

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING	Communities, Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel
MEETING	4th December 2017
TITLE:	Community Safety: Domestic Abuse Strategy and Violence Against Women and Girls Transformation Fund
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1: Domestic Abuse Strategy	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 Domestic abuse is a priority for the B&NES Responsible Authorities Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.2 To update the Panel on our vision of a Bath & North East Somerset free from domestic abuse. This will be achieved through a robust, coordinated response to domestic abuse to permanently break the cycle of relationship violence and abuse. Women, men, children and young people will all have the essential tools and services needed to prevent, eliminate and recover from domestic abuse in their lives.
- 1.3 That a B&NES multi-agency bid to the Home Office 'Violence Against Women and Girls Transformation Fund' was successful and we have secured £250K over three years to provide an additional IDVA for people with complex needs, a community prevention project and youth programme.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Communities Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel is asked to:

- 2.1 Consider and make any comments on the Domestic Abuse Strategy.
- 2.2 Consider and make any comments on the plans for the Violence Against Women and Girls Transformation Fund.

2.3 To note that the VAWG funding is for three years but provides new services and does not compensate for the capacity issues in the general IDVA service.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

3.1 The Domestic Abuse Strategy is to be completed within the resources available. The VAWG work will be completed within the funding secured.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

4.1 *None*

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The full strategy is contained Appendix 1 attached.

6 RATIONALE

6.1 Tackling domestic abuse effectively requires a multi-agency response across both adult and children's services. All local agencies have a vital part to play in supporting survivors, bringing perpetrators to account and raising awareness of the issues. Many local agencies are already undertaking significant and valuable work to promote safety and provide effective interventions; however, we know there is still much more for us to do, this strategy will ensure that all partners are clear about our agreed priorities for the next three years and embed these within their own organisations and strategic plans, including joint plans. This document sets out the vision, objectives to be delivered alongside key strategies and achievements.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 *None*

8 RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

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Background papers	<i>N/A.</i>
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