

Scope Document for the Domestic Violence Scrutiny Review

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1. An assessment of the extent of the problem in Wirral.

Broken down into:

- a. Geographical areas with the highest risk of incidents
- b. The people most affected
- c. Factors which pre-dispose to violence being used in the home environment
- d. Ways in which those at risk are identified, or could be identified in the future, in order both to prevent incidents and offer help when they do occur.

2. An investigation into the impact on service provision across the public agencies and voluntary sector.

This will include Health Providers, Police, Children's Services, Housing, Social Services for Adults, the Courts system and voluntary sector providers such as Women's Aid, Rape Crisis Centre etc.

The investigation will consider how they respond, as organisations, to identifying risk and the level of co-ordination that exists between organisations in providing a response.

In particular it will look at assessment processes, including the way in which different processes operate in different organisations, and how the assessment processes relate to different age groups, for example adults, children and 16-18 year olds. It will seek to identify any gaps in provision and also to identify what preventative work is taking place to reduce the overall level of actual incidents.

To assist us in this investigation we will be consulting initially with the Police, Barnado's, the Family Support Unit, Children and Young People's Department, the Court System and Zero Centre, and following up information provided as appropriate.

This will include visits to the Zero Centre, attendance at a meeting of Marac, and a visit to the Family Support Unit.

3. A consideration of the conclusions which can be drawn from the above.

This will include:

- d.** An assessment of the quality of the response, both in terms of prevention and in reaction to actual incidents.
- e.** An assessment of the appropriateness of a standardised assessment process with a view to removing any identified gaps in service.
- f.** A suggestion on what improvements can be made to what currently happens.
- g.** A consideration of the best way in which funding can be secured.

4. Timescale.

The aim is to produce a report for the March 2011 Committee meeting.