

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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| 1 | <b>Meeting:</b>     | Improving Lives Select Committee  |
| 2 | <b>Date:</b>        | 16 December 2015  |
| 3 | <b>Title:</b>       | Improving Lives Select Commission's Scrutiny Review of Domestic Abuse – update to response presented in November 2014 |
| 4 | <b>Directorate:</b> | Neighbourhoods and Adult Services<br>Safeguarding Adults  |

### 5 **Summary**

The report provides an update on the recommendations of the Improving Lives Select Commission Scrutiny Review of Domestic Abuse. The original response and update was presented to Cabinet in February 2014 and November 2014. The recommendations of the review focus on the improvement of service provision to victims of Domestic Abuse in Rotherham.

### 6 **Recommendations**

- **That the Committee receives and accepts the report and attached update**

## **7 Proposals and Details**

The Improving Lives Select Commission Scrutiny review of Domestic Abuse report was presented to Cabinet on November 6th 2013. The recommendations of the review focus on the development of a more integrated domestic abuse service provision that had clear protocols and pathways for all risk levels that were understood by every partner agency. It was also recommended that domestic abuse should be more integrated at a strategic level so that other work streams were addressing the impact it has on victims. The response and update to the recommendations made was presented to Cabinet in February and November 2014. Attached to this report are the updates on the work achieved against the recommendations since November 2014.

## **8 Finance**

The Review highlighted the value of supporting Domestic Abuse Service Provision during the austerity measures. The financial impact of each recommendation has been considered and acknowledged where appropriate in the attached response.

## **9 Risks and Uncertainties**

By not adopting this response, Rotherham will struggle to

- Evidence its local compliance with the statutory guidance for the conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews
- Evidence that the Rotherham's Domestic Abuse Priority Group, on behalf of the Safer Rotherham Partnership, are proactive in reducing the risk of domestic homicide in line with emerging national best practice
- Support Community Safety Partnerships in their statutory obligation to undertake Domestic Homicide Reviews by ensuring completion of identified actions and mirror media strategies
- Enable the actions of agencies withstand scrutiny in formal review
- Respond to victims and their families effectively

## **10 Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

By adopting this response, Rotherham can

- Evidence its local compliance with the statutory guidance for the conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews
- Evidence that the Rotherham's Domestic Abuse Priority Group, on behalf of the Safer Rotherham Partnership, are proactive in reducing the risk of domestic homicide in line with emerging national best practice

- Support Community Safety Partnerships in their statutory obligation to undertake Domestic Homicide Reviews by ensuring completion of identified actions and mirror media strategies
- Enable the actions of agencies withstand scrutiny in a serious case or domestic homicide review
- Respond to victims and their families effectively

## 11 Background Papers and Consultation

Call to End Violence against Women and Girls HM Government November 2010

A Call to End Violence Against Women and Girls: Action Plan HM Government April 2013

Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews Revised – applicable to all notifications made from and including 1 August 2013, Home Office, June 2013

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2014

Draft SRP Strategy to Eliminate Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence 2012-2015

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner – Police and Crime Plan 2013 - 2017

Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013

Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment 2013/14, 2014/15

RMBC Corporate Priorities

- Ensuring care and protection are available for those people who need it most
- All children in Rotherham are safe
- Vulnerable people are protected from abuse
- Helping to create safe and healthy communities
- Anti-social behaviour and crime is reduced

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