

<b>AssessmentNo</b>	344	<b>Owner</b>	cyoung
<b>Resource</b>	HSCP		<b>Service/Establishment</b> Joint
	First Name	Surname	<b>Job title</b>
<b>Head Officer</b>	Annie	Ritchie	Manager - Field Work Services (Children and Families Team)
	(include job titles/organisation)		
<b>Members</b>	Carol Young - WDHSCP children's Services CEDAR Co-ordinator Ricardo Rea- Performance and Strategy Officer WDC		
	<i>(Please note: the word 'policy' is used as shorthand for strategy policy function or financial decision)</i>		
<b>Policy Title</b>	Domestic Abuse Questionnaire for women affected by domestic abuse during covid-19 lockdown measures		
	<b>The aim, objective, purpose and intended out come of policy</b>		
	WDVAWG PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EXERCISE TO CAPTURE THE VISIBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF SPECIALIST GBV SERVICES IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE DURING COVID-19 LOCK DOWN MEASURES AND THE EXPERIENCES OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACCESSING THOSE SERVICES		
	<b>Service/Partners/Stakeholders/service users involved in the development and/or implementation of policy.</b>		
	Key partners within West Dunbartonshire Council, HSCP and Police Scotland, public, private and third sectors that deliver services to women, children and young people with lived experience of gender based violence and those accessing/using these services		
<b>Does the proposals involve the procurement of any goods or services?</b>		<b>Yes</b>	
<b>If yes please confirm that you have contacted our procurement services to discuss your requirements.</b>		<b>Yes</b>	
<b>SCREENING</b>			
<i>You must indicate if there is any relevance to the four areas</i>			
<b>Duty to eliminate discrimination (E), advance equal opportunities (A) or foster good relations (F)</b>		<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Relevance to Human Rights (HR)</b>		<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Relevance to Health Impacts (H)</b>		<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Relevance to Social Economic Impacts (SE)</b>		<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Who will be affected by this policy?</b>			
All organisations that provide a service to women, children and young people that are directly or indirectly affected by gender based violence specifically domestic abuse. Women age 16 years plus that have lived experience of domestic abuse. Children age 5 – 15 years that have lived experience of domestic abuse.			
<b>Who will be/has been involved in the consultation process?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Dunbartonshire Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership have commissioned this consultation exercise in order to gain a fuller picture of the systemic progress being made locally to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls.</li> <li>• VAWG Partnership will use this community consultation exercise to bring new members and maximise opportunities for key partners to work collaboratively across all sectors to develop and deliver services that are meaningful and meet local need.</li> <li>• This exercise seeks to capture the views of women and their</li> </ul>			

**Please outline any particular need/barriers which equality groups may have in relation to this policy list evidence you are using to support this and whether there is any negative impact on particular groups.**

	<b>Needs</b>	<b>Evidence</b>	<b>Impact</b>
<b>Age</b>	<p>Domestic abuse in Scotland is recognised as a public health issue of epidemic proportions. It represents a widespread complex social problem that can have serious ramifications for individuals, families, communities and society. West Dunbartonshire has a population of 89,130 of which 52% are female, of this 38,983 are age 16 years +, applying the one in three estimate of women experiencing DA we can reasonably argue that there are potentially 12,994 women in WD affected by domestic abuse</p>	<p>Police Scotland data and Scotland's national crime survey records high numbers of women and children across West Dunbartonshire are experiencing, or are exposed to, domestic abuse, and that West Dunbartonshire remains within the top three of local authority areas reporting consistently high levels of police recorded incidents over a 15 year period</p>	<p>The outcomes of the community consultation outcomes will have a positive impact for women, children and young people of all ages by providing a platform whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision</p>
<b>Cross Cutting</b>	<p>West Dunbartonshire contains 48 data zones that are amongst the most deprived 20% in Scotland. The Intersectionality of multiple deprivation and gender based violence needs to be taken into account when carrying out this community consultation exercise</p>	<p>Experiencing domestic abuse can result in homelessness, isolation, loss of earnings, physical and mental health problems, injuries and even death. In a study by Shelter, 40% of all homeless women stated that domestic violence was a contributor to their homelessness. Domestic violence was found to be the</p>	<p>Equality groups are identified and provided an opportunity to contribute to the community consultation exercise. The membership to WDVAVG Partnership increases to include those equality groups not currently represented to ensure they contribute to the</p>

