
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - Report of the Committee's Task & Finish Group

Reason for the Report

1. . This report enables the Committee to approve the draft report of this Committee's Task & Finish Group, copy attached at **Appendix A**.

Background

2. At its meeting in September 2016 the Committee considered its work programme for the year and agreed to undertake an inquiry into FGM in Cardiff. The Terms of Reference for the task group:
 - Identify the scale of the problem in Cardiff.
 - Identify options to improve awareness of FGM across professional and ethnic minority groups.
 - Improve the training of professionals who may come into contact with FGM.
 - Ascertain what work is being undertaken in the wider community and schools.
 - Identify ways to improve the operation of the FGM clinical pathway including proposals for an all wales FGM clinic.
 - Improve the collection and robustness of FGM data across Cardiff.
3. It was agreed that a Task & Finish Group be established to undertake this inquiry. Members of the Task & Finish Group were:
 - Councillor Dianne Rees (Chair)

- Councillor Lynda Thorne
 - Councillor Heather Joyce
 - Karen Dell'Armi (Parent/Governor Co-optee)
 - Patricia Arlotte (Roman Catholic Co-optee).
4. The Inquiry took place during January and February 2017. The following report sets out the key findings and conclusions arising from this Inquiry, as well as a number of recommendations arising from the evidence gathered.
 5. The task group members, to identify appropriate findings for the Inquiry and its recommendations, used evidence received throughout the inquiry.

Way Forward

6. The draft report of the Task & Finish Group, is attached at **Appendix A**. Members' attention is particularly drawn to the Recommendations section.
7. Members may wish to consider the report, make any amendments and agree whether to approve the report to be considered by the Cabinet.

Legal Implications

8. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not making policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken

having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

9. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not making policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- Consider the draft report of the Task and Finish Group, copy attached at **Appendix A.**
- Endorse the report, subject to any comments the Committee wish to make, for submission to the Cabinet.

Davina Fiore

Director of Governance and Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

1 March 2017