



Annual Report 2022-23

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership



**Cambridgeshire
& Peterborough**
Domestic Abuse & Sexual
Violence Partnership

Welcome to the Partnership Annual Report

Each year, as a partnership, there is more and more information to share about the work that is happening to tackle domestic abuse and sexual violence across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. We hope you find this report interesting, helpful and informative, and whilst you will find out lots about what has been happening over the last year, this is by no means everything that has been happening.

The strategic aims of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership are:

- working to prevent people becoming offenders of sexual violence and reducing victimisation by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it
- reducing the risk to victims and intervening to prevent it from continuing, recurring or escalating
- promoting the safety and protection of victims and survivors
- that perpetrators are appropriately pursued and challenged
- working through a joint commissioning approach to ensure all victims have access to appropriate and proportionate outcome-focused support.

As a partnership we aim to bring together organisations and agencies to work together as effectively as possible to improve responses to domestic abuse and sexual violence. We are incredibly proud of the work being undertaken by a range of organisations from specialist services to health providers and those working across the criminal justice system.

The partnership's programme of interventions aims to improve the availability of support to domestic abuse perpetrators, child/adolescent perpetrators of domestic abuse towards their parents/carers and perpetrators of stalking. Victims are offered support at the same time from experienced and qualified staff employed within the county's IDVA Service.

In the last year, there were three domestic homicides; a death relating to neglect and domestic abuse and three people took their own lives due to domestic abuse. For each of these there will be a Domestic Homicide Review undertaken and lessons will be learned to improve the response to domestic abuse across the system.

As a partnership we will always look to opportunities to increase funding to the area and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) led bids to both the Home Office and Ministry of Justice.

More than £786k of Home Office funding was secured to address the behaviour of perpetrators of domestic abuse and stalking across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough from the Home Office's Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Fund 2023-25 – securing a total of £786,138 over the next two years.

The Fund is aimed at reducing the risk posed by domestic abuse perpetrators, uncovering and addressing the reasons why they offend to increase the safety and protection of victims and their families in future.

Peterborough and Wisbech secured over £600k to roll out a package of improvements to tackle anti-social behaviour and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) over 15 months – bringing total investment from all four rounds of Safer Streets funding to £1.8m across the county.

We look forward to working together with all partners to secure funding as part of a partnership, joint commissioning approach to improving services and responses.

If there is anything we can do to support your organisation in relation to DASV, or you have ideas of how services can be improved, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us, we really appreciate hearing from you.

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Prevalence and Incidents

There has been an almost 9% reduction in calls to the Police regarding domestic abuse incidents. Sexual violence reports to police have declined in Cambridgeshire but increased in Peterborough.

Referrals to the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) service increased by over 25%, largely due to the increase in specialist staff and threshold for referrals.

Incidents of Domestic Abuse reported to Cambridgeshire Constabulary 2022/23

Total for 2022/23	Incidents	Crime rate %
Cambridgeshire	8247	86%
Peterborough	5045	82%

Sexual Offences Crimes reported to Cambridgeshire Constabulary 2022/23

Total for 2022/23	Incidents	Change from 2021/22
Cambridgeshire	1768	1.2% decrease
Peterborough	880	5.2% increase

Serious Sexual Offences Crimes reported to Cambridgeshire Constabulary 2022/23

Total for 2022/23	Incidents	Change from 2021/22
Cambridgeshire	1335	4.5% decrease
Peterborough	709	3.5% increase

Referrals to the IDVA Service 2022/23

Total for 2022/23	Incidents	Change from 2021/22
Referrals	3186	26% increase

- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference cases – 1077 cases heard in 2022/23.
A 7.8% increase on 2021/22
- Outreach Support – 881 referrals
- Domestic homicides – 3, 2 of which were familial homicides of men
- Suicides where domestic abuse was a factor – 3, 2 women and 1 man

Trauma Informed Practice

All agencies within the Partnership and those commissioned to deliver work in the field of domestic abuse and sexual violence aim to work to the Working Definition and Key Principles of Trauma Informed Practice as set out by the government in November 2022.

[Working definition of trauma-informed practice – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/trauma-informed-practice)

The working definition of trauma-informed practice is to:

“Realise that trauma can affect individuals, groups and communities”

Trauma informed practice is an approach to interventions which is grounded in the understanding that trauma exposure can impact an individual's neurological, biological, psychological and social development.

