

NOTICE OF MOTION**LABOUR AND COOPERATIVE GROUP****ENDING VICTIM BLAMING TOGETHER**

This council resolves to:

1. Show its support to the VictimFocus Charter Pledge by signing up to it, and
2. Request officers to bring a report to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee to detail how that pledge can then be fulfilled to challenge and reduce victim blaming of people who have experienced trauma, abuse or crime in our organisation.

Proposed by: Cllr Daniel

Seconded by: Cllr Cattell

Supporting information

By signing up to the Charter, we would be pledging that our staff and management team will commit themselves to:

1. Never engaging in victim blaming of people who have been affected by trauma, abuse or crime
2. Never using or advocating for interventions that blame or place responsibility of trauma, abuse or crime on the victim
3. Calling out victim blaming where we see it in the media or in policy
4. Ensuring that we create a culture in which victim blaming is not accepted on case records of the people we help and to amend or add comments to any case records that include victim blaming descriptions of our clients
5. Encouraging our partner agencies to reflect on interventions or approaches that place responsibility on victims of trauma, abuse or crime
6. Ensuring that our materials, service design and individual service delivery supports our clients with their feelings of self-blame and their experiences of victim blaming from our own staff and others
7. Learning more about victim blaming and self-blame to use this in policy, procedure and service development and evaluation
8. Standing up for and advocating on behalf of victims of trauma, abuse and crime who are being blamed or stigmatised by agencies, professionals or authorities
9. Providing ample training on victim blaming and self-blame to our staff members and management
10. Reflecting critically on our own practice and values to ensure that we have challenged any biases, values or views our organisation holds or acts upon that blame victims of trauma, abuse and crime.

<https://www.victimfocus.org.uk/victimfocus-membership>

