspend, or withhold payments to the provider, or require the provider to repay all or any part of the money paid to it through the contract if it is not spent in accordance with the requirements of the contract, and provisions enabling the council to give notice to terminate the contract before its expiry date if MOPAC stops providing the grant funding to the council.

For these reasons, the council can start the procurement process.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

To ensure service continuity the tender process will need to be completed within two months and the new contract in place for 1st October 2025.

The new contract will be funded through the 2025/26 - 2028/29 allocation of the MOPAC Grant. The grant is claimed in arrears so that there is no financial risk to the local authority.

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The funding allocation has been confirmed, but whilst Community Safety have been informed of their spending allocation for the four years 2025/26 - 2028/29, funding from MOPAC is indicative. The contract with the provider will contain provisions to allow the council to terminate the contract early if MOPAC ceases the grant funding.

As part of the tender, bidders will be made aware of the maximum budget remaining of £0.105m over the initial term of 3 years and six months. Bids over the confirmed funding from MOPAC will be rejected.

The 1-year + 1-year extensions will only be exercised subject to provider performance and in the event of confirmed funding being available.

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

There are no HR implications as this is a new contract and there are no TUPE implications.

### **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 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 socioeconomics and health determinants.

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

There is no real impact expected from the procuring a new 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 most mentoring will take place in and around the town centre where, where services are within walking distance.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Havering VAWG strategy 2025-2029

Havering VAWG action plan 2025-2029

Acceptance of Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF) 2025-2029 key executive decision

**APPENDICES**

None



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**Part C – Record of decision**

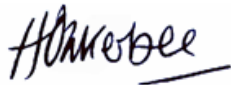
I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

**Decision**

Proposal agreed

**Details of decision maker**

Signed

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H Oakerbee', with a horizontal line underneath.

Name: Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection

Date: 15 July 2025

**Lodging this notice**

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

**For use by Committee Administration**

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

Signature: