



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

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

April 2023

Hi All

Unfortunately, the lovely Spring weather is yet to arrive, in the meantime, please find our April Newsletter!

Hopefully you have all seen our posters and information leaflets – if you need more, please get in touch. We now have some DA posters suitable for display on electronic screens such as those in hospitals and GP surgeries – contact Amanda and she will be able to get these to you.

We are holding a Domestic Abuse Conference in Peterborough in June – flyer on page 13, if you would like to attend, please click on this link [Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Conference Tickets, Thu 22 Jun 2023 at 09:15 | Eventbrite](#)

We're also offering our free online session for employers again in May – it's open to any employer in Cambs or Peterborough, including charities, and we will be joined by expert Sharon Livermore. The session explains the responsibilities of employers to their staff around domestic abuse and also how they can support any staff who are experiencing domestic abuse. See the flyer on page 8 for information and booking link.

In 2022/23, we have started 7 Domestic Homicide Reviews, the same number as in 2021/22. Our condolences go out to their family and friends. There is learning in each and every review, which we will share throughout the next year, hopefully to reduce the number of people who have been killed or taken their own life due to abuse from an intimate partner or family member.

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

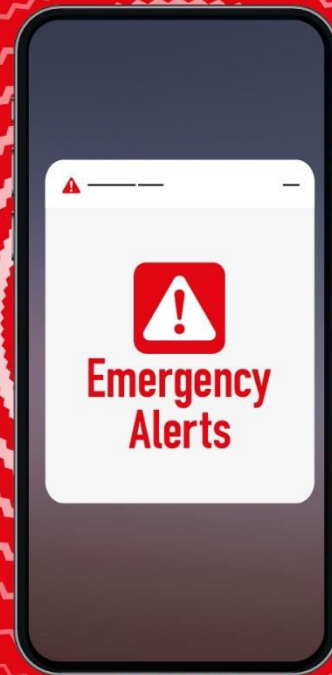
Vickie & Julia

Vickie Crompton & Julia Cullum
DASV Partnership Managers



The Emergency Alerts system is now live and it will be used to warn people when lives are in danger.

Find out more at gov.uk/alerts



You may have read in the media over the last week that the Government is launching a new Emergency Alert capability. Emergency Alert is a new warning and informing capability to support saving lives during major incidents. The government have announced that the system is live for use, and that on **Sunday April 23 at 3pm** there will be a national test which will be received on compatible mobile phone handsets.

The alert test will make a sound on all compatible devices. This could impact survivors of domestic abuse who have another phone or are hiding their phone from the perpetrator.

National charity Refuge have created a useful video to let survivors know how to turn the alert off on both Android phones and iPhones. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7jsz8H-muo>.

Opt Out iPhone:

- To opt out, search your settings for 'emergency alerts' and turn off Severe alerts and Emergency alerts.
- If this does not work, contact your device manufacturer.
- For further advice go to gov.uk/alerts/opt-out

Opt Out Android phones and tablets:

- To opt out, search your settings for 'emergency alerts' and turn off Severe alerts and Emergency alerts.
- On Huawei devices running EMUI 11 or older, search your settings for 'emergency alerts' and please turn off "Extreme threats", "Severe threats" and "Show amber alerts"
- If this does not work, contact your device manufacturer

Please do distribute this information within your organisations as appropriate, if you have not already done so.

DASV Champions Network – April sessions

For the April sessions we will be joined by Simon Kerss to hear about how **family court and child contact proceedings** impact on domestic abuse and how these can also be used to carry out further abuse. We are also pleased to be joined by the **Children and Young People’s ISVAs** from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership who support children across the county who have experienced sexual abuse.

It would really help us if you could use the booking systems as this enables us to keep an up-to-date list of attendance for CPD purposes.

If you are a CCC employee, search ‘DASV Champions’ on Our Development

If you work for any other organisation, please register for an account at [Registration - Enable \(vc-enable.co.uk\)](https://vc-enable.co.uk) and select the ‘DASV Champions’ group

20th April 10.00 – 12.00

25th April 14.00 – 16.00

27th April 10.00 – 12.00

The Edge Café mark 2!

The Edge Café opened a new Café on Monday 3rd April at the Fulbourn Resource Centre on the Fulbourn Hospital site.

Open to staff, patients and the general public, the menu will be similar to The Edge @ Brookfields serving coffee, home baked cakes, paninis, our fabulous quiche, baked potatoes and more.

The new café known as The Edge @ Fulbourn, will be open 6 days a week from 9-4 Monday to Friday and 8-4pm Saturday.

We look forward to welcoming you to this new and impressive space with indoor and outdoor seating.



Information for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller survivors of abuse

The Traveller Movement have launched a microsite for survivors of domestic abuse. The website is full of information, videos and testimonials from survivors of abuse and is primarily targeted at Gypsy, Roma and Traveller women.

The Traveller Movement's Safe Space for Women website is designed for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller women to get the information and support they need. The aim is for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller women to feel aware of their legal rights, options and local available supports.

[Domestic abuse - Space for Women \(travellermovement.org.uk\)](https://travellermovement.org.uk)

Survey on LGBTQ+ survivors experiences of domestic abuse

The Drive Partnership is carrying out a consultation into the views of LGBTQ+ victim-survivors of domestic abuse to understand their experiences of abuse and their views of what is needed to address perpetrator behaviour to increase safety and wellbeing of LGBTQ+ survivors. They would also like to understand LGBTQ+ survivors' views on what they would like to see from an intervention designed for LGBTQ+ perpetrators of domestic abuse.

This survey is open to those from LGBTQ+ communities over the age of 16 in England and Wales who identify themselves as having experienced domestic abuse from an intimate partner or family member. [LGBTQ+ victim & survivor consultation \(snapsurveys.com\)](https://snapsurveys.com)

Rape Crisis reveals sexual violence survivors are at Breaking Point

Rape Crisis England and Wales have released a new report - Breaking Point: the re-traumatisation of rape and sexual abuse survivors in the Crown Court backlog. The report seeks to explain the interlinked factors contributing to the large backlog of cases in the Crown Court, and the subsequent impact this has on victims and survivors. This report focuses on the post-charge pre-trial stage of the criminal justice process.

Key findings from the report include:

- Child sexual abuses cases are taking, on average, two years to get to court
- The Crown Courts have a backlog of 7859 sexual offences cases waiting to go to court
- Postponed rape trials increased by 133% between 2019/2022

Recommendations include:

- The fast-tracking of sexual offence cases.
- Specialist sexual offence courts where all staff receive trauma-informed training.
- Judge-only trial pilots (because of jury trials being more costly and lengthy).
- A long-term and properly resourced strategy for recruiting and retaining criminal lawyers.
- Victims and survivors recognised as participants in the court process, rather than just witnesses to a crime.
- Long-term grants for specialist sexual violence and abuse services that support survivors through the criminal justice system.

Invite from Anglia Ruskin University

Please join us for the official launch of ARU's **Safe and Inclusive Communities** Research and Innovation theme on April 19th, 10-4pm, at the Graduate Hotel, Cambridge. This research theme funds the current phase of my ongoing research on domestic abuse vulnerabilities of South Asian women in Cambridgeshire.

Please feel free to invite others that could be interested. The event will be attended by representatives from policing, social care, VAWG, refugee and asylum support, health, education, marginalised communities, the military etc. We also have some excellent keynote speakers lined up, including Citizens UK.

The event is free, and registration is at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/534922436407>

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and this year marks 22 years since the campaign started!

Whilst SAAM is a primarily US-based campaign, the messages reach across the globe. The theme this year is *Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity*

We can trace a line from sexual violence to systems of oppression, and we can't end sexual violence without also ending racism. SAAM calls on all individuals, communities, organisations, and institutions to change ourselves and the systems surrounding us to build racial equity and respect.

Certain groups of people are at higher risk for sexual assault and often those same people are also the most impacted by inequitable systems and oppression in our societies. People with disabilities and people from minority ethnic backgrounds can be more at risk and also less likely to report or seek support.

Locally, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership support victims/survivors from all backgrounds and genders [Cambridge & Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership – CAPRCP](#)

Stalking Awareness Week

24th-28th April 2023 is Stalking Awareness Week and this year the focus is on stalking among young people.

Suzy Lamplugh Trust report that an increasing number of 16- to 24-year-olds are contacting their Helpline to seek support in how to deal with such unwanted behaviours. Often, this can be an incredibly difficult and anxious time for victims, leading to adverse mental health outcomes, and impacting their education and social life.

Look out for new research around stalking and young people that Suzy Lamplugh Trust are releasing on 25th April – we'll include it in the next newsletter.

Cat fostering service expanding into Cambridgeshire

Cats Protection will soon be expanding their specialist cat fostering service [Paws Protect](#) across East Anglia to enable victim-survivors to get to safety whilst also ensuring their beloved pet will be safe too. The service is completely confidential and free to access and they will be working in partnership with Dogs Trust Freedom Project who offer the same specialist service for dogs.

