



**Resources and Public Realm
Scrutiny Committee**
29 January 2020

**Report from the Assistant Chief
Executive**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF SCRUTINY TASK GROUP ON
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Non Key Decision
Open or Part/Fully Exempt:	Open
No. of Appendices:	None.
Background Papers:	None.
Contact Officer(s):	Michael Carr - Senior Policy and Scrutiny Officer Michael.Carr@brent.gov.uk 0208 937 2855

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Committee to establish a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, in accordance with Part 4 paragraph 5 of the Council Constitution.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That a Violence Against Women Task Group be established with the following members:

{names of members}

And with the following terms of reference:

To consider the Safer Brent Partnership's approach and progress in reducing violence against women in Brent and make a report and recommendations for the Partnership in addressing this issue.

Specifically, the approach and progress in:

- i. raising awareness and providing protection from domestic abuse and violence*
- ii. supporting victims of violence against women and bringing the perpetrators to justice*
- iii. raising awareness of Female Genital Mutilation and strengthening pathways for support*

- iv. supporting exiting sexual exploitation (including Human Trafficking & Prostitution).*

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee is considering proposals to establish a Scrutiny Task Group to consider Violence Against Women.
- 3.2 It is anticipated that the Task Group will convene between February 2020 to May 2020 to receive oral and written evidence and report back to the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee with a report and recommendations to the Council and Cabinet.
- 3.3 It is anticipated that the Scrutiny Task Group will be made up of up to six members.
- 3.4 The Community Safety Strategy 2018-2021 Priorities:
- Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse
 - Reducing the impact of Gangs and/ or Knives in our community
 - Reducing Vulnerability and increasing Safeguarding
 - Reducing Offenders and Perpetrators from reoffending
 - Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour

Violence Against Women is included in the Safer Brent Partnership (SBP) priority (Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse (Priority number 1), Safer Brent Partnership Strategy) and it is proposed that this scrutiny review focus on a review of the progress towards meeting the existing objectives.

Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse objectives:

- Domestic and Sexual Abuse – Raising awareness and providing protection from domestic abuse and violence
- Supporting victims of these crimes, VAWG and bringing the perpetrators to justice
- Female Genital Mutilation – raising awareness and strengthening pathways for support
- Exiting Sexual Exploitation (including Human Trafficking & Prostitution)
- To implement the 5 Ps (Prevention, Provision, Partnership, Protection and Participation).

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications for the purposes of this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications for the purposes of this report.

6.0 Equality Implications

- 6.1 There are no equality implications for the purposes of this report.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

- 7.1 The Scrutiny Task Group may consider any consultation having been or currently being undertaken on this topic.

Report sign off:

Shazia Hussain
Assistant Chief Executive