



Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Newsletter
 A monthly newsletter brought to you by the
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership

June 2018

Dear Partners

The World Cup begins on 14th June and will run for a month. Research shows that reports of violence increase during major sporting events, including incidents of domestic abuse, and consumption of alcohol – including binge drinking – also increases. We have partnered with colleagues in Public Health to raise awareness of the issues and the support available locally – look out for our posters across the county and messages on social media. For more information on the campaign, please see page 2.

The next round of DASV Champions Network events take place in July – details below – so please make sure you have signed up for a workshop by emailing Amanda.Warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

July 2018- Children and Domestic Abuse, speakers from Embrace and Children’s Social Care					
Cambridge	South Cambs	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdon	Peterborough
9 th July	20 ^h July * date changed	12 th July	16 th July	4 th July	25 th July
10.00-12.30	10.00–12.30	14.00–16.30	11.00–13.30	10.00-12.30	10.00–12.30
Arbury CC	Sackville House	Ely Library	March CC	Medway Centre	Pboro Town Hall

Vickie Crompton & Julia Cullum
Partnership Managers



Win or lose – domestic violence increases during the football World Cup

While the football World Cup is an exciting time for fans all over the globe – it can also bring with it a rise in domestic violence and increased binge drinking. That's the warning from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership and Public Health who are working together with agencies across the county to raise awareness of these issues during the tournament.

Most football fans are looking forward to the World Cup, which started yesterday (June 14) in Russia with the final on the 15 July, and are planning where and how they will watch the games and celebrate the results. But some people will celebrate or commiserate in a way that adversely affects others.

Research by Lancaster University criminologist and former police officer, Dr Stuart Kirby, found reports of domestic abuse increase during the World Cup. The research, which monitored police reports of domestic violence during the World Cups in 2002, 2006 and 2010, found in one force area in England and Wales violent incidents increased by 38 per cent when England lost – but also rose by 26 per cent when they won.

While domestic violence rose after each England game, incidents also increased in frequency at each new tournament. Separate national research examining the 2010 World Cup echoed the Kirby findings – with domestic abuse reports up 27.7 per cent when the England team won a game, and 31.5 per cent when they lost.

Alcohol consumption will also increase during the World Cup with particular increases in binge drinking. Whilst alcohol is not a reason or excuse for domestic abuse, there is evidence that alcohol is often involved in incidents and that violence is often increased by excessive drinking.

Cllr Peter Hudson, Cambridgeshire County Council's Health Committee Chairman, said: "The World Cup is a great and exciting time and we all hope our respective countries do well. However it is very concerning that figures show domestic abuse rises during the World Cup – this great sporting occasion should be enjoyed by all and no one should be living in fear that they may be abused".

Community Safety Partnerships are supporting the campaign and posters are being displayed across the county throughout the World Cup. The partnership has also shared its resources with other Domestic Abuse Partnerships in the Eastern Region and will be posting on social media throughout the tournament.

Further support and advice for professionals and anyone experiencing domestic abuse can be found on our website <http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website> and support for anyone wishing to seek help for their substance misuse can be found at <http://www.inclusion-cambridgeshire.org.uk/> for Cambridgeshire and <https://www.changegrowlive.org/content/aspire-peterborough> for Peterborough.

Cambridgeshire County Council is also supporting the White Ribbon Campaign to end male violence, once and for all. White Ribbon have resources to support the World Cup campaign which can be found on their website www.whiteribbon.org.uk

Facilitators wanted for new domestic abuse programme

Cambridgeshire County Council are going to be delivering the AVA Community Model, often referred to as the Canadian Model. The programme will be available for agencies to refer onto, but we need facilitators.

The model is based around a programme of sessions for children aged 4 -21 (the children are divided into age-specific groups) which run for two hours a week over a twelve-week period.

The programme addresses the following core issues

- validation of the children's experiences
- understanding abuse
- reducing self-blame
- safety planning
- managing appropriate and inappropriate expressions of emotion
- the mother-child relationship.

The programme offers concurrent group sessions for the children's mothers. They are supported to understand how the violence has impacted on their child and how best to help them through the healing process.

Full Training will be provided and you would be expected to co-facilitate the Programme. This would require a commitment to release you for a day a week whilst the programme is underway. Volunteers would need an in depth knowledge of domestic abuse, and experience of delivering group work would be an advantage.

There are now dates set for facilitator training –14th 19th and 28th of September. You would need to be available on these dates as the training is not planned to be repeated.

If you would like to put yourself or a member of staff forward, please email Gareth Draper on gareth.draper@cambridgeshire.gov.uk for more information and an expression of interest form.

Children's exposure to intimate partner violence

The BMJ recently published 'Identification and initial response to children's exposure to intimate partner violence: a qualitative synthesis of the perspectives of children, mothers and professionals'.

Conclusions:

- Healthcare and social service professionals should receive sufficient training and ongoing individual and system-level support to provide acceptable identification of and initial response to children's exposure to IPV.
- Ideal identification and responses should use a phased approach to enquiry and the WHO Listen, Inquire about needs and concerns, Validate, Enhance safety and Support principles integrated into a trauma-informed and violence-informed model of care.

The full document can be read at -

http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/bmjopen/8/4/e019761.full.pdf?mc_cid=8c4069418b&mc_eid=273e6b246c



Last month I joined Refuge as the new service manager covering Cambridgeshire. Having worked in the domestic abuse field for a number of years, mainly with perpetrators I am delighted to now change my focus and support women and children.

Refuge provides services to women and children across Cambridgeshire. We offer accommodation in Fenland and Mid Cambridgeshire with 21 rooms available for women and their children. Referrals can be made into these refuges via the 24hr free phone National Domestic Violence Helpline (run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge) and is available on 0808 2000 247 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All calls to the domestic violence helpline are free from mobiles and landlines.

Last year 95% of Women who left our refuges were assessed as being at reduced risk of domestic abuse

At the point of leaving, of the clients who were asked:

- 90% reported an end to all physical abuse
- 62% reported an end to psychological abuse
- 89% reported an end to sexual abuse
- 88% reported an end to financial abuse

Refuge also continues to deliver outreach services in St Ives, St Neots, Huntingdon and surrounding areas as well as Peterborough and Fenland. There are four outreach workers and one team leader serving these communities and have recently started to deliver support groups for clients in Fenland and will be developing this in other areas.

Referrals to the outreach are taken by phone using the contact number on 07787 255821 or via e-mail on outreachcambridgeshire@refuge.org.uk

The refuge team in Cambridgeshire are highly motivated to work in partnership with local agencies. If you would like further information on Refuge, or for us to visit you to talk about our services please contact me on Mandy_Geraghty@Refuge.org.uk.

Freephone 24-Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge

Mandy Geraghty
Service Manager Cambridgeshire

Training update

Please see our website for details of levels and training available in the joint training offer for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/training_1/86050

Please note that as the Council's Workforce Development Team has now moved to LGSS, courses are only free to employees of Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust. LGSS charge £75 per day for all other attendees. For current courses please see
<http://lgss.learningpool.com/totara/coursecatalog/courses.php>

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Adults Board have just launched their new Training Brochure which runs up to December 2018 and can be accessed [here](#).
Against Violence and Abuse (AVA) run CPD accredited training throughout the year. There is a charge for these courses <https://avaproject.org.uk/events/>

Link To Change currently offer training courses, both for professionals and young people, covering topics related to Child Sexual Exploitation.
<http://www.linktochange.org.uk/community/link-to-change-13541/training/>

For further information or to book a training course/session please contact Blanca Gonzalez-Tarrio, Project Manager - blanca@linktochange.org.uk

Domestic abuse and child contact

A report, created in partnership with Queen Mary University of London, looks at domestic abuse and child contact proceedings in the family courts through the lens of human rights. It is based on the testimonies of 72 women survivors living in England. It uncovers a glaring gender gap in the way human rights are used and understood in the family courts. It also highlights a clear lack of understanding of the dynamics of domestic abuse, and new evidence of gender discrimination within the institutional culture of the courts. <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/research-and-publications/domestic-abuse-human-rights-and-the-family-courts/>

Key findings

- Echoing many previous studies, this research found that evidence of domestic abuse was often not taken seriously by the courts and other professionals involved in the child contact process.
- The testimonies of women in our sample highlighted gender discrimination within the culture and processes of the family courts. Testimonies also showed a culture of disbelief, including negative stereotypes about survivors of domestic abuse.
- The research revealed disturbing examples where domestic abuse and child abuse were obscured by allegations of parental alienation against the non-abusive parent.
- The study highlights clear safeguarding gaps around child contact, both for children and non-abusive parents.

