## Scrutiny Committee – Review Topic Submission Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Councillor Name and other Councillors supporting submission</strong></th>
<th>Councillor Maggie Hulcoop</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Review Topic</strong></td>
<td>Domestic Abuse During Covid-19 Lockdown</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Links to the Council’s priorities</strong></td>
<td>Wellbeing and Social Inclusion</td>
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<td><strong>What priority level is this item?</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
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| **Terms of reference (to include the scope of the review)** | Identifying the prevalence of domestic abuse in Harlow  
Identifying any increase in domestic abuse following lockdown  
Identifying any barriers to victims of domestic abuse in seeking help  
Identifying the short, medium and long term support available to victims of domestic abuse  
Understanding the challenges for refuges and other support organisations  
Understanding the level of support available to support the rehabilitation of perpetrators  
Establish whether the number of refuges and other support organisations is sufficient in Harlow  
Identify what actions the Council can take to support relevant organisations in carrying out their work |
| **Purpose and objective of the review** | To establish the extent of domestic abuse in Harlow during lockdown  
To identify what support, including financial support, the Council can provide  
To enable organisations to seek any national Government support  
To help address any shortfall in provision of refuge services  
To address long term issues of support for victims, especially regarding housing |
| Methodology/approach (methods to be used for gathering evidence) | Statistical information related to domestic abuse  
Question and answer with Essex Police and Community Safety  
Question and answer with Safer Places  
Written evidence/question and answer with other support organisations |
| Written evidence required | Relevant legislation  
Statistical information related to domestic abuse  
Responses from Essex Police, Community Safety and support organisations |
| Potential witnesses | Essex Police  
Community Safety  
Safer Places  
Refuge  
Solace  
Respect – The Men’s Advice Line |
| Potential Stakeholder involvement (who are the stakeholders and how will their views be sought) | Essex Police – via written information and question and answer  
Community Safety – via written information and question and answer  
Safer Places – via written information and question and answer  
Refuge – via written information and question and answer  
Solace – via written information and question and answer  
Respect – The Men’s Advice Line – via written information and question and answer  
Victims of domestic abuse – via support organisations |
| Site visits (where and when) | N/A |
| Publicity (methods to be used) | Dialogue with relevant organisations |
| Resources (people, expenditure) | Council staff – time to engage with organisations and gather information |
| Barriers/dangers/risks (any weaknesses or potential pitfalls in the review) | Lack of engagement from stakeholders  
Lack of Officer resource |
|---|---|
| Measures of success | Increased provision of support mechanisms, including refuges, in Harlow  
Increased provision of housing to provide long term support for victims of domestic abuse  
Greater financial support on a local and national level to aid support organisations and refuges |