



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

January/February 2023

Hi All!

Welcome to our first bumper newsletter of 2023 – we've missed you all 😊

Please find details of work that has been done throughout Sexual Violence Awareness Week, especially with updates from Rape Crisis and Louise from Cambridge City Council on their work.

You will find vacancies, podcasts, summaries of reports, groups for survivors and much more – get yourself a hot drink and some time for a good read.

As a partnership team, we are here to support you and your organisations to improve the response to domestic abuse and sexual violence, don't hesitate to get in touch, we love hearing from you.

Please follow us and the amazing DASV organisations across all social media platforms.

If clients have feedback about any response to domestic abuse, from any agency, please contact Chloe on chloe.stewart@stevenage.gov.uk, or ask clients to complete our new Smart Survey

<https://app.smartsurvey.co.uk/survey/editor/id/1223059>

Thanks all

Vickie & Julia

Vickie Crompton & Julia Cullum
DASV Partnership Managers



New website and social media for Peterborough Rape Crisis Care Group

Exciting times here at Peterborough Rape Crisis Care Group (PRCCG), we have launched our new website and social media platforms. We want to reach as many people as possible with the aim of supporting survivors coping with the effects of sexual violence. PRCCG are the leading specialists in sexual violence within Peterborough, Fenland and Huntingdonshire. We support women, girls, men & boys and are fully inclusive of transgender survivors.

Our website provides an easy pathway for professionals and survivors to refer for specialist support, please see links below:

PRCCG Website: www.prccg.org.uk/

PRCCG Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PRCCG/>

PRCCG Twitter: <https://twitter.com/prccg1>

PRCCG Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/prccg_/

PRCCG TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@prccg>

PRCCG LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/peterborough-rape-crisis/>

PRCCG Linktree: <https://linktr.ee/prccg>

Please feel free to like/follow/tag PRCCG into any posts, we welcome feedback and suggestions please email admin@prccg.org.uk

Finally, can we thank-you all for supporting PRCCG and we look forward to working in partnership with everyone to End Sexual Violence.

PCC urges victims of sexual abuse not to suffer in silence

POLICE and Crime Commissioner Darryl Preston has reached out to victims of sexual violence to remind them they are not alone as a national campaign gets underway.

The Commissioner funds a wealth of services to support the recovery of those who have been subjected to sexual abuse or sexual violence and marked Sexual Violence Week to reassure victims that help is available.

The annual campaign runs from February 6th to 12th and aims to raise awareness of sexual abuse and sexual violence while also promoting the opportunity for organisations and individuals to use their voice to initiate discussion.

During the week, hundreds of events were held across the country under the ‘#It’s not OK’ campaign to shine a light on what is usually a hidden subject.

Darryl said: “Victims of sexual abuse and sexual violence deserve the best help possible. In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, there are compassionate and experienced support workers who understand what they have gone through and will be by their side – every step of the way – on their journey to recovery.

“As a former police officer who has investigated many of these horrific crimes, I am very passionate about putting the needs of victims first and providing trauma-informed support in a way that best supports them in the long-term.

“As we mark Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Week, I want every victim of sexual abuse or sexual violence to know that we care deeply about what they have gone through and will do everything possible to help them move on – please don’t suffer alone.”

Supporting Victims and Witnesses is a key priority in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan and Darryl commissions a range of cope and recovery support services to deliver help in the way victims and survivors want.

Two organisations commissioned by the PCC to deliver that support are Cambridge and Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership (CAPRCP) and CHOICES.

CAPRCP comprises two independent specialist sexual violence services providing dedicated support to survivors of rape and any form of sexual abuse across Cambridgeshire.

The service has been commissioned by the PCC to deliver a countywide service up to March 2025 and in the first quarter of 2022, CAPRCP received no fewer than 281 new referrals, supported 800 survivors and delivered 7,000 sessions.

Norah Al-Ani, Director of Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre, said: "During this year's Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week we want to take this opportunity to raise awareness about the Cambridge and Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership. We are committed to supporting survivors of sexual violence and abuse and offer free and confidential services to survivors who are dealing with the effects of sexual violence, and to anyone who is supporting them.

"We listen, and we believe and we are here for you. All survivors are deserving of support. If you have been affected by sexual violence and abuse you can reach out to CAPRCP through our partnership website - <https://caprcp.org.uk> – where you will see all of our support services and contact details."

