

## Scrutiny Review - Planning & Scoping Document

### **DOMESTIC ABUSE**

#### **(Rate of children subject to Child Protection where Domestic Abuse is a feature)**

<p><b>What is the Purpose of the Review?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specify exactly which Outcome(s) the review is examining?</li> <li>• Also being clear what the review is <u>not</u> looking at</li> <li>• What is the Scrutiny Review seeking to achieve?</li> <li>• Where possible refer to VFM issues of service cost, service performance and/or customer satisfaction.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Corporate Plan Outcome &amp; Priority:</u></b></p> <p>OUTCOME = <b>SAFE</b>          PRIORITY = <b>Crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse across Dorset in minimised.</b></p> <p><b><u>Outcome Indicator / Measure:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rate of children subject to a Child Protection where domestic abuse is a feature.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Supporting Rationale for the review:</u></b>          From a recent audit completed by Children’s Services, 97% of children subject to a Child Protection Plan showed that domestic abuse was a concern. The evidence suggests locally and nationally that incidents of domestic abuse is rising and is impacting significantly on outcomes for children, young people and carers.</p> <p>If we do nothing then the trend is likely to continue locally and hence this matter requires specific attention.</p>
<p><b>What are the Criteria for Selection?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Why has this particular topic been considered to be a priority issue for scrutiny?</li> <li>➤ Which of the principle criteria promoted by the Centre for Public Scrutiny does it satisfy?</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Scrutiny review prioritisation assessment criteria:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the topic/issue likely to have a significant impact on the delivery of council services? <b>YES</b></li> <li>2. Is the issue of included in the Corporate Plan (e.g. of strategic importance to the council or its partners/stakeholders), or have the potential to be if not addressed? <b>YES</b></li> <li>3. Is a focused scrutiny review likely to add value to the performance of its services? <b>YES</b></li> <li>4. Is a proactive scrutiny process likely to lead to efficiencies / savings? <b>Potentially - but not main aim.</b></li> <li>5. Has other review work been undertaken which is likely to result in duplication? <b>NO</b></li> <li>6. Do sufficient scrutiny resources already exist, or are readily available, to ensure that the necessary work can be carried out in a timely manner? <b>YES</b></li> </ol> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Assessed Priority = HIGH</b></p>



<p><b>What are the Indicators of Success?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>What factors / outcomes will demonstrate that this Scrutiny Review has been a success?</i></li> </ul>	<p>We aim to identify opportunities to improve outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To help to ‘turn the curve’ to minimise the impact of domestic abuse on children, adults and communities.</li> <li>○ Arrive at clear conclusions and recommendations to deliver tangible outcome improvements.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Good Scrutiny Principles</u></b></p> <p>Will the review actively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tackle issues of direct relevant to local people? <b>YES</b></li> <li>○ Tackle issues where, through the unique perspective of elected members, it can add the most value? <b>YES</b></li> <li>○ Talk to wide range of people, drawing them together and building consensus? <b>YES</b></li> <li>○ Challenge the accepted ways of doing things and acting as a champion for developing a culture of improvement in an area? <b>YES</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>What Methodology / Approach is to be followed?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>What types of enquiry will be used to gather evidence.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Following a structured and proportionate review process, which is likely to involve the active consideration of evidence, direct representation(s), a review of financial, performance and risk data to arrive at an objective opinion against some Key Lines of Enquiry;</i></p>	<p>An Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA) methodology will be used to conduct and structure the scrutiny review process. This will involve provision and consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Context, performance, financial and risk information</li> <li>- Evidence will be collated and assessed (incl. consideration of previous work, reports &amp; data, verbal representations etc.</li> <li>- Other specific contributions from relevant organisations, agencies and individuals...list these e.g. Chairman Dorset Children’s Safeguarding Board, Domestic Abuse Forum, Police &amp; Crime Commissioner etc.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Supporting Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)</u></b></p> <p>Turning the Curve – the 7 Killer Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If we do nothing where is the trend heading, is this OK?</li> <li>2. What’s helping and hindering the trend (‘causes and forces’)?</li> <li>3. Are local services and partnerships making a difference and providing value for money?</li> <li>4. What additional information / research do we need to properly understand the ‘causes and forces’?</li> <li>5. Who are the key partners we need to be working with (including local residents)?</li> <li>6. What could work to turn the trend in the right direction including ‘low cost and no cost solutions’? Additional information/research around ‘what works’?</li> <li>7. What is the Council’s and Members role and specific contribution?</li> </ol>



