

**REPORT TO: SMARTER STRATEGIC GROUP – 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009**

**SUBJECT: DOMESTIC ABUSE**

**BY: CORPORATE POLICY UNIT MANAGER**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 This report provides a progress report on the Domestic Abuse Key Action under Local Outcome 16 – Children protection services in Moray will improve.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 The Smarter Strategic Group is asked to note the progress of the Domestic Abuse Forum in relation to the milestones set down within the Domestic Abuse Key Action.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 In November 2000 the Scottish Executive published a 'National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland'.

3.2 The Guidelines to the delivery of this Strategy stated, under the Information and Awareness Raising Section that: - 'As well as providing appropriate services, it is important that woman/children in the area area aware of the services which can provide support and the ways in which they can make contact.

3.3 Following on from this the Moray Domestic Abuse Forum was convened with the responsibility of raising public and agency awareness of Domestic Abuse as well as establishing an overview of all projects and initiatives impacting on the Domestic Abuse national strategy targets.

3.4 The Forum itself is made up of representatives from a wide range of departments, statutory sector partners and the voluntary sector.

**3.5 Key Action – Quarter 1 milestones**

Domestic Abuse Awareness Advertisements – Adverts have been included on publicly displayed street maps. These adverts also feature on the leaflet sized street maps distributed from Moray Council Access Points.

Domestic Abuse Conference - A sub-group of the Domestic Abuse Forum has also been formed in order to progress arrangements regarding this years Domestic Abuse Conference. The topic of Domestic Abuse Conference this year will be the affect this type of abuse has on children. A date is yet to be confirmed however the Mansion House Hotel has been provisionally booked for either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2009. Once the key speakers have been confirmed invitations will be sent to relevant agencies and voluntary groups.

### **3.6 Key Action – Quarter 2 milestones**

Quarter 2 Milestone – As part of the Moray Against Violence Summer Campaign posters advertising the message ‘What are you covering up this summer?’ were distributed to on and off sale licensed premises as well as public buildings such as hospitals and Police Offices. The graphics and message used in the campaign were also displaying on the large screens within Downtown and Joanna’s Night-club.

Domestic Abuse Family Support Workers – Following a successful bid by the Domestic Abuse Forum to the Fairer Scotland Fund two Support Workers will be employed on temporary 12 month contracts to work within the Elgin Social Work Team under the supervision of Senior Social Worker Graeme Rizza. Although support and supervision will be through the Social Work Service, the role of the Support Workers will be to support and take direction and workload primarily from the Grampian Police Domestic Abuse Liaison Officer (DALO). The Support Workers will primarily target the two areas of New Elgin (South Central) and Kingsmills (North Central), these being recognised areas of need. A Service Level Agreement has now been completed and it is anticipated that both posts will be filled by the beginning of November 2009. Prior to the completion of the 12 month period an evaluation will take place and on the basis of it’s findings consideration will be given to future funding.

Topic re Quarter 4 media campaign - A topic is yet to be decided on the Quarter 4 media campaign however an agreement has been reached with Wiseman Dairies that an awareness message can be displayed on their milk cartons from the beginning of 2010.

## **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

- (a) Single Outcome Agreements/Service Improvement Plan**  
Domestic Abuse is a Key Action within the SOA under the Priority – Young People and contributes towards Local Outcome 16 – Child protection services in Moray will improve.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

There are no Policy and legal implications.

**(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)**

The budget to deliver this has been provided by funding allocated to the Domestic Abuse Forum with additional funding being source from Grampian Police. There are no funding implications for the Smarter Strategic Group.

**(d) Consultations**

Consultations have taken place with Graeme Rizza, Social Work Service and all other relevant Community Planning partners.

**5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 The Smarter Strategic Group is asked to note the progress of the Domestic Abuse Forum in relation to the milestones set down within the Domestic Abuse Key Action.**

**Author of Report: Adrian Moar, Partnership Development Officer**

**Background Papers:**

**Ref:**