CHOICES is a well-established charity operating throughout Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is unique in offering long-term trauma informed individual counselling to adults whose lives have been impacted by historic childhood sexual abuse.

Through the Commissioner's funding, the charity has been able to design and deliver a short-term practical and psychoeducational package to help those people waiting for long-term, weekly counselling sessions.

Victoria Stevenson, Head of Services at CHOICES, believes that without these as a complimentary support option, many clients would struggle to cope whilst waiting for the long-term counselling to begin.

"I am in no doubt that these sessions are proving priceless for many. We have been supporting adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse for the last 36 years and have a number of support options available to survivors. We can be reached through our website www.choicescounselling.co.uk or call our confidential answerphone on 01223 358149.

"Survivors do not have to struggle alone."

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week 2023

Report by Louise Walker

Cambridge City Council supported [Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week](#) (6 to 12 February 2023) – a national week to raise awareness about the unacceptability of sexual abuse and violence.

To raise awareness, Colleagues and Councillors were asked to provide facts around the campaign's theme of #ItsNotOK. These were posted internally as a collage and included facts such as:

- One in four women have been raped or sexually assaulted as an adult
- More than 90% of rape and sexual assault victims know their attacker
- 68% of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people have been sexually harassed at work
- One in six children have been sexually abused
- One in 20 men have been raped or sexually assaulted as an adult
- There are long-term impacts of sexual abuse, including poor mental health, loss of self-esteem, and isolation
- Survivors often feel dismissed when they report sexual violence.

Cambridge City Council was very fortunate to be able to have an internal lunchtime awareness raising session with Norah Al-Ani MBE, Director of Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre, as the Guest speaker. This session was chaired by Keryn Jalli, the council's Community Safety Manager, and was very well-received.

Comments from Colleagues included:

"Thank you, Norah, for an excellent presentation. I also avoid using the term "Rule of Thumb" due to its history."

"Thank you so much - the reminder of what activism has brought so far and the amazing people working so hard every day to change things and support survivors is extremely powerful."

Afterwards, Norah Al-Ani said: "Thank you to Keryn Jalli and Louise Walker for inviting me to be part of your day to mark Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness week. It really was my absolute pleasure to spend the time with you and your colleagues."

On the campaign's week, Councillor Alice Gilderdale, Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety, said: "The statistics we hear give us a clear message that there is still a long way to go to ensure no one becomes a victim of sexual abuse and violence and that the impacts of sexual abuse are often long-term and difficult to navigate. We want to ensure we're doing everything we can, alongside our local partners, to prevent sexual abuse and violence in Cambridge. As a council, we are grateful to have strong partnerships with local charities and organisations which mean that there is work being done year-round to support our residents. If you or someone you know is at risk of or experiencing abuse, support is available. Please get in touch."

The Cambridge City Council news release is available at <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/news/2023/02/09/council-and-partners-work-together-to-help-keep-cambridge-safe-from-sexual-violence>

Galop launches the UK's first ever dedicated helpline to support LGBT+ victims and survivors of sexual violence and abuse.

New research from Galop shows that over half (53 per cent) of LGBT+ people in the UK have been subjected to sexual violence in their lives. Further research shows that over half of LGBT+ sexual violence survivors surveyed felt that their assault was wholly, or in part, linked to or motivated by their LGBT+ identity.

Galop also uncovered that survivors who sought support from services which weren't LGBT+ specific often had bad experiences, with only 22 per cent being satisfied by their experience of reporting what happened to them.

One LGBT+ survivor of sexual violence told Galop about their experience of accessing mainstream support: "After the judgmental response I never went back and I haven't accessed any support since then."

Another LGBT+ survivor of sexual violence said: "There were a few times I felt like I was speaking a foreign language and had to explain some really basic stuff."

LGBT+ survivors of sexual assault also disclosed feeling like their experiences were linked to their LGBT+ identity, with one saying: "I was raped and beaten as a teenager and he verbally abused me through homosexual slurs and blamed my sexuality for his actions."

Specialist LGBT+ services like our LGBT+ Rape and Sexual Abuse Helpline are incredibly important; survivors need a safe and understanding space where they can seek help knowing they'll be supported and understood, without fear of anti-LGBT+ discrimination, negative experiences or the risk of being 'outed'.

Galop's Rape and Sexual Abuse Helpline is available Monday – Thursday 10am – 8:30pm, and Friday 10am – 4:30pm. Contact the Helpline by phone (0800 999 5428) or via email help@galop.org.uk.

