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### Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

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**Time and Date**

10.00 am on Wednesday, 26th April, 2017

**Place**

Committee Room 3 - Council House

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**Public Business****1. Apologies and Substitutions****2. Declarations of Interest****3. Female Genital Mutilation (Pages 5 - 14)**

Report of Councillor K Caan, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport

Councillor R Ali, Deputy Cabinet Member has also been invited for the consideration of this item along with the following representatives:

Detective Constable Gillian Squires, West Midlands Police  
Elaine Yates, Coventry Haven

**4. Progress Update on the Domestic Violence and Abuse Services (DVA) Commissioned Services for Coventry (Pages 15 - 18)**

Briefing Note of the Deputy Chief Executive (People)

Councillors A Khan and P Akhtar, Cabinet Member and Deputy Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities have been invited to the meeting for consideration of this item along with the following representatives:

Inspector Gary Osbourne, West Midlands Police  
Kimberley Evans, Fry Housing  
Rosie Kaur Gakhal, Safe and Supported Partnership  
Sarah Marsden, Fry Housing  
Martina Palmer, Refuge  
Susan Parkes, Barnardos

**5. Business Rates Consultations and the West Midlands 100% Business Rates (Pages 19 - 28)**

Briefing Note of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Councillor J Mutton, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources has been invited to the meeting for the consideration of this item

6. **Outstanding Issues** (Pages 29 - 32)

Report of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator

7. **Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Work Programme 2016/2017** (Pages 33 - 40)

Report of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator

8. **Any Other Items of Public Business**

Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

**Private Business**

**Nil**

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Martin Yardley, Deputy Chief Executive (Place), Council House Coventry

Tuesday, 18 April 2017

Notes:1) The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Liz Knight, Democratic Services, Council House, Coventry, telephone 7683 3073, alternatively E-mail: [suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk)/[liz.knight@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:liz.knight@coventry.gov.uk)

2) Council Members who are not able to attend the meeting should notify Liz Knight no later than 9.00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, giving their reasons for absence and the name of the Council Member (if any) who will be attending the meeting as their substitute.

3) Scrutiny Board Members who have an interest in any report referred to this meeting, but who are not Members of this Committee, have been invited to notify the Chair by 12 noon on the day before the meeting that they wish to speak on a particular item. The Member must indicate to the Chair their reason for wishing to speak and the issue(s) they wish to raise.

Membership: Councillors N Akhtar, J Blundell, G Crookes, D Gannon, L Kelly, R Lancaster (Chair), J McNicholas, M Mutton and R Singh (Deputy Chair)

By invitation Councillors P Akhtar, R Ali, K Caan, A Khan and J Mutton

Please note: a hearing loop is available in the committee rooms

If you require a British Sign Language interpreter for this meeting  
OR if you would like this information in another format or  
language please contact us.

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**To:** Scrutiny Coordination Committee

**Date:** 26 April 2017

**From:** Councillor Kamran Caan, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport

**Subject:** Female Genital Mutilation

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### **1 Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to update Scrutiny Coordination Committee on progress made to tackle Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Coventry. The paper also provides an update on the prevalence of FGM in Coventry and progress against the recommendations endorsed by Scrutiny Coordination Committee in 2015.

### **2 Recommendations**

2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to:

- 1) Consider the progress update contained in section 5 of the report
- 2) Identify any further areas for discussion or consideration
- 3) Identify any recommendations for the appropriate Cabinet Member

### **3 Information and Background**

3.1 Female genital mutilation (FGM), also known as female circumcision or female genital cutting, is defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as "all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons".

3.2 The practice is mostly carried out by traditional circumcisers, who often play other central roles in communities, such as attending childbirths. Procedures are mostly carried out on young girls sometime between infancy and aged 15, and occasionally on adult women.

3.3 Immediate complications can include severe pain, shock, haemorrhage, tetanus, gangrene or sepsis, urine retention, open sores in the genital region and injury to nearby genital tissue, wound infections, as well as blood-borne viruses such as HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C and in some cases death. Long-term consequences can include recurrent bladder and urinary tract infections, abnormal periods, cysts, infertility, an increased risk of childbirth complications and new-born deaths, chronic vaginal and pelvic infections, kidney impairment and possible kidney failure and the need for later surgeries. Psychological and mental health problems include depression and anxiety, and flashbacks during pregnancy and childbirth.

3.4 FGM predates Christianity, Islam and Judaism, and the Bible, Koran, Torah and other religious texts do not advocate or justify FGM. In some societies, FGM is considered a cultural tradition, which is often used as an argument for its continuation. Religious leaders take varying positions with regard to FGM: some promote it, some consider it irrelevant to religion, and others oppose it and contribute to its elimination. Local structures of power and authority, such as community leaders, religious leaders, circumcisers, and even some medical personnel can contribute to upholding the practice.

3.5 Reasons given for practising FGM:

- It brings status and respect to the girl
- It preserves a girl's virginity/chastity
- It is part of being a woman
- It is a rite of passage
- It gives a girl social acceptance, especially for marriage
- It upholds the family honour
- It cleanses and purifies the girl
- It gives the girl and her family a sense of belonging to the community
- It fulfils a religious requirement believed to exist
- It perpetuates a custom/tradition
- It helps girls and women to be clean and hygienic
- It is cosmetically desirable
- It is mistakenly believed to make childbirth safer for the infant

3.6 The issue of FGM in Coventry was raised by Councillor Gingell at Council in December 2013 where a motion to condemn the practice was supported. Coventry City Council was the first Council to support such a motion, and a number of other councils have now taken a motion through to end FGM. Public Health were asked to establish a FGM Task & Finish Group to gather knowledge and intelligence on the extent of FGM in Coventry, how it is being addressed by various partners and the barriers in dealing with FGM.

3.7 An in depth report was developed in 2015 that identified prevalence of FGM in Coventry and included recommendations to eradicate the practice. Recommendations included:

- Preventing FGM from taking place by raising awareness and engaging with communities
- Supporting professionals to identify and support girls and women at risk of or affected by FGM by delivering specialist training programmes, empowering professionals and encouraging them to refer them via safeguarding procedures
- Supporting victims of FGM throughout their lives by offering women access to a specialist FGM midwife at UHCW and providing specialist support services
- Building knowledge and intelligence by collecting and sharing data between agencies where appropriate

## **4 The Current Position**

- 4.1 It is important to note that data for FGM is limited, both locally and nationally. Much of the data available is based on the 2011 census. This issue is being tackled nationally with the introduction of mandatory requirements for Healthcare Professionals to record FGM.
- 4.2 It is estimated that 125 million women and girls worldwide have undergone FGM, and that 3 million girls are subjected to FGM every year. It is estimated that 137,000 women and girls are living with FGM in the UK and that 60,000 girls aged 13 and under are at risk of FGM.<sup>2</sup>
- 4.3 A recent report by City University London and Equality Now<sup>1</sup> looked at prevalence of FGM in England and Wales and developed estimates of the numbers of women with FGM living in England and Wales, the numbers of women with FGM giving birth and the numbers of girls born to women with FGM. To derive these estimates the report used the results of household interview surveys in the countries in which FGM is practised, demographic data about women born in these countries and girls born to them was derived from the 2011 census and from birth registration. The survey found that;
- London as a whole has the highest prevalence rates, with 21 women per 1,000 affected by FGM. The 10 highest prevalence rates are located in local authorities within the capital.
  - Manchester, Slough, Bristol, Leicester and Birmingham have high prevalence rates, ranging from 12 to 16 per 1,000,
  - Milton Keynes, Cardiff, Coventry, Sheffield, Reading, Thurrock, Northampton and Oxford had rates of more than seven per 1,000.
  - Rural areas show prevalence's of well below one per 1,000, but cases were found in all local authorities in England and Wales.
- 4.4 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.

