

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Safer City Partnership	7 July 2020
Subject: Domestic Abuse Vulnerability and Risk Policy Update	
Report of: Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer	For Information
<p>This report updates Members on the VAWG Strategy 2019-2023, the City of London Corporation's response to domestic abuse since the beginning of lockdown and the post Covid-19 recovery plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <p>The VAWG Strategy 2019-2023 has been approved and published on the Safer City Partnership webpage.</p> <p>The Community Safety Team has worked with partner agencies to raise awareness of services and information available to people affected by domestic abuse. A post Covid-19 recovery plan is currently being developed to ensure the City Corporation's response to domestic abuse is constantly adapting to the government guidance around the Coronavirus.</p>	

Key Points:

- **VAWG Strategy 2019-2013**
- **Domestic Abuse Awareness**
- **Post Covid-19 Recovery Plan**
- **Conclusion**
- **Appendix**

VAWG Strategy 2019-2023

1. The final version of the VAWG Strategy (appendix 1) has been formatted and approved. The strategy is available on the City Corporation website within the SCP webpage. The strategy has been circulated to members of the VAWG Forum who will be responsible for delivering the VAWG strategy and action plan.

Domestic Abuse Awareness

2. Members will have seen the domestic abuse update setting out work undertaken during lockdown to protect City residents and workers from domestic abuse.
3. In addition to this work, the Spotting the Signs toolkit has been updated to include a section on how employers can safeguard staff from domestic abuse whilst working from home.

Post Covid-19 Recovery Plan

4. A post Covid-19 recovery plan is currently being developed to ensure the support and advice being offered is in line with the government guidance.
5. The City Corporation will promote a domestic abuse campaign across the City housing estates, encouraging those affected by domestic abuse to access support.
6. The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) steering group will incorporate learning from the pandemic into the DAHA accreditation process. The steering group will also evidence how the City Corporation has adapted during the pandemic to continue to support residents whilst working remotely.
7. Training will be delivered to partner agencies, schools, businesses and the City estate staff to ensure learning from the pandemic is shared with all professionals who may come into contact with people affected by domestic abuse.
8. An article stating the good work Lloyds Banking Group (LBG) do for employees affected by domestic abuse will be included in the City Corporation's Business Healthy newsletter, promoting the broadcast they held at the beginning of lockdown. The article will include partnership working between the City Corporation and LBG, using this platform to share good practice to encourage other businesses to do similar work.
9. The Community Safety Team will continue to work with partners to ensure a multi-agency approach to protect people from domestic abuse.

Conclusion

10. The Community Safety Team has adapted to continue to protect people from domestic abuse whilst working remotely. The post Covid-19 recovery plan will be constantly reviewed to ensure the City Corporation is working in line with the latest government guidance. The work within the recovery plan will continue to be developed as the lockdown is relaxed and the City slowly becomes busier with workers, businesses and schools re-opening.

Appendix

11. Appendix 1: VAWG Strategy 2019-2023

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