Universities need to give students support after intimate partner abuse

Below taken from article by Sophia Cooke, PhD student at the University of Cambridge

Intimate partner abuse, or IPA, is highly damaging, extremely dangerous, and very common. It affects [one in four women](#) during their lives as well as many men and non-binary people. Every week in England and Wales, [two women are murdered](#) by their partners or ex-partners and [three women commit suicide](#) as a result of IPA. While it has received much-needed attention in England since the police made it a priority in 2015, some universities are lagging behind.

The age group most commonly affected by IPA is 16-24, the group to which most students also belong. Cardiff University recently published figures showing [43 incidents of IPA](#) since last October, and there have been several well-publicised cases among students in the last few years. Yet, even with the current shift towards abuse and harassment being taken more seriously, most universities are still not talking about IPA.

Despite its frequency, IPA is widely misunderstood. Many believe it is just about physical violence and so it is easy for people to think, “well, if someone hit me, I would just leave”. The reality, however, is much more complex. IPA typically involves a combination of emotional manipulation, control and [gaslighting](#) – where a perpetrator tries to convince their partner they are crazy.

This can break down the confidence of a victim very quickly, leaving them dependent on their abuser. Isolation from their friends and family is also common, and they are made to believe that their partner is the only person who truly cares for them. Often, by the time any physical violence starts, a victim has been so manipulated that they believe they are to blame. They are trapped and alone.

It’s crucial that universities in England acknowledge the risks of IPA to students and provide support for those who suffer it. Mental health disorders such as PTSD and anxiety are common among those who have experienced IPA, and they can feel alienated from others who do not understand what they have been through. Students should be educated in how to spot the warning signs of abuse both in their own relationships and those of others, and a clear reporting pathway should be available to them.

There also needs to be training for university staff and clear protocols to be followed when IPA is disclosed or suspected, which protect victims both physically and mentally. As few staff members as possible, trained in supporting victims, should be involved in any situation. In addition, the role of independent sexual violence advisers at universities should be expanded to cover IPA.

I and three other students published a [report](#) for Cambridge University in which we made these same recommendations. The university has now proposed to explicitly include abusive behaviour within an intimate relationship as a [breach of its discipline regulations](#).

In addition, the [Universities of Sussex](#), [Worcester](#) and [Cardiff](#), along with a handful of others, have publicly declared their support for students who suffer IPA. The University of the West of England has also created a [bystander education toolkit](#) for the prevention of sexual coercion and domestic abuse.

We need the UK government to provide national guidelines for universities in England on handling all forms of misconduct of an intimate nature, including IPA. If all universities took a stand against IPA – as well as sexual assault and harassment – many young lives could be helped and even saved.

Stalking and Harassment improvements

A package of measures to improve the way that the criminal justice system deals with stalking and harassment has been unveiled. The measures - introduced by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) - are a significant shift in the way such cases are dealt with.

Central to the package of measures is improved direction for police and prosecutors about how to recognise the difference between stalking and harassment and respond effectively. A new joint protocol replaces the previous agreement introduced in 2014 by the CPS and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), since superseded by the NPCC.

It is one of several steps being taken in response to a recent joint HMICFRS and HMCSI report on the police and CPS response to stalking and harassment, in which a number of recommendations were made.

Both the police and CPS acknowledge that more needs to be done to improve how the criminal justice system responds to stalking and harassment cases, particularly around identifying patterns of behaviour rather than looking at incidents in isolation.

The protocol also gives the clear guidance that Police Information Notices (PINs) are not appropriate to be used in stalking cases.

