



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

**May 2023**

Hi All

Welcome to the May addition of our Newsletter. As ever there is plenty of information in the next 8 pages, but also information about free webinars, SWAYs and reports.

Our area was really successful in a bid to the Home Office from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for additional funding to tackle the cause of domestic abuse, details are below.

A plea to remember there is a completely independent service for anyone to feedback about their experience of domestic abuse and how they were treated by agencies – not just our specialist services but others such as police, housing, health etc. If you would like Chloe to come and speak with your team she would be very happy to do so.

As ever, if there is anything we can do to help your organisation improve their response to domestic abuse, please don't hesitate to get in touch, we love hearing from you.

Thanks all

*Vickie & Julia*

**Vickie Crompton & Julia Cullum**  
**DASV Partnership Managers**



**July DASV Champions** sessions will cover Unpaid Carers and domestic abuse (with support from Caring Together) and Trauma Informed Practice (Peterborough Women's Aid. You can find out more information and how to book sessions on our website at [Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership - DASV Champions \(cambsdasv.org.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/dasv)

## **£786k funding boost to prevent domestic abuse and stalking across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

MORE than £786k of Home Office funding has been secured to address the behaviour of perpetrators of domestic abuse and stalking across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Police and Crime Commissioner Darryl Preston submitted a successful partnership bid to 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 and uncovering and addressing the reasons why they offend to increase the safety and protection of victims and their families in future.

Locally, the funding will be invested in a series of multi-agency arrangements to reduce the risk posed by domestic abuse and stalking perpetrators across the county. Provision will include the creation of a Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Panel Co-ordinator role to support the multi-agency management of high-risk perpetrators, a dedicated stalking police officer and practical security improvements for victims including dash cams and Ring doorbells. Victims will also benefit from two new IDVAs (Independent Domestic Violence Advisors) – one to be co-located with the force's Out of Court Disposal Team and a second Stalking IDVA for the county to deliver victim engagement and safety planning.

Commenting on the announcement, Darryl said: "I am delighted to have secured this substantial extra funding which allows us to expand the support we provide to victims and also step up our specialist intervention with perpetrators. Protecting victims of crime and their families is a key priority in my Police and Crime Plan and I am determined to take resolute action that prevents persistent offenders from inflicting further harm in the future. The trauma of these horrific crimes can last a lifetime and it's imperative we maximise the expertise and resources of our partners to solve these problems together. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been at the forefront of efforts to address domestic abuse and stalking behaviour and was one of the first counties in the country to set up a dedicated Multi-Agency Stalking Intervention Team. This funding will enable us to build on the good work and continue addressing the behaviour of a range of domestic abuse offenders and persistent stalkers."

Assistant Chief Constable Vicki Evans said: "This funding demonstrates the drive and commitment of our partnerships in Cambridge and Peterborough to ending violence against women and girls. I am extremely grateful to the efforts of the PCC and wider partnership in securing this additional funding to help us continue to tackle the scourge of domestic abuse. This money will go a long way to assisting us with tackling the root causes of some of these issues and preventing ongoing harm and future victimisation."

The delivery partners include: Cambridgeshire Constabulary, The Probation Service, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust, Local Authority Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership, the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, The Hampton Trust and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Through the project, partners aim to reduce the frequency and gravity of abuse, reduce the risk caused by the perpetrator, improve safety and feelings of safety for victims and their families and reduce police demand.

## **Hourglass - supporting older people who have experienced harm, abuse and/or exploitation**

The Hourglass Cambridgeshire Community Response Officer post was awarded via the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, resulting from a bid into the Ministry of Justice DA/SV Community-based Services fund. The post is funded for three-years, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

The purpose of this service is to provide niche expertise and guidance in order to professionalise the response to older victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

To achieve this, Hourglass will cascade their knowledge to the established countywide IDVA/ISVA team and other specialist DA and SV services, so as to leave a legacy of expertise and to ensure ongoing continuity of support services to older victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.

The Community Response Officer will compliment already established countywide support services, and will additionally strengthen and form new working partnerships in order to raise awareness around harm, neglect, abuse and/or exploitation in older people.

