

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL - 25 MARCH 2014
BRIEFING NOTE FROM COUNCILLOR ANDERSON

FGM Briefing Update March 2014

1. Council and partners take FGM seriously and are fully aware that more needs to be done across the town to increase awareness that FGM is abuse and a crime, ensure early identification and intervention to avert risk to young girls and increase reporting to children's social care of concerns by other agencies and members and of members of the public.
2. As agreed during 2013, FGM is one of the key issues for the annual Conference for professional's (inc voluntary sector here) in Slough working with children and young people- sponsored by the Partnership Board and LSCB the event has been organised for May.
3. Amongst the speakers include representatives from nationally recognised organisations working with FGM;
 - FORWARD –Naana Otoo-Oyortey – Executive Director
 - NSPCC – John Cameron - Head of Child Protection Operations
 - The Bristol Programme- Victims of the procedure
4. Slough already have guidance documents for staff and schools on the identification and reporting of FGM and the multiagency safeguarding procedures actively identify FGM as abuse and a criminal act.
5. The NHS are currently developing new pathways from primary care into secondary care services to increase the identification and reporting of FGM. This work is being led by the CCG and will build on other developments over the year such as mandatory training in obstetrics.
6. The purpose of the conference is to increase awareness between professionals and identify further developments to be made in Slough, learning from national organisations and also other Councils such as Hackney who are leading the field amongst London Boroughs.
7. TVP are also holding a separate event later in the summer to which Slough delegates will attend and the PCC is championing the issue across the force.