

Decision Maker: PUBLIC PROTECTION AND SAFETY POLICY DEVELOPMENT
AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: 4th March 2014

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: PERPETRATOR PROGRAMME PROJECT UPDATE

Contact Officer: Clare Elcombe, Domestic Abuse & VAWG Strategy Coordinator
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Chief Officer: Nigel Davies, Executive Director of Environment & Community Services

Ward: All

1. Reason for report

To provide an update regarding the perpetrator programme for quarters one to three of 2013/14 and lay out the future delivery plans.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2.1 **That Members note the report and agree that further updates on the programme be included in the general progress reports covering all MOPAC-funded projects.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy & New Policy:
Safer Bromley Partnership Community Safety Strategy
Safer Bromley Partnership Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women & Girls Strategy
 2. BBB Priority: Safer Bromley:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: 2013/14 - £28k
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost: £28k per annum until and including 2016/17
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Public Protection and Safety
 4. Total current budget for this head: £28k subject to performance,
 5. Source of funding: MOPAC Funding
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Approx 1-2 hours per week – Domestic Abuse & VAWG Strategy Coordinator.
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Targeted to complete work with 30 male perpetrators and their ex/partners over the course of a year. Estimated to therefore indirectly impact approximately 40 children in those families.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Borough-wide project

3. COMMENTARY

Introduction

- 3.1 Following a positive pilot in 2012 and successfully securing funding through MOPAC (and local sources for the first two years) to deliver a perpetrator programme in Bromley, TRYangle were commissioned jointly with LB Lewisham to deliver a full programme supporting behavioural change for male perpetrators along with comprehensive support and safety work for their ex/partners.
- 3.2 TRYangle have been delivering a programme accessible to both Bromley and Lewisham residents and consisting of:
- A 24 week group programme for male perpetrators promoting attitudinal and behavioural change by exploring beliefs about relationships, gender roles, communication skills, conflict management, the impact of abusive behaviour on children, and emotional regulation. This is delivered as a rolling programme so men can enrol at any point without having to join a waiting list; and each man referred to the project is individually assessed for suitability and motivation to change before being offered a space. This work can also be provided in a 1-2-1 setting with men who require language support.
 - A 12 week support group for the ex/partners of men engaged in the programme providing education regarding abuse, exploring the impact of abuse on themselves and children, building self-confidence, and learning how to spot abusive behaviour and ensure they stay safe. This group is also delivered as a rolling programme and women can attend more than one cycle should they wish. This group is delivered in a Children & Family Centre with free crèche provision.
 - Up to 20 sessions of individual counselling for both the men and women engaged in the project to explore individual issues which cannot be addressed in group work. This is also available to individuals who are not attending the group programmes as they are receiving support elsewhere – i.e. men who are also attending the Probation IDAPA (Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme – Accelerated) programme or women who are attending The Freedom Programme.
 - A women’s safety worker provides professional liaison between couples engaged in the service to ensure that ex/partners understand the reality of any change in behaviour, and are able to accurately assess any risks to themselves and take actions to mitigate these.
 - The project links closely to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) to ensure high risk situations are dealt with robustly, and also with Children’s Social Care to address any child protection concerns.
- 3.3 TRYangle began taking referrals from 1st April 2013 and the first groups began eight weeks later (to allow for enough individuals to be assessed to form a group). The number of referrals received are as follows:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2013/14 to date
Total referrals for men	22	9	10	-	41

These 41 referrals are broken down into the following outcomes:

- 5 declined assessment
- 25 assessed
- 16 currently awaiting assessment
- 10 accepted onto programme after assessment but declined to engage
- 15 engaged in programme
- 6 completed programme, 9 still attending

As a comparison 41 referrals have also come in from Lewisham, with very similar levels of engagement.

- 3.4 Currently six men have recently completed and TRYangle are in the process of collecting qualitative outcome data as follows:
- Perpetrator’s assessment of changes in their behaviour
 - Victim’s feelings of safety
 - Referring professional’s assessment of changes in behaviour
 - Referring professional’s assessment of impact on any children
 - Any changes in child protection involvement
 - Referrals to MARAC for families engaged in the programme (assessed one year after completion)
 - Police involvement (assessed one year after completion)
- 3.5 The current performance of the project is very similar to other voluntary perpetrator programmes across London.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Provision of a perpetrator programme (subject to funding) is to be included as a priority within the upcoming Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women & Girls Strategy. The strategy will lay out a holistic plan to tackle Domestic Abuse & VAWG in the borough including prevention and early intervention work, crisis provision, and rehabilitation and recovery work for both victims and perpetrators.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 An amount of £28k is available for 2013/14 from MOPAC funding for this project subject to the delivery of specific agreed outcomes.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None. Minor commitment required from Domestic Abuse & VAWG Strategy Coordinator and relevant stakeholders to oversee project.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Legal Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	