



NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

26 JANUARY 2015

BRIEFING NOTE:

SCRUTINY PANEL 1 – INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, one further evidence gathering meeting of the Scrutiny Panel has taken place with a further scheduled.

2 UPDATE

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Scrutiny Panel held on 1 December 2014, the Panel received evidence from a variety of core expert advisors:

- Sunflower Centre
- Relate
- Northampton Women's Forum
- Red Cross
- Northampton Women's Aid

- 2.2 The Scrutiny Panel also received details from a Domestic Violence in Faith Communities Conference that a representative of the Scrutiny Panel had attended and information regarding Domestic Violence Awareness Raising Week. 25 November 2014 was International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The Scrutiny Panel hosted, together with officers from Community Safety, an information stand at the Guildhall on this day. Representatives from Northampton Women's Aid also provided information at the stand. The Scrutiny Panel was pleased to note that a number of individuals visited the information stand. A report back on the recent site visits was also received.

- 2.3 Further background papers were received by the Scrutiny Panel:

- Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS)'s Policy Briefing: Domestic Violence that was published in October 2014

- 2.4 At the final evidence gathering meeting scheduled for 22 January 2015, the Scrutiny Panel will receive responses to its core questions from further expert advisors. The results of a desktop research exercise will be received along with details regarding honour based abuse. The Scrutiny Panel will also receive a variety of anonymised case studies to inform its evidence base.
- 2.5 It is envisaged that the review will conclude in March 2015; with the report of the Scrutiny Panel presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting scheduled for 23 March 2015.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the update is noted.

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

2 December 2014