



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda and Reports

For consideration on

**Monday, 7th November 2011**

In Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Chorley

At 6.30 pm

## **PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS/SPEAKING AT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEETINGS**

- Questions must be submitted to the Democratic Services Section by no later than midday, two working days before the day of the meeting to allow time to prepare appropriate responses and investigate issues if necessary.
- A maximum period of 3 minutes will be allowed for a question from a member of the public on an item on the agenda. A maximum period of 30 minutes to be allocated for public questions if necessary at each meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This will provide an opportunity for members of the public to raise and ask questions on any issue falling within the remit of the Committee.

28 October 2011

Dear Councillor

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - MONDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER 2011**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held in Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Chorley on Monday, 7th November 2011 commencing at 6.30 pm.

### **AGENDA**

1. **Apologies for absence**

2. **Declarations of Any Interests**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. If the interest arises **only** as result of your membership of another public body or one to which you have been appointed by the Council then you only need to declare it if you intend to speak.

If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest, you must withdraw from the meeting. Normally you should leave the room before the business starts to be discussed. You do, however, have the same right to speak as a member of the public and may remain in the room to enable you to exercise that right and then leave immediately. In either case you must not seek to improperly influence a decision on the matter.

3. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)**

To confirm the enclosed minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 3 October 2011

4. **Public Questions**

Members of the public who have requested the opportunity to ask a question(s) on an item on the agenda will be asked to put their question(s) to the Committee. Each member of the public will be allowed to ask one supplementary question within his/her allocated 3 minutes.

5. **Executive Cabinet Minutes**

To consider the minutes of the last Executive Cabinet meeting held on 20 October 2011 (to follow).

6. **Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service IDVA (Pages 5 - 26)**

Members will recall that the last meeting of the Committee received a presentation from Heather Corson on IDVA in preparation for the scrutiny of the service at this meeting. The slides from the presentation are enclosed for information.

As agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the following organisations/people have been invited to attend and answer questions about the service in particular funding arrangements:

- **Chorley Council – Jamie Carson/Simon Clark and Councillor Eric Bell**
- **South Ribble Borough Council – Mark Gaffney and Councillor Peter Mullineaux**
- **Lancashire County Council – Mel Ormesher**
- **Lancashire Constabulary – Superintendent Graham Coulston-Herrmann**
- **PCT – Mary Kiddy**
- **Chorley Community Housing – Debbie Parkinson**
- **Places for People – Gary Melia**

Questions have been drafted and when agreed will be sent to the invitees in advance of the meeting. A copy will be sent to Members shortly.

The majority of the invitees have confirmed attendance and those who are unable to attend have agreed to provide a written response.

Yours sincerely



Gary Hall  
Chief Executive

Dianne Scambler  
Democratic and Member Services Officer  
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### **Distribution**

1. Agenda and reports to all Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Adrian Lowe (Chair), Councillor Debra Platt (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Julia Berry, Magda Cullens, Doreen Dickinson, Alison Hansford, Harold Heaton, Steve Holgate, Keith Iddon, Beverley Murray, Rosie Russell, Joyce Snape, Paul Walmsley and Peter Wilson for attendance.
2. Agenda and reports to Gary Hall (Director of Transformation), Lesley-Ann Fenton (Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy), Jamie Carson (Director of People and Places), Chris Moister (Head of Governance), Carol Russell (Democratic Services Manager) and Dianne Scambler (Democratic and Member Services Officer) for attendance.

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આ માહિતીનો અનુવાદ આપની પોતાની ભાષામાં કરી શકાય છે. આ સેવા સરળતાથી મેળવવા માટે કૃપા કરી, આ નંબર પર ફોન કરો: 01257 515822

ان معلومات کا ترجمہ آپکی اپنی زبان میں بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ خدمت استعمال کرنے کیلئے براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر ٹیلیفون  
کیجئے: 01257 515823

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## Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Monday, 3 October 2011**

**Present:** Councillor Adrian Lowe (Chair), Councillor Debra Platt (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Magda Cullens, Doreen Dickinson, Steve Holgate, Beverley Murray, Rosie Russell, Joyce Snape, Paul Walmsley and Peter Wilson

**Officers in attendance:** Gary Hall (Chief Executive), Lesley-Ann Fenton (Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy), Carol Russell (Democratic Services Manager) and Dianne Scambler (Democratic and Member Services Officer)

### 10.OS.42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received by Councillors Julia Berry, Alison Hansford, Harold Heaton and Keith Iddon.

