

# Appendix 1: Topic Request Form

Available on Mod.Gov or by contacting the Democratic Services lead for PPI. To be considered at the next PPI Committee the form must be submitted 20 working days before the next meeting.

Topic Request Form	
Please complete the first section of this form to request that a topic is considered by the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee. Please send the completed form to Helen Brandham	
Section 1: Member Request	
<b>Proposed Topic</b>	Life Chances for Girls
<b>I would like to understand</b> (Key lines of enquiry)	<p>Based on the findings of a report by Plan International, Newark and Sherwood are in the bottom 20% of places in the UK to be a girl;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 fewer years in good health</li> <li>• 25% leave school without good GCSE results</li> <li>• 1 in 3 live in poverty</li> <li>• Women earn 23% less than men</li> </ul> <p>As such the priority is to examine the data set in more depth and consider its merits.</p> <p>Build on this and develop a fuller picture of the life chance for girls in Newark and Sherwood, by identifying and supplementing with more up to date and relevant data, that the Council holds and from partners or wider, national sources too.</p> <p>To collate a summary of the activities, area of work and key achievements that the Council delivers or facilitates with partners to support this agenda around girls and young women. In many cases it is acknowledged that the Council has a place to influence by working with community groups, education, health care providers and business, but cannot directly and independently address all the challenges highlighted.</p> <p>Finally, by reflecting on all of this, to make recommendations of what changes, or work in this area that can be done differently to intervene, improve and advocate the life chances for girls and young women in the district by the Council and by our partners.</p>
<b>I think this topic should be considered because</b>	<p>Girls and young women are telling us that it remains tough to be a girl up and down the country, from their safety in public and online, health inequalities, disparity in education, future job prospects and a culture of misogyny.</p> <p>Where you live fundamentally affects your life chances. The support your community can provide, and the local services you can draw on, can impact your quality of life and help or hinder access to your rights.</p>

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	<p>Plan International, a global children's charity striving for a fairer world, prioritising girls and their rights, have recently surveyed 3,000 girls and young women aged 12 to 21.</p> <p>The State of Girls' Rights in the UK 2024 was the biggest ever exercise in listening to girls' voices ever.</p> <p>With the results, Plan International have developed and published an online tool, you can search by postcode or council and learn about the reality of growing up as a girl in a specific region.</p>	
(If applicable) <b>High level evidence supporting the reason for consideration</b>	<p>Source: <a href="#">How tough is it to be a girl where you live?</a></p> <p>Source: <a href="#">state-of-girls-rights-report.pdf</a></p>	
<b>Proposed by</b> (Name of member)	Cllr Rowan Cozens	Ward: Beacon Party: Independents for Newark
<b>Seconded by</b> (Name of member)	Cllr Susan Crosby	Ward: Beacon Party: Independents for Newark
<b>Date Form Submitted</b>	03.02.25	
<b>Section 2: Officer Recommendation</b>		
<b>Officer Comments</b>	<p>It is important to note that this working group is not about identifying more work for the Council to deliver, but to identify how we can possibly change some of the current approaches to support this agenda. Plus, engage and have open conversations with our partners to recognise their role and change any of their approaches too.</p> <p>It would be appropriate for the working group to carry out a scoping exercise only. It is not envisioned that any more resource is required by the Council but may indicate value of redeploying it, so we better support the life chances for girls across the district.</p>	
<b>Officer Recommendation</b>	Do undertake scoping work – Working Group Recommended	
<b>Officer Name</b>	Deborah Johnson	Director, Customer Services and Organisational Development
<b>Date Information Added</b>	24.01.25	
<b>Section 3: PPI Chair Recommendation</b>		
<b>PPI Chair Comment</b>	I fully support that this will be a worthwhile piece of scoping work and agree with the officer comments	
<b>PPI Chair Recommendation</b>	Do undertake a review	
<b>Date Information Added</b>	24.01.25	Role: Chair, PPIC
<b>Next step</b>		
Completed form to be taken to PPI on 10.02.25		