

To: Cabinet
Date: 10 March 2021
Report of: Scrutiny Committee
Title of Report: Report of the Domestic Abuse Review Group

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To present the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee's Domestic Abuse Review Group
Key decision:	No
Scrutiny Lead Members:	Councillor Andrew Gant, Chair of the Scrutiny Committee Councillor Shaista Aziz, Chair of the Domestic Abuse Review Group
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Louise Upton, Cabinet Member for a Safer, Healthy Oxford
Corporate Priority:	Support Flourishing Communities
Policy Framework:	Council Strategy 2020 - 24
Recommendation: That the Cabinet resolves to:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) note the report, and 2) agree to state whether it agrees or disagrees with the recommendations within the report at the 16 June 2021 Cabinet meeting 	

Appendices
Appendix 1: Report of the Domestic Abuse Review Group
Appendix 2: Consolidated recommendations of the Domestic Abuse Review Group

1. The Scrutiny Committee established the Domestic Abuse Review Group in November 2020. The report of the Domestic Abuse Review Group was presented to the Scrutiny Committee at a meeting on 02 March 2020 for its agreement to submit the report to the Cabinet.

2. Before discussing the report the Scrutiny Committee heard contributions from the Chair of the Review Group, Councillor Shaista Aziz.
3. The Committee discussed the report at length. The full record of the discussion can be found in the draft minutes of that meeting. Particular praise was identified by the Committee for the work undertaken by Liz Jones, the Council's Domestic Abuse Specialist and her team.
4. The Committee agreed a proposal to endorse the report with minor amendments for submission to Cabinet on 10 March 2020.
5. The report contains 48 recommendations. Whilst overall the topic of the report falls most readily within the Safer, Healthy Oxford portfolio it also makes recommendations which will require the input and oversight of multiple other portfolios, most notably Affordable Housing, Supporting Local Communities and Customer Focused Services.
6. A key takeaway of the report is the way that owing to the multiple pressures victims of domestic abuse face, effective support must cut across the multiple services such victims may rely on. If one area underperforms, the chain of support can fail, leaving victims in dangerous home situations. In light of the cross-cutting nature of the work put forward in the recommendations, and the disruption of the elections, Scrutiny is happy not to request an immediate response, but requests that the Cabinet states whether it agrees or disagrees with the recommendations in the report at the 16 June 2021 Cabinet meeting.
7. The implementation of any agreed recommendations will be monitored by the Scrutiny Committee in the normal way, with a six and twelve month update report on progress.

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