Paws Protect are looking for foster carers throughout East Anglia in the run up to launching the service. The link to the application is <https://www.cats.org.uk/support-us/volunteeropportunities?id=9078>

people can also apply via email (pawsprotecteastanglia@cats.org.uk) or phone (0300 012 0283).



Library Safe Spaces

In 2021 we partnered with libraries across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to introduce safe spaces for victims of domestic abuse. All libraries are able to offer free computer access to contact domestic abuse services online and, where facilities allow, some can also offer a confidential space to telephone support agencies. Library staff have been trained in how to signpost to support services and also signed up to our DASV Champions Network.

We recently heard that someone went into a Cambridgeshire library to use the Safe Space service. This person subsequently returned to tell staff she had been given a place in a hostel.

Anna McMahon, Library Development Officer, said 'All staff concerned were pleased to have been of help in this woman's journey. As a library service we're glad the Safe Space message is reaching people who need it.'

FREE TRAINING!

CALLING EMPLOYERS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH

**Do you understand your responsibilities to your staff
around domestic abuse?**



Free 1 hour online training session



Find out what you can do to support your employees and get free templates



Open to businesses and charities of any size

Sharon Livermore, creator of *'Sharon's Policy'*, is a survivor of domestic abuse who uses her personal experience to create a culture of openness and change within businesses.



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CHOOSE FROM 9TH MAY, 12TH SEPT, 5TH DEC 12.30 - 13.30

**SIGN UP AT: DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARENESS
FOR EMPLOYERS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE &
PETERBOROUGH TICKETS, MULTIPLE DATES
| EVENTBRITE**

KNOW Violence Against Women launches their new video, *Step into Her Shoes!*

Taking place within Cambridge, the video explores the harsh reality many women face on a daily basis. Bringing the audience into the video helps to centre the female experience and look at the situations many women have to deal with regularly. The video invites you to put yourself into her shoes and try to understand how it can feel to be a woman. You can watch the full video here: <https://knowviolence.org/step-into-her-shoes/>

The video is a part of three campaigns (KNOW Violence Against Women, Call Them Out, and Safe After Hours) launched by Cambridgeshire Constabulary to help tackle violence against women across the county. The campaign is proud to be supported by DAVS, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Cambridge United Football Club, Rape Crisis, and leading forensic healthcare specialist, Mountain Healthcare.

You can find out more about the campaign online at: <https://knowviolence.org/> Please do share the video and campaign with your networks – play your part in helping make Cambridgeshire a safer space.

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



Job vacancy – Shared Lives DASV Project Coordinator

About the role

This is an exciting opportunity to join the Cambridgeshire countywide Shared Lives Scheme as a **Shared Lives Coordinator** working on a new project supporting survivors of domestic abuse who have additional vulnerabilities. This is initially a 1 year opportunity with the possibility of extension up to 2 years.

The Shared Lives model offers respite and support in the homes of trained and supported people as an alternative to more traditional forms of support. This pioneering project will explore the capacity of the Shared Lives model to support survivors of domestic abuse for whom refuge is not a suitable option – this may be people with learning or physical disabilities or older people.

What will you be doing?

We are looking for someone who can proactively develop the project, communicating and negotiating with a range of services to extol the benefits of the Shared Lives approach. The post holder will be responsible for generating and coordinating referrals to the project, recruiting Supporters and overseeing the approval process and training for new Supporters. The Coordinator will also manage the caseload of placements including management support to Supporters, ensuring these are in line with service and regulatory requirements.

As a hybrid worker, you will work from the most appropriate location for the work you are carrying out, including from home. You will be part of a small team of Shared Lives Coordinators, although you will be the only Coordinator assigned to this specific project. You will receive full support and training to carry out the role including professional support from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership.

About you

This is a brand new project so we are looking for someone who can hit the ground running, learn quickly, deal proactively with challenges and achieve measurable outcomes within a fixed time period. You will have experience of working in Social Care, an understanding of the dynamics of domestic abuse and its impact, and excellent communication, report-writing and project management skills.

Cambridgeshire Shared Lives is a CQC-regulated service so you will also need to have a clear understanding of regulation and fundamental standards. Most importantly, you will have a commitment to empowering individuals to maximise control over their lives and of creating Shared Lives arrangements that are of the highest standard.

