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Dear Sarah Green,

Thank you for getting in touch about the Green Party's policies on protecting women and girls from all types of violence. We completely agree that violence against women and girls is not inevitable, that it should not be an accepted facet of any society, and that policymakers and elected representatives have a responsibility to protect women through putting in place effective legislation and policy.

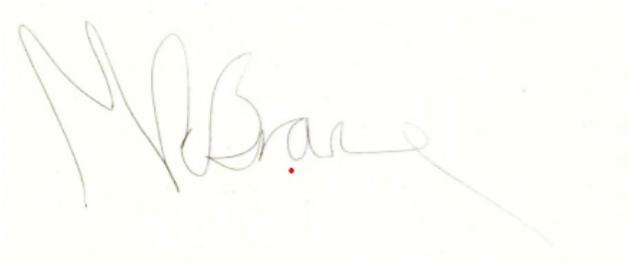
To take your points one by one – if elected we would;

1. Absolutely commit to renewing the cross-government VAWG strategy in 2020.
2. Develop and implement a UK-wide strategy to tackle gender-based violence, including domestic violence, rape and sexual abuse, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and trafficking. This will include working with perpetrators to prevent them from continuing to abuse. We will also reverse cuts to legal aid to prevent survivors being forced to represent themselves against their abusers in court and introduce a new Domestic Abuse Bill, which enables prosecution of economic abuse. We will commit to ratifying the Istanbul Convention with special provisions for BME and migrant survivors, working towards a Europe free from violence against women and domestic violence.
3. Commit to making the end-to-end Rape Review a high priority and make clear our commitment to access to justice for survivors of sexual violence.

4. Reverse cuts to domestic violence shelters and legal aid, making sure that the specialist services are in place to provide every woman with support to escape or recover from violence. Every woman should have access to a free, local, and well-funded service to turn to. We would ensure money is ring-fenced for BME and migrant women.
5. Commit to properly fund training to support the delivery of comprehensive, age appropriate Personal Health and Sexual Education (PHSE) lessons in schools covering all aspects of sex and relationships, with a focus on consent.
6. Introduce a regulatory framework for online harms to ensure social media companies take responsibility for how their platforms are being used and invest in technological solutions to address misogyny and online harassment.
7. Ensure that all public services and government departments make tackling violence of all kinds against women and girls a priority.

Thank you for highlighting these incredibly important issues, and we hope the Green Party can continue to work with the End Violence Against Women Coalition to ensure that our policies continually reflect the important research and findings in this area.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Browne', is centered on a light-colored rectangular background. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small red dot at the end of the final stroke.

Matthew Browne  
Policy and Governance Manager