“Recognise the signs, symptoms and widespread impact of trauma”

Trauma informed practice aims to increase practitioners' awareness of how trauma can negatively impact on individuals and communities and their ability to feel safe or develop trusting relationships with health and care services and their staff. It aims to improve the accessibility and quality of services by creating culturally sensitive safe services, that people trust and want to use. It seeks to prepare practitioners to work in collaboration and partnership with people to empower them to make choices about their health and wellbeing.

Trauma informed practice acknowledges the need to see beyond an individual's presenting behaviours and to ask, 'What does this person need?' rather than 'What is wrong with this person?'

It seeks to avoid re-traumatisation which is the re-experiencing of thoughts, feelings or sensations experienced at the time of a traumatic event or circumstance in a person's past. Re-traumatisation is generally triggered by reminders of previous trauma which may or may not be potentially traumatic in themselves.

The purpose of trauma informed practice is not to treat trauma related difficulties, which is the role of trauma specialist services and practitioners. Instead, it seeks to address the barriers that people affected by trauma can experience when accessing health and care services.

Key Principles of Trauma Informed Practice

Safety

The physical, psychological and emotional safety of service users and staff is prioritised.

Trustworthiness

Transparency exists in an organisation's policies and procedures, with the objective of building trust among staff, service users and the wider community.

Choice

Service users are supported in shared decision making, choice and goal setting to determine the plan of action they need to heal and move forward.

Collaboration

The value of staff and service user experience is recognised in overcoming challenges and improving the system as a whole.

Empowerment

Efforts are made to share power and give service users and staff a strong voice in decision making, at both individual and organisational level.

Cultural consideration

Move past cultural stereotypes and biases based on, for example, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, geography, race or ethnicity.

Strategic Aims and work throughout the year

The Strategy and Needs Assessments can be found at:

Welcome to Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership (cambsdasv.org.uk)

Strategic Aim One

Working to prevent people becoming offenders of domestic abuse and reducing victimisation by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it.

- Communication and awareness raising materials.
 - The Partnership leads an integrated internal and external communications strategy to ensure work in this area is coordinated and focuses on non-victim blaming messages. Activities carried out in 2022/23 included:
 - mail out to all GPs, health centres and pharmacies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough enclosing awareness posters and professionals Domestic Abuse leaflets
 - mail out to businesses across the county including hairdressers, dentists, solicitors enclosing Friends and Family leaflet and requesting them to be available to customers
 - White Ribbon stall at Cambridge Folk Festival
 - translation of key literature for sexual violence services
 - Social Media campaigns – including 16 Days of Action, KNOW Campaign around Safer Streets
 - Specific activities co-ordinated with agencies with a central communication events calendar
 - Bystander poster detailing local and national interventions shared on social media and in corporate press release [Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership - Bystander Information \(cambsdasv.org.uk\)](http://Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership - Bystander Information (cambsdasv.org.uk))
 - [Victim Services | Victim and Witness Hub \(cambsvictimservices.co.uk\)](http://Victim Services | Victim and Witness Hub (cambsvictimservices.co.uk)) links to information regarding services available to victims of crime.
- White Ribbon accreditation for Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, with events to mark 25th November “White Ribbon Day” to encourage men to never use, excuse or remain silent about men’s violence against women and girls.
- Support for schools to access relevant services for pupils and parents:
 - 424 Domestic Abuse Leads in place across both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
 - 51 Early Years staff attended Domestic Abuse Lead training.
 - 30 schools have a member of staff to deliver “Healing Together” trauma informed support for children who are victims of domestic abuse in their families.
- Operation Encompass is a mechanism to inform schools that the police were called to an incident of domestic abuse where children on their role were present. The notifications are sent out to schools the following day:
 - 2,755 notifications were sent to Cambridgeshire schools
 - 1,670 to Peterborough schools.
- Educational programmes for young people who have engaged in risky or potentially harmful sexual behaviour:
 - Delivery of a short-term programme for young people aged 9-24 who have engaged in risky or harmful sexual behaviour. The programme aims to support participants to understand the impact and consequences of their behaviours and attitudes, it is delivered by Dhiverse.
- Counselling and emotional support for child victims of domestic abuse:
 - Embrace Child Victims of Crime – 87 children
 - Cambridge Acorn, Moon Project – 55 children

“The whole team worked incredibly hard to support not just my son but us as a whole family. Acorn were able to be flexible with their working practice, which meant that they were able to support him as well as offer support and guidance to me both in a practical sense and writing reports for court. I could not thank the team enough.”

