



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

**September 2018**

Dear Partners

September sees everyone back at work after the summer and hopefully you have all had a chance to have a restful break. It won't be long until autumn sets in now and we are starting to plan for White Ribbon Day on the 25<sup>th</sup> November. White Ribbon Day is also the United Nations Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls and is followed by 16 Days of Action. We are hoping to highlight all the work that we are doing during this time and if you would like to get involved or have any ideas please do get in touch.

We are also excited that in Cambridgeshire a number of practitioners from Children's Social Care, Early Help and partner agencies are being trained to deliver two group work programmes – Caring Dads and Recovering Together. It is hoped that groups will start in the New Year.

In preparation for this we have also been busy training staff from the local authority, Inclusion and Centre 33. So far we have trained over 100 practitioners and feedback has been very positive.

"Best training I've attended for a very long time – thank you!"

"The course was very informative, thank you. Leaflets good to take back"

"Really enjoyed the course content and particularly the literature we were given – many thanks!"

The summer has also seen us deliver sessions on domestic abuse and sexual violence as part of the summer NCS (National Citizen Service) programme. This is for young people aged 15-17 and encourages them to take social action around an issue. One of our sessions was also attended by the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock.

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



## Training update

The **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Adults and Children Board** have released an updated training brochure for the period between September and December 2018, which is available to download from <http://www.safeguardingpeterborough.org.uk/availabletraining/>. This update includes additional dates and new courses for Safeguarding Adults. They have also made some changes to the training pages on the website. The 'Available Training' page now lists every course which has its own webpage with details of the course and its own online booking section. It is hoped professionals will find this easier to navigate and apply for places.

LGSS has revised its Introduction to Domestic Abuse course and the new **Domestic Abuse Awareness** training will be 1 day (previously 1.5). The revised course is slightly broader in scope and briefly covers Johnson's Typologies and Hester's Planet model as well as the Feminist model. The course is free to employees of Cambridgeshire County Council and other organisations who have an SLA with LGSS. For others the cost is £55. The next dates are 30<sup>th</sup> August and 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## YMCA event for frontline staff

The Respect project at YMCA Trinity is hosting an event in November for **frontline** staff only who work with young people and their families directly. The event is to raise awareness of adolescent to parent abuse (APA) delivered by Break4change. Break4change is a lead trainer/provider of an adolescent family violence intervention programme designed to address young people's violence and abuse towards parents/carers.

***'Any behaviour used by a young person to control, dominate or coerce parents. It is intended to threaten and intimidate and puts family safety at risk.'*** Break4Change © Adolescent to parent abuse (APA) is a *'Pattern of aggressive, abusive and violent acts across a prolonged period of time'*.

Parents have reported their children are:

- Controlling in the home environment where parents are having to modify their own behaviour through fear of consequences
- Being violent or aggressive towards the parent/carer, using weapons
- Putting the parent or carer down/name calling
- Missing from home as a use of control/not attending school
- Making threats/unreasonable demands with consequences
- Hurting siblings either physically or emotionally
- Demanding/stealing money

APA *'creates an environment where parents live in fear of their child and often curtails their own behaviour in order to avoid conflict'*.

This ½ day basic awareness training will look at family's risk factors, abusive behaviours and the impact of power and control to help you identify APA in your line of work.

There will be 2 sessions running - one in the morning and one in the afternoon on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November in Peterborough.

Please contact [olufemiolasoko@ymcatrinity.org.uk](mailto:olufemiolasoko@ymcatrinity.org.uk) for an application form to secure your place.

**The deadline for application is 16<sup>th</sup> October at midday.**

## **Are they shouting because of me?**

The Children's Commissioner has released a report about the experiences of children living in households where there is domestic abuse, mental health issues and parental substance misuse. Researchers spoke directly with children about how these issues affect their daily lives and how they cope.

The report can be read at this link [https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Voices-of-Children-Report-Are-they-shouting-because-of-me-1.pdf?mc\\_cid=87de3884ca&mc\\_eid=273e6b246c](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Voices-of-Children-Report-Are-they-shouting-because-of-me-1.pdf?mc_cid=87de3884ca&mc_eid=273e6b246c)

## **Refuge responds to Government housing benefit plans**

Refuge is delighted that the Government has announced plans to keep housing benefit in place for all those living in supported housing – something that Refuge has long championed for.

Sandra Horley, CBE, Chief Executive of Refuge says:

“Today's announcement follows much lobbying by Refuge to protect funding for women's refuges; emergency accommodation which provides a lifeline to women escaping domestic violence, a crime which claims the lives of around two women every week in England and Wales alone.

“Refuge has worked closely with [MHCLG](#) to ensure the survivors of domestic abuse are at the centre of decision-making.

