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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board



Meeting Date	24 September 2020	Agenda Item	3.7
Report Title	NPT Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy 2020-2023		
Report Author	Nicola Edwards, Head of Nursing-Safeguarding		
Report Sponsor	Cathy Dowling, Deputy Director of Nursing & Patient Experience		
Presented by	Nicola Edwards, Head of Nursing- Safeguarding		
Freedom of Information	Open		
Purpose of the Report	<p>The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on Councils and Health Boards to produce and implement joint Strategies.</p> <p>Neath Port Talbot Council and the Health Board have restated their commitment to tackling domestic abuse and prepared the NPT Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities 2020-2023. The first joint 3 year Strategy was launched in 2017.</p>		
Key Issues	<p>The Board are asked to note the joint commitment of NPT Council and the Health Board to tackle domestic abuse and recommend the Board approve the joint Strategy (Appendix 1)</p>		
Specific Action Required (please choose one only)	Information	Discussion	Assurance
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations	<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> APPROVE 		

NEATH PORT TALBOT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES 2020-2023

1. INTRODUCTION

The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on Councils and Health Boards to produce and implement joint local Strategies. The first Neath Port Talbot Council and Health Board joint 3 year Strategy was launched in 2017.

2. BACKGROUND

Neath Port Talbot Council and the Health Board have restated their commitment to tackling domestic abuse and jointly prepared the second Neath Port Talbot Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities 2020-2023 Strategy (Appendix 1). Since the publication of the first Strategy various changes have been made and progress is highlighted throughout the revised Strategy which has been developed with the involvement of both partner agencies and survivors.

The Strategy is an overarching plan which outlines the priority areas and strategic direction around healthy relationships and the implementation of the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 within Neath Port Talbot. It aims to tackle all forms of violence in relationships, responding to the growing number of referrals being received by specialist providers; reducing harm and improving the lives of those affected.

The Strategy was approved by Neath Port Talbot Councils' Cabinet in June and presented to and approved by the Health Board Safeguarding Committee on the 14th August.

3. GOVERNANCE AND RISK ISSUES

This agenda is **'everyone's business'** and is a cross cutting theme that requires all areas of public policy to address violence in domestic and public spheres, to shape and improve the delivery of services for those affected and to meet the requirements outlined in the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015. This Act places a statutory duty on the Local Authorities and Health Boards to jointly prepare and publish strategies to meet local needs and to prevent all forms of Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV).

The term "Violence against Women" which is used nationally and in this Strategy refers to the range of crime types which are **predominantly, but not exclusively**, experienced by women and girls. Such gender-based violence includes domestic abuse, rape and sexual violence, stalking, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, crimes committed in the name of 'honour', trafficking, sexual exploitation, including commercially through the sex industry, and sexual harassment in the workplace and

public. Having a co-ordinated approach to addressing these issues does not mean this neglects abuse directed towards **men and boys** or other groups and individuals who experience these forms of violence, or neglects to deal with violence perpetrated by women, where this occurs.

The Strategy encourages partners to further work together to achieve positive outcomes for all victims of VAWDASV. Having a co-ordinated community response ensures that all relevant organisations effectively respond to these issues, both within their own agencies and in collaboration with other partners, to prevent harm, reduce risk and increase immediate and long-term safety for people living in Neath Port Talbot area.

This agenda affects all children and adult services, housing, the police, health, probation, civil and criminal courts, voluntary and community organisations. It is everyone's responsibility to address all forms of VAWDASV by identifying and supporting survivors and their children and holding perpetrators accountable, whilst offering opportunities to change their behaviour.

Violence and abuse affects people regardless of their age, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, class and marital status. Violence in relationships may have a range of consequences including homelessness, mental health, problematic substance misuse, child protection issues, physical injury and offending behaviour

Since the development of the first 'Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy' in 2017, significant progress has been made. This revised strategy will further build on these achievements, working towards preventing VAWDASV and better supporting those who are affected.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report makes no recommendations to the Group that carry financial implications

5. RECOMMENDATION

The Board is requested to approve the Neath Port Talbot Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities Strategy 2020-2023 and the prepared press release (Appendix 2)

Governance and Assurance		
Link to Enabling Objectives (please choose)	Supporting better health and wellbeing by actively promoting and empowering people to live well in resilient communities	
	Partnerships for Improving Health and Wellbeing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Co-Production and Health Literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Deliver better care through excellent health and care services achieving the outcomes that matter most to people	
	Best Value Outcomes and High Quality Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Partnerships for Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Excellent Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outstanding Research, Innovation, Education and Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health and Care Standards		
(please choose)	Staying Healthy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Safe Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Effective Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dignified Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Timely Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Individual Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff and Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality, Safety and Patient Experience		
<p>The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on Councils and Health Boards to produce and implement joint Strategies. The first Neath Port Talbot Council and Health Board joint 3 year Strategy was launched in 2017.</p> <p>Neath Port Talbot Council and the Health Board have restated their commitment to tackling domestic abuse and jointly prepared the second Neath Port Talbot Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities 2020-2023 Strategy</p>		
Financial Implications		
Safeguarding is a core duty of care for the Health Board. Financial implications to meet the statutory safeguarding duty are within existing budgets.		
Legal Implications (including equality and diversity assessment)		
<p>The Health Board has a statutory responsibility to make arrangements to protect and safeguard the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk. Safeguarding policies uphold that patient and service users have the right to independence, dignity, respect, equality, privacy and choice.</p> <p>The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on Councils and Health Boards to produce and implement joint Strategies.</p>		
Staffing Implications		
This report makes no recommendations to the Group that carry staffing implications		

Long Term Implications (including the impact of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prevention - acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives. ○ Collaboration - Collaboration with persons may help the organisation meet its well-being objectives. ○ Involvement - The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, which includes staff engagement ○ Improve population health through prevention and early intervention 	
Report History	This Strategy was presented and approved by the Health Board Safeguarding Committee, 14 th August 2020
Appendices	Appendix 1 NPT Healthy Relationships for Stronger Communities 2020-2023