–Moon Project parent

- Specialist Children's Workers in Refuges – 72 children supported
- Specialist Victim Care Co-ordinators in the Victim & Witness Hub – 153 Children.
- Young People's IDVAs work with schools and youth groups:
 - 14 schools and colleges
 - 3 young people's housing projects
 - 4 young people's groups
 - 3 other.
- Domestic Abuse Housing Accreditation:
 - Cambridge Housing Society – reaccredited
 - South Cambridgeshire District Council – accredited
 - Cross Keys Homes – accredited
 - Cambridge City are working towards – reaccreditation
 - Working towards accreditation – Huntingdonshire, East Cambs, Fenland District Council and Fenland City Council.
- Community Ambassadors Scheme and training:
 - Cambridge Women's Aid, "Ask Me" – trained 127 community members.
- Awareness Sessions at Peterborough Women's Prison:
 - Peterborough Women's Aid delivered awareness groups in HMP Peterborough. This work covers identifying the early signs of a perpetrator, civil orders that can be obtained and how to request a Clare's Law disclosure.

Support to Schools

The Personal Social Health Education Service

The PSHE Service, with support from the Cambs and Peterborough DASV Partnership and Education Safeguarding, launched the Primary Safer Spaces Toolkit. This resource for 9-11 year olds, enabling pupils to understand negative effects of stereotyping and sexism, equipping them with the confidence to challenge and report such behaviours. This is carried out in an age appropriate way, either in groups where pupils can voice their opinions or as part of the enrichment of the PSHE Curriculum.

A total of 313 school colleagues attended the launch event. Following the launch, several schools have received staff training to raise awareness of the positive effect primary level education can have on preventing sexist attitudes and behaviours.

The PSHE Service continues to support 182 primary schools, to provide a broad high quality PSHE curriculum which enables schools to meet their safeguarding duties and teach skills around healthy friendships, anti-bullying and personal safety.

5 secondary schools and 6 primary schools have been supported with a tailored package to develop their provision of RSE, funded by Public Health.

Resources aimed at primary school children in KS2, have been provided to identify coercion and manipulation in friendships groups, enhancing provision around supporting healthy friendships.

The Health-Related Behaviour Survey was rolled out in Summer 2022 to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Schools. 8390 pupils across Y8 and Y10 took part. The findings from this survey are shared with the cross county Healthy Relationships group and other stakeholders.

Education Safeguarding Team

This team delivers Domestic Abuse Lead training with the intention that there is a Domestic Abuse Lead available in every school. Over the last year, the team has trained 94 Leads in schools to take on this vital role, meaning there are a total of 424 Domestic Abuse Leads in place across both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. 51 Early Years staff have also attended Domestic Abuse Lead training this year.

The team also raises awareness of domestic abuse, its impact on children and families, and pathways for support via the statutory Basic Safeguarding training for all staff in schools and colleges and Designated Safeguarding Lead Training and Refresher Training. This includes an awareness of the impact of domestic abuse as well as the vital role education plays as a key partner in the delivery of Operation Encompass and achieving MARAC objectives.

Schools and colleges are guided by the Department of Education document Keeping Children Safe in Education that has a full section on "Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment".

This covers:

- what schools and colleges should be aware of
- responding to reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment
- ongoing response.

Strategic Aim Two

Reducing the risk to victims and intervening to prevent it from continuing, recurring or escalating.

- Training and Workforce Development for Professionals
 - DASV Champions, with 100-150 attending each topic:
 - April – Family Violence and Children and Domestic Abuse
 - July – Dementia and DHR Findings
 - Oct – Safe Accommodation and Older LGBTQIA+
 - Jan 23 – Hourglass (Older Person) and Young Person IDVAs
 - In 2022 we surveyed all the DASV Champions for Feedback about the sessions:

"Really helpful to have access to such a range of experts and organisations who attend/deliver the sessions."

"Every topic and session we learn something new, the sessions help to refresh and provide learning."

"Helped me see the wider picture. Has provided answers to different scenarios that I have come across."

"It keeps domestic abuse at the forefront of practice; contextualising it to different areas of need is really useful as provides a different dynamic to thought."