Data from UHCW from 2014 to date shows the numbers of women affected by FGM accessing midwifery services:

Time period	No. accessing UHCW midwifery services	No. accessing UHCW midwifery services and affected by FGM	% accessing UHCW midwifery services and affected by FGM
2014 – 2015	6941	49	0.7%
2015 – 2016	7070	69	0.97%
April 2016 to date	6252 (Apr – Feb 17)	27 (Apr – Dec 17)	0.43%

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.

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<sup>1</sup> City University London and Equality Now. Prevalence of Female Genital Mutilation in England and Wales: National and local estimates, July 2015

4.5 In January 2017 UHCW established a dedicated clinic for women who have undergone FGM. The clinic is midwifery lead and is based in the Antenatal clinic. The clinic is called 'the inspire service'. UHCW chose this name as it is extremely important that the service is anonymous but they hope it will inspire change in the short term by better supporting the women they see and in the long term through improved education regarding the harmful long term effects of FGM. The service is going very well, the midwife sees around three women every week. It is an opportunity to discuss health implications they may be experiencing as a result of their FGM, any physiological effects they may have, an examination is also undertaken to type fgm and a plan for delivery is made. This is all incorporated into antenatal examination where they listen into the fetal heart of their baby and discuss any other concerns they may have. The safeguarding assessment tool is also used and any RAS referrals made if necessary. The team hope in the future to run some training for UHCW health care professionals regarding the practice.

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

Year	Total referrals to WMP	Coventry Referrals	Percentage
April 2014 – March 2015	119	62	52%
April 2015 – March 2016	126	57	45%
April 2016 to date	146	20	14%

4.7 The high percentage of Coventry referrals during 2014-2016 may be due to the well-established referral processes and reporting procedures in Coventry. Historically it has been UHCW policy to refer all females affected by FGM who give birth to a girl to West Midlands Police for a joint visit with social care.

4.8 More recently it has been noted by professionals that a home visit by police in uniform is not always appropriate and can sometimes alienate community members. As a result the Department of Health developed the FGM risk assessment tool to clarify referral processes dependant on risk to the child, this risk assessment tool has been implemented at UHCW to ensure that appropriate referrals are made. This has resulted in a drop in the proportion of Coventry referrals to West Midlands Police, but ensures that only appropriate referrals are made.

4.9 According to the 2011 Census data 3% (868) children aged 0-15 and 7% (5,422) women aged 16-49 living in Coventry were born in regions likely to be affected by FGM.

<b>Country of birth of the Female population aged 0-15 and 16-49 in Coventry. Census 2011</b>				
	<b>Age 0 to 15</b>		<b>Age 16-49</b>	
<b>Country of Birth</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Total Numbers of women in Coventry</b>	<b>31,065</b>		<b>78,219</b>	
Africa: North Africa e.g. Egypt	68	0.2	247	0.3
Africa: Central and Western Africa e.g. Mali, Sierra Leone, Guinea	228	0.7	1651	2.1



Africa: South and Eastern Africa e.g. Northern Sudan, Eritrea, Somalia, Djibouti, Ethiopia	454	1.5	2854	3.6
Africa: Africa not otherwise specified	4	0.0	58	0.1
Middle East and Asia: Middle East e.g. Yemen	114	0.4	612	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>5,422</b>	<b>7%</b>

\*The age range has been split to capture the numbers of potential victims of FGM (aged 0-15 years) and those who may have already had the procedure.

## 5 Local progress to date

5.1 In June 2015, Coventry City Council's Public Health team commissioned Coventry Haven (in partnership with CRASAC and Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid) to provide a specialist FGM service to tackle FGM in Coventry. This service is the main vehicle through which partners are working to eliminate FGM in Coventry, and through which the recommendations made by Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee in 2015 are being delivered. Work of West Midlands Police on this matter is contained in Appendix 1.

### 5.2 Recommendation 1: Preventing FGM from taking place by raising awareness and engaging with communities

1. Coventry Haven, in partnership with CRASAC and Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid, has engaged with communities in a number of ways to raise awareness about FGM, change attitudes towards FGM, and ultimately prevent FGM from taking place. From 1 June 2015 to 31 November 2016, the service attended 116 different community groups in targeted locations, to raise awareness and recruit community champions to end FGM. Some examples of the groups attended include:

- Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre Women's Group
- Willenhall Community Forum
- Women's Networking Group at Sidney Stringer Academy
- Foleshill Women's Training Centre
- Coventry Refugee and Migrant Men Group
- Allesley Park Muslim Women's Group
- Turkish Mosque Women's Group, Foleshill
- Multi-faith Forum and New Muslim Women's Group, Muslim Resource Centre
- Cheylesmore Somali Community Association Women's Group
- Friendship Group Meeting, Central Library
- Woodend Youth Club

2. By raising awareness and engaging with communities, the service have managed to recruit 32 community champions to date. These are individuals from countries of origin or communities known to practice FGM who have volunteered to undertake engagement activities within communities to raise awareness about FGM, change attitudes and behaviour and prevent FGM from taking place. The community champions come from 15 different countries of origin, including Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Tanzania and Kenya, where it is estimated that over 70% of the female population are estimated to have undergone FGM.

The service is working with these community champions to ensure that they are skilled to tackle FGM and built assets and engagement within their communities.

3. The service has delivered interactive FGM workshops to a total of 265 year 9 & 10 students from local schools.
4. Public Health and the voluntary sector have worked in partnership to develop two films on FGM. One is an educational film featuring influential local leaders from the council, voluntary sector and faith based organisations including the chairs of the British Arab Federation and Coventry's Muslim Forum. This film educates viewers about the practice, the law in regards to FGM, the harmful consequences of FGM and the need for communities to oppose it. A second film entitled 'It Stops with Me' was developed starring local people who are committed to ending FGM. It was designed to raise awareness of the dangers of FGM and encourage practising communities to oppose it; links to the films are below. The films have been viewed approximately 1,300 times.

