



**Health and Wellbeing Board**  
18 November 2014

**Report from the Assistant Chief Executive**

For Action

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**Tackling Violence against Women and Girls in Brent -  
Action Plan Update**

**1.0 Summary**

1.1 Between March 2013 and March 2014, a Scrutiny task group was convened to examine the issues of violence against women & girls in Brent, focusing on the issues of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honour Based Violence (HBV) and Forced Marriages (FM).

1.2 The task group identified 12 recommendations, which were reported to the council's Cabinet in March 2014.

1.3 Recommendation 2 of the task group report states:

That work in relation to the implementation of the Harmful Practices Strategy is the responsibility of:

- The Local Children's Safeguarding Board
- The Health and Wellbeing Board
- Safer Brent Partnership
- The Assistant Chief Executive Department will take the overall lead responsibility

In accepting and welcoming the report, Cabinet asked that the Assistant Chief Executive's service co-ordinate the development of an action plan to tackle these issues identified in the scrutiny report.

**2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board acknowledges and agrees to the content of the action plan (**Appendix 1**) for implementation.

- 2.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board continues to support the work and activities taking place as part of the action plan.
- 2.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board encourages these actions to be imbedded in the future planning of services.

### **3.0 Detail**

#### **3.1 Discussion Group**

In order to produce a multi-agency action plan, a discussion group was formed to identify and evaluate the actions required to implement the recommendations. The discussion group consisted of representatives from across the following partners:

- Brent Assistant Chief Executive Service
- Brent Adult Social Care
- Brent Children's Social Care
- Brent Local Children's safeguarding
- Brent Public Health
- Brent Community Safety
- Brent Equalities
- Brent Geographical Information Service
- Brent Police
- Brent Multi-Agency Front Door
- Brent CVS
- ADVANCE/Hestia Housing
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- North West London Hospital Trust

#### **3.2 Developing the Action Plan**

At the time that the task group's findings and report was presented to scrutiny, many good pieces of work were already happening within the borough. Brent and its partners were delivering pockets of excellent service and we needed to identify this work, and opportunities to build on it, across Brent. The action plan brings together and co-ordinates existing work already planned and being delivered across the borough and identifies a number of new priorities and actions, all designed to address the twelve recommendations made by the scrutiny task group.

The action plan reflects the priorities laid out in the Safer Brent Partnership Strategy Priority 6: Reducing Violence against Women's (VAWG); the action plan is also in alignment with the LSCB's Vulnerable Group's work.

Some actions within the plan require ongoing work and this is to be expected if we wish to successfully imbed these actions and processes into future service delivery and commissioning.

## **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 None

## **5.0 Legal Implications**

5.1 The council has a legal obligation to eliminate discrimination, to which this work focuses on reducing the unfair treatment of women and girls.

## **6.0 Diversity Implications**

6.1 The work outlined in the action plan will have positive impacts on Brent's communities and drive services; which will improve the rights and outcomes for women and girls.

## **7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications**

7.1 The following services have agreed to provide support to complete the actions laid out in the action plan:

- Brent Adult Social Care
- Brent Children's Social Care
- Brent Local Children's safeguarding
- Brent Public Health
- Brent Community Safety
- Brent Equalities
- Brent Communications
- Brent Community Engagement
- Brent Geographical Information Services
- Brent Schools Improvement Services
- Brent Police
- Brent Multi-Agency Front Door
- Brent Head Teachers Partnership
- Brent CVS
- ADVANCE/Hestia Housing
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- North West London Hospital Trust

### **Background Papers**

Task Group Report – Tackling Violence against Women and Girls in Brent  
<http://brent.gov.uk/media/9338057/Tackling-VAWG-in-Brent-TG-Report.pdf>

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