"Informative and supportive and offered the opportunity to create networks and connections to be used as a resource when needed."

- Workforce training offer through Safeguarding Board and individual services:
 - Using DASH to risk assess the situation – 63 attended
 - Coercive Control – 59 attended
 - DA and Adults – 60 attended
 - Introduction to the effects of Domestic Abuse – 48 attended
 - Domestic Abuse and Young Person – 24 attended
 - Domestic Abuse and the impact on children Webinar – 27 attended
 - Domestic Abuse Risk and Planning for Safety Webinar – 16 attended
 - Safeguarding Adults and Domestic Abuse (Level 2) Webinar – 52 attended
 - ASYE Portfolio Development Session – Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence partnership – 5.
- Training / Awareness sessions delivered by the DASV Partnership:
 - Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse – Aspire and CGL Drug and Alcohol Services
 - "Stand by Her" White Ribbon Ambassadors
 - Child to Parent Abuse 1 day training with PEGS x 4 sessions
 - GP Practices x 5
 - Older Domestic Abuse Victims – Health Safeguarding Group
 - Child to Parent Abuse Awareness – Support Hub
 - Domestic Abuse and Cancer – Healthwatch
 - Supporting Friends and Family – Support Hub x 3 sessions
 - DHR Panel Member Training – AAFDA – 60 attendees
 - Assessing Risk
 - Equality and Diversity – Support Hub x 2 sessions
 - Child to Parent Abuse – Foster Carers
 - Friends and Family Awareness – Peterborough Neighbourhood Watch
 - Supporting Family & Friends – Ely Diocese
 - Coercive Control – Fenland District Council
 - Domestic Abuse Awareness – Peterborough Complaints Team
 - Family and Friends – Fenland District Council
 - Domestic Abuse, The Basics – Peterborough Council for Voluntary Service
 - Domestic Abuse, Level 2 – Cambridge City Council
 - Non-Fatal Strangulation – Fenland District Council

- Coercive Control – Fenland District Council
- Coercive Control – Peterborough Children’s Social Care x 2 sessions
- Springfest Adult Social Care – x 2 – Older People workshops
- Domestic Abuse Awareness – Aspire
- Domestic Abuse Awareness – Health Visitor and School Nurses
- Domestic Abuse Awareness South Cambridgeshire Family Workers
- Mental health/wellbeing support for those who have been subjected to domestic abuse:
 - Mental Health Pathfinders at the Victim and Witness Hub – 543 people
 - Rape Crisis – 60
 - Specialist counselling for those in Refuge – 21
- Managed reciprocal housing scheme:
 - 14 clients moved home, maintaining their social tenancy
- Group work programmes:
 - “Moving Forward” Group Therapy, Cambridge Women’s Aid – 11 women
 - Art Group, Cambridge Women’s Aid – 12 women
 - Power to Change, Cambridge Women’s Aid – 12 women
 - Freedom Programme, Meadows Centre – 20 women
 - Together Group, Meadows Centre
 - Freedom Programme, Peterborough Women’s Aid – 30 women
 - Living Keys delivered – Freedom Programme for Women, Hope2Recovery (groups for women, men and transgender), DA Recovery Toolkit (groups for survivors and CYP), Weekly Cherished Peer Support Group for women
 - Own My Life – Refuge and Peterborough Women’s Aid
 - Women Warriors – Peterborough Women’s Aid

“I’m not really sure if I can find the words to say how grateful I am for being given the recent counselling. It has changed my life immeasurably and got me through some really difficult things and thoughts. I have no idea how I would have got through it without the support I have received.”

(Rape Crisis support)

“I have so much knowledge around DV and my confidence has grown, and I’ve made friends. I have no time to myself, and the group is my me time and support network. It’s a safe place and my children love coming”

(Together Group)

“I felt so empowered by being with others, with shared experiences, who really understood me”

“I finally let go of the guilt and shame I had been holding for all these years.”

(Living Keys)

“My confidence has grown again and I feel much less isolated than before”

“I have volunteered to attend the first meeting of the next Freedom Programme to help attendees understand how safe, secure and enlightening my experience has been.”