FGM Interviews - [https://youtu.be/ak\\_g8woS4Zc](https://youtu.be/ak_g8woS4Zc) (11 minutes 56 seconds)

FGM It Stops With Me - <https://youtu.be/Q16OmOp26bk> (2 minutes 30 seconds)

5. Public Health have supported Coventry University in their development of a webapp for young people. Researchers at Coventry University have created the new app, endorsed by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children ([NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)), to help protect young girls and women from female genital mutilation (FGM). The webapp, developed jointly by experts at Coventry University's Centre for Communities and Social Justice (CCSJ) the Centre for Excellence in Learning Enhancement (CELE) at Coventry University and in partnership with Coventry City Council, is proving to be a valuable resource in the fight against FGM. The app, which works across most mobile devices such as smartphones, tablets and lap tops via an internet browser, is aimed primarily at young girls living in affected communities and at risk from FGM. From 1<sup>st</sup> February – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017, there were 7,567 visits to the webapp. Users were referred from a number of local and national locations, including the Coventry University website, Facebook, the Telegraph, as well as other local authority websites. The visits come from a number of locations, over 3000 visits were from UK users, 1887 visits were from the USA and 424 visits from china. The webapp has also been used in Germany (223 users) and France (194 users). The app has recently been won gold in the digital community category of the London Design Awards. A link to the webapp is included here: <http://petals.coventry.ac.uk/>
6. West Midlands Police have produced a poster campaign for International Day of Zero Tolerance (IDZT) for FGM. The posters include child and adult examples with a cross range of communities, and uses the hashtag #FGMletstalk.
7. West Midlands police have also worked with Birmingham airport and the airport policing unit on an FGM campaign. A training package on FGM has been developed for all new staff, and this is now part of basic training, and stickers have been placed in toilets in departures as well as arrivals encouraging people to call police if they are worried about any of the issues.

### 5.3 Recommendation 2: Supporting professionals to identify and support girls and women at risk of or affected by FGM

1. Coventry Haven, in partnership with CRASAC and Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid, is providing training to professionals community members and schools to enable them to understand FGM, the risks and signs to look out for, what to do if a girl or woman is thought to be at risk of FGM and how to support a girl or woman who has been affected by FGM. The service has delivered over 50 training sessions since June 2015. Training has been delivered to over 750 individuals, including:
  - Teachers – primary and secondary
  - Other school and college professionals
  - Nurses
  - Social care workers
  - Midwives
  - Children / family support workers
  - Children's centre staff
  - Voluntary sector staff
  - GPs
  - Youth workers
  - Health visitors
  - Police officers

Of those who received training, 87% reported an increase in their knowledge of FGM, 94% reported an increase in their knowledge of the consequences of FGM, 96% reported an increase in their knowledge of FGM and the law, 82% reported increased confidence in discussing FGM, and 99% reported a change in their perception of FGM.

2. In addition, in 2016, Coventry City Council commissioned Coventry University to launch a new FGM webapp, building on 'Petals', tailored for professionals. The new FGM webapp, 'Petals for Professionals' was launched in October 2016. The webapp includes information on the signs that someone may be at risk of FGM, information about how to have appropriate conversations about FGM, how to fulfil mandatory reporting requirements and contains specific sections for social workers, teachers and healthcare professionals to explain their responsibilities and actions to take. Over 50 people attended the launch event back in October, and the webapp is currently being disseminated to social workers, teachers, healthcare professionals and others both locally and nationally. A link to the webapp is included here: <http://petals.coventry.ac.uk/professionals/>
3. The Local Children's Safeguarding Board (LSCB) has been working partnership to address FGM locally since 2009 and offers training, has developed a safeguarding procedure and website. The Coventry Safeguarding Board's policies and procedures have been updated to include FGM. All suspected cases continue to be referred as part of existing child safeguarding obligations, and information and support is given to families to protect girls at risk.

4. In June 2016, letters were sent by West Midlands Police to all safeguarding boards and headteachers in relation to the vulnerability of young people in the summer holidays who may be taken abroad for FGM. In February 2017, West Midlands Police sent letters to all headteachers and GPs across Coventry to remind them of their mandatory reporting duties under the Serious Crime Act.
5. The service has worked hard to engage with both primary and secondary schools and has successfully delivered training in 15 local schools to an audience of 362 teaching staff. Mandatory reporting duty for FGM applies to teachers. Roles and responsibilities along with reporting processes has been disseminated by the Department of Health to all schools and staff. FGM features in the LSCB safeguarding training that educational professionals attend and it is also covered in the school governor training. Secondary Schools have been provided with lesson plans and are encouraged to deliver a whole school approach to FGM. Anecdotal feedback has shown that a number of schools have delivered FGM sessions to pupils and a number of students are currently leading their own projects to raise awareness of FGM. A group of students recently piloted the new FGM app developed by Coventry University and presented this work at a national and local launch.

#### 5.4 **Recommendation 3: Supporting victims of FGM throughout their lives**

1. The Ending FGM in Coventry service, commissioned by Coventry City Council, provides specialist one-to-one emotional support to survivors of FGM. To date, the service has provided one-to-one emotional support to 45 women, and has had an average of 6 contacts with each woman (including telephone support, drop in sessions and one-to-one appointments). Most women have referred themselves for one-to-one support, following training or community engagement sessions, but other referrals have come from the voluntary sector, social care, schools and word of mouth. The numbers of self-referrals and disclosures is evidence that the service is reaching and engaging with communities effectively, as women feel safe to come forward and receive support. In some cases, those who have received support have been signposted to GPs and other healthcare professionals, the police and to CRASAC, who offer specialist counselling for victims of FGM. As a result of their support from the Ending FGM in Coventry service, 59% reported a reduction in stress, 75% reported feeling less alone, 57% reported feeling more in control of their lives, 67% reported increased self-confidence, 53% reported improved physical health, 9% reported that they were able to gain or retain employment when they might not have done otherwise, and 10% reported they were able to start or continue to volunteer, which they may not have otherwise been able to. In addition, through the one-to-one support provided, the service estimates that it has managed to prevent 81 cases of FGM since June 2015.
2. The service has also been liaising with GPs and with UHCW to ensure that any child or woman who has undergone FGM is offered medical help, as well as psychological support or counselling. UHCW continues to offer women access to a specialist midwife or consultant through the provision of dedicated clinic time, and the Ending FGM service ensures that those who have undergone FGM receive the medical help that they need.

#### 5.5 **Recommendation 4: Building knowledge and intelligence**

Progress in the collection of FGM data continues to improve both locally and nationally. Locally, Public Health continue to work with key stakeholders such as the MASH, UHCW and West Midlands Police to gather data and share intelligence to ensure that knowledge of the extent of FGM improves. The Ending FGM Service has also helped to gather intelligence in regard to practicing communities, and this will help shape services in future and ensure that all initiatives can be monitored in terms of success.

## **6. Next Steps**

- 6.1 A significant amount of work to tackle FGM has been undertaken by the 'Ending FGM in Coventry Service', commissioned by Coventry City Council and provided by Coventry Haven, in partnership with CRASAC and Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid (BSWA) over the last 18 months. The contract with Coventry Haven, CRASAC and BSWA comes to an end on 31 May 2017 and there are no resources available to extend the contract beyond that date. However, the service was designed to be self-sustaining through the recruitment of community champions.
- 6.2 Coventry's work to tackle FGM has been highlighted regionally and nationally as an example of good practice, and the evidence from the work that Coventry has undertaken is being incorporated into national policy. This will help to ensure that community engagement and development work continues to tackle FGM, for example through the national FGM centre developed by Barnado's and the LGA which is aiming to work with all local authorities to end FGM within 15 years.
- 6.2 A number of measures will be implemented over the coming months to ensure the service's work to engage with communities, train professionals and support women who have undergone FGM can be sustained beyond 31 May 2017:
- Enhanced training and support for community champions to develop their resilience and ensure they are able to continue to work within communities to raise awareness, change attitudes and ultimately prevent FGM.
  - Further dissemination and promotion of the webapp 'Petals for Professionals' to enable professionals to support those who have undergone FGM, spot the signs of those at risk and report concerns appropriately.
  - Development and communication of clear referral pathways for survivors of FGM to access therapeutic counselling and emotional support provided by Coventry Haven and CRASAC, and community engagement to enable and encourage self-referrals to continue
  - A refresh of the multiagency FGM Steering Group to bring professionals from a variety of organisations together (UHCW, West Midlands Police, Coventry City Council, the voluntary sector, Coventry and Rugby CCG) to consider further measures for partnership working and next steps to tackle FGM.