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact Anneliese Gibb on 07977 422474 or email anneliese.gibb@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

[Shared Lives Coordinator \(DASV Project\) | Jobs and careers with Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Deaf Awareness Week

Deaf Awareness Week takes place at the beginning of May. Cambridgeshire Police are hosting a free webinar on Thursday 4th May. Bookings can be made at [Getting to know our Deaf communities in Deaf Awareness Week Tickets, Thu 4 May 2023 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)
Our partners at Cambridgeshire Deaf Association have also written the article below:

The Cambridgeshire Deaf Association (CDA) was established over 100 years ago and is at the heart of the local Deaf Community. The majority of our staff are deaf or hard of hearing. This means that we have a deep understanding of deaf people. No other organisation offers the support and expertise that we do in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. We are working to increase Deaf awareness with many agencies.

CDA provides domestic abuse service for Deaf people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Many agencies are not accessible for Deaf people because they are not available in British Sign language. There are two staff trained as IDVAs – we can offer support and advice and will work with Deaf people when dealing with agencies.

We also ensure that we accept any level of risk to support victims, not just high risk to make sure that any Deaf people are able to access our service as they may not be able to make contact with other service providers.

CDA delivers the Freedom Programmes in British Sign Language. This programme supports victims of domestic abuse and supports them to recognise certain behaviours and understand the options available to them whilst in the relationship as well as providing a stable support system for those that choose to leave relationships. This was the first Freedom programme in the UK to be delivered in BSL in an adapted, visual way that allows all the attendees to recognise behaviours and share their own experiences.

One in six people have hearing loss, many Deaf people use British Sign Language.

We currently support 450 Deaf, BSL users in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with a further estimated 10,000 hard of hearing or deafened individuals in the area.

Deaf Awareness Tips – useful for you to be Deaf Aware!

- Find out how the person communicates – everyone is different so ask about a preferred method of communication.
- Ask if they want an interpreter, please book in advance. (Currently, BSL Interpreters are booking 3 or 4 weeks ahead due to demand)
- Make sure you have the persons attention before you communicate with them. This allows them to use lip-reading and facial expressions to help them understand what is being said.
- Face the person and give eye contact. Think about your facial expression matching the tone of your words – don't smile when giving bad news.
- Speak one at a time – make sure that you wait your turn to speak.
- Don't shout!
- Make sure the room is well lit.
- Take masks off
- Use visual cues where possible – don't be shy about using gestures or pictures when relevant.
- Don't give up.



Cambridgeshire
Deaf Association

Survey seeking responses from individuals who have been the victim of strangulation or suffocation on or after 7 June 2022 in England or Wales, where charges have been brought and the defendant has been sentenced.

Stand Up To Domestic Abuse are researching what impact the new offences of strangulation and suffocation (in place since 7 June 2022) are having on the types and length of sentence received by defendants. As part of this work, they are keen to understand the experiences of the sentencing process for victims.

SUTDA have developed a questionnaire and will use the information provided to help the Institute for Addressing Strangulation (IFAS) learn about how the new offences of strangulation and suffocation are being used, to identify trends in sentencing decisions and to assess what additional research is needed.

Depending on the information received, findings may be published or may be used to inform future work of the Institute for Addressing Strangulation (IFAS). No identifying details or circumstances will be shared. Access to the information you supply is limited to Rachel Williams and those working on the research on behalf of IFAS.

For more information, please contact rachel.williams@sutda.org

Free webinar on children and coercive control

We have arranged a webinar with Dr Emma Katz, a renowned expert in children and domestic abuse, that is free for anyone to attend. The webinar is entitled 'Coercive Control in Children's & Mother's Lives' and will be held on 27th June from 9.30 – 11.00.

If you are able to attend, please contact Vickie.Crompton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk for the Teams link.

Job Vacancy – Domestic Abuse Outreach Coordinator

Impakt DASS are recruiting for a full time Domestic Abuse Outreach Coordinator 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.

This is a hybrid role, combining working from home together with office and community-based face to face delivery in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough areas.

Salary £23,500 - £28,000 Closing date is 30th April 2023

For more information and to apply, please visit [Careers | IMPAKT Housing & Support](#)

Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Conference

Thursday 22 June 2023, 9.15am

Allia Future Business Centre, London Road, Peterborough, PE2 8AN

Open to professionals, employers, charities,
and other organisations in the area.

Topics and Speakers include:

- Honour Based Abuse
Karma Nirvana
- Peterborough Women's Aid
- Supporting Employees
Sharon Livermore
- Peterborough Rape Crisis
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Response to Domestic Abuse
and Sexual Violence



Free to attend! Sign up at www.eventbrite.com
Search for the Peterborough Domestic Abuse and
Sexual Violence Conference