The Hourglass 24/7 helpline offers support to professionals as well as the public and can be contacted on 0808 808 8141.

Any Cambridgeshire and Peterborough cases received through the Hourglass Helpline are referred onto the relevant local support service, ensuring that the appropriate level of consent has been secured. Hourglass will also respond to requests for advice and guidance from the local IDVA and ISVA team, for cases relating to older people who have become victims of domestic abuse/sexual violence.

Professionals are reminded to use the Older People's DASH and guidance which is available on our website at [Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership - Older People \(cambsdasv.org.uk\)](https://cambsdasv.org.uk)

### **Dementia Awareness Week – new DA & Dementia SWAY**

Dementia Awareness Week is happening now and we're really grateful to have good links with Alzheimer's Society at Peterborough. They helped deliver DASV Champions sessions last year about dementia and domestic abuse and have been assisting us and the Safeguarding Boards to develop a SWAY (online learning) about the topic. We're excited that the Domestic Abuse and Dementia SWAY will be available from Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May at [Domestic Abuse and Dementia Sway | Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board \(safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk)

The Alzheimer's Society at Peterborough provide a range of support and events for people with dementia and for people caring for people with dementia. You can find out more on their website at [Dementia Connect Peterborough | Alzheimer's Society \(alzheimers.org.uk\)](https://alzheimers.org.uk)

## Child Sex Trafficking Research and Survey

Did you know that over the past decade, there have been an estimated 5597 recorded cases of Child Sex Trafficking (CST) in the UK, and that the volume of CST incidents rose by 1206% between 2013 and 2021? Did you know that the National Referral Mechanism is the platform for practitioners to raise concerns about children impacted by CST? If not, perhaps you remember the high-profile cases in Rochdale and Rotherham which attracted significant media attention in the early 2000s?

To address the shocking, and increasing scale of CST, a research team at Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge have received funding to develop a policy response to better inform practice in safeguarding Child Sex Trafficking victims. To do this, we first need your knowledge and expertise.

The attached brief survey has been designed to determine your existing knowledge and perceptions relating to issues of CST. The results of the survey will enable the research team to focus and target the emerging policy to reflect the needs of children being trafficked for sex, and of those practitioners responding to these needs.

The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete and the link is here: <https://lnkd.in/eUseVQmb>

The link to the Participant Information Sheet is here: [https://myaru-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/pn21\\_aru\\_ac\\_uk/EbeV6d\\_ljL1HoL2JHSd-qJABGRLJBFJDVHgtP8HSbtn3kg?e=hxuvVy](https://myaru-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/pn21_aru_ac_uk/EbeV6d_ljL1HoL2JHSd-qJABGRLJBFJDVHgtP8HSbtn3kg?e=hxuvVy)

The survey is confidential and anonymised. The results of the survey will help inform our work to safeguard some of the most vulnerable children in society. We thank you in advance for your time and input to this important piece of work.

For further information about this project, please email the principal researcher (Dr Paul Nelson) at [paul.nelson@aru.ac.uk](mailto:paul.nelson@aru.ac.uk).

### Free recorded webinars

Making Research Count at Bedfordshire University have released some webinars that are free for anyone to access, including:

Domestic Violence Disclosure Schemes – Issues of Power and Responsibility [2023-03-29](#) | [University of Bedfordshire \(beds.ac.uk\)](https://beds.ac.uk)

Forced Marriage – Enhancing Protection and Prevention Responses [2023-03-02](#) | [University of Bedfordshire \(beds.ac.uk\)](https://beds.ac.uk)

### Controlling and Coercive Behaviour Offence

The Domestic Abuse Act amended the controlling and coercive behaviour offence to remove the 'living together' requirement, and this update came into force on 5 April. The Home Office have also now published the updated Controlling or coercive behaviour statutory guidance, which can be accessed here: [Controlling or coercive behaviour statutory guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

# We want YOUR feedback

Cambridgeshire  
and Peterborough  
Domestic Abuse  
Feedback Service

We want to speak to victims/survivors and young people who have been affected by domestic abuse to learn about their experiences.

