1. Brief Update

1.1 The Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Sub Group has met once since the last CSP Board

1.2 The group have been focused on the development of the VAWG strategy and several priorities have been affirmed:
   i) Support Survivors
   ii) Educate and Communicate
   iii) Challenge Abusive Behaviours
   iv) Include Lived Experience

1.3 The shape of the strategy has changed from the original draft as a result of a new process through the LBBD Corporate Strategy Group, and to take on board feedback and group discussion around missing factors. However, the original principles have remained the same.

1.4 The VAWG group have supported the Safeguarding Adults Board through a learning event on Modern Slavery.

2. Key Challenge(s)

2.1 The development of a VAWG dataset has been valuable and the work is attributed to the performance and intelligence team. However, this needs further development to ensure it is representative of all members.

2.2 Currently we collate police data (and have been given authority from police colleagues to use the Safeguarding dashboard), children’s care and support data, court data, MARAC data and commissioned service data.
2.3 It would be useful to include data from BHRU T in relation to domestic abuse, female genital mutilation. They also collate data around child sexual exploitation which would be useful to the children and young people’s sub group.

2.4 There is a heightened appetite for improved understanding of modern slavery locally, and there is opportunity to work closely with the safeguarding adults board to work from a joined up approach to modern slavery and human trafficking.

3. **Emerging Trends**

3.1 There is a move to more recognition of trauma-informed approaches being more effective when working with survivors, and the need for community interventions to tackle people using abusive behaviour.

3.2 We are seeing slight increases in adolescent to parent violence.

3.3 We are seeing sporadic rates of repeat referrals through the MARAC provision, and an increased rate of escalation cases as a result of police commitment to refer all cases where a victim is known for three or more non-crime book domestics in 12 months.

3.4 Domestic violence with injury cases has decreased from a prevalence perspective, as have the volume of all domestic abuse incidents. However, domestic abuse offences have increased slightly. The types of cases seen at MARAC are changing regarding their levels and dynamics of risk. Taken together, this suggests we are starting to see small decreases in physical violence and more coercive and controlling behaviour – which is no less risky than physical violence and often has wider ranging and severe impacts on individuals.

4. **Support required from CSP Board**

4.1 All partners to prioritise the development of intelligence products that will inform strategic decision-making across the sub structure.

4.2 Support to move towards a better understanding of how to evidence coercive and control cases across the partnership. This could potentially be managed by the MARAC process but would require robust support from all members to be effective. Conversations are being had with MARAC representatives to explore this, but a strategic perspective would be helpful to inform decision making.

4.3 Commitment to develop a CSP communications strategy, working alongside other communications strategies such as the Healthy Lifestyles promotion plans which will support the Health and Wellbeing Board.

5. **List of Appendices:**

5.1 None