A major new survey and report, commissioned by Crimestoppers, has revealed that one in six children face unwanted sexual harassment in public from the age of 10

The report, by the University of Suffolk, sheds light on general attitudes to sexual harassment and the age at which victims are targeted and follows the impact of the #MeToo movement against sexual abuse and harassment. Whilst 1,800 people participated in the survey, none of the questions were mandatory due to the sensitivity of the subject matter.

Key findings are:

- Around one in six participants' (**16.8%**) first experience occurred when they were aged **10 or younger** (3.7% aged 0-5, 13.1% aged 6-10)
- **30.9%** of participants first encountered unwanted sexual behaviour between the ages of **14-16**
- Almost the same percentage (**29%**) first experienced unwanted approaches between **11-13 years**

Latest campaign from Cambridgeshire Constabulary aims to end violence faced by women at night

'Safe After Hours' has been launched from Cambridgeshire Constabulary as a sister campaign to KNOW Violence Against Women and Call Them Out, to help men identify street and sexual harassment towards women at night-time.

Acting as an educational campaign to help men recognise misogynistic, harassing and sexually violent behaviours, *Safe After Hours* reveals the differing experiences women and men face during usual night-time activities, such as waiting at a bus stop or walking home, emphasising how these situations can soon become dangerous for women.

The campaign aims to encourage people to become active bystanders, equipping them with the tools and information they need to safely intervene when they witness women or girls being targeted with harassment or sexual violence in Cambridgeshire.

Alongside DAVS, the campaign is also being supported by Cambridge United F.C., Rape Crisis and leading forensic healthcare specialist Mountain Healthcare.

You can find out more about the campaign online at: <https://knowviolence.org/safe-after-hours>

We encourage any stakeholders interested in this campaign to get in touch with Rebecca at rebecca@socialchange.co.uk for marketing materials, digital assets, or for more general information about how you can get involved.





COMMUNITY SCRUTINY PANEL

Who we are

Cambridgeshire Community Scrutiny Panel is a group of independent volunteers, aged 16 and above, who live, work or study across Cambridgeshire and share a desire to deliver positive change in policing across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

What we do

We scrutinise incidents where police officers have exercised their Stop and Search, or Use of Force powers, and provide feedback to the Constabulary on what went well and where improvements could be made. Our feedback has implemented real change in the Constabulary, from improving the quality of recorded grounds, to encouraging diversity in Stop and Search officer training.

What is Stop and Search and Use of Force?

Where reasonable grounds exist, Stop and Search powers allow police officers to search a person, or their vehicle, in line with strict protocols and codes of behaviour.

In exercising their duties, officers may also use reasonable and proportionate force, but must always show fairness and respect in doing so.

We play an active role in ensuring these powers are exercised correctly, proportionately and ethically.

How you can help

We need volunteers from all backgrounds to help be the voice of the public and provide honest, constructive feedback to the Constabulary, to help improve and monitor front-line policing in our county.

How to get involved

To find out more, please visit the Cambridgeshire OPCC website, or alternatively, scan the adjacent QR code.

To register your interest in joining the panel, email Cambridgeshire OPCC at cambs-pcc@cambs.police.uk



COMMUNITY
SCRUTINY PANEL



Job Vacancies

Domestic Abuse Outreach Coordinator (Full time)

SALARY: £23,500 - £28,000

LOCATION: Hybrid Working - Cambridge Area

Job Purpose: To be a part of the friendly, proactive Domestic Abuse Support Service (DASS) team, providing bespoke community-based support, advice and advocacy services for individuals and families subjected to domestic abuse in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough areas. Based on the needs and wishes of the individual, develop appropriate support and safety plans to help people to remain safely in their own home or in alternative accommodation suited to financial means and individual requirements.

Domestic Abuse Outreach Team Leader (Full time)

SALARY: £27,500 - £32,000

LOCATION: Cambridge / Peterborough / Fenland

Job Purpose: To lead and be a part of the friendly, proactive Domestic Abuse Support Service (DASS) team, providing bespoke community-based support, advice and advocacy services for individuals and families subjected to domestic abuse in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough areas. Responsible for supporting the team to achieve their objectives, you will also manage a small caseload of clients. Based on the needs and wishes of the individual, develop appropriate support and safety plans to help people to remain safely in their own home or in alternative accommodation suited to financial means and individual requirements.

