

**REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING  
POLICY, PLANNING AND CORPORATE SERVICES****STAFF CHANGE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval of Members for a change to the staffing of the Community Safety Team and consequently a transfer of corporate policy leadership on domestic violence from the Community Safety Team to Public Health (PH).

**Information and Advice**

2. Tackling Domestic Violence is a priority for the County Council (NCC), the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the Health and Wellbeing Board. Currently there are members of staff within both the Public Health (PH) and Community Safety teams in NCC who contribute to this agenda. This is not the best use of scarce resources as it can lead to duplication of effort
3. From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 the County Council became responsible for the PH function. To support this, NCC now receives a PH grant, which for the first two years will be ring fenced. Some of these resources are currently used to support the Domestic Violence work.
4. In reality the resources to tackle Domestic Violence across Nottinghamshire come from and through a variety of different sources and agencies. As public sector funding comes under further pressure it is now more important than ever that the scarce resources available are prioritised for maximum impact. The PCC, with the support of the Domestic Violence 'champion' (Vice Chair of the Community Safety Committee), has recently agreed that a time limited piece of work is undertaken in 2013/14 to achieve the following:
  - Comprehensive mapping of current DV resources in order to fully understand what is currently committed across Nottinghamshire
  - Review the literature of what works in tackling Domestic Violence
  - Prioritisation of resources against evidence of effectiveness in order to demonstrate cost effectiveness
  - Make recommendations to the DV strategic group on the options going forward to include pooled budgets and joint commissioning

**Proposal**

5. The proposal has 4 components:
  - a) The member of staff currently in the Community Safety Team who works exclusively on the Domestic Violence agenda is moved into the Public Health team on a permanent basis. This change has been piloted on a temporary basis since October 1<sup>st</sup> 2013. The costs of this member of staff will be met by the currently ring fenced Public Health budget.
  - b) Following the completion of the review outlined above and subject to the recommendations made from that review, the Public Health budget is considered a source of funding for the Domestic Violence work which NCC continues to commission.
  - c) In accordance with the One Council approach, the Public Health team is identified as the single source of leadership for Domestic Violence Policy within the council.
  - d) In terms of accountability to members, the Community Safety Committee and the Public Health Committee will provide joint oversight of the work and policy development, with the Vice Chair of Community Safety retaining the role of County Council 'champion' for the work area.

### **Other Options Considered**

6. Retain the status quo. The Community Safety service is currently being reviewed as part of the corporate need for a transformational approach to service provision in light of future budget constraints. This is in order to identify a more sustainable solution for the responsibilities currently discharged by the team, as maintaining the current status quo is not considered to be an option in the long term.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

7. The change outlined in this report will ensure an increased consistency of approach and a single point of contact for NCC on Domestic Violence issues. It will provide a good fit with the commissioning-based approach within Public Health and will also enable Community Safety Team to refocus its efforts and have a greater impact on a redefined agenda.
8. Public Health Committee agreed the recommendation on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

#### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

Crime and disorder implications are covered in the body of the report.

#### **Financial Implications**

This post is at Band C, costs circa £48,000 per annum (including on costs), although post holder currently works 0.8fte

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) It is recommended that Members give retrospective approval to the transfer of a 0.8fte Community Safety Officer at Hay band C, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013.

**Martin Done, Service Director Communications and Marketing  
Policy, Planning and Corporate Services**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:  
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### **Constitutional Comments (NAB 16/01/14)**

10. The Community Safety Committee has authority to consider and approve the matters in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (SEM 17/01/14)**

11. The financial implications are set out in the report.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 'None'

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- 'All'