### 10.OS.43 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS

Item 5 - Councillor Steve Holgate declared a personal interest in the first monitoring report on the review of allotments.

### 10.OS.44 MINUTES

**RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 5 September 2011 be held as a correct record for signing by the Chair.**

### 10.OS.45 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No questions were received by any member of the public.

### 10.OS.46 INDEPENDENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATES SERVICE

The Committee received a presentation delivered by Heather Corson, Community Safety Officer and Paul Lowe, Joint Community Safety Manager for Chorley and South Ribble Councils on the Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy in preparation for the scrutiny of the service in November.

Members were asked to consider the types of questions that they would like to put forward to the partner representatives of the Safer Chorley and South Ribble Partnership – Responsible Authorities Group who had been invited to the next meeting. Questions would relate to the benefits of the service and in particular future funding arrangements.

The Committee was advised that the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny at South Ribble Borough Council would be attending to observe the crime and disorder scrutiny meeting and that the representatives from the following partners had been invited:

- Police
- South Ribble Borough Council
- Lancashire County Council
- Primary Care Trust
- Registered Social Landlords

Members requested that the projected costs for a full IDVA service that would support the 3.5 FTE officers (rather than the current 3 PT posts) be provided at the meeting.

**RESOLVED – That the information be noted and that questions be prepared in advance of the next meeting in consultation with Members and then forwarded to the invited representatives prior to the meeting.**

**10.OS.47 FIRST MONITORING OF INQUIRY RECOMMENDATIONS - REVIEW OF ALLOTMENTS**

The Committee received a report of the Director of People and Places which provided an update on the implementation of agreed actions by the Executive Cabinet following the Overview and Scrutiny's inquiry into allotments.

Good progress had been made and any outstanding actions were expected to be implemented during 2011/12 following the required integrated impact assessments and consultation.

**RESOLVED – That the report be noted.**

**10.OS.48 SECOND MONITORING OF INQUIRY RECOMMENDATIONS - REVIEW OF TOWN CENTRE VITALITY**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy updating Members on progress made against the actions following the general endorsement of the recommendations agreed by the Executive Cabinet by the Overview and Scrutiny's Task Group Inquiry on Town Centre Vitality.

This was the second monitoring report that the Committee had received and on the whole, delivery against each of the recommendations was positive.

However, the Committee was disappointed that the application to the Highways Agency for the erection of a brown sign on the motorway had been turned down and asked if more could be done to pursue this.

**RESOLVED – That the report be noted.**

**10.OS.49 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORTS**

**(a) First Quarter Chorley Partnership Performance Report 2011/12**

The Committee received a report of the Chief Executive providing an update on the performance of Chorley Partnership during the first quarter of 2011/12.

The report highlighted the performance of Chorley Partnership in achieving the key performance targets and the progress made in the delivery of the key projects. Performance was excellent, with four of the five projects currently rated 'green'.

**RESOLVED – That the report be noted.**

**(b) First Quarter Performance Report 2011/12**

The Committee received a report of the Chief Executive setting out the performance against the Corporate Strategy and the key performance indicators during the first quarter of 2011/12, 1 April to 30 June 2011.

Overall performance of the key projects remained good, with the vast majority of the projects either completed, on track or not scheduled to start until later in the year. Five



projects had been rated amber and an explanation of the action taken to get these projects back on target was provided.

Performance on the key measures and performance indicators was strong, with 92% performing above target or within the 5% tolerance.

Members were pleased to see that the action taken around the key service delivery measures relating to planning applications were now performing better than target.

**RESOLVED – That the report be noted.**

#### **10.OS.50 FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee received the Forward Plan for the period 1 October 2011 to 31 January 2012 which had been updated in line with decisions made at the last meeting.

**RESOLVED – That the report be noted.**

#### **10.OS.51 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee received a copy of the amended Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2011/12 which had been updated in line with decisions made at the last meeting.

**RESOLVED – That the Work Programme for 2011/12 be noted.**

#### **10.OS.52 REPORTS FROM THE TASK AND FINISH GROUPS**

##### **a) Tourism and Promoting Chorley**

The Committee received a verbal report from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group – Tourism and Promoting Chorley.