(Peterborough Women’s Aid)

“I have learnt something really valuable. I have built really fundamental bricks of confidence and knowledge that I will carry with me for life”

“I felt supported and understood and the course made me understand my trauma a lot better and validate my feelings surrounding it”

(Own My Life)

“I recognise that I have trauma, and this group helps me to focus on what I can do for myself and how I can improve my self-worth. ”

“The activities have improved my mental health and allowed me to become more confident and with this confidence I have learnt to listen and trust myself again.”

“It’s a place I can go and have my voice heard, and I am taken seriously.”

“It enables me to meet new people and build my confidence and it’s nice to have peer support around and meet other people. But I can have quiet time if I need to. It really meets all my needs.”

(Women Warriors)

- Specialist Support for Gypsy and Travellers:
 - One Voice 4 Travellers provide specialist support to victims of domestic abuse in the Gypsy and Traveller community and carry out preventative work with members of the community – worked with 66 women.
- Harassment and Violence Support Service at the University of Cambridge:
 - Provision of trauma-informed emotional and practical support to students at the University who have been subjected to any form of sexual harassment or violence and/or intimate partner abuse at any point in their lives.
- Flexible Funding for those who have been subjected to domestic abuse:
 - This funding supported over 160 people with a range of issues such as support into accommodation, furniture, moving costs, additional security, clothing, food and travel. The purpose of the funding is to enable someone to remain safe, and to reduce the likelihood of reconciliation with an abusive partner.

Case Study

My client has three children under 10 and no family support network. She was struggling with the cost of running the household, after the relationship with her ex-partner has ended due to domestic abuse. She was just about managing to support the family but had no idea how she was going to provide Christmas presents for the children. The IDVA referred her three boys to Embrace and they arranged for each of them to receive a present.

She then disclosed her washing machine was broken, and she had no idea how on earth she would get funds for a replacement. The IDVA arranged via the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme for a new washing machine to be delivered and installed (and the old one removed) all within the week.

Bad luck continued to fall on her, a broken cooker being the next issue, along with a broken microwave and TV. Property Angels were then contacted and they have subsequently sourced a new cooker which was quickly installed, found a 3 month old microwave and also a 32" TV for her. They were also able to give her a Tesco voucher.

This case study highlights the holistic support provided by a range of organisations to ensure those who have been subjected to domestic abuse are able to live safely and with basic home necessities.

Strategic Aim 3

Promoting the safety and protection of victims and survivors.

- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference:
 - This multi-agency meeting is held three times a week and hears cases where there is a risk of significant harm or homicide – 1077 cases heard.
 - A MARAC Development Day was held with attendance of over 60 professionals.
- Sexual Assault Risk Assessment Conference:
 - This multi-agency meeting hears cases where there is repeated serious sexual assaults and the dynamic is not one of "domestic abuse". The process was reviewed in the year and is only required by exception.
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service – 3186 referrals:
 - IDVAs work predominantly with those at risk of significant harm or homicide.
 - In June 2022, the service was commissioned to take referrals for those at medium risk of harm where there has been a crime committed against them.
 - Specialist IDVAs take referrals at any level of risk.
 - 7 Health IDVAs.
 - Working across all health settings including primary care, hospitals, mental health and drug and alcohol services.
 - 3 Young Peoples IDVAs – worked with 133 young people.
 - 4 Housing IDVAs:
 - Housing IDVAs are now co-located once a week in local housing advice services that are open to the public and are working positively with the housing teams.
 - The co-location of Housing IDVAs as well as providing a direct referral service to IDVA support for Housing teams has already led to closer links and understanding between the services and better outcomes for survivors.
- Target hardening to keep victims safe in their own homes – 508 victims
- Refuge provision within 4 refuges across the area – 73 women
- Victim and Witness Hub supported 964 victims of crime where this was domestic abuse.
- Mobile Advocacy/Outreach for those subjected to domestic abuse:
 - From 1st October 2022, a countywide service commenced, and in the six months there were 315 people supported by the Domestic Abuse Support Service (DASS).

"I received a lot of help from you, you got me to understand my options and make best decisions. I am no longer scared to talk about my situation and about the abuse. I greatly appreciate that you have been there for me."

(IDVA Service)

"I would like to thank you so much for all your help and support, I wouldn't of been able to cope so well if it wasn't for your support and the help you got me. And I'll be forever grateful for that and now me and my babies are safe."

–Health IDVA client

"The IDVA has been a great support. They have given me my confidence back and helped me to realise my options. I have been kept informed and kept in the loop and not been left waiting. I feel a lot safer having been supported to move to Safe Refuge."

