

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Delyth Curtis, Director of People
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
Date of Meeting:	15 December 2016

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY 2016/2020

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To seek approval of the draft Blackpool Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Strategy.

The purpose of the Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence is to support the Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence multi-agency Partnership Board to embrace national and local principles and vision in order to ensure a systemic approach to commissioning and service delivery.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve the Blackpool Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Strategy as attached at Appendix 8a.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To provide strategic vision, leadership and direction in relation to Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence across Blackpool.

To drive the work of the Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board and support service reform

The aims of the strategy are to:-

- To provide strategic direction for the Blackpool Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board.

- To ensure victims and their families in Blackpool experiencing domestic abuse and interpersonal violence have access to quality provisions of services appropriate to their needs.
- To reduce the impact of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence by using a multi-agency collaborative approach.
- To implement a strategic approach to integrated commissioning to develop a 'One public Service Offer'.
- To intervene, prevent and break the cycle of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence across Blackpool reducing incidents of abuse and repeat victimisation.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

Please note that that this is a partnership strategy and shall be working towards a 'one public service' offer, which will include be a pooled budget arrangement ensuring a strategic approach to integrated commissioning

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: "Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

5.0 Background Information

5.1 In autumn 2015, multi-agency thematic meetings took place to progress the position of Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence and to try and map service provision in Blackpool. It was agreed that this area had become fragmented and required direct strategic oversight. In order to drive this forward it was agreed to apply to the Home Office for funding over two years to recruit a Commissioning Manager to facilitate and co-ordinate a multi-agency project management approach. In March 2016 Blackpool was successful and received £100,000.

5.2 The bid was successful based on the aim to implement service reform in line with local requirements, working towards a *One Public Service* offer for Blackpool – pooling budgets. This post has now been recruited and has been in place from 1 July 2016.

The four objectives are to:-

1. Undertake and complete a multi-agency needs assessment and data analysis
2. Engagement and consultation with key stakeholders including third sector and neighbouring Authorities (cross boundary relationships)
3. Develop a local Domestic Abuse / Interpersonal Violence Strategy
4. Develop an Integrated Commissioning Framework

5.3 A multi-agency comprehensive needs assessment is required to be undertaken which will then drive Objective 4 in order to shape future commissioning intentions for Blackpool.

5.4 Blackpool’s Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Strategy (2016 / 2020) has been drafted and consultation has taken place with key partners, local third sector partners and a small group of service users where positive feedback was received.

5.5 The definition within the strategy identifies that Domestic abuse and Interpersonal Violence affects all victims regardless of their gender, age, race, religion, class, sexual orientation and marital status. Violence can occur within the home but also in the community. Victims and their families may be subject to many different types of violence which may include the following:-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ domestic violence- including coercive control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ forced abortion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sexual violence and abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ forced prostitution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ physical violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ gang violence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sexual exploitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ mental and psychological abuse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ stalking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ human trafficking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ female genital mutilation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ forced marriage

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ so-called 'honour'-based violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial/economic abuse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ emotional abuse and manipulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Harassment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adolescent to Parent Violence 	

5.6 **Blackpool's Vision 2016 – 2020**

This ambition is reflected and enhanced under Blackpool's ambition to:

- Take a strategic ,system wide approach to commissioning
- Develop local services that put the victim at the centre
- Safeguard individuals throughout and improving health and wellbeing of families
- Raise local awareness of the issues and involve, engage and empower communities to seek , design and deliver solutions
- Adopt a whole family focused approach
- All statutory and voluntary partners across Blackpool work in partnership to prevent and tackle domestic abuse and interpersonal violence

The delivery of this vision will aim to break the cycle of domestic abuse within families, reduce incidents of abuse and end repeat victimisation across Blackpool.

5.7 **Strategic Drivers and Relevance**

The main overarching drivers are local, regional and National:-

- ***Blackpool Council Plan 2015 – 2020 - Priority 2***
"Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"
- **Pan-Lancashire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2016**

The Blackpool strategy reflects the draft Pan-Lancashire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2016 priority areas in line with the national principles identified below, but with a clear direction and vision for Blackpool.

- ***HM Government Ending Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) 2016 – 2020 (March 2016)***

The National Policy contains four guiding principles for work around violence against women and girls and Blackpool's Strategy is founded upon these principles, which are to:-

- Preventing violence and abuse
- Provision of services
- Partnership working
- Pursuing Perpetrators

5.8 **Blackpool's Priorities**

Blackpool is clear that domestic abuse and interpersonal violence affects all victims regardless of their gender, age, race, religion, class, sexual orientation and marital status and addresses Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence through the four national guiding principles as set out above.

Blackpool's Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership strategy identifies:-

Prevention

- We will raise local awareness of domestic abuse so people understand what it is and where they can get support
- We will create an environment for safe, early disclosure
- We will work with young people to provide opportunities for their personal and social development in relation to healthy relationships
- We will ensure that systems are in place to identify, reduce and mitigate the risk of harm to children, young people and adults
- We will ensure all relevant professionals are trained to ask about and deal appropriately with domestic abuse

Provision

- We will adopt a strategic, systems wide approach to commissioning, developing pooled budget arrangements to achieve an outcomes based 'one public service' offer.
- We will commission services so that victims and their families are empowered to take back control of their lives and to live independently and safely within the community, free from fear, abuse and re-victimisation.

- We will ensure that the local population, whatever their level of need, will receive a high standard of support and there will be equality of access to broad diverse provision, including accommodation.

