

CABINET BRIEFING - INTEGRATION OF PRIMARY PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS INTO DECISION PAPERS - JUNE 2025**Purpose:**

This briefing outlines the proposed integration of primary prevention considerations for Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) into Plymouth City Councils Decision paper process in the “other considerations” section alongside Health and Safety, Risk Management and Child Poverty.

Background:

Violence against women and girls remains a pervasive issue with profound social, economic, and health impacts. As a local authority committed to equality, safety, and wellbeing, Plymouth City Council recognises the importance of embedding preventative approaches into all aspects of policy and service delivery. Incorporating primary prevention into decision papers will ensure that the potential impacts of decisions on women and girls are considered at the earliest stages.

Proposal:

If agreed by Cabinet, the Council will implement this commitment by formally embedding primary prevention of VAWG into the decision paper process. This will be operationalised through the following measures:

1. Checklist Development:

A dedicated checklist will be developed and appended to the decision paper template. This tool will guide officers in identifying and addressing opportunities to prevent VAWG through their work, ensuring a consistent and structured approach. The VAWG consideration will sit in the decision paper.

2. Officer Support and Guidance:

Officers completing the process will be provided with appropriate support, including access to training, guidance materials, and expert advice where necessary. This will build confidence and capability across the organisation to address VAWG proactively and sensitively.

3. Monitoring and Review:

The implementation of this measure will be monitored to assess its effectiveness and inform continuous improvement. Feedback from officers and stakeholders will be used to refine the checklist and support mechanisms over time.

Conclusion:

This proposal represents a proactive and practical step towards embedding a culture of prevention within the Council’s decision-making processes. By integrating VAWG prevention into Decision papers, Plymouth City Council will strengthen its commitment to gender equality and community safety.