

Presentation – Your Sanctuary Domestic Abuse Outreach Service

Portfolio	Community
Ward(s) Affected:	n/a

Purpose

To receive a presentation from Fiamma Pather, Chief Executive, Your Sanctuary.

1. Your Sanctuary
2. Your Sanctuary is based in Woking and provides a range of services for those who are experiencing or are at risk of Domestic Abuse. The services provided includes a family refuge, outreach support, for the areas of Woking, Runnymede and Surrey Heath and 24 hour helpline across the whole of Surrey. Your Sanctuary works collaboratively with a range of agencies/services delivered at a local and national level, to ensure there is a unified approach to increase awareness that works towards prevention and a reduction of this crime that has a significant impact of family life.
3. The 'Your Sanctuary' aim is 'to ensure that our community has an increased awareness of domestic abuse and that there are improved responses to survivors of domestic abuse including an assumption that they are supported and believed'.
4. The organisation receives funds from Surrey County Council, Woking Borough Council, and BBC Children in Need, Runnymede Borough Council, Surrey Community Foundation and many others, which includes individuals who donate or fundraise. This council does not provide ongoing funding to deliver the core services within Surrey Heath, although the Safer Surrey Heath Partnership funds annual advertising and promotional costs associated with the National Campaign around Domestic Abuse Awareness (see point 7).
5. The charity celebrates its 40th year of operation in June 2017. During this time the organisation has successfully managed considerable change in developing the services offered to meet the local needs. The referrals are crucial to preventing further harm, and the majority continue to originate from the Police, however from an increase in awareness levels the self-referral rates are increasing.
6. Safer Surrey Heath Partnership (SSHP)
7. Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, agencies in England and Wales have a statutory duty to form a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to tackle key community safety issues. CSP's are required to review the levels and patterns of crime and disorder in the area, and develop and implement strategies to tackle these problems. The partnership consists of both community and statutory partners who includes Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Surrey Police, Surrey County Council, Surrey and Sussex Probation Service, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Surrey Heath Clinical Commissioning Group, Surrey Heath Borough Council.
8. The Partnership meets three times a year and is chaired by the Leader, Cllr Moira Gibson. A number of successful joint projects are delivered such as the Young

Citizen event, Road Education and Enforcement Days. The Partnership also has a statutory responsibility to undertake Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) which is a locally conducted multi-agency review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect. This was introduced from 13th April 2011 from S.9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 (DVCA 2004).

9. The Surrey Heath Community Safety Partnership has undertaken two domestic homicide reviews since 2011.

10. Partnership Officer Group

11. The Surrey Heath Partnership Officer Group (POG) which is the statutory partner working group of (SSHP) has provided the funds to promote the Domestic Abuse Awareness week for several years this is delivered in the form of a local radio advertising campaign for a 3 week period, of which the cost is split equally between four Councils (£3,150/4 = 787.50) together with giveaways such as pens, sweeties, and individual chocolates a total cost ranges between £1500/£2000.

The question relating to achieving best value for the advertising and promotion costs is reviewed annually, and in 2016 we trialled a new advertising route which utilised space on the reverse of receipts for the month from Camberley Argos and Pound land stores. This did not result in any notable difference in referrals/enquiries and it was agreed not to pursue this again.

12. Recommendation

13. The Committee is asked to consider the presentation and consider any future steps which Members would wish to recommend to the Executive and/or Council.

Background Papers:

None.

Author:

Jayne Boitout 01276 707464
e-mail: jayne.boitout@surreyheath.gov.uk

Service Head:

Louise Livingston Executive Head of Transformation