

To: Cabinet

From: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Date: 8 July 2025

Subject: Coventry Protocol for Addressing Adult Modern Slavery

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the recommendations from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee arising from their consideration of the Coventry Protocol for Addressing Adult Modern Slavery Cabinet Report, at the meeting on 3 July 2025

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that:
- 1) Cabinet agree the recommendations in the report.
 - 2) Cabinet commend the Protocol to Council given the importance of the Protocol, together with the leading and innovative role that Coventry is undertaking in this work nationally.

3 Information and Background

- 3.1 At their meeting on 3 July, Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered a Cabinet Report and presentation (Appended) on the Coventry Protocol for Addressing Adult Modern Slavery.
- 3.2 The Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities introduced the protocol, and the Committee were able to ask questions of the Cabinet Member and officers.
- 3.3 The Committee asked questions and received responses in the following areas:
- That less than 4% of local authorities have a dedicated officer for addressing Modern Slavery. A recent report produced by the Human Trafficking Foundation was referred to which provides more detail. Members requested copies of this report.
 - That there is a wide variety of support offered to survivor which is person-centred, and trauma informed.

- That there are close relationships with UHCW regarding training on awareness levels for staff as health professionals are more likely to receive a disclosure than other professionals.
- The work done to disrupt the financial aspect of modern slavery, including using civil enforcement powers the Council has, as well as those of the police.
- How ward Councillors can support the work being delivered and resources available to Members to raise awareness.
- The governance process for reporting progress on the delivery of the protocol and that it is formally reported on as part of the Community Safety Plan.

4 Health Inequalities Impact

- 4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment had been completed and was attached at Appendix 3 of the report including the impact on health inequalities

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