- What went well for you?
- What wasn't so good?

If you wish to take part,  
please contact  
**07923 253332**

or email

[SADAFedbackproject@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:SADAFedbackproject@stevenage.gov.uk)



## News from The Kite Trust

Mental Health Awareness Week coincides with the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT). Thanks to funding from Cambridgeshire County Council, we are marking these two events with a new campaign - #MyWaysToWellbeing will spotlight the actions we can all take to promote mental wellbeing for LGBTQ+ youth!

The Kite Trust are launching a new focus group for the parents, carers and family members of our service users! We are looking for your input and want to encourage discussion on how we can expand our Parents/Carers support programmes and are looking for suggestions for the future of our family programme.

This focus group will take place on **Monday, 29th of May** - save the date!

The day will start at 10am, with breakfast supplied, and the focus group will begin at 10:45am. The group session is planned to last approximately 3 hours. Afterwards we will be hosting a BBQ which all service users are welcome to attend.

Our youth workers Katie (they/them) and Bobs (she/her) will be running an off-site activity during the duration of the focus group session for the children and/or cared-for young people (under 18) of the focus group attendees. More info will be available on The Kite Trust website [Home - The Kite Trust](#)

## VAWG services available via Police.uk

Five VAWG-related services are available for public reporting via the national website for policing in England, Wales and Northern Ireland - Police.uk. This means that the public will have one single route to reporting Rape and Sexual Assault, Domestic Abuse, Missing Persons or making Clare's Law or Sarah's Law applications nationally with the full service being hosted in one place.

To report:

**Rape and Sexual Assault** - This service will help you report rape and sexual assault, and other sexual offences like indecent exposure and upskirting. You can also report sexual harassment using this service. [www.police.uk/report-rape-sexual-assault](http://www.police.uk/report-rape-sexual-assault)

**Domestic Abuse** - This service is for reporting controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between partners, ex-partners, family members or carers. [www.police.uk/report-domestic-abuse](http://www.police.uk/report-domestic-abuse)

**Missing Persons** - Separate reporting forms are available to report a missing adult, child, to update that someone has returned home or been found, or to update an existing report about someone still missing. [www.police.uk/report-missing](http://www.police.uk/report-missing)

To make an application under:

**Clare's Law** - This scheme enables the police to release information about any previous history of violence or abuse a person might have. Under Clare's Law you can: o apply for information about your current or ex-partner because you're worried they may have a history of abuse and are a risk to you o request information about the current or ex-partner of a friend or relative because you're worried they might be at risk [www.police.uk/request-clares-law](http://www.police.uk/request-clares-law)

**Sarah's Law** - The Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme (CSODS) lets you formally ask the police whether someone who has contact with a child or children: o has a record for child sexual (paedophile) offences o poses a risk to the child or children for some other reason [www.police.uk/request-sarahs-law](http://www.police.uk/request-sarahs-law)

## ABC Project Assistant Vacancy

DHIVERSE are recruiting for a 15 hours per week post, to be worked Tues, Wed and Thurs with the option to work occasional extra hours if the need arises. Initially fixed term for 6 months, but with the possibility of longer term if funding is renewed, but with no guarantee.

FTE salary is £22,000 p.a. and Actual salary for 15 hours is £8,800 p.a.

The role is a mix of home and office based in Cambridge.

Application is by CV and a cover letter explaining why you are interested in the role and how you meet the person spec.

ABC (Awareness, Balance and Choice) supports people who have a learning disability or autism and their family members, personal assistants and professionals to form safe personal and sexual relationships.

More information is on the DHIVERSE website at [www.dhiverse.org.uk](http://www.dhiverse.org.uk)

## Safeguarding Boards latest training

Please see below dates of upcoming safeguarding training from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board.