(Housing IDVA Service)

"When I was kicked out of my husband's family home, I had nowhere to go, I was feeling very low and weak, humiliated, but from the support I have had from IDVA and now the support of DASS, I feel strong and growing stronger every day. If I had not had this help and support, I would not be where I am today."

"I cannot thank you enough for listening, understanding, and organising the ongoing help and support for me. You have been so wonderful. I hope in the future that I might get to thank you in person - when my situation is very different to now! With heartfelt thanks and best wishes."

"Everyone I have spoken to has been really lovely, I feel that DASS were the only ones that have given me the practical support I have needed when I needed it. I feel truly heard and understood of the way I feel."

(Mobile Advocacy/Outreach Service)

- Cambridge Women's Aid supported 480 women across the year.
- Peterborough Women's Aid supported 146 women.
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) providing self-referral, forensics, Duty ISVA, counselling for victims:
 - 142 Adults
 - 46 Children
- Sexual Violence Support from Rape Crisis:
 - Telephone and email helpline supported 996 people.
 - Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy Service – 718 referrals.
 - Specialist client-based ISVAs supporting black and racially minoritised and male survivors.
- Specialist support for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, with delivery of online symptom management sessions and psycho-educational workshops along with post counselling peer support groups to victims – 39 people received support.
- Ensuring accessibility of services to include minoritised groups, those where English is not first language, LGBTQ+:
 - Specialist IDVA for Ethnic Minorities received 164 referrals
 - Specialist ISVA for Ethnic Minorities Translated key service information into community languages including Arabic, Hindi, Urdu and Polish and engaged with local ethnic community forums
 - IDVA at the Deaf Association – 11 people
 - Specialist IDVAs for Eastern Europeans – 349 referrals
 - Lithuanian Outreach Worker
 - Specialist work with the Gypsy Traveller Community – 66 people
 - information, awareness and literature material available in a range of languages, online and in hard copy
 - support provided to those with No Recourse to Public Funds, including temporary accommodation and application for the Domestic Violence Destitution Concession from the Home Office.
- Victim Liaison Officers in Probation:
 - The Probation Service have dedicated Victim Liaison Officers (VLOs) based in various locations around Cambridgeshire, supporting victims and their families to provide information about the offender's custodial journey. Working with probation practitioners they provide representations from victims, such as requests for non-contact and exclusion zones, in the form of license conditions.
- Safe Spaces in Public Libraries:
 - All libraries in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are now safe spaces where survivors of domestic abuse can use facilities free of charge to access online support and some are able to offer a private room and telephone. Posters were designed for the scheme, and these are displayed in libraries. Over 100 library staff attended training, and many are now DASV Champions. At least two people have found additional support through this route and are now safe from the abuser.

"I really can't thank you enough for helping me, best people I've ever met! Thank you."

–SARC patient

"At first I was extremely scared but the staff and nurses made me feel comfortable and showed me I wasn't alone and are helping me recover from the trauma. I have been extremely grateful and thank you for help and support."

–SARC CYP patient

"Sending that email was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I am so grateful for the reply I received, it was amazing and really, I guess, life changing."

(Sexual Violence Support)

"My ISVA was a guardian angel who was completely invaluable and made the whole process easier. I can honestly say that I would not have made it through my court case without her".

(Sexual Violence Advocacy Service)

