



Coventry City Council

## Resources Directorate

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To all Members of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2014

Our ref: C/EMK

Dear Member,

### **Additional Information – Meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee - Wednesday, 8th October, 2014**

The papers for the above meeting were circulated on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2014. There is now an addendum to the report on Female Genital Mutilation. The additional briefing note is attached to this letter. Please include this with your papers for the meeting.

- **Agenda Item 6. FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION** (Pages 3 - 4)  
Report of the Cabinet Member (Health and Adult Services) who has been invited to the meeting for the consideration of this item

Presentation by the Director of Public Health

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Liz Knight  
**Governance Services Officer**

**Membership:** Councillors J Blundell, J Clifford (Deputy Chair), G Duggins, J Innes, R Sandy, B Singh, T Skipper (Chair), K Taylor and S Thomas

**By invitation:** Councillor A Gingell



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To: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Subject: Addendum to Female Genital Mutilation Report

## 1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To update data in paragraph 3.4 and 4.4 of the report on Female Genital Mutilation

## 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee are recommended to note the amendment to the report

## 3 Information/Background

- 3.1 The table on page 48 of the report pack in paragraph 3.4 should read as below, with the changes highlighted in red italics:

### 3.4 Prevalence of FGM in Coventry

Since 1 April 2014 Acute NHS Trusts (Foundation and non-Foundation) must provide returns to the Department of Health on a monthly basis of the prevalence of FGM within their treated population. Between April and August 2014 there have been **34** women accessing UHCW midwifery services that have been affected by FGM. *This is approximately 1.6% of all deliveries, which is slightly higher than the National prevalence of 1.5%.* Evidence suggests that for these women there may be an increased risk of childbirth complications and new-born deaths. For those mothers who have undergone FGM there is also the potential risk that their female children will also undergo the procedure.

Police data for the West Midlands shows FGM referrals to West Midlands Police (WMP):

Year	Total referrals to WMP	Coventry Referrals	Percentage
2013	41	16	39%
2014 (to date)	84	48	<i>57%</i>

- 3.2 This information is also updated in paragraph 4.5

### 4.5 Information Gathering & Data Sharing

It is widely accepted that data concerning FGM is limited owing to the secretive nature of the practice and community reluctance to disclose any issues relating to FGM due to the illegality of the practice. There is currently a project happening nationally to gather data on FGM from Obstetrics and Gynaecology departments, current data 4 months in to the project shows **34** women affected by FGM accessed UHCW midwifery services (*1.6% of all deliveries*). This will enable Coventry to more accurately determine the prevalence of FGM across Coventry. However community based services and primary and secondary care professionals are often ideally placed to ask questions regarding FGM, enabling data recording. The Task & Finish Group currently includes Health Professionals who are in a

position to influence other professionals in community based services and primary & secondary care to ask the question regarding FGM.

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