VAWG 12 Month Plan November 2017 Update

Acti	ions	Outcomes	Due Date	Lead Agency/Individual	Quarter Updates (version updated 13 th November 2017 in preparation for CSP in December 2017)	
Кеу	Key Targets:					
-	■ Increased number of victims of domestic abuse to come forward and a reduction in the number of repeat victims					
-	 Increased reporting of sexual violence 					

- Increased reporting of harmful practices including female genital mutilation, honour based violence, and forced marriage
- Increased reporting of Modern Slavery offences including sex trafficking and exploitation, domestic servitude, and labour exploitation
- Reduce the rates of attrition in VAWG cases as they progress through the criminal justice process
- Work towards an improved local understanding of VAWG and the need for a multi-agency approach to tackling VAWG
- Work towards an improved local understanding of Modern Slavery and the need for a multi-agency approach to tackling it
- Effective support services and interventions in place for victim/survivors and their children
- Effective interventions in place to bring perpetrators to justice, and to challenge their offending behaviour

1. Develop a 5-year VAWG	Improved local understanding and response	July 2018	Domestic Abuse	The Mayoral VAWG strategy refresh is due at
Strategy & Action Plan that will	to all strands of VAWG, reduced repeat		Commissioner: Hazel	the end of November 2017. VAWG/DSA strategy
encompass and build on the	victimisation and reduced repeat offending.		North Stephens	workshops are planned for January 2017. First
work set out in this plan				draft should be available in April 2018.
				The Delivery Unit are undertaking a Priority
				Review on domestic abuse. Preliminary work
				will inform strategy development through data
				analysis and stakeholder engagement.
2. Increase awareness of	Improved awareness amongst		Domestic Abuse	There is a directory available online which has
VAWG among agencies and	professionals and public of all forms of	WRD,	Commissioner: Hazel	been updated with local services and regional
residents through service	VAWG	November	North Stephens	services accessible by our residents. The
mapping and a	Increased reporting of crimes and	2017		following link takes you to the directory:
communications plan.	uptake of VAWG services within the		MARAC Coordinator:	https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/residents/community-
Plan a programme of	borough		Sasha Timmermans	safety-and-crime/dv/getting-help/
VAWG publicity and	Improved confidence of victims who are			
communication events	encouraged to report abuse to services.		DV Forum	
with partnership support				

				White ribbon day plan has had a real focus on upskilling the workforce through a robust training offer: White Ribbon Campaign Programm
				The DV Forum and recent training events highlighted appetite for a newsletter to be provided. This is being developed by the domestic abuse commissioner and MARAC coordinator with the plan for the first newsletter to be circulated on the 1st December. Going forwards it will be opened up to the DV Forum to provide information and articles of interest. Distribution will be through DV Forum, VAWG membership, MARAC representatives and will be requested to be shared via service managers across the workforce.
3. Develop a multi-agency VAWG training offer	 Increase in staff confidence when identifying and responding to disclosures of VAWG. Understanding VAWG is integrated into all relevant service areas to ensure effective inter-agency co-ordination. Early identification will ensure that victims and their children are supported and safeguarded appropriately 	WRD, November 2017	VAWG Strategy Subgroup Domestic Abuse Commissioner: Hazel North Stephens DV Forum	Victim Support have provided a full days training to 35 delegates in October 2017. Preliminary feedback was good and formal feedback identified a number of learning outcomes. Three more dates have been agreed for quarter 4, all of which are already full. White Ribbon day training is wide ranging and there is a training event being planned for women's empowerment month too.
4. Develop a multi-agency Modern Slavery training offer, including the dissemination of learning through SARS	Increase in staff confidence when identifying and responding to Modern Slavery.	October 2017	Safeguarding Adults Board	A working group of people keen to see the role out of Modern Slavery training have come together regularly since August 2017.

