

# **DRAFT**

## **Violence against Women and Girls Board**

### **Section1: Terms of Reference**

The VAWG Board will oversee the delivery of the council's and partnership's response to:

- Domestic Violence
- Rape and Sexual Violence
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Forced Marriage
- Crimes in the name of "honour"
- Sexual Harassment
- Stalking
- Trafficking
- Prostitution and Sexual Exploitation
- Children at risk of sexual Exploitation

This will be carried out inline with the Mayor of London's "The way forward a call for action to end violence against women" and in the context of the London Safeguarding Children's Board agreed pan London Protocols.

### **Purpose**

To set the strategic direction for Merton's partnership work on VAWG

To commission an over-arching strategy encompassing the VAWG key strands and establishing clear local priorities.

To hold partnership leads for specific strands of activity to account through and effective performance framework.

To improve joint working in relation to commissioning VAWG services

To improve practitioner joint working, risk assessment and practice

To ensure the operational delivery of the recommendations from the VAWG Needs Assessment and to implement the VAWG agenda within the borough.

## **Section 2: Operation of the Board**

### **Good Practice**

The VAWG Board agrees to work to the best practice.

### **Membership**

- CMT Lead (co-chair)
- Strategic Lead within Merton Police ( co-chair)
- Chair of the MARAC
- Representatives from Children’s Safeguarding, Education and Care
- Housing Needs Manager
- Assistant Chief Probation Officer
- Merton Victim Support Manager
- Strategic Lead within Public Health
- Lead within Adult Safeguarding
- Lead within MVSC
- Victim Support, Merton Manager

### **Support**

This will need to be resolved through the discussions re Safer Merton but will need to cover policy and strategy development, performance/needs assessment and administration.

Designated leads will be needed from service areas

### **Substitution**

All members will attempt to send a named substitute with delegated authority to the meetings that they are unable to attend.

### **Chairing**

The Director for Children Schools and Families and senior Police officer will co-chair the meeting.

### **Frequency**

There will be two meetings held in 2014. From 2015 the board will meet 3 times a year with the practitioners group and Commissioning group meeting between this board.

The duration of these meeting will be no longer than 2hrs.

The first year's meetings will be booked in advance at the first meeting, and then annual bookings will be made.

### **Core Agenda Items**

The agenda will contain certain core items that will appear each meeting, as well as meeting-specific items. The agenda will always include:

- Welcome/apologies
- Minutes of the last meeting
- Outstanding actions

A full standard agenda will be agreed by the board.

### **Reporting**

The work of the VAWG Board will report to: Children's Trust, Merton Safeguarding Children's Board, Safer & Stronger Strategy Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

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