A number of other steps are being taken to improve the police and CPS response to stalking and harassment cases. These include:

- Refreshed CPS training on stalking and harassment cases, to be undertaken by all prosecutors over the coming months
- Improving guidance for situations where pleas for harassment are accepted following a stalking charge
- Improving guidance on restraining orders to ensure they are being used appropriately, and that victims are consulted
- Strengthening the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) system, so that police and CPS leads on stalking fully understand the requirements and expectations of the role
- An improved process for monitoring and reviewing how prosecutors deal with stalking and harassment cases
- Updated advice from the College of Policing for police officers on stalking and harassment which is also being developed.

A new checklist has also been introduced for police to complete as part of a referral to the CPS. It ensures victim safety is considered as a priority and requires officers to confirm that the case they are investigating is not a stalking case first and foremost.

The joint CPS / NPCC Protocol on the appropriate handling of stalking or harassment is available [here](#)

Safe Lives LGBT Report

Earlier this year, the DASV Partnership participated in some work with Safe Lives looking at the MARAC response to LGBT+ cases. The initial findings from the work have been released in a report, significant findings were:

- only 1.0% of cases discussed at MARAC were noted to involve LGBT+ victims/survivors
- research also suggests that some groups (for instance trans men and women⁵) experience domestic abuse at a higher rate than others in the population, and therefore we might expect LBGT+ victims and survivors to make up an even higher percentage of clients
- The panel highlighted that Police recording practices may not clearly identify domestic abuse where the parties are of the same gender. Greater Manchester Police have devised a coding system to tackle this issue⁸.
- Those experiencing domestic abuse are most likely to speak to informal networks in the first instance. It is therefore important for Maracs to recognise the importance of awareness-raising and initiatives specifically targeted at LGBT+ victims/survivors who are reluctant to approach services.
- It is important that LGBT+ services are equipped to respond appropriately to disclosures of domestic abuse.
- The SafeLives Dash is suitable for risk assessment with LGB or T+ victim/survivor of domestic abuse, but practitioners must consider the additional risks and needs that an LGB or T+ client could be facing. Stonewall Housing has produced an LGBT specific risk tool which can be used alongside the Dash.
- the identification of the victim/survivor and of the perpetrator is sometimes unclear, or changes over time e.g. the victim/survivor is subsequently labelled as the perpetrator. This may make it hard for victims to access support if they have been labelled as a 'perpetrator' after a violence retaliation to repeated abuse.
- Patterns of abuse must be recognised, not treated as one-off incidents.

The full report can be read at the link below, and the DASV Partnership are working with local LGBT+ support organisations to improve responses to this client group.
<http://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/LGBT%2B%20NSP%20Report.pdf>



A new pledge to tackle domestic abuse in housing has been launched by the Chartered Institute of Housing.

The Make a Stand pledge has been developed by CIH in partnership with the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) and Women’s Aid as part of Alison Inman’s presidential appeal. It consists of four commitments which housing organisations can make to support people who live and work in housing who are experiencing domestic abuse.

The four commitments are:

- To put in place and embed a policy to support residents who are experiencing domestic abuse
- To make information about national and local domestic abuse support services available on your website and in other places which are easily accessible to residents and staff
- To put in place a HR policy and procedure on domestic abuse, or to incorporate this into an existing policy, to support members of staff who are experiencing domestic abuse
- Appoint a champion in your organisation to own the activity you are doing to support people experiencing domestic abuse.

Organisations can sign the Make a Stand pledge on CIH’s website and will then receive a support pack and other information to help them put the commitments in the pledge in place.

Organisations which sign the pledge will have until September 2019 to put the commitments in place. For more information on the pledge click [here](#)

The Make a Stand Pledge supports work we have been doing in Cambridgeshire to implement the Domestic Abuse Housing Accreditation programme.

Disability Research on Independent Living and Learning (DRILL)

Do you have experience of supporting disabled survivors of domestic violence? AVA, Vision Sense, and Lancaster University Centre for Disability Research have partnered to conduct research into responses to disabled women and girls who have experienced domestic violence. We are asking front line social workers, social care and housing providers with experience in supporting survivors of domestic violence to fill in [this survey](#).