	 Understanding Modern Slavery is integrated into all relevant service areas to ensure effective inter-agency coordination. Early identification will ensure that victims are supported and safeguarded appropriately 			There was hope to use the sign off of the current SAR as a springboard to launch training etc. This has not yet been signed off, and the group identified a lack of clear pathway for responding to potential victims. The group are developing a pathway with much support and assistance from the Human Trafficking foundation.
				The Home office ran a pilot in early 2017 focusing on Nigeria diaspora communities and domestic servitude, a project that ran in LBBD and Manchester. Further funding has been identified, the evaluation showed real progress. The project will run for 6 months starting in January 2018. There is scope for joining works by ensuring a multi-agency approach to the rollout of the train the trainer SPoC training (single point of contact) provided by ADASS and IOM, and ensuring community and faith leaders are part of the ongoing dialogue.
5. Implement a Modern Slavery Working Group to coordinate training offers and develop responses, and ensuring expert advice is taken on board.	 Improved awareness across agencies and in the community of Modern Slavery and a strategic, targeted approach to improving identification and response for victims. Use of expert advice will improve evidence base for strategic development 		Safeguarding Adults Board	See above
6. Work with children and young people to raise awareness of VAWG	 Social inequalities and attitudes impacting on the lives of women and girls are challenged Young people are aware of services for their families and themselves Young people and professionals are better informed about VAWG 	Ongoing	Arc Theatre: Nita Bocking Tender: Mary Mobbs-Beal	Arc Theatre have been commissioned to work with girls and young women in schools. Tender: A healthy relationships workshop was delivered over two days in August 2017. There were 26 referrals from various areas,

	Increased uptake of young people's services and victims identified		CSE Lead: Linda Hellier Domestic Abuse Commissioner – Hazel North Stephens	particularly targeted the Vibe, Flipside and PSGs. The domestic abuse commissioner, with support from Director of Public Health is working with a number of other boroughs to access MOPAC Co-Commissioning funding for a Whole School Approach to VAWG. We find out if we are successful in February 2018 with the first 2 LBBD schools to start the project in September 2018 LH is working with Barnardo's on a bid to the MOPAC Co-Commissioning budget to bring in specialist workers to challenge harmful sexual behaviour in young people.
7. Develop a VAWG data set for performance monitoring and outcome measures	 Performance is monitored against key targets Allocation of resources is efficient and provides an evidence base to support funding opportunities and future commissioning of services. Gaps and needs are identified 	Q2 meeting	Awaiting confirmation from Vikki Rix, Head of Performance and Intelligence	This work is currently being developed. The start of the Priority Review from the Delivery Unit is likely to assist in the ongoing development and understanding of this dataset. Discussions with hospital safeguarding leads are being had to explore data sharing around FGM. Example – 49 ADULT cases of FGM were identified in Q2 2017/18 across the two hospitals.
8. Commissioning & Resources Contracts for commissioned services are in place Gaps and opportunities to be identified including exploring joint	 Commissioning is evidence led Commissioned projects are sustainable Projects are commissioned in line with the Council Commissioning strategy, measuring short, medium and long-term outcomes for survivors ensuring value for money and wider social value Commissioning works to a whole system approach, to ensure the best use of all 	Up to date. Gaps to be identified in needs assessment	Adult Commissioning Senior Commissioner: Sonia Drozd / Domestic Abuse Commissioner: Hazel North Stephens	Contracts include the LBBD IDSVA Service (provided by Victim Support), Refuge accommodation (provided by Hestia), Empowering Young Women (Arc Theatre) and an uplift to reduce counselling wait times has been commissioned (Ashiana Network) Frequently highlighted gaps include specialist psychotherapy for children experiencing DV,

