

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

SERIOUS VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS STRATEGY1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the Serious Violence and Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that The Serious Violence and Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy be approved.

3. Detail

In response to a government consultation in 2019 on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence, there was an overall consensus for a legislative approach to a duty. As a result, the Serious Violence Duty ('the duty') was legislated for as part of the Police, Crime, Sentencing, and Courts Act 2022 ('the PCSC Act') and is a key part of the government's commitment to reduce and prevent serious violence.

The duty covers the requirements set out in chapter 1 of part 2 of the PCSC Act 2022; where it requires specified authorities, the police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, youth offending teams, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in England, Local Health Boards in Wales and probation services, to work together to formulate an evidence-based analysis of serious violence in a local area and then formulate and implement a strategy detailing how they will respond to those issues.

Violence Against Women and Girls is an umbrella term used to describe a range of violent or abusive acts and behaviours against women including domestic abuse.

The local Strategy for Broxtowe sets out our commitment to increase awareness and reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls and it will support any future Serious Violence Strategy developed in Nottinghamshire.

This Strategy has been produced to support the Nottinghamshire Serious Violence Reduction Strategy and the Violence Reduction Unit have been consulted on its fitness.

The Broxtowe Serious Violence and Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy can be found at appendix 1 with the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) at appendix 2.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

There are no additional financial implications for the Council with any costs being contained within existing budgets.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

Sections 5 and 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 require the Council and other responsible authorities to formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder in the area; Section 17 places a duty on the Council to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the area. Implementation of this strategy contributes towards the Council's duties in this regard.

6. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable

7. Union Comments

Not applicable

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

Consider any potential Data Protection issues? Individuals, address or other data/ change in processing/change in usage of hardware / software) Yes / No' (Consider official sensitive document).

9. Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment is included at appendix 2 of this report.

10. Background Papers

Nil.