It should take between 10-30 minutes of your time, and is an amazing opportunity to transform the response to some of the most chronically disadvantaged women and girls experiencing domestic violence. We would very much appreciate your support.

Multiple Disadvantage Commission

The [National commission into domestic and sexual violence with multiple disadvantage](#) was launched in October 2017 and is now in full swing!

So far the Commission has:

- Discussed a thematic analysis of the 70+ submissions that came out of the national call for evidence.
- Read a stellar report by peer researchers, experts by experience who interviewed survivors facing multiple disadvantage.
- Heard oral evidence from the peer researchers on their findings and their recommendations for change.
- Heard oral evidence on the theme of intersectionality, focusing on the intersections of disability, LGBT and ethnicity with multiple disadvantage. Evidence on these themes was heard from;
 - Ruth Bashall from [Stay Safe East](#)
 - Eleanor Linsey from [Sisters of Frida](#)
 - Jude Long from [Galop](#)
 - Dr Akima Thomas from [Women and Girls Network](#).

In June the Commissioners will be visiting Wales and hearing evidence from Welsh and West of England service providers, and in July they will be visiting the North of England. A report of their findings and recommendations is expected in the Autumn.

ONS release latest data on women and partner abuse

The Office of National Statistics has released the latest version of Women most at risk of experiencing partner abuse in England and Wales: years ending March 2015 to 2017.

Key findings from the report:

- Young women were more likely to have experienced partner abuse in the last 12 months than older women (although the data only goes up to age 59).
- Women who had a long-term illness or disability were more than twice as likely to have experienced some form of partner abuse (12.4%) in the last 12 months than women who did not (5.1%).
- Bisexual women were nearly twice as likely to have experienced partner abuse in the last 12 months than heterosexual women (10.9% compared with 6.0%).
- Women who identified with Mixed/Multiple ethnicities were more likely to have experienced partner abuse in the last 12 months (10.1%) than any other ethnic group.
- Women living in households with an income of less than £10,000 were more than four times as likely (14.3%) to have experienced partner abuse in the last 12 months than women living in households with an income of £50,000 or more (3.3%).
- Women living in social housing (11.1%) were nearly three times as likely to have experienced partner abuse in the last 12 months than women who were owner occupiers (4.1%).

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/womenmostatriskofexperiencingpartnerabuseinenglandandwales/yearsendingmarch2015to2017>

Home Affairs Committee Inquiry – domestic abuse

The Home Affairs Committee has launched a new consultation for evidence on what measures and reforms are needed to prevent domestic abuse. This will feed into the work around the Domestic Abuse Bill.

The Committee would particularly welcome written evidence on the following:

- what further measures need to be taken to help prevent domestic abuse;
- is the response of public authorities to domestic abuse good enough, and if not, how could it be improved;
- what else is required to ensure that there is sufficient support, protection and refuge for victims of abuse;
- how to secure the equal protection of BME and migrant women who are victims of domestic abuse;
- the impact of domestic abuse on children and child safeguarding and what more the Government could do to ensure that more children are protected from domestic abuse;
- what are the key difficulties encountered by victims of domestic abuse in the justice system, and in particular in the family courts;
- what national oversight framework is required to ensure that there are sufficient quality services available at a local level for victims of abuse;
- the proposed role and powers of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner.

The consultation is open until 5th July. More information and a link to the online portal for submitting evidence can be found at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2017/domestic-abuse-launch/>

Bright Sky

Bright Sky is a free to download mobile app providing support and information to anyone who may be in an abusive relationship or those concerned about someone they know.

The app is also designed to be used by specialist and non-specialist practitioners and other employers, and for anyone looking for information about issues around domestic abuse such as online safety, stalking and harassment and sexual consent.

- Available in 4 languages: English, Urdu, Punjabi and Polish.
- A unique UK-wide directory of specialist domestic abuse support services with contact details.
- A secure My Journal tool to record incidents of abuse via text, audio, video or photo form, without any of the content being saved on the device itself.
- Questionnaires to assess the safety of a relationship, plus a section on dispelling myths around domestic and sexual abuse.
- Links to further resources and information on topics around domestic abuse.