Partnership

- We will ensure that the police, safeguarding and health and social care processes work effectively together and that the pathways for victims, their families and perpetrators are understood
- We will ensure the effective sharing of appropriate data and information to improve service delivery in support of victims, those at risk (including minority, hard to reach and new and emerging groups) and the targeting of perpetrators.
- We will provide the best possible advice and assistance to victims of domestic abuse, their families and perpetrators and value the important contribution made by the voluntary, community and private sectors.
- We will ensure there is a robust consultation and engagement process to ensure victims and service providers can share their experiences and views to contribute to an agreed local approach

Perpetrators

- We will work with perpetrators and those at risk of becoming perpetrators , to challenge and change their attitudes and behaviour, including those not subject to criminal justice procedures where programmes are delivered outside of statutory disposals
- We will deploy the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) to manage the risk posed by perpetrators and the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) to enhance the effectiveness of our work with victims and their families
- We will ensure that perpetrators are dealt with effectively by adopting a seamless approach to case management within the criminal justice system and promoting effective interventions to change their behaviour

Outcomes

The Partnership will need to know whether the Strategy is making a difference and we are aiming to measure its impact through the following outcomes measures:-

- I. Blackpool residents understand what is meant by domestic abuse and interpersonal violence and they know what they can do about it and where to get help.

- II. Blackpool victims of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence are protected and can live in safety, preferably in their own homes.
- III. Increased awareness of respectful personal relationships, especially amongst young people.
- IV. Fewer children and young people experience domestic abuse and interpersonal violence.
- V. Perpetrators of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence do not repeat their abusive behaviour.

5.9 Domestic abuse and interpersonal violence is a complex issue and one which no single agency can tackle alone.

Blackpool is clear that domestic abuse and interpersonal violence affects all victims regardless of their gender, age, race, religion, class, sexual orientation and marital status. To do this we need to make tackling domestic abuse and interpersonal violence everybody's business.

By supporting victims to disclose violence as part of their everyday interactions we can aid earlier identification and intervention to stop violence and abuse from escalating to critical levels. By improving confidence in the criminal justice system this will help bring more perpetrators to justice, as well as doing more to rehabilitate offenders

Ensuring all victims receive the right support at the right time, which is effective and adopts a whole family approach; and through implementing a strategic approach to integrated commissioning and developing the 'One public Service Offer'.

5.10 In addition the decision will ensure that that the Partnership is:-

- Have an effective and robust Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board
- Long-term management oversight of Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence in Blackpool
- Be nationally and locally compliant
- Inspection ready

5.11 Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.12 **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 8a: Draft Blackpool’s Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Strategy (2016-2020)

Appendix 8b: Draft Blackpool Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Strategy (2016-2020) Action Plan

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None at this stage

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 An Equality Impact Analysis has been considered (Appendix Five of the strategy)

8.2 The strategy has no exclusions in relation to any user groups.

8.3 Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence affects all victims regardless of their gender, age, race, religion, class, sexual orientation and marital status. Violence can occur within the home but also in the community. Victims and their families may be subject to many different types of violence which may include:-

domestic violence- including coercive control	forced abortion
sexual violence and abuse	forced prostitution
physical violence	gang violence
sexual exploitation	mental and psychological abuse
stalking	human trafficking
female genital mutilation	forced marriage
so-called ‘honour’-based violence	Financial/economic abuse
emotional abuse and manipulation	Harassment
Adolescent to Parent Violence	

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 This is a partnership strategy and shall be working towards a 'one public service' offer, which will include be a pooled budget arrangement ensuring a strategic approach to integrated commissioning. There will need to be a further commitment to a pooled budget arrangement by all partners to ensure partners are able to fulfill the requirements of the strategy.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The previous Blackpool Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Partnership Strategy 2010-2015 has expired and Blackpool requires an updated strategy to:-

- Set the strategic vision and direction for the Blackpool and Blackpool's Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board
- Support working towards reducing the impact of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence by using a multi-agency collaborative approach
- Ensure that Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence as a complex issue is looked at and owned by all partners
- Ensure the Partnership fulfils the requirements of receiving £100,000 from the Home Office
- Ensure the Partnership is clear as to Blackpool's needs to support service reform

10.2 Lack of strategic vision and oversight will cause fragmentation and disjointed services.

10.3 The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference numbers are not reducing and Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence increasing. Currently due to the high number of Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference cases two Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences are planned to be held each month instead of the normal one to manage the volume and risk.

10.4 Incidents of abuse and repeat victimisation not reducing therefore not breaking the cycle of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence across Blackpool.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 The Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board does not believe that this strategy will contravene the Council's core values, morals and beliefs.

11.2 The Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Strategy has been considered in line with Council's Plan: Priority 2 *"Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"*

11.3 Reductions in levels of domestic abuse; and support services which increase resilience and will contribute to the creation of stronger communities within Blackpool.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The draft strategy went out for consultation with key partners and local domestic abuse service providers. In addition consultation was held with a small group of service users. Feedback was positive and the service user group is planned to be used for further consultation.

12.2 The governance of the Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board also includes a proposed Provider Group and a service user group.

12.3 At the Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board 13 October 2016 it was agreed that partners were happy with the final draft of the strategy and that this should now be progressed for formalising.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 HM: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016 – 2020
Pan-Lancashire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2016
Blackpool Community Safety Plan 2016 - 2019

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:
n/a

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed:

Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1