

COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

8 MARCH 2011

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT IN SUNDERLAND

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP3 SAFE CITY

CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES: CI01: Delivering Customer Focussed Services, CI04: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members of the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee with information about domestic violence.

2. Background

- 2.1 One of the priorities of the Safer Sunderland Strategy is tackling violent crime; which includes domestic violence.
- 2.2 This report provides Members with an overview of the current position in Sunderland.

3. Current position

- 3.1 Sunderland has a wide range of interventions to support victims of domestic violence and tackle perpetrators. The Sunderland Domestic Violence Partnership works closely with key partners such as the Council, Wearside Women in Need, Northumbria Police, Her Majesty's Court Service and Northumbria Probation.
- 3.2 Services provided include: a 24 hour domestic violence helpline, refuge accommodation, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors, Specialist Domestic Violence Court, Outreach Support and a Perpetrator Programme.
- 3.3 The Government will launch its cross governmental "Call to End Violence Against Women and Girls" Action Plan on March 8th 2011 which will set out guiding principles covering prevention of violence, provision of services, partnership working and justice outcomes.
- 3.4 The Action Plan will require the Safer Sunderland Partnership to ensure that the principles are acted upon at a local level.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 That Members note the content of the report and provide any comments on the current position.

5 Background Papers

No background papers were used in this report.

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