Councillor Peter Wilson reported that the Task Group has held its first meeting and has agreed the following terms of reference:

To promote the Borough as a tourist destination by:

1. Identifying Chorley's key assets for tourism around the Borough, for example Astley Hall and Park, Rivington, Yarrow Valley Park and Cuerden, etc
2. Identifying the key events in the calendar that might attract visitors to Chorley, for example, Picnic in the Park, Big Drum Day, the Christmas Lights Switch on etc
3. Look at any other opportunities that may exist to maximise the promotion of Chorley, including through partnership working.
4. That the Council look to promote Chorley in the best possible way to encourage more visitors to the town centre and its surrounding villages.

The Group will start by looking at the Boroughs key tourism assets and events at its next meeting on 12 October 2011 along with the final report and update monitoring reports of the Town Centre Vitality Review which was completed last year.

It was also reported that two more Members had join the Group:

Councillor Julia Barry  
Councillor Matthew Crow

**b) Lancastrian Suite**

The Committee received a verbal report from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group – Lancastrian.

Councillor Debra Platt reported that the Group was due to meet shortly to look at options for increasing the use of the Lancastrian Suite.

**c) NHS Reform Joint Task and Finish Group**

The Democratic Services Manager reported that it was looking unlikely that this Group would undertake a scrutiny review, due to the number of changes taking place in NHS reform.

Taking this into consideration, the Chair suggested that the Committee consider a further review at its meeting in December, from the reserve list of topics on the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

**RESOLVED**

- 1. That the reports of the Task Groups be noted.**
- 2. That the Committee consider a further review at its meeting in December.**

Chair

# Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA)

Presentation  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
October 2011

**Heather Corson**  
Community Safety Officer – Lead Vulnerability



# National Figures

- Domestic violence accounts for between 16% and 25% of all recorded violent crime (Home Office 2004)
- 45% women and 26% men had experienced at least one incident of inter-personal violence in their lifetime (Walby & Allen 2004), however, when there were more than 4 incidents, 89% of the victims were women
- 1/3 of women attending emergency departments for self-harm were domestic violence survivors
- Abused women are 5 times more likely to attempt suicide

# Lancashire Figures

- 21% of All crime is violent crime
- 19 calls to the Police per 1000 population
- 11 Domestic Homicides Apr 09 – Dec 10
- 53% Serious sexual assaults by partner
- Domestic Abuse is top 5 priority in all 14 CSPs

# Domestic Abuse - Local

- **April 11 – July 11**
  - 490 incidents reported to the Police Chorley
  - 381 incidents reported to the Police South Ribble <sup>(MADE)</sup>
- **High Recording Areas**
  - Chorley -South East & Chorley South West & North West
  - South Ribble- Golden Hill and Bamber Bridge East & West
- **Support BCS Risks**
  - Living in Council & HA properties and claiming benefits
  - 24% of all violent crime in Chorley is domestic violence related
- **May 09 - Apr11**
  - 73% offences were committed by a known offender

# History

- **Dec 2007 - 1<sup>st</sup> CH & SR Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)**
- **Apr 2008 – CH & SR Specialist Domestic Violence Court Status (SDVC)**

# SDVC Accreditation & IDVA Commitments

- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)
- Specialist support service -Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA)
- Commitment to match funding and provision for mainstream funding for the IDVA service ►



# MARAC

- The “Safety Focussed” component of the SDVC model for very high risk (VHR) victims – **at risk of serious harm or murder**
- *The MARAC combines up to date risk information with timely assessment of a victims needs and links those directly to the provision of appropriate services for all those involved in a domestic violence case” ►*

# Chorley & South Ribble MARAC DATA

- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

- Cases Heard 223
- Approx referrals to IDVA 110 (?)
- Repeat Cases 31.4%
- Number of affected children 315

# Links

- Serious Violent Crime
- Assault with injury crime rate
- Repeat Incidents of Domestic Violence
- Domestic Violence Murder
- Emotional Health of Children
- Lancashire Domestic Violence Strategy
- Safer Chorley & South Ribble Action Plan
- Children and Young People Action Plan
- Public Health Strategy

# Key elements of an IDVA service

- Independent
- Professional
- Safety options
- Crisis Intervention
- Risk
- Partnership
- Measurable Outcomes

# Aims

- Increase confidence in the criminal justice system
- Reducing repeat homelessness
- Reduce levels of injuries sustained
- Increase notification of children at risk
- Decrease victimisation
- Increase victim safety
- Reduce the number of victims unwilling to support prosecution

## **A national evaluation of IDVA projects**

- In more than 1/2 the cases, the abuse was escalating up to the point of referral to the IDVA service

