



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

September 2016

Dear Partners

Changes to our website and domestic abuse elearning module to include Peterborough services are now complete. The elearning module is free and can be undertaken by anyone – it takes around 30 minutes and a certificate is downloadable on completion. You can access the module at http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/elearning_module/92616

Nationally, The Archers has been big news again this month with the trial of Helen taking place after she stabbed her abusive husband, Rob, earlier this year. Helen was found not guilty of attempted murder and wounding with intent – a verdict which was welcomed by domestic abuse charities and campaigners but with the caveat that, based on previous real life cases, Helen would have been more likely to have been found guilty and given a lengthy prison sentence. As in many real domestic abuse cases, the ordeal is not over for Helen as the family courts are still to decide on custody of her two sons this month. See page 5 for more information about family courts and domestic abuse.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and remember that you can submit articles to Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Upcoming Training

The dates and venues for Domestic Abuse training are below, to book, click on the following link and choose the 'Workforce Development Children's' option at the bottom of the page

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/social>

Introduction to Domestic Abuse (1.5 day course) - 12-13 October 2016 6-7 December 2016

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment - 11th October, 25th January 2017

Domestic Abuse Typologies – 11th January 2017

Details of all four levels of domestic abuse training offered in Cambridgeshire are available on our website http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/training_1/86050

Workforce Development in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been working to make a range of domestic abuse training available to practitioners in both areas – details will be in the newsletter and on the website when finalised.

All new Cambridgeshire County Council staff are required to attend the **mandatory one day Basic Safeguarding** course which covers both adult and child safeguarding. Booking is via http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/homepage/59/workforce_development_team_childrens

Safeguarding Adults Training 2016/17

The new one day course on domestic abuse for people working with adults at risk runs monthly. The new Safeguarding Adults Training Programme, including all course dates, can be downloaded [here](#).

Cambridgeshire LSCB 2016/17 Training Programme

The LSCB have launched their 2016/17 training programme.

All course and application information is now available on the LSCB website where you can also apply for the courses via Booking Bug.

You will also find the LSCB training principles and information relating to non LSCB courses and LSCB single agency validation www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/lscb

Latest CPS VAWG data released

The Crown Prosecution Service have released data on VAWG crimes in 2015/16

The volume of domestic abuse prosecutions completed in 2015-16 rose to 100,930 from 92,779, The volume of convictions reached was 75,235

Of those defendants where gender was recorded, 92.1% were male defendants and 7.9% female; Of those victims where gender was recorded 83.3% were female and 16.7% were male.

Of all harassment and stalking offences commencing prosecution, 9,077 (69.9%) were domestic abuse related