These are hybrid roles, combining working from home together with office and community-based face to face delivery in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough areas

For more information on the above posts, please visit [Careers | IMPAKT Housing & Support](#)

Domestic Abuse Practitioner vacancy

Base : East CAMBRIDGESHIRE/HUNTINDON

Barnardo's are looking for an exceptional individual to work with and support high risk families as part of the Family Safeguarding team at Cambridgeshire County Council.

The successful applicant will have:

- Experience of empowering, motivating change and understanding challenge within high risk families.
- Knowledge and understanding of Domestic abuse and how this impacts victims and children.
- A desire to work with a multiagency approach to improve the lives of children and families.
- Drive to offer a range of 1-1 and group interventions to provide better outcomes for children.

The successful applicant will support victims, enabling them to recognize forms of abuse, support to make changes to safeguard their family and understand the impact it can have on children.

For more information and to apply, please visit [Barnardos | Careers](#)

Countywide Duty Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA)

Cambridge Rape Crisis are recruiting a Countywide Duty ISVA to provide initial support, advice and information to adults, young people and their families who have been subjected to sexual violence at any time in their lives.

The Countywide Duty ISVA role is part of a countywide ISVA team providing a pro-active service to children, young people and adult survivors of sexual violence and abuse, within and outside of the Criminal Justice System.

Hours: 37 hours per week (full time)

Location: Cambridge and Huntingdon

Post coverage: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Salary: £25,206 per annum

Contract: Fixed term contract to March 2025 (possible extension dependent on funding)

Centre Co-ordinator

Cambridge Rape Crisis are recruiting a Centre Co-ordinator to support the work of the developing CRCC team by ensuring the smooth running of the charity's office, administration support and fundraising support.

It is a varied role that covers a range of support duties but there are two primary focuses of the role, which are:

1. To ensure effective office administration and support.
2. Supporting members of the public to fundraise for CRCC and support the charity's fundraising volunteers to develop and deliver a programme of community fundraising activities and events.

It is essential that the post holder has excellent office administrator skills but, whilst fundraising skills are desirable, we are able to offer training to develop the fundraising-related skills needed for the role.

Hours: 37 hours per week (full time)

Location: Cambridge

Salary: £23,000 per annum

Contract: Fixed term contract to March 2025 (possible extension dependent on funding)

For more information and to apply for these jobs please visit [Job vacancies – Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre | Support for survivors of sexual violence](#)

ICaSH Service merger

Cambridge, Huntingdon, Wisbech and Peterborough iCaSH services are currently merging into a single point of access on our phone lines as part of commissioners transformation requests and should any professionals struggle to get through the below email addresses are checked daily as an alternative but are not to be shared with service users/Patients.

Huntingdon: clinic6.0aktree@nhs.net

Peterborough: ccs-tr.icashpeterboroughreferrals@nhs.net

Wisbech: ccs-tr.wisbechicash@nhs.net

Analysis of DA community spaces during Covid 19

This study examined the emergence and implementation of community touchpoints established in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic for victims/survivors of domestic abuse (DA). Community touchpoints are designated places, both online and in accessible settings such as pharmacies and banks, where victims/survivors can seek confidential advice and be directed to expert DA services.

There are indications that the schemes had achieved good reach with some early evidence of take-up. Testimonials indicated that victims/survivors were using the touchpoints in flexible ways which met their needs. Moreover, the wide reach and visibility of these initiatives delivered in non-stigmatised settings may have served to raise public awareness of DA, reducing the silence that has traditionally surrounded it.

[Developing new portals to safety for domestic abuse survivors in the context of the pandemic - Stanley - 2022 - Health & Social Care in the Community - Wiley Online Library](#)

New research finds that schools delivering specialist Relationship and Sex Education lessons can significantly reduce violence in partner relationships

Violence in teenage relationships is a significant problem. Previous [research](#) has shown that 1 in 7 teenage children watched sexual violence being committed online last year and that 1 in 12 teenage girls were victims of sexual assault. Today, new evidence has found that programmes that specifically aim to reduce violence between young people in partner relationships could make a real difference, by reducing crime like emotional, physical, and sexual violence, psychological abuse, stalking or harassment.

