

# Policy and Scrutiny

14th March 2016 Date:

Classification: General Release

Title: Female Genital Mutilation and Safeguarding

Report of: Debbie Raymond, Joint Head of Safeguarding

**Cabinet Member Portfolio** Safeguarding, Review & Quality Assurance

Wards Involved: ΑII

**Policy Context:** City for Choice

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### 1. **Executive Summary**

This report sets out the actions that are currently being taken to address Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Westminster. The report describes how FGM is a form of child abuse that is complex and hidden, and therefore requires pro-active approaches in order to identify families where this may occur. FGM is such a sudden and traumatic form of abuse that preventative approaches are the only way to effectively protect girls from harm. The report outlines the steps that are being taken including an innovative project based at St Mary's hospital and an extensive programme of community engagement work. The report also provides an update on the introduction of mandatory reporting in relation to FGM.

#### 2. **Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration**

Include here the main points that you wish the committee to provide a view, steer or decision upon:

- The funding for the innovation project running at St Mary's hospital ends in May 2016. Can the committee provide a steer on any options for funding arrangements that could create a sustainable future for the project?
- Can the committee suggest opportunities that will support the summer campaign, which seeks to raise awareness in communities and throughout professional networks about the risks to girls over the summer break?

# 3. Background

Please see the main report attached

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact <a href="mailto:Debbie.raymond@rbkc.gov.uk">Debbie.raymond@rbkc.gov.uk</a>

## **APPENDICES:**

For any supplementary documentation; especially from external stakeholders or documents which do not fit this template.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

This section is for any background papers used to formulate the report or referred to in the body of the report.