

Cabinet 7 March 2018

Recommendation from the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 30 January 2018

Domestic Abuse - Inquiry Day

- 5 The Committee considered a report by the Transformation Lead for Adult and Community Services Forward Together Programme which highlighted the objectives of the recent Inquiry Day that had been held and showed that whilst there were pockets of good practice further progress was needed to deliver the changes that were required.

Members noted the importance of having a robust approach with the right strategies in place and were pleased to see a concerted effort being made to achieve a joined-up approach to domestic abuse. The Community Safety and Drug Action Manager highlighted work being undertaken with partners to develop a whole family approach and the mapping of service pathways for victims. Officers were working closely with partners including those from the voluntary sector.

One member, whilst recognising the importance of being joined-up, highlighted how at times when discretionary spend was dropped, for example bus services, this impacted on areas such as domestic abuse as abuse was usually contained in a whole package of issues. He would like to see the County Council joined up in policy in respect of domestic abuse.

Following a discussion about data protection and the sharing of information, the Interim Director for Children's Services noted members' comments and concerns and advised that there was now a multi-agency safeguarding hub in place where information, data and intelligence could be shared and which had made major strides forward.

The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Quality – Adults, undertook to provide members with an update from the Pan Dorset Domestic Abuse Strategic Group on their Action Plan to understand how different agencies were working together and how successful they were.

Recommended

That the Cabinet be asked to support to commit to further targeted activity, with key partners to tackle domestic abuse and improve outcomes for vulnerable adults and children.

Reason for Decision

To monitor and comment on the work of Adult and Children's Services and their partner agencies, including the Community Safety Partnership to be satisfied that they were working together effectively to improve the safety of adults and children and to prevent and reduce incidents of violence and domestic abuse.