

MOTION ON NOTICE



Date of Council Meeting: 25 November 2024

Title of Motion:

White Ribbon Day

White Ribbon UK works to prevent men's violence against women and girls, aiming to stop violence before it starts. They do this in many ways with the focus on enabling men and boys to be change-makers.

The need for their work is seen in the lived experiences of women and girls across the UK:

- 70% of women in the UK say they have experienced sexual harassment in public
- 3 in 5 women have experienced sexual harassment, bullying or verbal abuse Nearly a quarter of girls in mixed sex schools said they had experiences of unwanted sexual touching in school
- 1.4 million women experienced domestic abuse in the year ending March 2023
- 63% of men agree that men in society aren't doing enough to ensure the safety of women and girls
- 15% of women in England have experienced online violence

White Ribbon Day 2024 is today, 25 November, and coincides with the United Nation's Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

We must acknowledge the critical role that we, as decision makers and Councillors play in shaping and implementing policies that prioritise preventing violence against women and girls and helping to create a more equal society where all individuals, regardless of gender, can live freely without the fear of violence.

This Council resolves to:

- ask Cabinet to include the Primary Prevention of violence against women and girls when agreeing new and updated policies and strategies across all departments, alongside responses to gender-based violence.
- Ask the Leader to write to Jess Phillips MP, Minister for Safeguarding & VAWG to request an increase in government investment and statutory sources of funding for specialist organisations working on Primary Prevention initiatives aimed at addressing the underlying factors contributing to violence against women in the workplace

OFFICIAL

Proposer: Cllr Sally Haydon

Seconder: Cllr Matt Smith