**Report Author(s):**

**Name and Job Title:**

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Coventry City Council

## Briefing note

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**To:** Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**Subject:** Progress update on the Domestic Violence and Abuse Services (DVA) commissioned services for Coventry

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### **1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 To provide the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee with an update on the implementation and performance of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) services in the city (previously presented to the Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015) which commenced on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

The note has a particular focus on: -

- Features of the service that have made a tangible change to service delivery.
- Development areas across the term of the contract.

### **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to:-

- 1) Note the progress of the services and outcomes achieved.
- 2) Note the governance arrangements in place regarding monitoring and how the service links to statutory services
- 3) Identify any recommendations to the appropriate Cabinet Member

### **3 Information / Background**

- 3.1 Commissioned DVA services commenced on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and replaced existing contracts. The current contract is for a period of four years and includes the Single Point of Access (SPA) service for Coventry, which aims to provide a 'one-stop' contact point for victims of domestic violence.
- 3.2 The contract consists of four providers, each providing a specific element of the service model: -
- Refuge – helpline/single point of access and victim community-based support
  - Safe and Supported Partnership (SSP) – victim supported accommodation
  - Barnardo's Defuze – children and young people's service
  - Fry Housing Trust – perpetrator service
- 3.3 Fundamental to all services is the focus on children who may be involved in or subject to domestic violence. All services ensure that information is shared across providers and statutory agencies to ensure that no child is missed and services are linked appropriately to support children who are affected by domestic violence. The

strengthened focus on partnership working and the aspiration for a seamless service are integral to the way the services are provided.

#### 4 Funding

4.1 Service delivery funding is shared across local agencies, which for 2017/18 is as follows:

CCC	Public Health	PCC	Total
£993,900	£158,400	£35,400	£1,187,700

1.1. Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) funding is a grant to contribute towards the refuge sanctuary support service which offers security support to victims of domestic violence.

#### 5 Performance

5.1 Changes that have made a difference since the start of the contract:

- A clear single point of access for victims and professionals to request support
- Improvements to information sharing protocols across partner agencies to ensure that victims and children are not missed and receive appropriate and timely support
- Improvements to case management processes through the Refuge IMPACT database; a single case management database that enables multi-agency working to deliver a seamless service in the City
- Increasing the number of supported accommodation from 40 to 54 units
- DVA services are represented on the DVA Operations Group (a meeting of key stakeholders including social care, the police, safeguarding leads, Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust and Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group).
- A perpetrator programme that has seen a growing number of people access the service (see performance section below for details)

5.2 Development areas

5.2.1 The services have been running for 2 year 6 months. It was anticipated that across the term of the contract there would be areas of support that would need to be developed or adapted, hence the focus on a flexible service model.

5.3 Areas currently being progressed include:

- Developing a process for victims requiring supported accommodation with no recourse to public funds who do not have children
- Establishing prioritisation criteria for perpetrator service
- Eliminating duplication of paperwork being completed by providers for the same case (e.g. risk assessments)
- Raising awareness and understanding of DVA services by partner agencies across all levels including roles and responsibilities
- Making links with the Law Centre on complementary services provided for victims requiring legal support or advice

5.4 It should also be noted that Coventry Haven, a non-contracted support provider for domestic violence and abuse services, is still active in the City and provides a valuable service to people in Coventry.



## 5.5 Summarised data / numbers

The following levels of activity have been reported throughout the duration of the contract. The data below is based on Sep 15 – Dec 16 (latest data available): -

### Refuge:

- A total of 1058 people received community based support of which:
  - 97% (1027) were females
  - 3% (31) were males
- A total of 335 sanctuary installations have been completed on people's homes.

### SSP:

- 252 people were accommodated through SSP supported units of which:
  - 98% (248) were females
  - 2% (4) were males
- Utilisation of the SSP accommodation has been consistently high approx. average of 90%
- Outcomes shows 71% of people have moved into alternate accommodation following support. 24% of people have returned back to the family home. 5% of people have moved on without informing SSP.

### Fry:

- 347 people have accessed the perpetrator programme (of which 139 have completed the course)
  - 90% of people completing the course have demonstrated a reduction in risk with 100% of people having an increased awareness and understanding of domestic violence
  - There has been an increase in people accessing the programme by 4% in 2016/17 compared to 2015/16.

### Barnardos:

- 224 people have received direct support through Defuze programme.
  - 48% of cases are supported within 3 months, with 44% supported within 6 months. The remaining 7% are within 12 months.
- Barnardos have successfully delivered training sessions in DVA and safeguarding children and training of joint delivery with social care of Barnardo's DVRIM tool to 187 professionals.

5.6 It should be noted the demand for the Defuze service, delivered by Barnardos, has seen an increase in the latter part of 2016. Consequently, new referrals to the service were halted in mid-December 2016; however, the service plans to start taking new referrals by the first week in May. Work is in progress with Barnardo's to explore reasons for recent increase in demand for the Barnardo's Defuze service and work with the provider to manage fluctuations in demand

5.7 All services have met or exceeded their KPI targets since the service commenced. Outcomes are captured by providers as part of service delivery as people complete their support.

## 6 **Governance Arrangements**

6.1 As part of the contract, providers are subject to a range of contract monitoring and performance management processes which include:

- Site visits to services (where applicable)
- Regular meetings with providers
- Links to other services / areas to ensure partnerships are in place and services improved
- Key data / performance reports

6.2 This monitoring process will continue for the duration of the contract to ensure that effective services continue to be provided, that value for money is achieved and that multi-agency working relationships enable Coventry's DVA model to be fully embedded.

## **7 Perpetrator Programme**

7.1 The PCC has recently tendered and commissioned a West Midlands perpetrator programme, which will be delivered through Richmond Fellowship for 2 years (until April 2019)

7.2 Coventry have been working with Richmond Fellowship to determine how this perpetrator programme will be delivered within Coventry bearing in mind a perpetrator programme through Fry Housing has been in situ under the DV contract offer since September 14.

7.3 Richmond Fellowship offers a 30 week programme which targets men aged 18+ where their partners/ex-partners have children that are either on a child in need (CIN) or a child protection plan.

7.4 As Coventry already has a perpetrator programme, Richmond Fellowship will be offering 1 30-week programme to people within Coventry this year. This will allow more support to be offered to other regional authorities without a commissioned perpetrator programme.

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Coventry City Council

## Briefing Note

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**To:** Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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**Subject :** Business Rates Consultations and the West Midlands 100% Business Rates Pilot

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### 1 Purpose of the Note

This note follows up the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee's (Scruco) Business Rates system briefing and discussion on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Since the September meeting the Government has published a response to its July 2016 Business Rates consultations and has issued two further Business Rates consultations. In addition the Council has joined a West Midlands 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot scheme, the estimated projected impact of which has been incorporated into the Council's budget plans. The current position relating to all these matters is the subject of this note.