### **When asked if victims were safer after the intervention by the IDVA service**

- In 70% of cases, the abuse was reported to have ceased. 76% of victims felt safer (47% felt much safer)
- At intake, 82% of survivors reported experiencing at least one type of abuse that was severe or extreme in nature
- At intake, 75% of survivors reported experiencing more than one type of abuse
- At intake, 66% of survivors reported that abuse was escalating

# Case Study 1

- Long history of DV
- Known to Police
- Repeat MARAC Case
- Refused engagement on previous occasions
- Finally engaged with IDVA service
- IDVA time constraints, had to make a decision if to support to court - chose not to support as had other commitments
- Victim did not give evidence
- Case collapsed
- Victim killed 2 days later
- IDVA told – If you had supported her to court this would never have happened
- Emotional impact on IDVA immeasurable

# Case study 2

- Previous 15 yr marriage
- Professional woman
- New relationship with school friend
- Assaulted baby
- Strangled victim to the point of passing out
- Safety Plan
- Sanctuary measures (window fitter)
- Had password breaker – accessing emails
- Charges 2 x sec 39 assaults
- Supported to court
- Would not have gone if it was not for the IDVA
- Now looking to go back to work
- Text – I have now got a life and friends because of you thanks.



## Case study 3

- Professional woman
- History of DV
- Engaged with IDVA
- Assault charges
- Safety planning
- Advised to accept restraining order rather than risk going to court and case collapsing
- Victim committed suicide short time later

# Service User

*"The IDVA is in my opinion the lifeline that I needed, I had not heard of them prior to the worst part of the violence, I believe the police should give out the IDVA details at the first incident, how things might have been different in my own case if this had happened" ... without this service I do not think many victims of domestic violence would go through with prosecution .... PS, Passed computer course at college 100% attendance and full marks, Thanks Ali ▶*

# MARAC QA Report Published April 2011

- CAADA recommended IDVA capacity to support recommended volume – 3.5 FTE IDVAs (prev 4.3)
  - **We currently have 2 p/t IDVAs**
- Ch & SR MARAC running at 212 cases per annum
  - **Estimated net savings to the area is £1million per annum.** (saving lives saving money calculator)

# Police Public Protection Unit

“The work of the IDVAs takes so much of the victim support work from the police which is very beneficial to us but they also have far more information in their 'toolbox' re benefits, housing support services etc than we have. When a gold case is identified the IDVAs are always in a position to assist and early intervention by the IDVAs certainly gives a better quality of service to the victim and allows trust and rapport when the victim is at their lowest point.

DI Stewart ▲

# Impact of no IDVA Service

- **SDVC** -Would not meet the criteria for the accreditation = NO SDVC?
- **MARAC** – IDVA the voice of the victim
- **CRISIS** – A time of extreme danger, or an emotionally stressful and traumatic event in a persons life –Who else would provide the specialist crisis intervention work?
- **Agencies** – The impact on their resources
- **Retractions** – The impact on the victim, the reduction in successful prosecutions and perpetrators not being held accountable for their actions more children at risk ►

## CAADA cost of an average DV case

- 6 police callouts
  - 8 GP visits
  - 6 prescriptions
  - 4 A&E attendances for minor wounding
  - 2 A&E attendances for serious wounding
  - 12 nights in a refuge
  - Police involvement in S18 prosecution
  - Other CJS involvement in S18 prosecution
- £14,000 ▶**

## Cost of the IDVA service

- At the current level of provision this equates to approximately 3 'average' DV cases.
- Commitment required for mainstream funding at minimum level of 2 part time IDVAs
- Future consideration for 3.5 FTE IDVA<sup>Δ</sup> funding

# Future IDVA Funding

- IDVA service for to 2011/12 funded by LCC ABG & government grant.
- Funding end March 2012 and future funding arrangements remain subject to clarification
- (CAB) currently host the service and have a further £40,000 to support the IDVA service from the 1st of April 2012
- monies were gifted to the CAB by now dissolved Chorley women's refuge
- £40,000 gift to support the IDVA service comes with caveat that it cannot be used to substitute any other available funding
- £40,000 would sustain the IDVA service across both Chorley and South Ribble until the end of January 2013
- If no other funding sources identified based on current expenditure the service cost will be approx £47,500
- for South Ribble and Chorley to retain its status as an SDVC it is a requirement that IDVA services are provided
- MARAC is strongly supported by the current IDVA service
- due to funding concerns relating to the continuation of the current IDVA service Chorley's Overview and Scrutiny panel are considering IDVA funding on the 7th of November 2011