[New research finds that schools delivering specialist Relationship and Sex Education lessons can significantly reduce violence in partner relationships - Youth Endowment Fund](#)

Women's Aid Annual Audit 2023

Women's Aid have released The Domestic Abuse Report 2023: The Annual Audit gives an overview of the domestic abuse support services available in England, including provision and usage, during the financial year 2021–22. This reporting period saw the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act (2021) and so the Annual Audit 2023 explores the impact of the statutory duty placed on local authorities to fund support in safe accommodation for survivors of domestic abuse.

Key findings:

Most service users accessing support from the domestic abuse sector in 2021-22 (75.6%) were between the ages of 21 and 45

Most women (62.0%) had children, with an average of 1.3 children per service user in the overall sample.

Over a quarter of survivors (28.7%) reported having a disability and, of these respondents, 56.0% had a mental health disability and 22.3% had a physical health disability

94.6% of perpetrators were male and 73.0% of perpetrators were a partner or ex-partner of the service user.

The most common kinds of abuse reported by service users were emotional abuse (85.5%) and jealous or controlling behaviour (64.4%). Service users also commonly reported experiencing physical abuse (53.5%).

[Evidence Hub: Annual Audit 2023 - Women's Aid \(womensaid.org.uk\)](#)

Economic Abuse Toolkit to support debt recovery

The Fairness Group have produced an economic abuse toolkit to help public sector bodies who are recovering debt. It aims to help them understand, identify and support people who may have experienced or may be experiencing economic abuse.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-sector-toolkits/economic-abuse-toolkit-html>

New Fund Launched to Support Domestic Abuse Victims

TSB has launched a new fund to support victims fleeing domestic abuse. The bank will offer existing customers payments of between £50 and £500 depending on their individual needs, which will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

The payments can be used to cover the costs of essentials such as travel, clothing, and toiletries. The funds will be deposited into a safe TSB account that can only be accessed by the individual and do not need to be repaid.

Customers can visit any of TSB's 220 branches in England, Scotland and Wales to request access to the Emergency Flee Fund.

In partnership with Women's Aid, TSB is also launching a pilot scheme to allow domestic abuse victims to safely open and access a bank account – without standard documentation.

The pilot will initially run in TSB's Norwich, Swindon, Wolverhampton and Walsall branches. In Scotland, the Alloa, Dundee and Galashiels branches will pilot the scheme.

Migrant Survivors Report

On 13th December 2022, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner launched her second major report on migrant victims of domestic abuse, [Safety Before Status: The Solutions](#). The report details research undertaken by the London School of Economics and Oxford Migration Observatory to provide ground-breaking evidence based estimates of the number of migrant victims with no recourse to public funds in the UK, the costs of providing such support, and the benefits of doing so.

The report made three recommendations of Government:

1. To extend the existing DVILR and DDVC to all migrant survivors of domestic abuse.
2. Introduce a firewall between immigration enforcement and public services to ensure survivors of domestic abuse can safely report their experiences of domestic abuse, enabling them to access support through this pathway, without fear of immigration enforcement.
3. Include the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's definition of 'immigration abuse' in policy and guidance on domestic abuse.

Change to minimum age for marriage or civil partnership

On 28 April 2022, the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022 received royal assent and is set to come into effect on 27 February 2023.

The Act raises the minimum age of marriage in England and Wales from 16 to 18 years. This means that from this date, it is not possible for anyone under the age of 18 to marry or enter into a civil partnership. This is a big change from the current law where 16 and 17-year-olds are able to marry or enter into a civil partnership with parental or judicial consent. The Act is not retrospective so it does not affect the validity of any marriages or civil partnerships that have been entered into prior to the passing of the new legislation.

The rationale for this change is to protect children against forced marriages and to close the gaps in the law which leaves them open to the risk of exploitation. This legal reform is a welcome and necessary step in protecting vulnerable children from forced marriages.

Currently, it is a criminal offence under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to force a party into marriage where violence or coercion is used or if the person lacks capacity under the Mental Capacity Act 2005. This includes taking a party overseas to force them into a marriage, regardless of the minimum legal age of marriage in that third country.

The Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022 expands this, making it a criminal offence to carry out any conduct for the purpose of causing a child to enter into a marriage. This widens the remit of the law and can include actions such as booking a venue or a flight for the purposes of a marriage.

In addition, both adults and children can seek legal protection from forced marriage in the civil courts through a Forced Marriage Protection Order. This is an injunction that prevents a party from carrying out certain activities towards or relating to the applicant such as physical violence, direct or indirect contact or making marriage arrangements.