### 2. Recommendations

2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to:

- 1) Consider the content of the note and the agreed/proposed consultation responses.
- 2) Identify any substantive amendments to the outstanding consultation response for the consideration of the Leader, the Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources and the Executive Director of Resources.
- 3) Continue to receive updates on developments in Business Rates as they become available.

### 3 Information/Background

3.1 At its meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> September Scruco considered the Council's responses to two Government consultations regarding proposals for the 100% localisation of Business Rates and received information on the potential for the pooling of business rates within the Combined Authority. It also considered the Council's strategy for maximising business rates income and explored other issues relating to Business Rates. It was resolved that officers be requested to submit further consultation documents in relation to Business Rates Reform as and when they become available.

3.2 This note considers the latest position regarding the two 2016 consultations in section 4. In section 5, the Council's responses to the March 2017 consultations are considered. Section 6 deals with the position regarding the West Midlands 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot.

### 4, Latest Position on July 2016 Consultations

Consultation - Self-sufficient local government: 100% business rates retention

4.1 On 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 the Government published its response to the outcomes of consultation. The response is available in full at the following link:

[Government Response to 100% Business Rates Retention Consultation](#)

The web address for the report is below:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/591908/Government\\_response\\_to\\_Self-sufficient\\_local\\_government-\\_100\\_\\_Business\\_Rates\\_Retention\\_consultation.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/591908/Government_response_to_Self-sufficient_local_government-_100__Business_Rates_Retention_consultation.pdf)

The key elements of the government's response which were broadly aligned to the Council's own included:

- Support in favour of rolling in Revenue Support Grant and Public Health Grant into the retained business rates system but not Attendance Allowance.
- Continuation of the new burdens doctrine after 2020 meaning that transfers of responsibilities from central government to local government are funded at the appropriate level.
- Agreement to fixed reset periods with further exploration of partial resets to achieve a balance between rewarding growth and meeting changing needs.
- Agreement to the continuation of tariffs and top-ups as a means of redistribution.
- A proposal to allow local growth zones for specific areas.
- Management of any Business Rates appeals that are due to Valuation Office errors at a national level.
- No intention to prevent the issuing of an infrastructure levy and running this side by side with existing Business Rates Supplement powers.
- Concern over the need to obtain approval for a Business Rate Levy from Local Enterprise Partnerships – instead the government is proposing consultation (not approval powers) of the wider business community
- Agreement that infrastructure levies should be set for a defined period.

The key elements of the government's response which were non-committal or less well aligned to the Council's own response included:

- The Council's response questioned whether it was helpful at this stage to broaden the powers of Combined Authorities. The Government's response was neutral on this.
- No clear statement of how Business Rates appeals would be managed (other than those due to Valuation Office errors referenced above).
- No commitment on an appropriate level of safety net (currently 7.5%).

Business Rates Reform, Fair Funding Review: Call for evidence on Needs and Redistribution

4.2 The Council's response to this call for evidence considered by Scrucro included the following headline points:

- That the Local Government funding formula should distribute resources to where they are most needed, taking into account an authority's ability to generate funding locally to deliver services and incorporating a mechanism to protect councils from significant reductions in funding.
- That demand-led services for which the cost drivers are particularly complex, such as adult social care and children's services, indicate the need for continued use of a more detailed formula approach to those areas.

- Therefore, that an appropriate amount of complexity should be included within the formula, without adding considerably more indicators where they no longer create a material difference.
- That authorities' ability to raise their own resources through Council Tax is taken into account
- Any distributional change experienced as a result of the new needs assessment should be reflected in the funding received by individual councils.

4.3 The Government has not at this stage published a response to this call for evidence but has set up a Needs and Distribution Working Group to work through the issues and inform the debate. Future developments are likely to include an upcoming government technical consultation on the Fair Funding Review which will incorporate amongst other things discussion around the potential list of key cost drivers within local government, measurement of the overall relative resource capacity and the principles of transition from the current funding baselines to the ones resulting from the review. Issues that have been highlighted from the initial consultation and feeding into technical consultation include the need for a simpler and more transparent formula - improving the link between allocations and local circumstances, a modern formula (it is nearly 10 years since current formula last looked at thoroughly), a sustainable formula - incorporating best estimates of how those factors that affect the cost of services will change over time; redistribution to reflect different sized tax bases and a system with transitional arrangements that will be unwound as swiftly as possible while ensuring that any funding changes proposed are manageable for councils.

## 5. **March 2017 Consultation Responses**

### Consultation on proposals on the design and implementation of the locally administered Business Rates Relief Scheme

5.1 This consultation arose out of the Spring Budget 2017 which included proposals for additional discretionary Business Rates funded by Government but administered through a series of local schemes in 2017/18. The consultation was published with a very short consultation period and has been submitted on behalf of the Council under the alternative approval mechanism provided for within the constitution.

5.2 The Council's response is attached in full at Appendix 1. In brief the response covers the key points below.

- Agreement that individual local authorities should be given responsibility for design of their own scheme.
- Agreement with the suggestions that relief be awarded only to businesses experiencing an increase in rateable value as a result of the revaluation, and generally provided to ratepayers or localities facing the most significant increases and occupying lower value properties.
- That there may be sense in applying the transitional relief scheme to these resources instead of designing a new scheme.
- That new burden funding should be provided to take account of the administrative burden created.
- That some flexibility be provided to allow authorities to switch resources between years.
- That major preceptors and combined authorities should not need to be consulted on authorities' individual schemes.

5.3 £300m of resources has been identified at a national level to fund the various discretionary schemes of which the Council will receive c£0.7m from the Government, with £0.4m of this available in 2017/18.

5.4 100% Business Rates Retention: Further consultation on the design of the reformed system  
This consultation followed on from the initial related consultation reported on in section 4.1 above. The consultation is open until May 3<sup>rd</sup> and officers are attempting to coordinate a broadly common response across WMCA constituent authorities. Given that the final Cabinet of the year reports on April 11<sup>th</sup> the alternative approval mechanism provided for within the constitution will be utilised. It is proposed that the views of Scrucro are fed into this process.

5.5 The Council's draft response is attached at Appendix 2. In brief, the response covers the following key points:

- Support for proposals to introduce partial resets on a five yearly cycle
- A welcome for the assurance that any authority experiencing a reduction in income would not be required to retain any losses after a reset had taken place.
- Support for the introduction of transitional arrangements after a reset, favouring transition that would unwind after a maximum of four years.
- Support for a strong safety net that prevents individual areas suffering from significant resource reductions arising from sudden losses in rateable value
- A system that allows authorities to retain around 50% of growth at individual local authority level after a reset to act as an incentive for growth
- A welcome for the proposal to top-slice business rates to cover "valuation errors" and a call for more detail on whether reimbursement will cover the full cost of successful appeals.
- Agreement with a nationally set safety net and reference to the 3% safety net being trialled under the West Midlands business rates retention pilot being appropriate under 100% Business Rates retention.
- Support for central list proposals that are clear, transparent and uniformly applied.

