

## Overview of Responses and Recommendations

Budget Proposals 16/17: Alana House Satellite Service		Rachel Johnson - Senior Programme Officer	19 January 2016 Version 2 (Exec)
<b>Proposal:</b>	To cease funding this service.		
<b>Total budget 15/16:</b>	£22,500	<b>Recommended officer saving 16/17:</b>	£0
<b>Initial proposed saving 16/17:</b>	£22,500 (100%)	<b>Final recommendation to Executive 16/17:</b>	To continue to fund this service at the current level.
<b>Nos of responses:</b>	10 in total, 5 responses were from individuals and 5 responses were from organisations including; Unison West Berkshire, Tilehurst Parish Council, Unison, jomctraining.co.uk and 2 responses from the charity Parents and Children Together (who are responsible for delivering the Alana House Satellite Service).		
<b>Key issues raised:</b>	<p>Responses highlighted the fact that the vulnerable women that use the service are being helped to make a positive contribution to society and are diverted away from the Criminal Justice System (CJS) and are more able lead happier and healthy lives.</p> <p>Most respondents said this service helps really vulnerable women, is person centred and helps address their multiple, complex needs and problems that go alongside their chaotic lifestyles.</p> <p>Suggestion that this specialist gender specific holistic service was important, especially if the women had negative experiences with men.</p> <p>Two responses referred to the fact that other suggested services are also at risk of cuts (e.g. Swanswell, CAB, NHS). In addition some women might be able to access lots of individual services, but these services might not have the capacity, skills and abilities to pick up the slack and some women will choose not engage because of the complexity of trying to work with multiple organisations unsupported.</p>		
<b>Equality issues:</b>	Concern around gender - that we need to be compassionate as some of these women have had experiences with domestic abuse, and many domestic abuse and other women only services are being cut or have already been cut.		
<b>Suggestions for reducing the impact on service users:</b>	<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Council response</b>	
	Continue to fund the service	Without this service, this specific group of vulnerable women they may not get the support required to change their behaviour and address any health and wellbeing issues. There could also be safeguarding implications in stopping this woman only service. With this in mind, we do not intend to make a saving in this area at this point.	

**NB:** This overview and recommendation paper should be read in conjunction with the Summary of Responses and Verbatim Responses received in relation to this proposal, circulated electronically to all members alongside the agenda pack and published online on our [Consultation Portal](#).

## Overview of Responses and Recommendations

Budget Proposals 16/17: Alana House Satellite Service		Rachel Johnson - Senior Programme Officer	19 January 2016 Version 2 (Exec)
<b>Alternative options for applying the saving in this area:</b>	<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Council response</b>	
	None.		
<b>Suggestions for how others may help contribute:</b>	None received.		
<b>Officer conclusion as a result of the responses:</b>	The exercise has highlighted that this group of vulnerable women require a service to protect them and safeguard their children.		
<b>Officer recommendation as a result of responses:</b>	Feedback has not uncovered any further issues which would prevent the council from proceeding with this proposal. However, given that the Public Health grant has been ring-fenced for a further two years it is recommended that this service continue to be funded at an annual sum of £22,500.		

**NB:** This overview and recommendation paper should be read in conjunction with the Summary of Responses and Verbatim Responses received in relation to this proposal, circulated electronically to all members alongside the agenda pack and published online on our [Consultation Portal](#).