		<p>single most quoted reason for becoming homeless. Common health effects of domestic abuse include physical injury, poor health and a range of psychological and reproductive difficulties. Domestic abuse has a damaging impact on mental health with problems such as anxiety, depression and low self esteem being well documented in research</p>	<p>local strategic planning the voices of women, children and young people with lived experience of gender based violence (GBV) contribute to shape, informing and improving service provision meets local need.</p>
<b>Disability</b>	<p>Evidence suggest disabled women who experience domestic abuse may be less visible to services and therefore less likely to take part in service evaluations to enable their experiences to be captured and contribute to future service provision. It is important to ensure this group have an opportunity to participate in service evaluation and contribute to future service provision</p>	<p>One in four women experiences domestic abuse or domestic violence at some point in their lives. A recent study found that disabled women experience higher rates of DA and endure DA for longer, national data shows that disabled victims are much more likely to be suffering abuse from a current partner (31%) than non-disabled victims (18%). The abuse they experience is often directly linked to their impairments and perpetrated by the individuals they are most dependent on for care, such as intimate partners and family members.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact for disabled women of all ages by providing a platform whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision</p>
<b>Social &amp; Economic Impact</b>	<p>It is important that when projects or considerations that may impact in this area are considered</p>	<p>The Scottish Government estimates that the cost of domestic abuse to the public</p>	<p>To comply with Legislative and local government policy the voices of Women, children</p>

	<p>that they are evidence based and informed by the lived experience of those they may effect</p>	<p>purse is £2.3 billion. It is widely accepted that this is a conservative estimate given the amount of under-reporting of domestic abuse and the consequent difficulty in ascertaining exact numbers. These costs have consequences for local services; housing, health, policing, social services and the voluntary sector (often funded by local government).</p>	<p>and young people's must be heard, their rights respected and their views contribute to service shape and design.</p>
<p><b>Sex</b></p>	<p>Gender Based violence refers to harmful acts directed at an individual based on their gender. It is rooted in gender inequality, the abuse of power and harmful norms. The term Violence Against Women and Girls is used to reflect the UN definition of violence against women that includes the girl child, reflecting that this risk is present throughout life. The work of West Dunbartonshire Violence Against Women and Girl Partnership recognises the impact of gender based violence on all children and young people, regardless of gender in accordance with</p>	<p>It is estimated that one in three women will experience sexual or physical violence in their lifetime. One in four women experiences domestic abuse or domestic violence at some point in their lives. During displacement and times of crisis, the threat of GBV significantly increases for women and girls.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision.</p>

	Domestic Abuse (Scotland) 2018 Legislation		
<b>Gender Reassign</b>	Evidence suggests those under going or who have undergone gender reassignment can be particularly excluded social and in civil society, it is important that people have an opportunity to participate in service evaluation and contribute to future service provision	A report by The Scottish Transgender Alliance indicates that 80% of trans people had experienced emotional, sexual, or physical abuse from a partner or ex-partner	The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact for transgender women of all ages by providing a platform whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision
<b>Health</b>	Domestic abuse has a damaging impact on mental health with problems such as anxiety, depression and low self esteem being well documented in research	Experiencing domestic abuse can result in homelessness, isolation, loss of earnings, physical and mental health problems, injuries and even death. . Common health effects of domestic abuse include physical injury, poor health and a range of psychological and reproductive difficulties. Domestic abuse has a damaging impact on mental health with problems such as anxiety, depression and low self esteem being well documented in research	The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision.
<b>Human Rights</b>	UNHRC: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women adopted general	Gender-based violence (GBV) is a serious violation of human rights and a life-threatening health and	The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact whereby all women with lived

	<p>recommendation 19, which defines gender-based violence to be violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately and declares it to be "a form of discrimination against women that seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on a basis of equality with men.</p>	<p>protection issue. Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights explicitly recognises that taking action to address violence against women and girls is needed to ensure we realise the human rights of everyone in Scotland.</p>	<p>experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision.</p>
<p><b>Marriage &amp; Civil Partnership</b></p>	<p>The needs here cross cut with sex and sexual orientation</p>	<p>One in four women experiences domestic abuse or domestic violence at some point in their lives.</p>	<p>The impact here is neutral</p>
<p><b>Pregnancy &amp; Maternity</b></p>	<p>Pregnancy can be a trigger for domestic abuse, and existing abuse may get worse during pregnancy or after giving birth.</p>	<p>One in four women experiences domestic abuse or domestic violence at some point in their lives.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision.</p>
<p><b>Race</b></p>	<p>Domestic abuse affects women from all ethnic groups, and there is no evidence to suggest that women from some ethnic or cultural communities are any more at risk than others. The needs here include recognising the role ethnicity may play in</p>	<p>One in four women experiences domestic abuse or domestic violence at some point in their lives. However for BME women the form the abuse takes may vary; in some communities, for example, domestic abuse may be perpetrated by extended family</p>	<p>The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision.</p>

	<p>creating barriers to women accessing local support. It is important to ensure this group have an opportunity to participate in service evaluation and contribute to future service provision</p>	<p>members, or it may include forced marriage, or female genital mutilation (FGM) Women from Black, Asian or minority ethnic communities are likely to face additional barriers to receiving the help that they need. Their experiences may be compounded by racism, which is pervasive in the UK. Women may be unwilling to seek help from statutory agencies (such as the police, social services, or housing authorities) because they are afraid of a racist response. Service providers may be basing their service responses on particular cultural, ethnic or religious stereotypes and unwittingly contributing to institutional racism.</p>	
<b>Religion and Belief</b>	<p>The needs here include recognising the role of religion and belief may play in creating barriers to women accessing local support. It is important to ensure this group have an opportunity to participate in service evaluation and contribute to future service provision</p>	<p>One in four women experiences domestic abuse or domestic violence at some point in their lives.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact whereby all women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision</p>
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	<p>The needs here include recognising the role bias and heteronormativity towards sexual</p>	<p>Lesbian, gay and bisexual people are just as likely to experience domestic abuse as</p>	<p>The outcomes of the community consultation will have a positive impact whereby all</p>

	<p>orientation has in creating barriers to women accessing local support. It is important to ensure this group have an opportunity to participate in service evaluations and contribute to future service provision</p>	<p>heterosexual non-transgender women and need LGBT inclusive domestic abuse services and support.</p>	<p>women with lived experience of domestic abuse have an opportunity to have their experiences heard and contribute to shaping future service provision.</p>	
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**Actions**

**Policy has a negative impact on an equality group, but is still to be implemented, please provide justification for this.**

**Will the impact of the policy be monitored and reported on an ongoing bases?**

Findings from this community consultation exercise will feed into WDVAVG Partnership's mandatory Equally Safe DATA returns to Scottish Government. The information gathered will be used to demonstrate and understand the local progress being made delivering objectives from Equally Safe in reducing and eliminating violence against women and girls. Secondly, the voices of those with lived experience of Domestic Abuse as a form of Gender Based Violence (GBV) are gathered so that their experiences shape existing and future service development and provision.

**Q7 What is your recommendation for this policy?**

**Please provide a meaningful summary of how you have reached the recommendation**

The EIA has identified particular barriers and solutions (see section 2) required to be addressed to ensure the WDVAVG domestic abuse questionnaire can be fully accessed by all groups. Findings from the DA questionnaire will support the multi-agency partners of the VAWG Partnership to better understand the local need of Women and their children affected by domestic abuse so that resources can be focussed to the areas where they are needed most, this will ensure that all women, children and young people that have a need are informed of and have equal opportunity to access specialist GBV service information whilst maximising the prospect for early and effective.