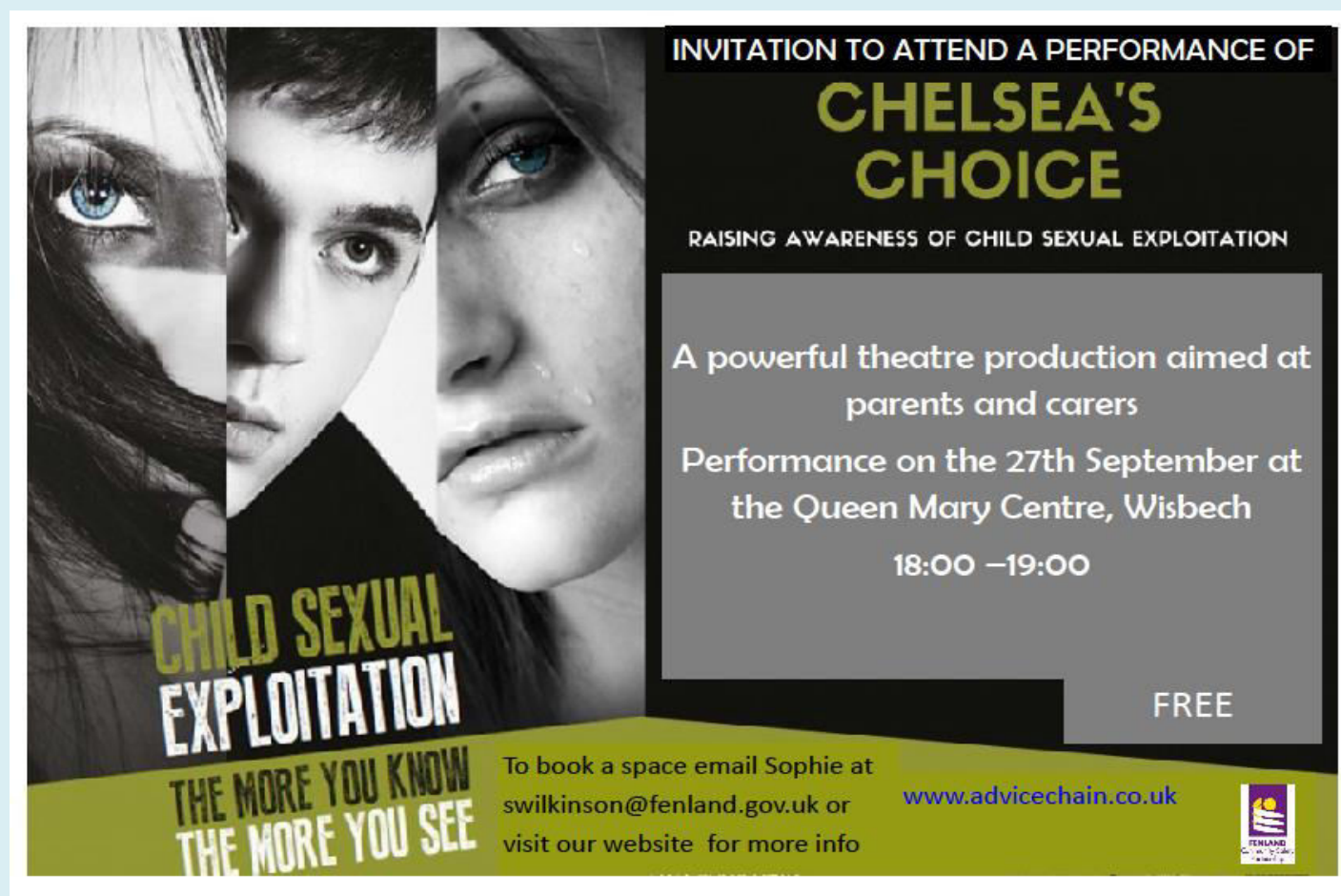
The full report can be accessed at http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/vawg_report_2016/

Chelsea's Choice comes to Fenland again

Fenland Community Safety Partnership has booked the play Chelsea's Choice for another run this year, starting in December. As well as the school performances detailed below, there will also be a showing for parents and carers at the Queen Mary Centre in Wisbech on the evening of 27th September.

26th September - Neale Wade Community College and Thomas Clarkson Academy

27th September - Sir Harry Smiths College and Cromwell Community College



INVITATION TO ATTEND A PERFORMANCE OF

CHELSEA'S CHOICE

RAISING AWARENESS OF CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

A powerful theatre production aimed at parents and carers


Performance on the 27th September at the Queen Mary Centre, Wisbech

18:00 –19:00

FREE

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
THE MORE YOU KNOW THE MORE YOU SEE

To book a space email Sophie at swilkinson@fenland.gov.uk or visit our website for more info www.advicechain.co.uk



Tough Love for South/City/Hunts

The company that created Chelsea's Choice, Alter Ego, have a new play focusing on teenage relationship abuse and South Cambs, Cambridge City and Huntingdonshire have booked performances of Tough Love for early 2017.

Full details will be published in a future newsletter, but the dates below have been confirmed:

26th January 2017 - Professionals day

27 February – 24 March 2017 – tour of schools

Details for East Cambridgeshire will be confirmed soon.

