

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Council		
<b>DATE:</b>	16 July 2026		
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	Julian Joinson, Head of Member Services		
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	Motions for Debate at Council - 1. Domestic Violence and Abuse		
<b>EXEMPT REPORT:</b>	<b>No</b>		
<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	<b>No</b>	If yes, date of publication:	N/A

The Council will be asked to consider the following motions submitted under Council Procedure Rule A9:-

### 1. Domestic Violence and Abuse

This Council recognises that domestic violence and abuse remain one of the most serious and damaging crimes affecting individuals, families and communities across Hyndburn and East Lancashire. Domestic violence and abuse can affect anyone regardless of age, background, gender identity, religion, sexuality or ethnicity, although statistics continue to show that the majority of abuse is perpetrated by men against women. The Council further notes the alarming national statistics that police receive a domestic violence and abuse-related call every 30 seconds, that 1 in 4 women in England and Wales will experience domestic violence or abuse in their lifetime, and that two women each week are killed by a current or former partner.

Council acknowledges the devastating impact domestic violence and abuse has on mental health, physical wellbeing, homelessness, family stability and the safety of children. This Council notes that 1 in 5 children in the UK have lived with an adult perpetrating domestic violence or abuse, that domestic violence and abuse is linked to depression and suicide, and that many victims suffer in silence with less than a quarter of domestic violence and abuse crimes estimated to be reported to the police. Council also recognises that leaving an abusive relationship is often a long and difficult process, with women making an average of seven attempts before leaving for good.

Council places on record its gratitude to the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley (HARV) Domestic Abuse Team for the vital support, advocacy and protection they provide to victims and survivors throughout our borough and neighbouring communities. HARV's work supporting individuals at times of crisis, raising awareness, and helping survivors rebuild their lives is invaluable. Council also recognises the important role played by Lancashire Constabulary, NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board, healthcare professionals, frontline officers, safeguarding teams and partner agencies in responding to incidents of domestic violence and abuse, supporting victims, and protecting vulnerable residents and children.

Therefore, this Council resolves:

- (1) To write formally to the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley (HARV) Domestic Abuse Team to recognise and commend their outstanding work within our community;
- (2) To write to Lancashire Constabulary to request discussions on additional initiatives, partnership working and preventative measures that can be introduced locally to combat domestic violence and abuse; and
- (3) to write to NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board to explore how local health services can further support early intervention, safeguarding, mental health support, victim protection and multi-agency cooperation to strengthen community safety across Hyndburn and East Lancashire.

**Proposer: Cllr Clare Yates**

**Seconder: Cllr Melissa Fisher**

**Signatories: Cllrs Vanessa Alexander and Jodi Clements**

*Submitted on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 (12:48)*