

**Violence Against Women and Girls – Task Group Recommendations
Cabinet Response – April 2023
Update March 2024**

Appendix 1

Rec No	Recommendations	Responsible Officer	Agreed Action and Date of Implementation	Update on Actions – April 2024
1	<p>Local Authority to publish within the School's Bulletin information on VAWG and domestic abuse, including local support pathways available, with schools requested to share this information on their websites or newsletters to parents.</p> <p>Schools to also consider providing an information briefing for parents to attend.</p>	<p>Joanne Davies Assistant Director – Education and Learning</p>	<p>The Local Authority will provide information on VAWG and domestic abuse on the weekly safeguarding bulletin.</p> <p>This will include local pathways and services, and will ask schools to share this information on their websites.</p> <p>Implementation: March 2023</p>	<p>Action Completed Information was circulated on the School's Bulletin on 2 March 2023.</p> <p>As this has been nearly 12 months since last circulated to Headteachers and Designated Safeguarding Leads, the information will be resent on the bulletin for 29 February 2024.</p>
2	<p>Template of a Survey to be provided to all schools with a request to circulate to staff to capture views on the impact of and response to VAWG and to understand training needs.</p> <p>Survey outcomes to be discussed at a future Headteachers Forum meeting</p>	<p>Joanne Davies Assistant Director – Education and Learning</p>	<p>Template of a Survey to be provided to all schools with a request to circulate to staff to capture views on the impact of and response to VAWG and to understand training needs.</p> <p>Survey outcomes to be discussed at a future Headteachers Forum meeting</p>	<p>Action Completed The survey was created and circulated to schools. 218 responses were received, and a report was written June 2023 detailing the findings, which have been shared with Head Teachers Forum.</p>

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			Implementation: April 2023	
3	Advise schools of the need to access training on VAWG and trauma informed learning from reputable service providers.	Donna Culley Safeguarding Children in Education Officer	Advise schools of the need to access training on VAWG and trauma informed learning from reputable service providers. Implementation: March 2023	Action Completed This was circulated with the safeguarding bulletin in March 2023.
4	Children’s Services to gather information / quality assurance on a sample of evidence from school RSE curriculum to ascertain suitability and effectiveness	Joanne Davies Assistant Director – Education and Learning	Dip sample will be completed on primary, secondary school, specialist provisions and further education settings. These will be audited by Heather Addison and Donna Cullen. Implementation: May 2023	Action Completed Survey was sent out to schools and report completed September 2023.
5	Resources to be developed and shared with licenced premises to enable them to recognise, report and respond to VAWG. Maximise any future funding opportunities to secure investment into further programmes to promote VAWG related initiatives (e.g., accreditation / training programmes) in the Night Time Economy sectors.	Samantha Murray Assistant Director – Housing & Communities	Licensing and Community Safety Services will develop a resource on VAWG for the NTE sector. Ongoing monitoring of future funding opportunities across service areas. Implementation date - October 2023.	Action Completed Safer Streets 5 funding was secured in 2023/24 with an allocation of £201,000 to the borough. This funding has included the delivery of bespoke training to NTE employees on the issue of Violence Against Women and Girls as well as wider initiatives in this sector – delivered during March 2024.

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6	Review, recognise and share best practice in the night time economy to encourage licenced premises to strengthen their approach and practice to protect women and girls from violence.	Samantha Murray Assistant Director – Housing & Communities	Licensing and Community Safety Services will seek and share best practice with this sector. Implementation date - October 2023.	Action Completed Training packages have been developed and delivered for both in person delivery and for an on-line portal. Engagement and enforcement activity has taken place with Merseyside Police during December – March 2024 to check compliance by licenced premises.
7	Complete a Survey to night-time economy workers on their understanding of VAWG and if they feel safe in work and leaving/travelling home from work.	Samantha Murray Assistant Director – Housing & Communities	The Night Time Economy (NTE) Forum was established in February 2023 and will take forward a Survey of NTE employees. Implementation date - October 2023.	Action Completed A survey was completed to inform the successful bid for Safer Streets 5 funding- in total 40 Surveys were completed by employees in the NTE. The findings of the research directly influenced the priorities within the bid and programme.
8	Engage with Halton and St Helens VCA to assess the viability and interest in the establishment of VAWG network. Council to support VCA with resources and information on the issue of VAWG	Tanya Wilcock Director of Communities	April 2023	Action Completed Discussions have taken place with Halton & St Helens VCA and it has been proposed to hold an annual stakeholder event for the Safer St Helens Executive Community Safety Partnership (CSP), with a specific workshop on the issue of Violence against Women & Girls. This will inform the

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				prioritisation of funding and other resources to address issues raised and to support community & voluntary organisations in tackling this issue. The Safer St Helens Executive CSP will also identify the theme of Domestic Abuse & VAWG as a priority area for funding through its small grants programme, which will be launched in March 2024.
9	Development of a communications strategy (posters, leaflets) to ensure that information in relation to VAWG is accessible across public sectors, businesses, and wider community / voluntary sector.	Samantha Murray Assistant Director – Housing & Communities	The Community Safety Team will collaborate with other local authority areas and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner on communications relating to Violence Against Women and Girls. Implementation date - September 2023.	Action Completed As part of the Safer Streets 5 programme, a resource pack for businesses is in development and will be distributed at the conclusion of the Safer Streets programme.
10	Explore the potential methods of developing VAWG Champions across local communities in the borough.	Tanya Wilcock Director of Communities	To be done in association with Halton & St Helens VCA Implementation date – October 2023	Action Completed To be delivered as part of the Safer St Helens Executive CSP, Small Grants programme, which will be launched in March 2024. A specific theme of Domestic Abuse and VAWG has been agreed in respect of this grant pot. Successful

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				organisations will be considered VAWG champions.
11	Inclusion of VAWG training for Council employees as part of the wider organisational development programme.	Emma Morris Head of Organisational Development	Organisational Development to review existing training modules and work in conjunction with Community Safety to agree a suitable training package to be incorporated into future programmes. Implementation date – October 2023	Action Completed E-learning training specific to Violence Against Women and Girls is currently being scoped.