

Local contacts:

CAMBS/ PETERBOROUGH IDVA OFFICE:
IDVA.REFERRALS@CAMBRIDGESHIRE.GOV.UK

OUTREACH – DASS DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT SERVICE
0300 373 1073 (MON-FRI 9AM TO 5PM)
Email DASSreferrals@impakt.org.uk

ISVA SERVICE: <http://www.caprcp.org.uk/>

VICTIM & WITNESS HUB
0800 781 6818

CHILDRENS SAFEGUARDING
0845 045 5203

ADULTS SAFEGUARDING
0845 045 5202

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE
24-hour non-emergencies: **101**

National contacts:

NATIONAL DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE
Freephone **0808 2000 247**

MEN'S ADVICE Line Support for male victims
0808 801 0327

GALOP Support for LGBTQ+ victims
0800 999 5428

HOURGLASS – SUPPORTING OLDER VICTIMS OF ABUSE 0808 808 8141

NATIONAL STALKING HELPLINE 0808 802 0300

For further information please see our website www.cambsdasv.org.uk or contact:

Deirdre Reed
IDVA Manager/MARAC chair.
Tel. 01480 847651
deirdre.reed@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

An introduction to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service (IDVA Service)

Information leaflet for professionals



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

What is domestic abuse?

The definition of domestic abuse as per the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Behaviour of a person (“A”) towards another person (“B”) is “domestic abuse” if—

*(a) A and B are each aged 16 or over and are personally connected to each other, and
(b) the behaviour is abusive.*

(3) Behaviour is “abusive” if it consists of any of the following—

(a) physical or sexual abuse;

(b) violent or threatening behaviour;

(c) controlling or coercive behaviour;

(d) economic abuse

(e) psychological, emotional or other abuse;

It does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a course of conduct.

Personally Connected is defined as:

(a) they are, or have been, married to each other;

(b) they are, or have been, civil partners of each other;

(c) they have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);

(d) they have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);

(e) they are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other;

(f) they each have, or there has been a time when they each have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child (see subsection (2));

(g) they are relatives.

Who are we?

The Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) team are based at the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at Godmanchester and at the Victim’s and Witness Hub in Peterborough. The IDVA team works across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

IDVA’s provide an independent service offering crisis (short term) intervention and support to high risk victims (scoring 17 or over on the Safe Lives DASH Risk Indicator checklist, or on professional judgement of high risk).

We also have specialist IDVAs who take referrals at all risk levels:

- Young People’s IDVAs work with 13-19 year olds who are experiencing abuse in their own intimate relationships (up to 25 if they have a diagnosed learning or physical disability or mental health issue, or where they are ex-LAC).
- A8 IDVAs work with victims and survivors from Eastern European A8 countries.
- Health IDVAs support a range of health services – please see separate leaflet
- The Housing IDVAs work with local Housing Needs Advice teams and Housing Associations and also support clients accommodated in safe dispersed accommodation across the county
- The Ethnic Minority IDVA works with victims who identify as Black and Minority Ethnic

What do IDVAs do?

- Talk through clients’ options and give information to help them make decisions;
- Advocate on behalf of clients with other partner services on behalf of their clients, such as housing.
- Assist with personal safety planning for clients and their children in order to reduce risk;
- Support clients through the civil and criminal justice proceedings.

We are able to offer advice to professionals around risk and available DA services 01480 847718 or email

Idva.Referrals@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
(professionals only)

How to Refer

The IDVA Service take referrals from **professionals only**. The Safe Lives DASH Risk Indicator Checklist should be used by a professional to assess the current risk to the victim. Ideally this should be completed with the victim. Evidenced professional judgement of risk is more important than the score.

MARAC is a multi-agency risk assessment conference that is held three times a week to review the most high-risk DA cases. The threshold for MARAC is 17 ticks on the DASH and client consent is not essential. Scores on 14-16 can be referred to IDVA Service with client consent. Cases that require a more in-depth discussion are taken to a professionals meeting. The DASH form can be downloaded from our website at http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/downloads_and_resources_1/96816