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**SAFETY, ENGAGEMENT & DEMOCRACY STATEMENT**

**AGENDA ITEM:6**

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**White Ribbon Campaign**

Having recently been awarded White Ribbon status, the City of Cardiff Council has joined several other organisations in city campaigning to make a stand and pledge a big no to Domestic Abuse against women.

The White Ribbon campaign is the world's largest male led movement to end men's violence against women which sees supporters wearing white ribbons. The international day takes place annually on the 25<sup>th</sup> November with 16 days of activism and ends on 10<sup>th</sup> December. Every year in the UK more than one million women suffer domestic abuse and more than 360,000 are sexually assaulted. Although abuse against women is disproportionately higher, anyone can be affected by violence and abuse.

Domestic violence statistics show that 70% of incidents result in injury and that on average, two women in England and Wales are killed by a partner every week. But what does wearing a white ribbon really mean? It says loud and clear that you will never condone, take part in or remain silent about domestic abuse against women.

Nearly all Welsh local authorities have signed up to the White Ribbon Campaign and Cardiff Council has worked together to raise the awareness of the campaign amongst staff members continuously.

Every year BAWSO and Welsh Women's Aid hold 'Light a Candle' service at Llandaff Cathedral to commemorate the International Day to End Violence Against Women, which I attended on November 25th. The event included very moving personal testimonies from survivors of different forms of violence and a speech by Leighton Andrews, the Minister for Public Services.

**COUNCILLOR DAN DE'ATH**  
**Cabinet Member (Safety, Engagement and Democracy)**