commissioning, pooled budgets etc.	resources in a local area through joint approaches with the public, voluntary and private sectors to improve outcomes for the local population.			perpetrators programmes, targeted work around lesser supported forms of VAWG There are a number of projects being supported through the MOPAC Co-Commissioning opportunity, several focus on CSE. LBBD are supporting the Whole School Approach as mention above, a number of CSE and youth offending bids as well as a bid with Advance Minerva to provide a holistic, gender and trauma informed approach to working with female offenders.
9. Develop an effective mechanism through which the views and experiences of those with lived experiences of VAWG will be incorporated into strategic plans and development of services.	 Service user engagement to assist in reducing social inequalities associated with VAWG Increased uptake of services, and improved outcomes for service users Victims and children have access to a variety of support services Needs led commissioning emphasises value for money. 	Quarterly Updates	Domestic Abuse Commissioner: Hazel North Stephens DV Forum	HNS has met with service users from various projects. There is appetite for a focus group and for service users to be able to feed in their experiences, particularly of accessing services. Ongoing work includes setting up a focus group (which is likely to now coincide with and complement work happening with the Delivery Unit Priority Review), exploring ways of using online resources to encourage feedback and consultation, and exploring a service users regular group.
10. Complete a VAWG needs assessment – looking at data as well as encouraging significant involvement of both specialist providers and community groups	 Inform future commissioning and delivery, assisting in highlighting gaps and opportunities for improved partnership working Ensures that commissioning and strategic delivery will be based on local evidence and need Highlight areas of improvement e.g. access to regular training, Inform the development of operational processes 	January 2018	Domestic Abuse Commissioner: Hazel North Stephens with assistance from Performance & Intelligence team, commissioned services etc.	A VAWG needs assessment has been discussed briefly with Public Health Commissioning Manager. As a result of the Delivery Unit taking a Priority Review into domestic abuse (but not specifically looking at other VAWG strands) there is room for this to inform a local simple needs assessment. A large part of the work being undertaken is focused around analysing current

Increase in staff confidence when identifying and responding to disclosures of VAWG and an understanding that it can impact colleagues Better understanding of the impacts domestic violence and abuse can have	Seeking guidance	HR: Domestic Abuse Commissioner: Hazel North Stephens	No work undertaken as yet. HNS to take forwards in Q4 2017/18
on employees and colleagues High risk and repeat victims of domestic violence identified will receive a multi-	Q2	MARAC Chair: Ronan McManus	Self-Assessment of MARAC took place on the
agency response that involves safeguarding, whole family interventions and addressing perpetrator behaviour.		MARAC Coordinator: Sasha Timmermans	14 th September 2017. There were many learning outcomes, including highlighting the need for local MARAC training for referrers which has been built into White Ribbon Day events.
Reduced risk of Domestic Homicide Reduction in repeat victimisation Better outcomes for victims and their		Domestic Abuse Commissioner: Hazel	Finding from the review can be found in the attached from SafeLives:
children Increased confidence in reporting crimes.		North Stephens	Barking and Dagenham Marac Rev
Increased engagement across the partnership with victims			A more in depth look at findings can be found in the attached document:
			MARAC Self Assessment Report 2(
Reduced risk of Domestic Homicide Reduction in repeat victimisation Better outcomes for victims and their children Increased confidence in reporting	Quarterly updates	LBBD IDSVA Service Manager: Natasha Chopra	Service is fully recruited to and working to capacity. The service attends regular team meetings, workshops etc. across the partnership and has committed to providing training through the LSCB and at WRD events. Victim Support are keen to develop stronger pathways
Re pa	mes. Educed risk of escalation creased engagement across the rtnership with victims Educed risk of Domestic Homicide eduction in repeat victimisation etter outcomes for victims and their ildren creased confidence in reporting	reduced risk of escalation creased engagement across the rtnership with victims Educed risk of Domestic Homicide eduction in repeat victimisation exter outcomes for victims and their ildren creased confidence in reporting	rduced risk of escalation creased engagement across the rtnership with victims rduced risk of Domestic Homicide eduction in repeat victimisation etter outcomes for victims and their ildren Adviced risk of Domestic Homicide updates Quarterly updates UBBD IDSVA Service Manager: Natasha Chopra

