

Appointment of Member to Champion the White Ribbon Campaign**Report by Kevin Anderson, Executive Director, Place****Report for Decision****1 Recommendation**

The Council is invited to endorse a 'champion' as part of previously agreeing to support the White Ribbon Campaign initiative and it is recommended that role is assigned to Councillor Connor McManus to align with his portfolio as Equalities champion.

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

Midlothian Council has previously committed to the White Ribbon Campaign towards Men working to end Violence Against Women. White Ribbon Day is on 25th November, 2022 which correlates with the start of the 16 Days of Action. A programme being developed locally alongside the Violence Against Women and Girls Officer in the Midlothian & East Lothian Public Protection Team.

Date: 23 September 2022**Report Contact:** Kevin Anderson, Executive Director Place**Email:** Kevin.Anderson@midlothian.gov.uk

3 Background

Police attended around 1000 reported incidents of domestic abuse in Midlothian last year. The vast majority of reported incidents are perpetrated by men against women.

As part of a local response to mark 16 Days of Action Against Gender-Based Violence, which begins on 25 November, the East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee is supporting the White Ribbon Scotland campaign. This involves men in tackling violence against women.

Most men in Scotland are not violent towards women, but many ignore the problem, or see it as something that has nothing to do with them.

Midlothian Council is inviting everyone locally to take a simple first step to make a pledge:

“I pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about men’s violence against women.”

The pledge can be taken at whiteribbonScotland.org.uk/makepledge

[Men tackling violence against women in Scotland - White Ribbon Scotland](#)

4. Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

There are no resource implications related to this report.

4.2 Digital

There are no digital implications related to this report.

4.3 Risk

There are no resource implications related to this report.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities

An equalities impact assessment has not been required in connection with this report.

4.5 Additional Report Implications

See Appendix A

Appendix A - Additional Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Not applicable

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- Holistic Working
- Hub and Spoke
- Modern
- Sustainable
- Transformational
- Preventative
- Asset-based
- Continuous Improvement
- One size fits one
- None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- One Council Working with you, for you
- Preventative and Sustainable
- Efficient and Modern
- Innovative and Ambitious
- None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

There are no direct implications related to this report.

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The report does not directly relate to involving communities.

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Not applicable

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not applicable

A.8 Supporting a Sustainable Development

Not applicable