

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

REPORT

Subject: Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy

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1. Purpose of Presenting the Report and Decisions Required

- 1.1 To provide the Community Safety Partnership Board sight of the Barking and Dagenham Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2018-2022.
 - 1.2 It is recommended that the Community Safety Partnership Board:
 - Note the contents of the strategy; and
 - Agree the strategy going forwards.
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2. Main Text

- 2.1 The Domestic and Sexual Violence Strategy ended in 2017. The permanent domestic abuse commissioner was employed from April 2017 and was tasked with developing a new strategy to be launched in summer 2018.
- 2.2 Several pieces of work were undertaken to support this:
 - i) Implementation of a Violence Against Women and Girls sub group to the Community Safety Partnership
 - ii) Strategy Workshops with key stakeholders
 - iii) Focus groups and individual interviews with local survivors
 - iv) Community contact event through 2017 White Ribbon Day programme to gauge local understanding of VAWG related issues
 - v) The Delivery Unit undertook a priority review on domestic abuse.
- 2.3 The outcome of the workshops and focus groups led to the decision to adopt a gender informed approach to the strategy, recognising the social, economic and

health inequality factors that are both correlative and a result of domestic and sexual violence. This is set out in international law as Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and has been adopted within the Home Office's VAWG strategy and the regional Mayors VAWG Strategy.

- 2.4 We have also taken a more trauma-informed approach, recognising the impact of childhood adversity on several social, health and economic factors in adults (more on this can be found within the Adverse Childhood experiences Study or ACES).

3. Current Position

- 3.1 The Corporate Strategy Group have signed off the final content of the strategy and placed it as interim status with the view to adopting a collective impact stance through the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 3.2 This will allow us to push forwards with the priorities within this strategy, working towards more of a whole systems approach over the next year in line with the developing Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 3.3 Next steps will be to take it to the Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2018, and the Safeguarding Boards.

4. Attachments

Appendix A: VAWG Strategy 2018-2022