“Housing benefit is an essential source of income for women's refuges – previous proposals would have devolved this critical funding to local authorities which have no obligation to fund refuges. This could have led to the collapse of refuge provision across the country; a national travesty. Thankfully this disaster has been averted. And yet the reality remains that there are still too few places of refuge accommodation to meet the ever growing demand.

“Refuge urges the Government to ensure that its 'once in a generation' Domestic Abuse Bill commits sufficient, long-term, sustainable funding for specialist services, including providing enough refuge provision to meet the needs of survivors in the country today.

“As 'Sarah' told me 'after years of physical, emotional and sexual abuse from my partner, I finally escaped to a refuge with my two children. Without this safe haven to flee to, I would still be with him. Or worse, not be here'. We must ensure that all women, women like Sarah, have access to emergency safe accommodation; in so doing we can protect the lives of thousands of women and children who live in fear of violence across our country every day.”

## **‘Horse-whispering’ helps young victims of crime in Cambridgeshire**

Five children from Cambridgeshire are the first to graduate from a pilot ‘horse-whispering’ programme designed to support young victims of crime.

The Equine Assisted Therapy programme has been delivered by children’s charity Embrace Child Victims of Crime (CVoC) as part of a range of services commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Embrace CVoC is the only children’s charity in the country solely focused on providing care and support for children who have been victims of crime, offering counselling, practical and cheer-up support.

The charity’s first equine therapy programme took place during the course of the summer and gave the group of five children, aged between 10 and 16, the chance to use horse-based therapy to help them heal.

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Jason Ablewhite attended the riding school, based near Ely, to hand out certificates and rosettes to the young graduates.

“I am extremely pleased that we have been able to fund this innovative programme which offers support to these young victims of crime,” he said. “Practical help such as this enables the most vulnerable residents of our county to concentrate on recovering from their experiences and moving on to a more positive future. It is vital that young victims are wrapped in a blanket of care, to ensure they get the support they need to once again feel safer in their homes.”

Anne Campbell, Embrace CVoC Chief Executive, said: “We’re delighted to trial Equine Assisted Therapy because we know every child is different and no one-size-fits-all when it comes to intervention. We will help any child, anywhere in the UK, but where we are fully funded, such as in Cambridgeshire, it means we can offer our full range of services on a ‘no-wait’ basis. The support of the PCC has made this possible.”

Working with horses helps individuals build their trust, self- esteem, personal confidence, leadership and communication skills. It is achieved through a structured programme of activities which includes:

- Personal safety when in close proximity to horses
- Equine body language
- Caring for horses
- Grooming
- Stable management
- Identifying tack and need for clean & properly fitting equipment
- Ground work and ridden work.

The programme was designed and led by Chloe Raw, Embrace fund-raising manager and trained equestrian, with the assistance of Anne Campbell, Embrace Chief Executive, and volunteers Jo Grant, James Bickerdike and Lisa Raw.

One parent, who cannot be named for legal reasons, said: “My daughter has had an amazing opportunity provided to her. It has increased her confidence and helped her to find a calm place” The sessions took place at approved riding school Sedgeway Equestrian Centre situated just outside Ely, Cambridgeshire by kind permission of yard owner Sue Goodjohn.

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## **Clare's Law article written by DC Sarah Fines and DS Susie Mountney – Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).**

### **What is Clare's Law?**

Clare's Law is a Home Office Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme DVDS known as Clare's Law and is named after Clare Wood who was brutally raped, set on fire and murdered in 2009 at the hands of her ex-boyfriend George Appleton who then took his own life. Clare was a mum to a 10-year-old girl and was 36 at the time of her murder. After her death, it emerged George Appleton had a long history of violence against women, including harassment, threats of violence and kidnapping an ex-partner who he held at knifepoint for several hours. Clare had no idea of Appleton's history, she had met him on Facebook and was initially charmed. The Coroner's report into her murder recommended that individuals should be able to have information regarding a persons convictions in order to be able to make informed decisions about their safety and that of their children.

Clare's father campaigned for the DVDS scheme to be put in place and following pilot schemes it was rolled out nationally in 2014. The scheme allows individuals to make enquiries regarding their partners' past and under the 'right to ask' principles the scheme also allows third parties to make an application on behalf of a named individual who they have a link with, be that the individual's family, friend, work colleague or neighbour. The applicant must be able to supply relevant details of the person who is potentially at risk of harm as well as the person who is thought to pose the risk (the subject). Any third party making an application will not necessarily be provided with the details of any subsequent disclosures, the scheme makes it clear that the disclosure will be made directly to the person at risk or any person who has direct responsibility for any children that may be placed at risk. The police have a Common Law power to disclose information where it is necessary to do so in order to prevent and detect crime and it is under this power that the authority to make a disclosure is made after consideration has been given that the disclosure would not be in breach of the Human Rights and Data Protection Acts.