Strategic Aim 4

Perpetrators are appropriately pursued and challenged

- Domestic Abuse Perpetrator panel discussed 111 high risk perpetrators – 52 in the North of the county and 59 in the South:
 - 107 men and 4 women; 107 victims female
 - 60 of the perpetrators had a Restraining Order or Non molestation order against them
 - 41 had been in prison at some point during the year.
- CARA is a scheme for first time domestic abuse offenders, not using coercive controlling behaviour against their partner, who are required to attend a behaviour change programme as part of a conditional caution – 98 completed the course.
- Step Wise is a behaviour change programme run by probation – 17 completed the course and 6 were mid-way through at the end of the year.
- Building Better relationships is a court-mandated 26 week programme for those convicted of a domestic abuse related crime.
- Specialist investigators who investigate all rape investigations and seek appropriate criminal justice outcomes:
 - Cambridgeshire Constabulary has a team of dedicated and specialist resources whose role is to investigate rape offences against adults and children. These officers work within the Protecting Vulnerable People Department and undergo specialist national training alongside continuous professional development throughout the year.
 - Working towards transformational change through Project Eleos, the teams take an offender-centric approach to investigating rape alongside working closely with the Crown Prosecution Service to form a one team prosecution ethos. Despite a steep rise in demand, this approach has seen positive change over the last 12 months with increasing numbers of offenders charged (6.4% this past rolling year compared to 2.6% from April 2021 to April 2022).
 - Through a dedicated Rape Feedback Project and Trauma Informed Training, the voices of survivors have improved the Constabulary's approach towards procedural justice and ensuring they (the survivors) are at the heart of the investigation.
- Use of civil orders for perpetrators of sexual violence:
 - Civil orders are a key disruption tactic used by the Constabulary and represent the robust stance taken towards perpetrators and help to safeguard the vulnerable. The use of civil orders has remained stable, especially Domestic Violence Protection Orders which have been enhanced by the Bail Act.
 - Increased the number of Stalking Protection Orders and in line with our Harmful Cultural Practices Policy and secured Forced Marriage Orders.
 - Upon conviction, through liaison with CPS, further civil orders are gained and the past year has seen continued success with Sexual Risk Orders and Sexual Harm Prevention Orders. The Constabulary will be launching Prevention and Vulnerability Hubs who will have responsibility for oversight of civil orders and enhancing the opportunities available.
- Effective management of registered sex offenders in the community
 - The MOSOVO (Management of Sexual or Violent Offenders) team of specialist officers manage more than 1000 offenders within the community regularly visiting them in their homes to assess their current risk to others.
 - Working in partnership with Probation, Housing, Health and others, they continuously seek to aid rehabilitation of offenders and support them living in the community. A small percentage are found to not comply with the terms of their notification requirements or breach their licence and are returned to custody.
 - The number of offenders increases annually due to increased convictions which increases the individual workload.
 - Despite the high volume of work, visit compliance is 100% for very high risk offenders, over 90% for high risk and 84% overall (May 2023).
 - Multi-agency Stalking Intervention Programme:

- 134 Referrals were assessed
- The Stalking and Harassment IDVA has supported 85 people, working alongside police and other agencies to increase safety – 6 Stalking Protection Orders were granted and one interim order.
- The psychologist worked on a one-one basis with six perpetrators (with four more being prepared to start 2023/24).
- Child to Parent Abuse Programmes:
 - Family Respect Programme – 89 families have been offered support.
 - 23 families completed the programme, with 20 hours of direct support to each family.
 - Calls to police from these families reduced by over 90% following completion.

Strategic Aim 5

Through a joint commissioning approach, we will ensure all victims have access to appropriate and proportionate outcome focused support.

- Across the Partnership, any funding or bidding opportunities available for domestic abuse or sexual violence are considered by multiple partners to ensure consistency across the area, and to avoid duplicate funding in one area.
- The approach ensures appropriate and consistent support for those subjected to domestic abuse and sexual violence, and to tackling this with the perpetrators of this abuse.
- This approach is reflected in the strategic aims 1-4, outlined above.

In 2022-23 the following were commissioned/funded from central government bids:

- Whole Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse Mobile Advocacy Outreach Service - IMPAKT, Domestic Abuse Support Service (DASS)
- Target Hardening - 24/7 Locks
- Dispersed Accommodation - Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse
- All elements of the Home Office Perpetrator Bid - Probation, CPFT, IDVA Service.

Developments and Priorities 2023-24

- Violence Against Women and Girls Needs Assessment has been commissioned and will be ready in Autumn 2023
- A VAWG strategy will be developed to begin in April 2025 to March 2028
- New outreach service for South Asian women
- New outreach service for men subjected to domestic abuse
- New outreach service for Polish victims
- Increase in training, awareness and support across health providers
- The first DASV Conference will be held in Peterborough in June 2023
- Embedding of Perpetrator interventions
- Increase in the units of dispersed accommodation
- Specialist IDVA with the Out Of Court Disposal Team
- Specialist outreach to the LGBTQ+ Community
- Shared Lives Project to support Carers
- Focus on how to ensure services can continue after March 2025 when large funding streams end
- Continuation of all the workstreams featured above

For more information on the work across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in relation to Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, please visit www.cambsdasv.org.uk.