

APPENDIX 4

Policy and Legislation tackling Domestic Abuse and VAWG in London and England

- I. Legislative measures have been introduced, to provide a firm framework in the national drive to tackle VAWG and domestic abuse. These include:
 - a) Protection from Harassment Act 1997;
 - b) The Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
 - c) The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004;
 - d) The Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007;
 - e) The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2014 made it a criminal offence in England, Wales, and Scotland to force someone to marry;
 - f) The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (known as Clare's Law) 2014
 - g) DVPO (Domestic Violence Protection Orders) Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) and Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) DVPO civil powers that enable protective measures to be put in place by the Police and magistrates to put in place protective measures immediately after incidents of domestic abuse;
 - h) The Care Act 2014, included new duties to protect vulnerable adults affected by gender violence;
 - i) The Serious Crime Act 2015;
 - j) The Modern Slavery Act 2015, to address issues linked to Human Trafficking;
 - k) The Domestic Abuse Act 2021
 - Part 1, Definition of Domestic Abuse: introduces a new statutory definition of domestic abuse to the law of England Wales, outlining that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, controlling or coercive, and economic abuse
 - Part 2, The Domestic Abuse Commissioner: provides the framework for a new Domestic Abuse Commissioner. The intention of the Commissioner is to "provide strategic oversight of the national response to domestic abuse and hold public authorities to account."
 - Part 4, Local authority support: places a duty on Tier 1 local authorities in England to provide accommodation-based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation.
 - l) The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 provides a statutory Serious Violence Duty on public bodies as specified authorities, to work together to identify the causes, prevent and reduce serious violence in the local authority area. To prepare serious violence reduction strategy and underpinning multi-agency, delivery plan.
 - m) Online Safety Bill, to reduce risks of harm to women and girls and to tackle the online abuse.

n) The Serious Violence Duty statutory guidance directs specified authorities to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence, identify the kinds of serious violence taking place in the local authority area, the causes of violence prepare and implement a strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence incidents in the area. Including supporting victims sexual violence attributed to sex working and also sexual violence experienced by young women during drug trafficking, re-offending amongst violent offenders and protect vulnerable groups (for example, victims of domestic abuse), monitor progress; and commission domestic violence homicide reviews.