### **How to ask for a Clare's Law disclosure to be considered.**

Applicants must contact the police in order to make an application, this can be done via the non-emergency 101 number or by attending a local Police station. An appointment will be made for the applicant to be seen by a Police officer who will complete a face to face application form and check the relevant identification for the applicant. If initial police checks identify that there is information indicating that the subject presents an immediate risk of harm then the police will provide an immediate disclosure to the person at risk by-passing the time limits of the scheme. Otherwise police will complete enhanced checks of Police systems and request that information checks are carried out with relevant partner agencies.

Once it has been established that concerning information is held by agencies, then a multi agency decision panel is arranged involving at least three partner agencies. This meeting will establish if agencies are in agreement that a disclosure is necessary, legal and proportionate; agencies will agree on the exact wording that will be disclosed to the person at risk and whether or not the subject will be told of the disclosure. The logistics around which agency will deliver the disclosure will also be discussed and the information will be provided within 35 days from the date of the application. The person at risk will be asked to sign an undertaking prior to any disclosure being made that they will not further disclose the information provided to them under the scheme as the purpose of the scheme is to equip individuals to make informed safeguarding decisions. The

person at risk is never left with a copy of the information, it is read to them and they may read it themselves if that is their preference.

In the event that there is no concerning information to disclose, the Police send out a letter to the applicant informing them of such; the letter also gives advice around being vigilant and continuing to report any concerns along with signposting to outreach services.

The scheme does not apply to people who are no longer in an intimate relationship, if the concerns regarding the subject are in relation to access to children then this is covered by the Keeping Children Safe Disclosure Scheme (known as Sarah's Law) and follows similar principles to the DVDS scheme.

Professionals working with the person at risk, such as social workers or IDVA's can also apply for a disclosure to be considered under the 'right to know' principles; the application will need to be in writing giving full details of the person at risk and the subject who poses the risk with a clear rationale as to why the disclosure is necessary; within Cambridgeshire this can be submitted directly to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at the following email address [mash.da@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:mash.da@cambs.pnn.police.uk). This enables the disclosure to be made expeditiously via professional practise rather than asking the person at risk to complete an application themselves.

### **What are the potential implications?**

The scheme is designed to empower individuals to make informed decisions regarding their safety however it is acknowledged that informing the person at risk also has the potential to increase the risk posed by the subject. As such this needs to be carefully considered and managed by the agency completing the disclosure providing appropriate support, safety planning and signposting to outreach services if relevant. If the person at risk indicates that they intend to continue with the relationship and there are children within the household who may be exposed to domestic abuse then consideration will be given to making a referral to Children's Social Care.

Agencies must consider if it would be appropriate to complete an updated DASH risk assessment with the person at risk and if at any stage during the process a crime is identified then this must be reported to the Police who will create a record and if appropriate commence a criminal investigation.

Since the scheme was introduced in 2014 Cambridgeshire Constabulary have received 323 DVDS applications of which 146 disclosures have been made, this equates to 45.2%.

*Further details of the scheme are available via*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/575361/DVDS\\_guidance\\_FINAL\\_v3.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/575361/DVDS_guidance_FINAL_v3.pdf)





# Sprinkling festive fairy dust over young victims of crime this Christmas

**Do you work with children who have been the victims of or have witnessed serious crime such as domestic abuse, sexual offences, violence, exploitation or neglect? If so – we need your help!**

You can nominate a young person now for a free Christmas gift of their choice worth up to £50.

Embrace Child Victims of Crime (CVOC) is delighted to offer children affected by crime, anywhere in the UK, in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man, the chance to make a special wish this Christmas.

We will even provide supermarket vouchers for the whole family to build happy memories.

## Nominate now

Nominate a child or children affected by crime for a Dear Santa gift and we will do the rest\*.

You can tell us what gift or vouchers they would like to receive with a value of between £25 and £50.

Alternatively, Embrace can contact the parents/carers directly.

We are taking referrals now, up until Monday 10 December.

## It's as easy as...

**STEP 1**

Visit [www.embracecvoc.org.uk/refer-a-child](http://www.embracecvoc.org.uk/refer-a-child) to fill out our referral form making sure to choose 'Dear Santa' in the drop-down menu. Information is stored directly on the secure software charitylog.

**STEP 2**

We'll verify and confirm your nomination, contacting the family directly for a present choice if required.

**STEP 3**

We'll place the chosen gift (or Amazon voucher) on our Dear Santa 2018 Amazon Smile wish list and drive donations from October 15 using **#DearSanta2018**.

