

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Community Leadership and Libraries Committee</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>20 November 2019</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Title</b></p>	<p>London's Blueprint for a Whole System Approach for Women in Contact with the Criminal Justice System 2019-22</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Chairman of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Non-key</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Urgent</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p><i>Appendix A: DPMC MOPAC letter</i></p> <p><i>Appendix B: Blueprint document</i></p> <p><i>Appendix C: Annex to Blueprint document</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Officer Contact Details</b></p>	<p>Kiran Vagarwal, Assistant Director for Community Safety and Regulatory Services</p> <p><a href="mailto:Kiran.vagarwal@barnet.gov.uk">Kiran.vagarwal@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Peter Clifton, Community Safety Manager</p> <p><a href="mailto:Peter.clifton@barnet.gov.uk">Peter.clifton@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>

# Summary

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is officially seeking the London Borough of Barnet’s sign-up to the attached Blueprint. Over the next three years the Blueprint will act as a vision statement for working together to develop and implement an evidence based, sustainable, whole-system approach aimed at improving outcomes for women and reducing women’s imprisonment.

# Officers Recommendations

- 1. That CLLC note this report and Appendices A, B and C
- 2. That CLLC approve sign-up to the London Blueprint.

## 1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 A request has been made by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime that Barnet (along with the other London local authorities) sign-up to a London-wide Blueprint for Women in Contact with the Criminal Justice System 2019-22.

### Background context

1.2 The Mayors Officer for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) has been working with the Prison Reform Trust and partners to develop the Blueprint. The aim of the Blueprint is to provide a clear shared vision and foundation for ongoing multi-agency work relating to women in the criminal justice system.

1.3 MOPAC intend that over the next three years the Blueprint will act as a vision statement, and a commitment between its signatories, to working together to develop and implement an evidence-based, sustainable, whole system approach aimed at improving outcomes for women and reducing women’s imprisonment

1.4 The Blueprint sets out the commitment to transform the criminal justice response to women in London, recognising the common underlying causes of offending for women, including experiences of domestic and sexual abuse and coercion, trafficking and exploitation, poverty, homelessness, mental health needs, and substance use.

1.5 MOPAC is asking each London Borough for their official support of the Blueprint, as a demonstration of partners’ collective commitment to this strategic approach. MOPAC highlights that implementing a whole system approach involves different agencies aligning to invest in prevention and community-based alternatives where these offer

better outcomes to the use of costly incarceration of women who present a low risk of harm.

1.6 Enclosed within this report for the reference and consideration of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee are the following items:

- *Appendix A:* Letter from the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime at MOPAC introducing the Blueprint and requesting Barnet's support for it.
- *Appendix B:* The Blueprint document
- *Appendix C:* Annex to Blueprint document – providing supporting information including a case study, an outline of current provision in London and supporting thematic analysis.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

By signing up to the Blueprint Barnet will be demonstrating its commitment to support the work to transform the criminal justice response to women in London in a way which recognises the common underlying causes of offending for women, including experiences of domestic and sexual abuse and coercion, trafficking and exploitation, poverty, homelessness, mental health needs, and substance use.

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

3.1 That Barnet does not sign up in support of this Blueprint (Not recommended)

## **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

4.1 Following the launch of the Blueprint, MOPAC will lead the development of an action plan, through close engagement with key stakeholders including each of the Local Authorities that have signed up to the Blueprint. The plan will be developed by a cross-sector delivery group, made up of the Blueprint's key signatories.

4.2 The Barnet Community Safety Team will ensure that Barnet is represented at relevant working groups linked to the development of the Blueprint's action plan, and that the appropriate links are made between the Blueprint plan and Barnet's existing strategies and action plans (such as the Barnet Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and Barnet's Reducing Offending Action Plan)

## 5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

### 5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.2 The Council's Corporate Plan 2019-24 sets out three main outcomes:

- 1) A pleasant well-maintained borough that we protect and invest in
- 2) Our residents live happy healthy independent lives with the most vulnerable protected
- 3) Safe and strong communities where people get along

5.3 Six key priorities have been set to support the delivery of the third outcome.

- Keeping Barnet safe
- Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime
- Celebrating our diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime
- Ensuring we are a family friendly borough
- Focusing on the strengths of the community and what they can do to help themselves and each other
- Supporting local businesses to thrive

5.4 The aims of the Blueprint are complementary to the aims and objectives of Barnet's existing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy. The VAWG Strategy supports Barnet in achieving the outcomes and priorities set out in the corporate plan by helping to keep residents of Barnet safe and protecting the most vulnerable.

### 5.5 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.5.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

### 5.6 Social Value

5.7 Not applicable to this report.

### 5.8 Legal and Constitutional References

5.9 S6 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ('the 1998 Act') places a statutory duty on responsible authorities (including local authorities, the Police, Probation Trusts, and Fire and Rescue Authorities) to formulate and implement strategies for the reduction of crime and disorder (including anti-social behaviour), for combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances; and for the reduction of reoffending.

- 5.10 The BSCP is a Community Safety Partnership set up in accordance with the requirement of the section 5 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by section 108 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009.
- 5.11 Under s.17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, it is also a duty of the Council (and other partner agencies, including Police, Fire & Rescue, GLA, TfL) when exercising its functions to have due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder (including anti-social behaviour), misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and re-offending.
- 5.12 **Risk Management**
- 5.13 Risk management varies according to the different initiatives. The partnership or appropriate agencies are made aware of risks and actions to mitigate the risk are agreed and put in place. There is always risk that the partnership may not achieve the targets set due to factors outside its direct control – however there is strong partnership working in place enabling agencies to identify and highlight risk and be open to addressing the risk collectively.
- 5.14 **Equalities and Diversity**
- 5.15 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 sets out the public-sector equality duty to which the authority must have due regard. The Council's public-sector equality duty is set out in s149 of the Equality Act 2010:
- 5.16 A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to —
- a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 5.17 The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation. The Barnet Safer Communities Strategy and the services delivered as part of this strategy take into account the protected characteristics to ensure services are accessible and fair to all sections of the community.
- 5.18 **Corporate Parenting**
- 5.19 Not applicable to this report.

## 5.20 Consultation and Engagement

5.21 Extensive consultation was carried out during 2017 to support the development of the Barnet VAWG Strategy. Feedback from these consultations highlighted that service users wanted the process for accessing help, which can often involve multiple agencies, to be as straightforward and clear as possible with strong co-ordination between the agencies involved.

## 5.9 Insight

5.9.1 Not applicable to this report.

## 6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

### **Community Leadership and Libraries Committee 11th June 2019**

Agenda Item 9 “*Preventing and Responding to Violence against Women and Girls & Domestic Abuse (VAWG & DA) - Annual Report (2018/2019)*”

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s52884/6826769%20-%20VAWG%20Annual%20Report%20CLLC%2011jun19%20%20%20%20.pdf>

### **Community Leadership Committee 21st June 2017**

Agenda Item “*London Borough of Barnet Violence against Women and Girls(VAWG) Strategy 2017-2020*”

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s40298/London%20Borough%20of%20Barnet%20Violence%20against%20Women%20and%20GirlsVAWG%20Strategy%202017-2020.pdf>