## 6. **West Midlands 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot**

6.1 On 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 Cabinet approved the Council's participation in the West Midlands 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot scheme. This provides the opportunity to shape national thinking about the anticipated future national 100% Business Rates retention scheme, and to take forward further devolution.

6.2 There are some core elements that feature in the pilot that has been in operation since 1 April 2017:

- a. 99% local business rates retention,
- b. Removal of Revenue Support Grant,
- c. Appropriate adjustment to Top-ups/Tariffs, to reflect the net effect of the above two changes,
- d. Participation will be on a "no detriment" basis. In other words, the area will be no worse off financially than it would otherwise have been had it not participated in the pilot.

Following initial scrutiny of the way in which a pilot will operate, it became clear that there may be a windfall benefit to authorities as a result of being part of a pilot. Coventry built

£3.6m additional income into its budget for 2017/18 as a result of the Pilot approval and this formed part of the briefing to all members as a result of the final Budget proposals.

- 6.3 The Pilot also represents the mechanism through which part of the West Midlands Combined Authority Devolution Deal will be funded. This is predicated on 0.3% growth in Business Rates income each year and officers across the West Midlands are currently working through the fine detail of the financial arrangements to identify an appropriate distribution methodology.

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## **Appendix 1**

### **Consultation on proposals on the design and implementation of the locally administered Business Rates Relief Scheme**

**Question 1: Do you agree that individual local authorities should be responsible for designing and implementing their own discretionary relief schemes, having regard to local circumstances and reflecting local economies?**

Yes, we agree that individual local authorities should be given this responsibility.

**Question 2: Are the Government's assumptions about the design of local discretionary relief schemes reasonable?**

The consultation suggests that a condition of the grant is that relief is awarded only to businesses experiencing an increase in rateable value as a result of the revaluation. This is a reasonable mandatory requirement.

The consultation outlines two further non-mandatory assumptions:

- That, generally, relief will be provided to ratepayers or localities facing the most significant increases;
- That relief will, generally, be provided to ratepayers occupying lower value properties.

Again, these assumptions are not unreasonable. In many respects these assumptions replicate the parameter driven approach of the wider transitional relief scheme. In this respect it seems to be more sensible to amend the transitional relief scheme to take account of these more nuanced assumptions. This would make the allocation of additional funds more administratively efficient.

In theory Councils could replicate such a parameter driven system at a local level but given that the grant is cash limited there is some additional risk to be borne by the Council in setting a rigid policy.

The introduction of discretion will require the Council to introduce or extend administrative processes for determining eligibility and consistency with state aid requirements. To this end the funding represents a discretionary relief scheme ringfenced to those affected adversely by revaluation. Assuming this replicates the Council's current DRR scheme, this will involve a resource intensive financial assessment of companies. The Council would expect some level of new burdens funding in response to this increased administrative burden.

**Question 3: Is the allocation methodology reasonable?**

In section 2.4 the consultation states that: 'The proposed funding allocations set out in this consultation paper are for the total amount of relief to be provided to ratepayers.' However, in section 5.3, it states that 'payments will be based on estimates of the relief to be provided to ratepayers, capped at the maximum of that year's allocation'

Our view is that there could be a question mark over whether the £300m discretionary relief pot (and the individual authority allocations) reflects the total level of grant or relief?

If it reflects the level of grant then there appears to be a fundamental problem with the logic used to determine the allocations. Authorities operating under the 50% local retention model appear to



have the potential of receiving compensation for twice as much discretionary relief compared to if they were now part of a 100% pilot.

We would request that this issue should be clarified so as to leave no room for doubt in the report from this consultation.

**Question 4: Do you think that authorities should have some flexibility to switch resources between years to ensure relief provided meets local need and provides maximum value for money?**

We agree that authorities should have this flexibility.

**Question 5: Do you agree with the proposal that s.31 grant should be paid to compensate authorities for their loss of income under the rates retention scheme up to the maximum of that year's "total pot"?**

Yes, although this response should be considered in light of our concerns (see question 3 above) regarding the potential unfairness of the general allocations.

**Question 6: Do you agree with the proposals for administering payments, including in-year payments based on estimates, end-year reconciliations and payments quarterly in arrears?**

We would suggest that it would be administratively simpler if, instead of being paid quarterly, the grant payments were made using the same profile as the other Business Rates Retention s.31 compensation grants.

**Question 7: Do you agree the grant conditions are appropriate?**

On the basis that major preceptors and combined authorities will be fully compensated, through s.31 grant payments, for the impact of any discretionary reliefs introduced under the scheme, the requirement to consult seems administratively cumbersome. We would suggest that billing authorities are only required to inform major preceptors and combined authorities of the impact of any proposed scheme.

## **Appendix 2**

### **100% Business Rates Retention – further consultation on the design of the reformed system**

#### **Q1 What are your views on the proposed approach to partial resets?**

We are supportive of the proposal to introduce partial resets on a five yearly cycle. Fixed reset periods provide the greatest certainty for local authorities in planning and a cycle of five years would provide a balance between allowing authorities which are growing to benefit from that growth, and protecting authorities which are not from significant reductions in their business rates base or disproportionate increases in service demand.

We welcome the assurance given in the consultation paper that any authority which had experienced a reduction in income would not be required to retain any losses after a reset had taken place. We would also support the introduction of transitional arrangements after a reset, on the basis that they would unwind after a maximum of four years as suggested in the consultation paper.

Whatever the design of any revised business rates retention system, there must always be a strong safety net that prevents individual areas (and the key services being delivered to their residents) suffering from significant resource reductions arising from sudden losses in rateable value. Such losses may arise from economic factors that are far beyond the direct influence of individual local authorities.

#### **Q2 What are your views on how we should measure growth in business rates income over a reset period?**

The proportion of growth that local authorities will be able to retain after a reset remains a critical element of the design of the new system in order to ensure the new system provides an incentive to maintain / promote future growth. Retaining around 50% of growth at individual local authority level to act as an incentive for growth feels reasonable and we would urge DCLG to involve representative organisations such as the LGA and SIGOMA in the modelling that is undertaken to explore this.

There is a balance to be struck between a methodology which is simple and transparent and one which reflects real underlying growth trends without being distorted by one-off events or adjustments.

#### **Q3 What are your views on the government's plans for pooling and local growth zones under the 100% business rates retention system?**

We acknowledge the government's concerns around the operation of business rates pools under the 50% system but would caution against removing the requirement for all authorities to agree to being designated as a pool. Replacing the requirement for consent with a requirement for consultation risks undermining local accountability and is inconsistent with greater moves towards devolution.

Offering pools the ability to establish local growth zones would be an attractive incentive to pooling in a system without levy payments, but without any detail on the proposed parameters it is difficult to understand the implications at both the local level and for the total amount of business rates growth available for redistribution at a reset.

**Q4 How can we best approach moving to a centrally managed appeals risk system?**

We welcome the proposal to introduce loss payments to mitigate the impact on changes to local ratings lists relating to “valuation errors”, to be funded from a top slice of the total collectible business rates quantum, before baseline funding levels are set.

We would want the government to take the risk on the level of the top slice being sufficient and to ensure that any excess top slice will be returned to local government.