**STEP 4**

We'll wrap the gift (and vouchers if needed) for Santa to deliver in time for Christmas Day.


Further information and FAQs can be found at [www.embracecvoc.org.uk/dear-santa](http://www.embracecvoc.org.uk/dear-santa)


Already nominated? Tell a colleague about **#DearSanta2018** so we can bring Christmas cheer to more child victims of crime.

\*All referrals require the person's or legal parent's express consent and will be dealt with by Embrace CVOC in the strictest confidence and information handled in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

 @EmbraceCVoc

 embrace\_cvoc

 @EmbraceCVOC

 Embrace CVOC

[www.embracecvoc.org.uk](http://www.embracecvoc.org.uk)

**0345 60 999 60**



Charity No. 1166103





# Invitation

**You are invited to a free fun day with activities and lunch provided**



**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018**  
**10:30-2.30pm**

**Orchard Park Community Centre**  
**Central Ave, Cambridge CB4 2EZ**

The ABC team at Dhiverse is holding another exciting event for people with learning disabilities and autism. It will be a chance to meet other people and have fun!

**If you would like to come, please reserve a place by email to:**

[rosie.childs@dhiverse.org.uk](mailto:rosie.childs@dhiverse.org.uk) or

[elizabeth.mackenzie@dhiverse.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth.mackenzie@dhiverse.org.uk)

**or phone 01223 508805 or 07985 447846**

(please let us know when you book if you have any special dietary requirements or food allergies)

 [@dhiversecambs](https://www.facebook.com/dhiversecambs) |  [@dhiverse](https://twitter.com/dhiverse) |  [@dhiverse](https://www.instagram.com/dhiverse)

# SAFER CORRIDORS ACTION TOOLKIT LAUNCH EVENT AND FREE RESOURCE

**DATE:** 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018

**TIME:** 3.45-5PM

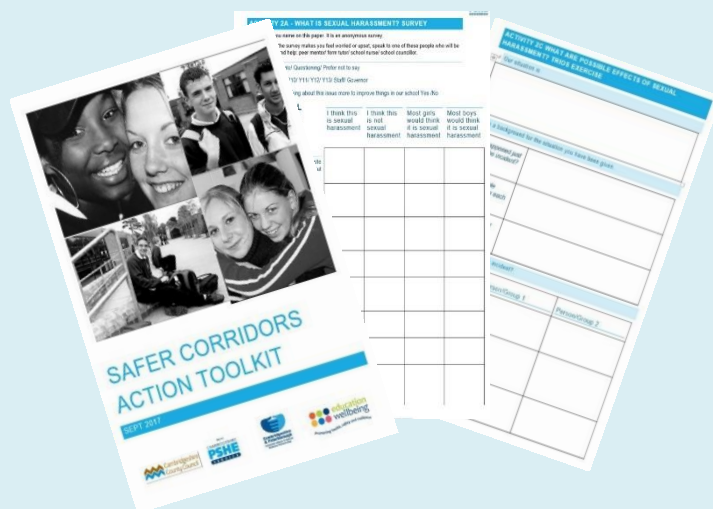
**LOCATION:** ST. PETERS SCHOOL, ST PETER'S ROAD, HUNTINGDON, PE29 7DD

**PURPOSE:** TO INTRODUCE PSHE LEADERS, INCLUSION/PASTORAL STAFF AND THOSE LEADING PUPIL VOICE GROUPS TO THE SAFER CORRIDORS ACTION TOOLKIT

All Cambridgeshire secondary schools are invited to send a representative to learn about this nationally regarded resource. Attendees will receive a free copy of the resource on the day. There will be opportunities for networking, sharing of local data and consideration of meaningful whole school approaches to reducing gender stereotyping and sexual harassment.

Following the publication of the DfE advice [Sexual Violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges Dec 2017](#), this toolkit offers ways of engaging with young people to prevent and reduce sexual harassment. It will enable young people and staff to devise and carry out actions to improve awareness and reduce incidents in their own school and the wider community.

As schools prepare for statutory RSE, it is essential that a school's ethos and environment reflect and illustrate the skills and attitudes taught in the curriculum in order for real behaviour change to occur.



## WHO IS THE ACTION TOOLKIT FOR?

- Teachers working with class groups in RSE or PSHE lessons.
- Adults leading groups of peer mentors or leaders who provide support to other students.
- Adults leading student councils or action groups.
- Schools leaders planning training for staff on sexual harassment, assault and abuse.

To book a place [click here](#)

For more information Email [cathy.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:cathy.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) Phone: 01480 376256

Visit: [www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/services-to-schools/pshe/](http://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/services-to-schools/pshe/)