For more information about Tough Love, visit <http://www.alteregocreativesolutions.co.uk/tough-love/>

No FGM convictions in over 30 years

The Commons home affairs select committee have expressed dismay that there have been no UK convictions for FGM – despite it being illegal for 31 years. Until 2015 no reliable data was available but since April 2015 it's been mandatory for health, education and social care professionals in England to report cases or suspected cases. The first publication of the data shows that between April 2015 and March 2016 there were 5,702 new cases in England - most of the women and girls were born in Africa and underwent the procedure there, but at least 18 were subjected to FGM in the UK.

In response, Minister for Safeguarding, Vulnerability and Countering Extremism Sarah Newton said "We welcome the report and will carefully consider the recommendations before responding in due course." You can read the full BBC News article at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-37364079>

Bright Sky app

Hestia, the organisation leading the UK Says No More campaign have launched an app aimed at people who are experiencing domestic abuse or friends/family who are concerned about someone else. The app is free to download and includes questionnaires and safety advice for victims and friends/family as well as links to local specialist support services. The victim's part of the app can also be used to create a journal and collect photographic evidence.

The app includes important warnings about ensuring that the device the app is downloaded to, and any email addresses used for the journal, cannot be accessed by anyone else. Abusers will often have access to the victim's mobile phone, email and social media accounts as part of their controlling behaviour so this is an important safety risk.

The app can be downloaded free at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bright-sky/id1105880511?mt=8>

SRE Forum steps up their campaign

The Sex Education Forum has launched the next stage of their campaign to make SRE/PSHE provision mandatory in schools. They are urging people to write to their MP asking them to represent their views and to express their views to the new Secretary of State, Justine Greening, and asking if they will personally support legislation to make SRE statutory.

For more information, please visit <http://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/policy-campaigns/sre-its-my-right.aspx>

Sexual Harassment in Schools Inquiry

The report and recommendations from the Sexual harassment and sexual violence in schools inquiry has now been published and has uncovered the scale and impact of sexual harassment and sexual violence in schools across England.

Some of the key recommendations from the report are:

- It is essential that the negative impact on both boys and girls is recognised and addressed.
- The Government and schools must make tackling sexual harassment and sexual violence an immediate policy priority and The Government should create a statutory obligation in the forthcoming Education Bill for all schools, primary and secondary, to develop a whole school approach to preventing and tackling sexual harassment and sexual violence.
- Schools lack the guidance, training and structures to deal with incidents of sexual harassment and sexual violence.
- Police data records the incidence of sexual harassment and sexual violence in schools specifically
- PSHE and SRE are made statutory subjects as part of the new Education Bill.

The full report and recommendations are available at

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmwomeq/91/91111.htm?utm_source=91&utm_medium=crbullet&utm_campaign=modulereports

Call for family courts to do more to protect children

On 15th September MPs called on the government to carry out a full review of family courts to stop them being used by violent men to perpetuate abuse against their partners and children.

They also called on the justice secretary, Liz Truss, to act swiftly to tackle deep-seated cultural attitudes among family court judges which put the rights of abusive men over the safety of women and children.

MPs were debating [research by Women's Aid](#) which revealed that between 2005 and 2015, 19 children in 12 families were killed by violent fathers who had been allowed to see them through formal and informal child contact arrangements.

The debate focused on many personal stories of women who had been subjected to violence and coercive control by their partners, only to have to face them again in the family courts when the men fought for child contact.

MPs said the family court system was allowing violent men to re-victimise women. Increasing numbers of men were representing themselves and re-traumatising their victims when they made repeated and often spurious applications for access, they said.

New mental health service for people in crisis

On Monday 19 September, new 24/7 crisis mental health services became available for people of any age, living in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

County-wide First Response Service - The First Response Service (FRS), previously piloted in Cambridge, has now expanded to cover the whole county. The team provide assessments in the community 24/7 and respond to urgent referrals from emergency services.

- New Sanctuary in Peterborough - The opening of a second Sanctuary in Peterborough, and additional support at the Cambridge one, will mean that people in crisis across the whole of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will be able to access Sanctuary support. Staffed by mental health charity Mind in Cambridgeshire, the Sanctuary offers people practical and emotional support between 6pm and 1am and is accessible by referral from the FRS. You can watch a tour of the Cambridge Sanctuary by clicking [here](#).