This combination of criminal and civil protection, alongside the changes introduced by the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022 provides a comprehensive structure in protecting people in England and Wales against forced marriages.

Podcasts – learn with your ears

If you liked our list of recommended podcasts in the December Newsletter, here are a few more:

Hidden Homicides - In the UK, we're told that two women a week are killed by a current or former partner. But these are just the killings we know about... the true toll of domestic abuse could be far higher. [Hidden Homicides - Tortoise \(tortoisemedia.com\)](https://www.tortoisemedia.com)

Relationships Shouldn't Hurt – a broad range of topics are covered in this podcast from Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership [Relationships Shouldn't Hurt - Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership \(bedsdv.org.uk\)](https://bedsdv.org.uk)

Former New Scotland Yard criminal behavioural analyst Laura Richards, BSc, MSc, MBPsS is a renowned international expert on domestic violence, stalking, sexual violence, homicide and risk assessment. Her podcasts cover domestic homicide cases and there are 124 episodes so far! [Episodes | Crime Analyst \(crime-analyst.com\)](https://www.crime-analyst.com)

Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides 2021-2022

This is the second annual report from the national Domestic Homicide Project which works across England and Wales. The Domestic Homicide Project is a Home Office funded research project led by the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and delivered by the Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme (VKPP) in collaboration with the College of Policing. Academics, including staff from the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) seconded to the VKPP, have led the research in partnership with police.

The report focusses on how policing can improve its response to domestic abuse and domestic homicide and presents groundbreaking new work on victim suicide after domestic abuse.

It presents 40 findings from new analysis of both victims and perpetrators alongside 25 recommendations which aim to help the criminal justice sector improve prevention and investigation of domestic homicides and work more closely with bereaved families.

Findings include:

*Across the two-year period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2022 there were 470 deaths in total which took place in a domestic setting or following domestic abuse, including 43% intimate partner homicide, 24% suspected victim suicide, 22% adult family homicide, 8% child death, and 3% 'other'.

*Police are identifying more suspected victim suicides with a history of domestic abuse – up 28% to 64 cases in year two.

*Whilst female victims remained by far the most common, especially in domestic homicides, proportionately in year two there were more male victims (32%) across all deaths; male victims were more associated with child deaths.

*There was a slight rise in LGBTQ+ victims identified, albeit small numbers.

*Victims and suspects of minority ethnic heritage were over-represented compared to the general population.

*The proportion of all suspects previously known to police for domestic abuse rose to 66%, from 55% in year one. However, fewer suspects in adult family homicide cases were previously known to police for domestic abuse.

*Across the two-year findings, only 10% of suspects were recorded as previously having been managed by police or probation.

*Adult family homicide suspects commonly had mental ill health, caring responsibilities for the victim, and a lack of previous police and agency contact.

*Policing cannot prevent domestic abuse or homicide alone. Multi-agency partnerships are vital to identify those at risk and put in place appropriate interventions.

DHR and Suicide briefing <https://www.vkpp.org.uk/vkpp-work/domestic-homicide-project/>



Peterborough Women's Aid

Set yourself free



At Peterborough Women's Aid, we have a dedicated Lithuanian Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Community Engagement Worker who is able to offer advice and support to victims living in Peterborough.

We can support you by offering:

Emotional support:

- About past or current abuse and any fears you may have about future abuse.
- If you have separated from your abusive partner but feel confused, alone, lacking in confidence or scared.
- We can help you with safety planning if you are thinking of leaving your relationship
- We can support you & be your advocate when speaking to other professionals such as social services, the job centre, GP's and any other agencies that might be involved.

Court support:

- We can attend court matters relating to Domestic & Sexual abuse with you, we would be there as an advocate and to offer you extra support.
- We can support you with reading through documents.



Group Work:

- We offer the Own My Life group work programme to victims of Domestic Abuse.

We can assure you that you will receive **specialist advice and support**.

If you are **worried about someone you know or work with**, you can also contact us for advice.

We are also happy to speak to **concerned professionals, neighbours, friends and family members**.

 **07929927410 / 01733 894964**
 **referrals@wa-support.co.uk**



Peterborough Women's Aid
Set yourself free



WOMEN WARRIORS

A GROUP TO CELEBRATE WOMEN

Where?

**Park Road
Baptist Church,
PE1 2TF**

Meet other women
Do fun activities
Guest speakers

BEGINNING 07/02/23



When?

**Every Tuesday
10:30-12**