We look forward to more detail on how loss payments will work and, in particular, how “valuation errors” will be defined, whether loss payments will reimburse local authorities for the full cost of the successful appeal and how the cost of loss payments is to be estimated.

**Q5 What should our approach be to tier splits?**

N/A

**Q6 What are your views on proposals for a future safety net under the 100% business rates retention system?**

We agree that safety net protection should be set nationally at a level that will allow local authorities to continue to provide the functions they are required to deliver. Through the West Midlands business rates retention pilot we will be trialling a 3% safety net which we anticipate would be appropriate under 100% business rates retention.

**Q7 What are your views on our proposals for the central list?**

We welcome the proposal to set out a clear statement of policy for the ratepayers and properties which should be assessed on the central list. It is important that these principles are transparent and uniformly applied to ensure consistency across the business rates system and greater certainty for local government and ratepayers. We would also welcome clarity about how the revenue raised from the central list is spent.

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Coventry City Council

## Briefing note

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**To: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

**Subject: Outstanding Issues Report**

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### **1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 To inform Members of the approach to be taken on progress, outcomes and responses to recommendations and substantial actions made by the Scrutiny Board.

### **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are recommended to:
- 1) Note the attached outstanding issues at Appendix 1

### **3 Information/Background**

- 3.1 When recommendations and actions are made following a scrutiny meeting, they are circulated to the relevant Cabinet Member and officer, and recorded on a recommendations tracker.
- 3.2 The purpose of this report is to bring to the Committee's attention the responses received from Cabinet Members and officers in regard to recommendations and actions from previous meetings.
- 3.3 Once a response has been received or an action dealt with, it will be removed from this report and kept in the full recommendations tracker. The complete tracker can be viewed by contacting the Scrutiny Team on the details below.
- 3.4 At the start of this year, the opportunity was introduced for members of the public to suggest topics that members of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee could consider adding to the work programme. The guidance explains that while there are no hard and fast rules about what makes a good topic for Scrutiny to investigate, only issues that Coventry residents are concerned about will be considered, and particularly if the issue affects the whole city. It explains that local issues may be better discussed with ward councillors and that other processes are in place to deal with complaints about services.
- 3.5 There have been no suggestions from the public since the previous meeting.

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## Appendix 1 - Outstanding Issues

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Cabinet Member/ Responsible Officer	Rec', Action or Info	Recommendations/ Actions	Officer contact	Response/ Status
13th July 16	Police, Crime and Community Safety	Chair of Police, Crime and Community Safety Partnership (Cllr A Khan)	R	(1) The scope of the planned review of the Coventry Police Crime and Community Safety Partnership Board be acknowledged and supported and the Committee's concerns relating to ensuring that there is clarity about the future role of members and a clear accountability of organisations receiving funding be taken into account during the review.  (2) The performance data detailed in Appendix 9 be noted and for future performance reports information be included on the impact of Police and Crime Commissioner spend and outcomes on priority areas.	Craig Hickin Gennie Holmes	Briefing note sent to Cllr A Khan 10/8/16 Following response from officers 27/2/17: (1) The review of the PCB is ongoing. The funding for initiatives is subject to scrutiny by the PCB. (2) This is now included in the performance report.
13th July 16	Police, Crime and Community Safety	Cabinet Member Policing and Equalities	R	The Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities be recommended to receive a report on performance in relation to hidden crimes and convictions at a future Cabinet Member meeting	Gennie Homes	Briefing note sent to Cllr A Khan 10/8/16 Following response from officers 27/1/17: (3) Hidden crimes. The information is due to be presented to the Cabinet Member
3rd March 17	Creation of a City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order	Craig Hickin/ Liam Nagel	I	Ask the police which powers they can use to tackle the anti-social behaviour connected to prostitution and report back to members	Craig Hickin	Awaiting a response

12th April 17	Department for Work and Pensions – Priorities for 2017/18	Cllr Caan, as Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board	R	Councillor Caan, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board, be asked to consider the appointment of a representative from the Department of Work and Pensions as a member of the Board.	Liz Gaulton	Draft Briefing note 12/4/17
12th April 17	Department for Work and Pensions – Priorities for 2017/18		A	Arrangements be put in place for a Members Briefing to understand how Scrutiny can support effective engagement with constituents in the run up to the introduction of universal credit	Vicky Castree	
12th April 17	Department for Work and Pensions – Priorities for 2017/18		A	Information to be circulated to Members to enable them to signpost residents with issues to the appropriate agency and also inform them about the various options for support	Vicky Castree Liz Knight Claire Hindson Iona Old Janet Gurney Ed Hodson Alan Markey Glen Smailes	
12th April 17	Department for Work and Pensions – Priorities for 2017/18		A	A copy of the letter sent by an MP to his local schools informing about the support offered by Job Centre Plus to help potential NEETS students be circulated to members.	Claire Hindson Vicky Castree Liz Knight	
12th April 17	Public Transport Select Committee – Outcomes and Learning		A	Consideration of suitable subjects for potential Select Committees be discussed by the individual Scrutiny Boards when discussing the work programmes for the new municipal year	Vicky Castree Gennie Holmes Governance Services officers	
12th April 17	Public Transport Select Committee – Outcomes and Learning	Cabinet - as part of the Select Committee Cabinet report	R	With reference to recommendation 3) from Scrutiny Board (3), the Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration be recommended to involve Transport for West Midlands in any bus user and non-user survey undertaken for Coventry	Gennie Holmes	

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26<sup>th</sup> April, 2017

## Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Scrutiny Work Programme 2016/17

13 <sup>th</sup> July 16
Crime and Community Safety performance Council Plan progress Outside Bodies Report
7 <sup>th</sup> Sept 16
West Midlands Combined Authority Business Rates Consultation
22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2016
Business Rates Retention Consultation
12 <sup>th</sup> October 16
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health and Well-being Strategy Drugs and Alcohol Service re-commissioning
9 <sup>th</sup> November 16
Connecting Communities
11 <sup>th</sup> January 17
Welfare Reform Local Plan Half Year Council performance
18 <sup>th</sup> January 17
Changes to the Education Service
8 <sup>th</sup> February 17
Prevent Strategy Electoral Registration and Voter Engagement Overseas Conference Reports
3 <sup>rd</sup> March
Connecting Communities Public Space Protection Orders Connecting Communities Phase 1 – Implementation Report
12 <sup>th</sup> April 17
Department for Work and Pensions priorities for 2017/18 Public Transport Select Committee Annual Report of the Work of Outside Bodies – Whitefriars Housing Association
26 <sup>th</sup> April 17
Female Genital Mutilation Progress on commissioned DVA services Business Rates
10 <sup>th</sup> May 17
Local Plan Annual Report of the Work of Outside Bodies - West Midlands Combined Authority Prevent Strategy in the Community Ignite Project Review of the Year
Municipal year 2017-18
Drug and Alcohol Services – 2017/18 West Midlands Combined Authority

Business Rates retention  
Selective Licensing for the Private Rented Sector – consultation outcomes  
Friargate  
Public Space Protection Order – 12 months review  
Connecting Communities Phase 1 – implementation report  
Connecting Communities Phase 2 progress and Phase 3