<p><b>What specific resources &amp; budget requirements are there?</b>  <i>What support is required for the review exercise?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>specialist staff</i></li> <li>• <i>any external support</i></li> <li>• <i>site visits</i></li> <li>• <i>consultation</i></li> <li>• <i>research</i></li> </ul>	<p>In anticipation of voluntary support and assistance from external agencies, we do not anticipate any significant additional costs being incurred by the council in conducting this review.</p> <p>At this stage we do not envisage a need for any specific external support costs, or extensive research or consultation exercises.</p> <p>A summary of the main costs associated with the review will therefore be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prioritising council officer support time</li> <li>- Minor expenses relating to elected member, external agencies and officer travel &amp;/or subsistence</li> </ul>
<p><b>Are any Corporate Risks associated with this Review?</b>  <i>Identify any weaknesses and barriers to success</i></p>	<p>The Corporate Risk Register currently identifies the following risks that are relevant to this review exercise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Failure to protect vulnerable children and young adults from abuse or neglect in situations that could have been predicted and prevented - <b>HIGH RISK</b></li> <li>2. Failure to protect vulnerable adults from abuse or neglect in situations that could have been predicted and prevented – <b>MEDIUM RISK</b></li> </ol>
<p><b>Who will receive the review conclusions and any resultant recommendations?</b></p>	<p>The outcomes from this review exercise, which will be presented as clear and structured conclusions and recommendations, will be presented to the Cabinet for their consideration and action as appropriate.</p> <p>The final report will also be shared with those external agencies who have been actively engaged in and supported the review exercise.</p>
<p><b>What is the Review Timescale?</b></p> <p>➤ <i>Identify key meeting dates and any deadlines for reports or decisions.</i></p>	<p><b>Review Start Date:   OCTOBER 2016</b></p> <p><b>Target End Date:     DECEMBER 2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final report agreed by Committee - January 2017</li> <li>- Final report to Cabinet - February 2017</li> </ul> <p><b>Follow-up Review:   JANUARY 2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To review the impact of agreed changes and assess the degree of improvement achieved on resultant outcomes.</li> </ul> <p><i>(A detailed plan for the review will also be developed to clearly set out the various stages, necessary actions and timescales)</i></p>



<p><b>Who will lead the Review Exercise?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Identify a nominated:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elected Member</li> <li>- Lead Officer</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Lead Elected Member: <i>(To be agreed)</i></p> <p>Lead Officer: <i>(To be agreed)</i></p>
<p><b>Media Interest / Publicity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Communications Plan</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Do we need to publicise the review to encourage community involvement?</i></li> <li>➤ <i>What sort of media coverage do we want? (E.g. Fliers, leaflets, radio broadcast, press release, etc.)</i></li> </ul>	<p>There is a clear desire to raise the profile of this proactive scrutiny work with the public and, hopefully, achieve their direct engagement and representations.</p> <p>Internal communications will also ensure a council wide knowledge of the review and its purpose, which will help to ensure any relevant contributions can be captured.</p> <p>Communications Lead - Elected Member:: <i>(To be agreed)</i></p> <p>Communications Lead – Officer: <i>(To be agreed)</i></p> <p>Communications Officer: <i>(To be agreed)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Will this review be subject to a press embargo? <b>NO</b></i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Completed by:</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p>	<p>Mark Taylor Group Manager – Governance &amp; Assurance June 2016</p>
<p><b>Approved by Scrutiny Committee:</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p>	