partnership working to support victims and children	 Reduced risk of escalation Increased engagement across the partnership with victims 		across services and are meeting with the LifeCycle lead for Triage to explore drop ins in the MASH team.
14. Offer safe and secure housing options for families affected by VAWG ➤ Review of options in line with recommendations from the Pan London Domestic Violence Needs Assessment (Summer 2016) from Safer London. ➤ Develop public Housing/Community Solutions specific Domestic Abuse policy setting out priorities and commitments ➤ Commit to all Housing Advice and Property Services Officers to attending regular training ➤ Commit to developing relationships with specialist support services	 Staff are supported to be able to meet their statutory duties and to provide appropriate signposting and support. Consistent data is captured from housing teams to understand the movement of victims/survivors applying as homeless due to domestic violence, domestic violence is appropriately captured as a priority need. Domestic violence is consistently addressed throughout local authority housing and homelessness strategies, including specific actions to address homelessness due to domestic violence 	Quarterly Updates Group Man Terrie Hand Housing Str Manager: Ja Goddard Property Se Akin Otitoju Head of Ser Developme Damien Col	There are no public documents or policies setting out specific commitments or managing expectations for victims/survivors. This was discussed at a meeting with Community Solutions Leads and work to improve partnership working with the IDSVA service and Housing Advice will be undertaken via a skills sharing and partnership building workshop which is being planned. Open conversations are being had with the refuge service and housing advice/options
15. Ensure identification of early child protection referrals	 Children coming to notice of Children's Services and Social Care, Education and 	Quarterly Vikki Rix, He VAWG Performance	, ,
where VAWG is a factor	Support Team, Early Help Services etc.	dataset, Intelligence	'
Commit to all new	are safeguarded from further harm, and	Annual LSCB	
Social Workers to	vulnerable victims protected	report, Ann Grahan	,
attending regular		Operationa	,
training and all existing		Children's S	ocial Care

Social Workers to be encouraged to attend multi agency training offer Commit to developing relationships with specialist support services	 Staff are aware of the dynamics of VAWG, services available and how to refer Increased caseload identified and referred to services for appropriate intervention. 		NRPF team will provide simple print-outs for the IDSVA service to discuss. Discussions are taking place for the IDSVA service to provide drop ins with the MASH team The Children's domestic abuse caseworkers continue to collocate with Children's social care on Wednesdays The IDSVA service have redesigned their referral forms to make it easier for social workers to navigate. Forms have been shared and have been uploaded to the LBBD website. In Q2 14.4% of referrals to the IDSVA service came from Children's Social Care. Children's Social Care made 1.8% of MARAC referrals in Q2.
16. Ensure early identification of VAWG by A&E, health care professionals and supervisors	 Victims who access health-based services can access immediate and appropriate VAWG support Increased caseload identified and referred to services for appropriate intervention. Staff are aware of the dynamics of VAWG, services available and how to refer 	Quarterly Updates Integrated Care Director NELFT: Melody Williams DA&HP Lead: Ann Kavanagh	The BHRUT safeguarding Lead for domestic abuse and harmful practices has taken over the quarterly FGM/CSE (and potentially going forwards also Modern Slavery) strategy leads meetings. There is a keen appetite to provide training, with FGM training currently being planned for hospital staff. A CSE toolkit has been developed and is being built into safeguarding pathways. A domestic abuse leaflet has been produced for staff and for the public. There are two MOPAC funded IDVAs working in the hospitals – they are specifically for Havering and Redbridge but there are strong pathways with the LBBD IDSVSA service.
17. Empower female offenders experiencing VAWG	 Female Offenders experiencing VAWG can access immediate and appropriate support 	Quarterly IOM Pathways Update Coordinator: Susan Cade	SC has been working with third sector organisations to submit bids to the MOPAC LCPF fund for more holistic, trauma informed resources at designated women's centres across

