

A Post Scrutiny - Executive Response

In Respect of: Scrutiny Review of Domestic Abuse in Tameside

Date: 2013

Cabinet Deputy(ies): Cllr Kevin Welsh (Neighbourhoods)

Recommendations	Accepted/ Rejected	Executive Response	Officer Responsible	Action By (Date)
<p>1) The cross government wider definition of domestic abuse is used in all policies and strategies the council has regarding domestic abuse.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The impact of domestic abuse on young people, either as victims, perpetrators or children within families is recognised by the partnership and it is agreed that the wider definition be used in council policies and strategies.</p> <p>The violent crime steering group will ensure alignment between the agreed ACPO definition and the preferred wider definition by the council.</p>	<p>Nicola Spragg – GMP (Violent Crime Lead)</p>	<p>April 2013</p>
<p>2) That a strategic domestic abuse coordinating role is developed to support the work across all partnership areas. This role could be overseen through the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Agreement has been reached for additional capacity to support partners and the council to establish progress in key development areas as identified</p>	<p>Lisa Lees – TMBC (Head Neighbourhood Services)</p>	<p>June 2013</p>

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<p>3) Consideration is given to developing further perpetrator programmes within the borough to engage and expand on those programmes already available.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>There is acceptance that Tameside has identified need for perpetrator behaviour change programmes ,to be made available ,at an earlier threshold level than those currently being offered under NOMS contractual arrangements with GMPT .</p> <p>Indeed Tameside would ideally wish to offer programme availability to a range of Partners outside of The Criminal Justice System such as Health , CSC , RSLs and those involved with The Troubled Families agenda .There are programmes available under the “What works accreditation umbrella “ which Tameside might wish to consider piloting under a Financial Investment Model or within a current commissioning stream.</p> <p>In an attempt to drive this agenda forward discussions have been had with GMPT Programmes Division who would be prepared to offer the Improving Relationships Supporting Change Programme to 70 individuals from across the in a 12 month period at a cost of 50k</p> <p>The proposal would therefore be that CDRP and DA Steering Group would consider as to whether a FIM or current commissioning stream should be brokered /approached in order to proceed with a pilot venture..</p>	<p>Enda Ross – GM Probation (District Manager)</p>	<p>Proposal to Domestic Abuse Steering Group by 31/3/13 and if accepted to CDRP by 30/6/13</p>

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4) Domestic Abuse needs to be embedded within the partnership working of Children's and Adults Services to ensure effective programmes of prevention and early intervention are developed in both universal and targeted services.	Accepted	This recommendation cannot be met by a discrete action, though I can confirm that the issue is high on our agendas. The children's service review will bring new opportunities for early intervention, which will be further enhanced by closer working on "Early Help" between Children's and Adults' Services. As those progress we will be reviewing their impact and will specifically ensure that these reviews take account of Domestic Abuse.	Tony Griffin – TMBC (AED Children's Services)	First review is expected to be in September 2013

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<p>5) Domestic abuse and healthy relationships is included in Personal, Social and Health Education lessons for children in all schools within Tameside (primary and secondary) to ensure that the issues of domestic abuse and healthy relationships are addressed at as early an age as possible.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>This is already integral to the PSHE curriculum in Secondary schools and is part of the 'relationship development' and personal wellbeing work that is undertaken in Primary schools. Two secondary schools have won regional quality awards for their work on IAG (independent advice and guidance) which includes programmes on healthy relationships.</p> <p>The behaviour and safety of pupils is one of the four areas under inspection by Ofsted where students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is commented upon. Their understanding of bullying and personal safety is also tested through personal interviews with pupils.</p> <p>However, from research undertaken, the impact of this work is not sufficiently addressing the particular issues in relation to domestic abuse and it is recognised that a more targeted programme of education is needed involving a multi agency approach.</p>	<p>Heather Loveridge – TMBC (Head Education Services)</p>	<p>Presentation to the Directorate Management Team with a view to developing a multi-agency response which can support schools and children and young people in understanding domestic abuse, reporting issues around personal safety and knowing how to remain safe.</p> <p>April/May 2013</p>

