

Wiltshire Council

Health and Wellbeing Board

25 January 2018

Subject: Domestic Abuse

Executive Summary

This report provides an updated overview of the domestic abuse reduction agenda in Wiltshire.

Proposal(s)

It is recommended that the Board notes the report.

Reason for Proposal

The domestic abuse health needs assessment has been completed and work on the new strategy had commenced in the autumn. Procurement of the new domestic abuse and independent sexual violence advisory (ISVA) service started in September. The new model includes a range of services addressing the needs of those in the county who are affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Tracy Daszkiewicz
Director of Public Health
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Purpose of report

1. This report provides an updated position on the domestic abuse reduction agenda in Wiltshire.

Background

2. Current contract arrangements for the existing domestic abuse support services expire 31 March 2018. To support Wiltshire's understanding of the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse and to inform the development of a new service model, the Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership commissioned a health needs assessment.

Wiltshire Domestic Abuse Health Needs Assessment

3. The Domestic Abuse health needs assessment has been completed. It provided an epidemiological, corporate and comparative assessment that will help further understanding of need around domestic abuse in Wiltshire. Recommendations have been identified to strengthen future service provision and strategy development. The health needs assessment has been published on the Wiltshire Intelligence Network:
<http://www.intelligencenetwork.org.uk/health/adults/>

Wiltshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy

4. The current strategy expired in March 2017. The findings from the domestic abuse health needs assessment have been used to inform and shape the next strategy. This document reflects Wiltshire's strategic vision for domestic abuse and sexual violence. The governance for the strategy is with the joint WCSP/WSCB Domestic Abuse Sub group.

Procurement of Domestic Abuse and ISVA Services

5. Following cabinet's endorsement in June 2017, procurement of the new domestic abuse and ISVA services commenced in September. The work has been developed jointly through a multi-agency commissioning group,

with representation from Wiltshire Council's Public Health, Housing strategy, Children's services and commissioning, and the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner. It will be co-funded through Wiltshire Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

6. To support the service development, Wiltshire hosted a Stakeholder consultation event in May and a Provider's market event in July. Both were well represented, with over 40 participants to each, covering a breath of agencies and service areas.
7. Wiltshire Council is commissioning an innovative and reconfigured range of services to address the needs of those who are affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence. The new service brings together services for victims and their families that were previously separately commissioned. There will be a single access point meaning that all Wiltshire victims of domestic abuse and sexual offences will be provided with a tailored specialist support service(s) appropriate to their risk and need.
8. The vision of the service is to significantly reduce domestic abuse and sexual violence and the harm caused by it through effective prevention and early intervention. Service delivery will consist of four intertwined strands;
 - Victim focussed support addressing both domestic abuse and sexual violence
 - Support for children and young people living with the impacts of domestic abuse
 - Work to address perpetrator behaviour, as part of a whole family approach
 - Provision of safe, flexible accommodation accessed to all at greatest risk fleeing domestic abuse
9. The procurement process (including the standstill period) has now been completed. The contract award is to be made to the lead provider Splitz Support Service in a partnership bid with Greensquare Housing Group, Salisbury Refuge and the Nelson Trust. The new service will commence 1st April 2018.

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