	 Increased victim safety and reduction in further harm and repeat victimisation. Reduction in offending as women are able to access support for complex needs 			London. We should have confirmation in February 2018 as to the success of the bid.
18. Engage General Practitioners, nurses and support workers in the co- ordinated response to VAWG, making use of protected training time where possible	 Increased caseload identified and referred to services for appropriate intervention. Increased victim safety and reduction in further harm and repeat victimisation. Increased uptake of specialist services GPs supported to understand VAWG, interventions available and how to refer 	Quarterly Update	Hazel North Stephens, Domestic Abuse Commissioner	HNS has requested space at the PTI meeting in January 2018, awaiting response.
 19. LBBD Police to monitor the impact of the new pathfinder tri-borough BCU on VAWG crimes and reporting, seeking to improve the response to victims and focus on repeat offenders. Monitor impact of pathfinder East Basic Command Unit (EA BCU) on VAWG Ensure best practice use of bodycams across EA BCU, consider impact on VAWG cases Encourage a higher number of Victim Personal Statements be used at court Revive Dauntless and Dauntless + meetings in 	 Increased victim safety and reduction in further harm and repeat victimisation. Improved access to services for victims. Improved understanding of VAWG and local interventions and services among police response teams Increased referrals to MARAC Increased uptake of specialist support services Increased confidence in reporting Improved evidence gathering and outcomes at court Increased use and understanding of police tools: DVPN/Os, DVDS, etc. Improved understanding of perpetrator movements and behaviour across the borough Increased caseload identified and referred to services for appropriate intervention. 	Quarterly updates and data report	Ronan McManus, DCI for Safeguarding DI John Arnold, MARAC Chair and DI for Safeguarding DSU Neil Matthews has been listed as the point of contact for Modern Slavery Tony Morgan, Witness Service	The implementation of the EAST BCU in April 2017 led to bedding in issues. Several issues were raised around a decrease in MARAC referrals, a particularly steep decrease in MARAC repeat cases as well as concerns around response times etc. Police have made several commitments to improve the experience of victims. DI Arnold is exploring whether the MARAC Officers can return to the CSU at Romford, raising the profile of MARAC among the CSU officers or whether Safeguarding may move to Fresh Wharf in Barking. Expectation has been set for officers to increase referrals to MARAC and for support. DI Arnold sits on the MOPAC Enforcement Strategy group for VAWG and has fed into the Mayoral VAWG strategy consultations.

the borough or across the EA BCU Continue to Chair and monitor MARAC Work in partnership with specialist IDSVA service Engage with local training offers Monitor the use of conditional cautioning, DVPN/Os, DVDS disclosures and their impacts on VAWG locally	 Improved understanding from frontline officers of services available to victim/survivors and perpetrators 			Discussions are being had around how Dauntless and Dauntless plus meetings might be revived locally which focusses on tackling high harm persistent offenders DI Arnold is MARAC chair and has requested a template Information Sharing Protocol to roll out across the three boroughs for MARAC. There is a need for more analysis of NFA calls, to see if appropriate evidence has been gathered, what tools may be available where evidence is limited etc.
20. Monitor CPS conviction rates and support victims through the criminal justice process. Promote the use of Victim Personal Statements.	 Victims feel that they are part of the criminal justice process and are not disempowered. Best possible outcomes achieved at court Increased confidence in reporting Increased numbers of evidential prosecutions 	Quarterly updates	Ronan McManus, DI for Safeguarding Tony Morgan, Witness Service	The collated data is being pulled into the VAWG data set in order to monitor more closely. VPS use was particularly high in September but decreased in October. This is something that will be discussed at VAWG meeting in January. Simple visual breakdown of trial data: VAWG Q2 Update.pdf
21. National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company to manage perpetrators effectively, ensuring strict licence and order conditions are in place to protect victims.	 Improved management of offenders and reduction in repeat perpetrators Increased caseload identified and referred to services for appropriate intervention. Increased attendance/information provision at multi-agency interventions such as MARAC, CPC, MAP, etc. 	Quarterly updates	London CRC: Steven Calder NPS: Anita Dobson	A named point of contact, Steven Calder who will be managing partnerships and commissioning within CRC has met with HNS. SC is unable to attend quarterly VAWG or CSP meetings but is willing to feed in where possible and work towards tackling VAWG through partnership working. SC is looking to provide some data around the numbers of identified domestic abuse cases known to CRC.

