

## RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Monday, 16 August 2021

**Decision No:** (CAB 21/22 32156)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Heritage
SUBJECT:	Decision to appoint a Local Partnership Board pursuant to Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
AUTHOR:	Stephen Barratt

### THE DECISION

- (i) To appoint the Board to provide advice to the Council about the exercise of its functions under Part 4 of the 2021 Act and the provision of other local authority domestic abuse support in its area.
- (ii) To adopt the proposed Terms of Reference of the Board ('the Terms of Reference'), attached at Appendix 1 of this report.
- (iii) To delegate authority to the Executive Director Communities, Culture and Homes, having sought the advice of the Board, to:
  - (a) prepare and consult upon a draft strategy ('the Part 4 strategy') as required by s 57 of the 2021 Act;
  - (b) carry out any functions required to give effect to the Part 4 strategy;
  - (c) carry out any functions required to support the provision of other local support in the Council's area;
  - (d) monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Part 4 strategy;
  - (e) report on progress and how funding has been used in relation to the exercise of the Council's functions under Part 4 of the 2021 Act to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government;
  - (f) appoint a chair and vice chair to the Board (the Executive Director Communities, Culture and Homes may appoint themselves as chair);
  - (g) add or remove representatives to the Board, ensuring the minimum representation requirement (as set out by s 58(2) of the 2021 Act) is met and considering the inclusion of a wider representation to support the Council's local approach to tackling domestic abuse;
  - (h) make any minor adjustments to the Terms of Reference as and when necessary; and,
  - (i) do anything considered necessary in order to fulfil the Council's legal obligations pursuant to the 2021 Act.

**REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The Council is required by s 58(1) of the 2021 Act to appoint the Board.

Delegating authority to the Executive Director Communities, Culture and Homes to carry out functions required to support the provision of other local support (ie system-wide support) in the Council's area will facilitate a 'single system' approach to the provision of support in relation to Domestic Abuse, with centralised oversight of key multi-agency services.

**DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

While relevant draft statutory guidance asks authorities to consider using existing structures to meet the duties set out in Part 4 of the 2021 Act, it is considered that the existing multi-agency domestic and sexual violence group cannot adequately meet these duties.

The 2021 Act requires the Board to advise the Council about the provision of other local authority support in its area. Accordingly, the option of limiting the function of the Board to the provision of advice about support in relevant safe accommodation has not been considered. The Board will advise the Council on the provision of system-wide support in relation to domestic abuse.

**OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION**

None

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None

**CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD**

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Decision Maker:  
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:  
Claire Heather

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*