Date	Course	Time
<b>May</b>		
15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Understanding and Responding to Fabricated and Induced Illness	09:30 – 12.30
16 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Safeguarding Adults and the Mental Capacity Act	10:30 – 12.30
24 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Working together to Safeguard Adults	10:30 – 12.30
25 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Working with Child Exploitation	10:30 – 12.30
<b>June</b>		
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Understanding and responding to Child Neglect	10:30 – 12.30
13 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Working Together to Safeguard Children	10:30 – 12.30
14 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Early Help - Back to Basics	09:30 – 12.30
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023	Recognising and Responding to Modern Slavery	10:30 – 12.00
29 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Working with Child Exploitation	10:30 – 12.30

For more details about the courses and to book a place on any of our training, please visit [Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training | Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board \(safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk)

## Women's Aid mark Mental Health Awareness Week

Women's Aid have launched a new campaign - Deserve To Be Heard - that aims to ensure that the mental health needs of women, who are all too often not listened to and not believed, are heard and responded to effectively.

Survivor voice is at the heart of this campaign and a short film is available on You Tube highlighting voices of survivors. Watch The Road We've Had to Walk at [The Road We've Had to Walk #DeserveToBeHeard - YouTube](#)

## Alternative Language support

The Women's Aid Survivor's Handbook provides practical support and information for women experiencing domestic abuse, with simple guidance on every aspect of seeking support. There is also information available in a range of alternative languages and format on their website at [Additional Languages - Women's Aid \(womensaid.org.uk\)](https://womensaid.org.uk)

## The Red Shoes

Essex based organisation Changing Pathways held an event in early May to highlight the number of lives lost to domestic abuse. The art installation involved a display of red shoes – one pair for every woman murdered in East Anglia over the last few years. The display in Basildon also named the victims.



### **Peterborough Women's Aid invite all professionals to their Annual General Meeting**

July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Allia Centre, London Road, Peterborough 10.30 – 12.30

- Networking Opportunities
- Find out more about PWA's projects
- Give feedback about the service
- Meet the trustees and staff

Visit [Peterborough Women's Aid Annual General Meeting Tickets, Mon 10 Jul 2023 at 10:30 | Eventbrite](#)



## **Changes to police access to therapy notes from rape survivors**

Victims of rape will no longer face unnecessary and invasive requests from the police to access their therapy notes or other personal records thanks to an amendment to the government's Victims and Prisoners Bill. The amendment will set out clearly in law that police should only request material that is absolutely necessary and proportionate to ensure that vulnerable victims aren't put off seeking vital support.

This change gives greater clarity to victims and the police about when information can be requested and provides survivors of the most heinous crimes with the confidence to access therapy earlier without fear notes could be used against them in court.

The changes follow a Home Office consultation in 2022 which showed almost 90% of respondents were in favour of introducing a statutory duty on police forces to only make necessary and proportionate requests for the disclosure of third-party information. To ensure police are abiding by the new law, the government will also publish a new robust code of conduct – with forces who fail to abide by the new rules to face consequences including possible legal action.

The new legislation forms part of the Victims and Prisoners Bill which will transform victims' experience by putting the principles underpinning the Victims' Code on a statutory footing - sending a clear signal about what they can and should expect from the criminal justice system.

The bill will also overhaul the parole system by allowing ministers to block the release of the most dangerous offenders including murderers, rapists, and terrorists - putting public protection back as the overriding focus of the parole process.

## **Domestic Homicide Review publication**

Part of our role is to work with partner agencies to ensure Domestic Homicide Reviews improve the response to domestic abuse across the county. 'Rosita' took her own life and there was evidence of her being a victim of domestic abuse. The DHR has now been published on the Peterborough City Council website at [Domestic violence - Peterborough City Council](#)

We are working with the Stop Suicide campaign to highlight the risk of suicide for people experiencing domestic abuse. If you are not sure how to ask about suicide, Stop Suicide offer free workshops and advice [Training \(stopsuicidepledge.org\)](https://stopsuicidepledge.org)

## **SARC Open Morning**

The Elms Sexual Assault Referral Centre are hosting an Open Morning on the 7<sup>th</sup> July. This is an opportunity for professionals to visit the SARC, meet some of the staff and learn about how the SARC operates. If you'd like to come along, please book at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-elms-sarc-open-day-tickets-633399323427>