- Self-referral through 111 – People of any age are now able to access urgent mental health services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough by dialling 111 and selecting option 2. Calls will be answered 24/7 by trained mental health practitioners. They will be able to quickly assess the situation and determine whether an urgent referral is required, for example, to the First Response Service or Sanctuary.

The CPFT out-of-hours patient number has changed as the service has transferred to Lifeline. The new number is 0808 808 2121 and operates between 7pm and 11pm, seven days a week.



Cambridge Rape Crisis supports university research

Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre has contributed to the Universities UK Taskforce on violence, harassment and hate crime affecting university students. The Taskforce is looking at the issue of sexual violence affecting university students in particular and is seeking evidence about scale, as well as how institutions respond. It is reporting with recommendations this autumn.

CRCC was approached as one of three Rape Crisis Centres nationally who have a working relationship with their local colleges and universities to feed into the consultation on the extent of sexual violence experienced by students, their help seeking experiences and institutional responses and procedures.

New sexual violence peer support group

Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre successfully secured a grant from Cambridge Safer City to deliver a group work project for adult survivors. The Healing and Empowerment Project will provide a 6 week group work project for survivors of sexual violence. The aim of the project is to provide a facilitated peer support group to enable survivors to re-build their confidence, sense of self and to recognise their own strength and resilience. Participants will work together to build confidence and self-esteem and to begin the process of recovery and healing in a safe space with other survivors.

Each week the group will focus on a range of topics including:

- Coping strategies
- Managing anxiety
- Self-esteem and self-worth
- Assertiveness

The Healing and Empowerment Group will start in October 2016.

Thinking Outside the Box

Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre also successfully secured a grant from Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership to deliver an *Outside the Box* group project for young people in Huntingdon. *Outside the Box* is a personal development and sex and relationships education (SRE) programme for young people at higher risk of sexual exploitation.

It comprises 8 interactive groups sessions, delivered by a specially trained facilitator, to a small group of young people aged from 11 years old +. There will also be one to one pre-programme assessments with each participant prior to joining the group.

The group work programme is designed to provide more intensive and personalized SRE for young people identified as having a gap in their SRE or a vulnerability known to be linked to increase likelihood of sexual exploitation.

The programme will be delivered by CRCC's Children and Young People's Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ChISVA) who works with children and young people across the county aged 0 – 18 year who have experienced or at risk of experiencing sexual abuse or sexual exploitation. Our ChISVA is a qualified *Outside the Box* facilitator. We will be delivering this project in partnership with Centre 33, a young people's service who work with, support and empower young people to overcome their problems through a range of free and confidential services.

NICE Guidance - CYP Harmful sexual behaviour

NICE has issued new guidance around children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour. The guidance is aimed at:

- Social workers, social and residential care practitioners and foster carers
- Child and adolescent harmful sexual behaviour and mental health services
- Neighbourhood and community support police officers and youth offending teams
- Schools and youth services
- National adolescent forensic services
- Primary care, sexual health, drug and alcohol services
- People who exhibit harmful sexual behaviour, their families and other members of the public.

The guidance makes reference to sexting as a potentially harmful behaviour.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng55>

Easily forgotten

The tragic incident in Ireland last month where a man murdered his wife and three children has been highlighted as an example of the negative way the media treats victims of domestic abuse. Clodagh Hawe was murdered along with her three children by her husband but media reports have mostly focussed on the husband – asking why he did it and including quotes from friends, family and neighbours about what a nice man he was. We also learned about his hobbies and how he'd won handball titles. His wife has not even been named in some of the articles. The Guardian is just one of the publications questioning how the victims of a murder became less important than the murderer.

https://www.theguardian.com/media/greenslade/2016/sep/01/how-a-murdered-woman-became-invisible-in-the-coverage-of-her-death?mc_cid=bf5978b1ae&mc_eid=273e6b246c