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> July 16</b>	Crime and Community Safety performance	To review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work of the Police, Crime and Community Safety Board;</li> <li>• Information on funding that is distributed to which services.</li> <li>• Membership and representation</li> <li>• Sub-group and remit and Chairs</li> <li>• Involvement of the third sector</li> <li>• Scope of the planned review of the Board</li> <li>• End of year performance</li> <li>• PCP questionnaire on his plan priorities</li> </ul>	Cllr A Khan
	Council Plan progress	An opportunity for members of the Board to look at Council performance across all areas and identify any areas that may need further scrutiny. Including equalities action.	Si Chun Lam Cllr Duggins
	Outside Bodies Report	Scruco can decide which outside bodies they receive reports on at their meetings. This report provides opportunities to identify the criteria for which reports are submitted throughout the year.	Gennie Holmes
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept 16</b>	West Midlands Combined Authority	To consider information available on the devolution deal and how information on the work of the Combined Authority can be cascaded to Coventry citizens.	Martin Reeves/Julie Newman Cllr Duggins
	Business Rates Consultation	Members of the Board to consider the response to the Business Rates consultation taking place over the summer which proposed 100% retention by Councils.	Paul Jennings Cllr J Mutton
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016</b>	Business Rates Retention Consultation	A more in depth look at the consultation questions and responses on the Government consultation on Business Rates Retention. To look at potential pooling of rates across the Combined Authority area and also the Council's strategy to maximise business rates income	Paul Jennings Cllr J Mutton Cllr O'Boyle
<b>12<sup>th</sup> October 16</b>	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and	The Health and Well-being Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment review of the current and future health and care	Jane Moore Cllr Kamran Caan

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
	Health and Well-being Strategy	needs of the local community. This report will be going to Cabinet on 1 <sup>st</sup> November	
	Drugs and Alcohol Service re-commissioning	Public Health is currently re-commissioning drug and alcohol services in the city and have developed a new service model. The model is currently out for consultation and will be going to Cabinet for a decision on 1 November	Georgia Flaherty Jane Moore Cllr Kamran Caan
<b>9<sup>th</sup> November 16</b>	Connecting Communities	An opportunity for Members to discuss emerging themes from the consultation and contribute to the consultation themselves. To include the findings from the Phase 1 consultation.	Michelle McGinty Cllr Maton/Ruane
<b>11<sup>th</sup> January 17</b>	Welfare Reform	Further review of impacts of changes to welfare provision and the services provided by partners in the city. Including most recent changes announced.	Glenda Cowley/ Welfare Reform Working Together Group Alan Markey – Coventry Independent Advice Service Richard Sharp - The DWP Coventry and Warwickshire Operational Leader Cllr Bigham
	Local Plan	An update following the hearings on the plan and the outcome of the Inspector's report.	Mark Andrews
	Half Year Council performance	An opportunity for members of the Board to look at Council performance for the half year across all areas and identify any areas that may need further scrutiny. Including equalities action.	Si Chum Lam Cllr Duggins
<b>18<sup>th</sup> January 17</b>	Changes to the Education Service	To consider proposed changes to the education service.	Kirston Nelson Cllr Maton
<b>8<sup>th</sup> February 17</b>	Prevent Strategy	Following from a suggestion by a member of the public that Scrutiny should look at the rise of the far-right in the city and what is being done to address this	Chief Superintendent Danny Long Geoff Thomas
	Electoral Registration and Voter Engagement	To consider the Council's engagement plan and to follow up on actions from the previous Board meeting.	Liz Read

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
	Overseas Conference Reports	Report back from conferences from China and Sweden	Cllr O'Boyle
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Connecting Communities	To consider the final recommendations based on the outcome of the consultation	Michelle McGinty Cllr Maton/Cllr Ruane
	Public Space Protection Orders	Members of the public have requested that the recommendations following the public consultation are considered by Scrutiny before they go to Cabinet.	Craig Hickin Cllr A Khan
	Connecting Communities Phase 1 – Implementation Report	A progress report on phase 1 of the programme	Michelle McGinty
<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 17</b>	Department for Work and Pensions priorities for 2017/18	Following the consideration of changes to the welfare system the DWP have offered to present their plans and priorities for 2017/18	Clare Hindson (DWP) Glenda Cowley Cllr Bigham
	Public Transport Select Committee	Recommendations and learning from SB3's select committee on public transport	Cllr McNicholas Gennie Holmes
	Annual Report of the Work of Outside Bodies – Whitefriars Housing Association		Cllr Seaman
<b>26<sup>th</sup> April 17</b>	Female Genital Mutilation	Progress report on implementation of the action plan	Georgia Faherty Cllr Caan
	Progress on commissioned DVA services	Following their meeting on 14 <sup>th</sup> October 2015, Board Members agreed to receive annual progress updates, including October 2016. To include contributions from the Police and Whitefriar's Housing and any information on a regional perpetrators programme.	Cllr A Khan
	Business Rates	An update on changes to the business rates system included the pilot.	Paul Jennings Cllr J Mutton
<b>10<sup>th</sup> May 17</b>	Local Plan	To receive feedback on the outcome of the Consultation on the revisions to the Local Plan.	Cllr Bigham/ Mark Andrews

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
	Annual Report of the Work of Outside Bodies - West Midlands Combined Authority	To hear on progress from the three elected member reps on the WMCA, Audit Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Also the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Cllr Peter Hughes from Sandwell has been invited.	Cllr Duggins Cllr J Mutton Cllr Bains Martin Reeves
	Prevent Strategy in the Community	Following the briefing note that came on the 8 <sup>th</sup> February, Members requested additional information on how the Prevent strategy is delivered in the community.	Cllr A Khan Geoff Thomas
	Ignite Project	Referred from SB4 – to look at progress on a project to join up working between Whitefriar’s and Willenhall Children’s Centre	Cllr Ruane/Bigham Helen Shankster
	Review of the Year	A chance to look back and also look forward to next year	Adrian West
<b>Municipal year 2017-18</b>	Drug and Alcohol Services – 2017/18	A report summarising services up to 2017 was requested following the Boards consideration of the Reshaping of Drug and Alcohol Services in Coventry at their meeting on 12 <sup>th</sup> October 16	Jane Moore Cllr Caan
	West Midlands Combined Authority	To discuss the role of scrutiny at the WMCA. To invite Cllr Peter Hughes.	Cllr Duggins Martin Reeves
	Business Rates retention	Following the meeting on 22 <sup>nd</sup> September Members requested regular updates when information becomes available.	Paul Jennings Cllr J Mutton
	Selective Licensing for the Private Rented Sector – consultation outcomes	To consider the outcomes of the consultation and recommendations to the Cabinet Member following a scrutiny task and finish group recommending implementation in St. Michael’s Ward.	Davina Blackburn Tracy Miller Cllr O’Boyle
	Friargate	An update to cover both the SB1 and SB3 elements of the project, in terms of the Council’s move to the building and the progress on developments on the whole site.	David Cockroft, Lisa Commane Cllr O Boyle, Cllr J Mutton
	Public Space Protection Order – 12 months review	Following their consideration of the original report, members requested a progress report on 12 months	

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
	Connecting Communities Phase 1 – implementation report	Members requested progress report from partners involved in delivery of services	Michelle McGinty
	Connecting Communities Phase 2 progress and Phase 3	To keep Members informed of progress on the Connecting Communities programme	Michelle McGinty

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