

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Council Chamber - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

Members Present:

12 February 2020

Chairperson: Councillor A.N.Woolcock

Councillors: S.apDafydd, S.E.Freeguard, S.K.Hunt, A.Llewelyn, S.Miller, R.Mizen, J.D.Morgan, S.Paddison, L.M.Purcell, S.M.Penry and S.H.Reynolds

Officers In Attendance: S.Phillips, A.Jarrett, H.Jenkins, N.Pearce, C.Griffiths, H.Jones, A.Thomas, S.Rees, S.Morris, Wellington, C.Davies and T.Davies

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors C.Clement-Williams, D.Jones, L.Jones, R.G.Jones, E.V.Latham, A.R.Lockyer, P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards and A.Wingrave

1. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

The committee scrutinised the following cabinet item:

Joint Response to the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015

Members discussed the scope of the Act in relation to services and support offered locally. Men were just as able to access these services and support as women, and many men had already been helped in the local area.

A recently noted trend, was domestic abuse from children towards their parents. Help would also be offered to older people who had been the subject of emotional or financial abuse from their partners.

Partnership work was key, and local hairdressers had been briefed on where to signpost possible victims of domestic abuse/violence, as clients may open up or share information more readily with their

hairdresser. This highlighted that different approaches were necessary to encourage different people to come forward.

Another operational example of partnership working was the Police sharing domestic violence reports information with schools. Pupils whose parents had been involved in domestic abuse over the weekend or school holidays could then be monitored and helped where necessary.

Following scrutiny, the committee was supportive of the proposals to be considered by cabinet.

2. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2019/2020**

The committee noted the Forward Work Programme for 2019/2020.

CHAIRPERSON