

Title of Report:	Report of FGM Task and Finish Group
Report to be considered by:	The Health and Wellbeing Board
Date of Meeting:	24 th September 2015

Purpose of Report: The findings of LSCB Task & Finish Group are that FGM be a matter raised at the Health & Wellbeing Boards in order to ensure that addressing FGM is a priority for all agencies and that it is seen as a family and community issue.

Recommended Action: Health & Wellbeing Board to take forward the recommendations of the report and to initiate a quarterly FGM delivery and safeguarding partnership meeting.

When decisions of the Health and Wellbeing Board impact on the finances or general operation of the Council, recommendations of the Board must be referred up to the Executive for final determination and decision.

Will the recommendation require the matter to be referred to the Council's Executive for final determination?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Is this item relevant to equality?	Please tick relevant boxes	
	Yes	No
Does the policy affect service users, employees or the wider community and:		
• Is it likely to affect people with particular protected characteristics differently?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Is it a major policy, significantly affecting how functions are delivered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Will the policy have a significant impact on how other organisations operate in terms of equality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Does the policy relate to functions that engagement has identified as being important to people with particular protected characteristics?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Does the policy relate to an area with known inequalities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome Where one or more 'Yes' boxes are ticked, the item is relevant to equality. In this instance please give details of how the item impacts upon the equality streams under the executive report section as outlined.		

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Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The LSCB set up a Task & Finish Group in 2014. The aim of the group was to scope local statutory responses to FGM and to develop recommendations for action based upon policy recommendations from the intercollegiate document Tackling FGM in the UK 2013. This will support a robust multi-agency and community approach to safeguarding children at risk of FGM across Berkshire West.
- 1.2 The action plan contained in the intercollegiate document was used as a starting point to review the local response to FGM. This is attached at appendix 1.
- 1.3 The task and finish group has established that across Berkshire West there is some awareness of FGM amongst local agencies and that some agencies are developing good practice to recognise and respond to women who have suffered FGM.
- 1.4 However, there is much still to be done locally. The key policy recommendations contained in the 2013 document are not fully addressed locally. A summary document is contained at appendix 1.

2. Equalities

- 2.1 It is known that the number of communities affected by FGM is growing and with increased migration from the countries where FGM is widely practised, more girls in the UK are at risk of undergoing FGM.
- 2.2 Local implementation of the recommendations in the report will actively promote the protection of girls living in Berkshire West who are identified as being at risk of FGM.

Appendices

Appendix A – FGM Report

Consultees

Local Stakeholders:

Officers Consulted:

Other: