



The best way to protect against it was by having the vaccination before the flu season started. Eligibility for a free flu vaccination for adults and children and how this could be obtained, was detailed.

Discussion ensued with regard to the information presented, particularly in respect of take up and availability of the vaccine.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the content of the presentation be noted.**

## **8 DOMESTIC ABUSE**

The Director of Population Health submitted a presentation consulting Members on the Domestic Abuse Strategy which was due to be revised. In presenting the report the Director of Population Health provided details on the statistics around the scale of the local problem, costs to the local economy, and available provisions to support victims of Domestic Abuse.

Members were advised of the increase in medium/high risk cases of domestic abuse; the high number of referrals to Children's Social Care relating to domestic abuse, the increase in referrals and repeat referrals to support services in Tameside; and a reduction in domestic abuse reporting from BME; LGBT and disabled groups.

A peer review had recently been undertaken which provided a number of recommendations. These were being reflected in the development of the new strategy and approach which was taking a longer-term view to do more to prevent domestic abuse. Work had highlighted four key priorities:

- Preventing Domestic Abuse;
- Continuing to support victims/survivors;
- Holding perpetrators to account; and
- Support a co-ordinated community response.

The costs of domestic abuse were highlighted, with a Home Office estimation of £250 million per annum in Tameside.

Cases studies from the Bridges Outreach Service were detailed and discussed. Members referred to known cases, highlighting particular concerns with none English speaking immigrants, carer abuse and the lack of provision for woman with teenage sons. Members raised concerns with regard to the lack of support for victims and children who had witnessed abuse, due to budget cuts affecting vital services. It was acknowledged that counselling was a key support for victims but a lack of funding for trained counsellors impacted on delivery.

Members discussed abuse suffered by men and the need for inclusion within the revised strategy.

A multi-agency approach was required to improve the current situation in Tameside including not Council and NHS services but also those available in the community with elements closest to people that aren't always engaged such as employers, neighbours, friends and family.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the content of the presentation be noted.**