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6) Partner organisations help to publicise Clare's Law and the information available to individuals with concerns.	Accepted	<p>Disclosures relating to Claire's law have already commenced. The violent crime steering group has oversight of the number of requests and will continue to monitor.</p> <p>Through the violent crime strategy, all members will be encouraged to publicise availability through IDVA, MARAC and other specialised services.</p>	Nicola Spragg – GMP (Violent Crime Lead)	April 2013
7) The information hub is operational as soon as possible bringing together and coordinating responses to residents within the borough who are in need.	Accepted	This long-awaited development has seen some further delay. However, this is now purposeful as the Hub is an integral part of our Children's Service Review, which is bringing in a number of developments in a short period of time. The expected "go live" date for the Hub is now 10 th June 2013.	Tony Griffin – TMBC (AED Children's Services) / Jane Forrest – TMBC (Head Commissioning and Resources)	10.06.13
8) That the Police and Council share access to their integrated systems to ensure the sharing of information and speedy responses to safeguarding issues.	Accepted	<p>Both organisations are committed to the Police having a presence in the Hub (see above), with access to their IT systems. In the meantime, a social worker from the Referral and Assessment team is based in the Public Protection Unit, from where they have access to Council systems in order to best inform decision-making.</p> <p>GMP are committed to the vision of the multi-agency hub and are working with Children's Social Care and Partners to make this a reality.</p>	Nicola Spragg – GMP (Violent Crime Lead) / Tony Griffin – TMBC (AED Children's Services)	Already in place but to be developed further (see above) – June 2013

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9) The Health and Wellbeing Board should consider domestic abuse as a priority.	Accepted	Following public and key stakeholder consultation on the draft joint Health and Wellbeing strategy, the board have accepted Domestic Abuse as a priority. This will form part of the development strategy action plan.	Debbie Bishop – TMBC (Head of Health and Wellbeing)	February / March 2013
10) IDVA service is established to work with Children as well as adults who are the victims or witnesses of domestic abuse.	Accepted	A new service is currently being tendered to include 16+ years and a requirement for the following; <i>‘A specialist intervention programme to work with children of Services Users. Children may be of any age and have experienced domestic violence. There may also be older children who are perpetrators of domestic violence. This work may include outreach, individual work and group work and might also include educational work with young people both around domestic abuse, creating, developing and maintaining healthy, relationships, self-respect and self-esteem.’</i>	Lisa Lees – TMBC (Head Neighbourhood Services)	October 2013
11) The Personal and Health Services Scrutiny Panel consider undertaking a review of Pennine Care’s policy around engaging with individuals suffering with mental health issues and alcohol dependency.	Accepted	Public Health will provide support to a review by the Personal and Health Services Scrutiny Panel if this is undertaken.	Angela Hardman – TMBC (Director of Public Health)	Awaiting decision by PHSSP

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12) The Council and partner organisations consider developing the role of the IDVAs to focus on medium risk cases in addition to high risk cases.	Accepted	<p>The Provider will offer differing levels of Service to Service Users based upon their individual needs, meaning some Service Users may only require advice and signposting to an alternative appropriate service whilst others will require full support and the involvement of a trained IDVA Worker.</p> <p>It is expected that the Service will be structured in a way that can deal with the full range of complexity experienced by those facing domestic abuse as defined in the DASH risk assessment.</p>	Lisa Lees – TMBC (Head Neighbourhood Services)	October 2013
13) Consideration is given to providing local refuge for children aged 14+.	Accepted	We are currently tendering three services that work with people experiencing domestic abuse, including the refuge. In the specification we have asked agencies bidding to propose how they would provide safe and supported housing for households fleeing domestic abuse that include male children aged 14+	Diane Barkley – TMBC (SUM. Community, Adults and Health)	New service commences 1 st October 2013 Anticipate new provision in place by January 2014