



NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

9 JUNE 2014

BRIEFING NOTE:

SCRUTINY PANEL 1 – INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee commissioned Scrutiny Panel 1 to undertake a Review regarding Northampton Borough Council's response in addressing issues around interpersonal violence.
- 1.2 Membership of the Scrutiny Panel comprises Councillor Jamie Lane (Chair); Councillors Sally Beardsworth, Brendan Glynane, Anna King, Danielle Stone and Subbarayan Sivaramen. The Scrutiny Panel will elect a Deputy Chair at its next meeting on 21 July 2014.
- 1.3 At the first meeting of the Scrutiny Panel, Councillors agreed the scope of the Review; a copy is attached at Appendix A, for the Committee's approval.

2 UPDATE

- 2.1 The Panel agreed that the purpose of the Review should be : "To review Northampton Borough Council's response in addressing issues around interpersonal violence (domestic abuse, sexual abuse and child exploitation), centring on domestic abuse". It was felt that interpersonal violence was too vast a topic for Scrutiny review of ten months to undertake and therefore agreed to centre on domestic abuse.
- 2.2 In discussing the rationale for the Review, the Scrutiny Panel felt that the required outcomes should be:
 - To clearly identify existing domestic abuse services and partnerships covering Northampton
 - To consider and assess the roles and responsibilities of the various organisations involved in addressing domestic violence including the Police.

- To identify any gaps in service provision in order assess the adequacy for supporting victims of domestic abuse
- To make recommendations for future development of services
- To identify the underlying causes of domestic violence and preventative measures
- To identify the responsibilities of the Local Authority, for example strategic housing
- To identify funding mechanisms and how this could be used to alleviate the problem

2.3 The schedule of meetings comprises:-

May 2014 to March 2015

- 19 May June 2014 - Scoping meeting
- 21 July 2014 - Evidence gathering
- 18 September 2014 - Evidence gathering
- 23 October 2014 - Evidence gathering
- 4 December 2014 - Evidence gathering
- 22 January 2015 - Evidence gathering
- 5 March 2015 - Approval final report

2.4 Various site visits will be programmed in during this period.

2.5 Meetings of the Scrutiny Panel will commence at 6.00 pm and be held in the Jeffery Room at the Guildhall.

2.6 In accordance with the Scrutiny Panel Protocol, the Chair of this Scrutiny Panel will provide written progress reports to future meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information.

3 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approves the scope of the Scrutiny Panel 1 – Interpersonal Violence, as attached at Appendix A.

Author: Tracy Tiff, Overview and Scrutiny Officer, on behalf of Councillor Jamie Lane, Chair, Scrutiny Panel 1 – Interpersonal Violence

20 May 2014