				SC and HNS are also exploring ways to strengthen the pathways between CRC and MARAC.
22. Ensure that both victims and perpetrators have access to substance misuse intervention services and improve links between substance misuse and VAWG services	 Reduced risk of VAWG heightened because of substance misuse Better understanding across services of the links between alcohol use and VAWG – particularly intimate partner violence Victims have choice as to how they access services Improved interagency working to tackle VAWG where there is also substance misuse 	Quarterly Updates	Senior Commissioner, Sonia Drozd	Currently commissioning 2018 services – VAWG (specifically DA, female offending etc.) have been written into specifications and statements with a focus on services being trauma informed. Current Substance Misuse services work in partnership with IDSVA services, engage with MARAC and MASE and other multi-agency partnerships.
23. Explore potential for perpetrator programmes, mapping regional services and seeking funding to challenge violent behaviour	 Reduced repeat offending and reduced repeat victimisation Emphasis moved from the victim being required to make all changes to the perpetrator being required to change their behaviour, therefore challenging social inequalities associated with VAWG Expanded 'space for action' for women which restores their voice and ability to make choices Enhanced awareness of self and others for men, including an understanding of the impact that VAWG has on their partner and children Safer, healthier childhoods for children Reduction in the cycle of intergenerational violence 	As part of the Needs Assessment: January 2018	Hazel North Stephens, Domestic Abuse Commissioner	Caring Dads (not specifically a perpetrator programme but it does challenge abusive behaviour) has now started in the borough with the second group starting mid-September. Evaluation report has been completed: CARING DADS EVALUATION REPORT An opportunity has come up through the Mayoral VAWG Strategy workshops. Barking and Dagenham has been identified as a priority borough as a result for our high prevalence rate for domestic abuse (currently 25 per 1000 population). 7 priority boroughs were identified in total. MOPAC and SafeLives through the use of the Police Transformation Fund are looking to expand the DRIVE project into one of the Priority boroughs. HNS will be seeking local support for putting LBBD forward as the borough for the pilot. The DRIVE project

 24. Specific targeted work to assess needs and improve access to services for women engaged in prostitution: Improve knowledge of and access to services for women exiting prostitution Men who buy sex are targeted with police actions them from the East BCU area. 	 Agencies across Barking and Dagenham feel supported to support women engaged in prostitution Reduction in criminal justice involvement Women engaged in prostitution are offered holistic support across health, housing, education and criminal justice 	To be discussed at Q2 meeting	Hazel North Stephens, Domestic Abuse Commissioner Ronan McManus, DI for Safeguarding	An EOI was submitted by Hounslow to the MOPAC LCPF for expansion to the Rape Crisis Centres with more targeted work around prostitution. This was not successful in moving through to development. Work undertaken across the borough boundary with Redbridge, led to several arrests (35?) but did not appear to lead to women being supported to exit prostitution. The Q2 VAWG meeting set an action for mental health/BHRUT lead to link in with the Huggett Centre and the Lea Project
25. Specific targeted work to assess needs and improve access to services for women and girls at risk of or who have been victims of Female Genital Mutilation Increase awareness of FGM and services available through training Work with specialist organisations and the CVS to engage with more families at risk Data collected by health? Realistic prevalence figures to be established	 Women and girls have access to adequate support services Prevalence data informs future work Faith and Community Leaders are supported to engage their communities on FGM Professionals are supported to recognise and respond to potential FGM cases 	To be discussed at Q2 meeting	Health Lead – Ann Kavanagh, DA and HP Lead?	ST contacted Leyla Hussein (a prominent anti-FGM activist) to provide two workshops for WRD. The workshops will explore identification and response to FGM. AK will be chairing a quarterly meeting for FGM and CSE (and once agreed in the ToR, Modern Slavery) Queens Hospital. There were 49 cases of FGM (adult) in Q2 51 cases in Q1. Emergency department are identifying VAWG strands as a result of work being undertaken around training and awareness raising. There is work being undertaken to better understand data available, and potentially space for sharing to update the VAWG LBBD datasets.
26. Women and girls who have experienced or who are at risk of so called 'Honour' Based violence and/or Forced	 Victim/survivors have access to adequate support services Prevalence data informs future work 	To be discussed at Q2 meeting	Domestic Abuse Commissioner – training	WRD training will include HBV and FM includes VAWG awareness which includes all VAWG strands.

Marriage are provided with appropriate support. ➤ Increase awareness of HBV/FM and the tools and services available through training ➤ Local data built into VAWG datasets	 Faith and Community Leaders are supported to engage their communities on Harmful Practices Professionals are supported to recognise and respond to potential HBV/FM cases 	Head of Performance and Intelligence – Prevalence figures TBC	Commissioned support services sees low numbers of HBV/FM which suggests this need more awareness raising locally. This is not measured as an indicator by MARAC currently although police data will inform the VAWG data set.
 27. Work to raise the profile of how VAWG is experienced by people differently, for example people who have a disability or who identify as LGBT. Raise awareness of the way different groups experience VAWG and particularly in the ways people from often intersecting backgrounds and experiences are impacted by VAWG Work with specialist organisations 	 Increased local understanding of how VAWG impacts all communities Improved local response to people experiencing VAWG, and improved confidence in coming forwards for support Services are accessible and mindful of the needs of survivors Increased uptake of support and intervention 	DA Forum Domestic Abuse Commissioner	There is a training workshop planned as part of the White Ribbon Day evens specific to the experiences of people who are LGBT. The session is being provided by Galop, the LGBT anti-violence charity. HNS is supporting the development of a bid to the MOPAC Co-Commissioning fund for a pan London ISVA service for people who are LGBT and men. To support the bid, and if it is successful to draw specialist resources towards Barking and Dagenham, Victim Support have offered to provide full time space and a committed point of contact to the service. HNS met with the lead for the local LGBT Community Forum. The group is likely to expand a little as they are exploring venue changes etc. and the forum is being relaunched on the 15 th November 2017. The group has been linked in with ELOP who have been commissioned locally to provide a broad range LGBT Needs Assessment. HNS has offered to provide training/workshops focussing on how to identify and respond to domestic abuse, and to go over services available. The commissioner has also

		offered support around identifying potential funders to apply for funding for community projects, and support around the bid process.
28. Fire Services to be included as a key agency in the objective to tackle VAWG. Commitments include: The Dagenham Fire Station has a Community Safety Room that is open for use for community groups and is free. This can be arranged through the Borough Commander directly or with the Station Manager, Rob Greed Increase the knowledge and use of arson proof letterboxes Fire safety checks can be referred for victim/survivors Open to further discussions around support/prevention work with victim/survivors and their children.	 Space is made available that is a neutral safe space for support groups, survivors etc. Fire Service staff are trained to identify and respond to domestic abuse and other VAWG strands. Fire Service Staff are trained to identify and respond to Modern Slavery strands Better use of arson proof letterboxes will reduce risk for victim/survivors who experience threats of arson 	Dagenham Fire station is currently risk assessing the potential for NHS staff to do vaccinations and blood donations at the station Arson Proof letterboxes can be requested on line for non-urgent cases. Urgent cases can be requested directly to the Borough Commander via the police. Must identify if the letterbox is horizontal or vertical on request. Fire retardant bedding is available for vulnerable people There is scope to discuss the potential for a program similar to FIRST — HNS to bring details for discussion to VAWG meeting Q3 Leaflets will be provided for the community room specifying local VAWG support services Fire safety checks referral packs shared with services. HNS to send details of training opportunities, SN to explore the use of protected time to ensure officers are able to attend.