



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

January 2016

Dear Partners

On 11th January the first joint Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Governance Board meeting was held with colleagues in Peterborough. The Board agreed on several areas where strategies and plans can be joined up to eliminate duplication and improve joint working. We look forward to working more closely with Peterborough in the future.

Throughout January, our colleagues at Cambridgeshire Police are running their annual campaign to encourage people to report rape and sexual violence (see page 6-7). We are supporting the campaign by highlighting the support that is available to people who choose not to report to the police in line with the weekly themes of the campaign.

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 the 1.5 day Introduction to Domestic Abuse training are below, to book visit <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/social>

Tues & Wed	23-24 February 2016	March Town Hall
Wed & Thurs	16-17 March 2016	Stanton House, Huntingdon
Tues & Wed	19-20 April 2016	CPDC, Trumpington
Wed & Thurs	18-19 May 2016	Stanton House, Huntingdon
Tues & Wed	14-15 June 2016	Stanton House, Huntingdon
Wed & Thurs	13-14 July 2016	Stanton House, Huntingdon

****Places also available on Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment Training
– see page 5 for details****

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

Ever wondered what happens at a SARC?

The Sexual Assault Referral Centre for Cambridgeshire is based at the Oasis Centre in Peterborough. They have created a short elearning module to help people understand what happens at the SARC and how the different services work together to support victims. It also includes referral flowcharts for professionals.

<http://www.elearning.oasiscentre.org/>

DV Protection Orders and Notices giving victims space

Cambs Police have recently started actively seeking Domestic Violence Protection Orders/Notices (DVPO/DVPNs) for a number of cases where the criminal threshold for prosecution is not met. In essence, all High Risk cases where the suspect will be released no further action will be put forward for DVPN/DVPO. In addition, all Medium Risk cases where the suspect will be released no further action will be considered for the DVPN/DVPO route.

The idea is to give Victims the breathing space / space to clear their thoughts and also to try to engage further with them via Police/Partners.

What is Coercive Control?

On 29th December, an amendment to Section 76 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 made Controlling or Coercive Behaviour in an Intimate or Family Relationship an offence. But what does coercive control mean? The Crown Prosecution Service has produced a list of some of the behaviour that is covered by this law:

- Isolating a person from their friends and family
- Depriving them of their basic needs
- Monitoring their time
- Monitoring a person via online communication tools or using spyware
- Taking control over aspects of their everyday life, such as where they can go, who they can see, what to wear and when they can sleep
- Depriving them access to support services, such as specialist support or medical services
- Repeatedly putting them down such as telling them they are worthless
- Enforcing rules and activity which humiliate, degrade or dehumanise the victim
- Forcing the victim to take part in criminal activity such as shoplifting, neglect or abuse of children to encourage self-blame and prevent disclosure to authorities
- Financial abuse including control of finances, such as only allowing a person a punitive allowance
- Control ability to go to school or place of study
- Taking wages, benefits or allowances
- Threats to hurt or kill
- Threats to harm a child
- Threats to reveal or publish private information (e.g. threatening to 'out' someone)
- Threats to hurt or physically harming a family pet
- Assault
- Criminal damage (such as destruction of household goods)
- Preventing a person from having access to transport or from working
- Preventing a person from being able to attend school, college or University
- Family 'dishonour'
- Reputational damage
- Disclosure of sexual orientation
- Disclosure of HIV status or other medical condition without consent
- Limiting access to family, friends and finances

This is not an exhaustive list

http://www.cps.gov.uk/legal/a_to_c/controlling_or_coercive_behaviour/

Women with Disabilities and Domestic Abuse

Two members of the team attended a seminar at the University of Bedfordshire in December to hear from Dr Ravi Thiari – the author of *Disabled Women and Domestic Violence: Responding to the Experiences of Survivors'* (2012). Some aspects of the new Coercive Control law are particularly relevant to women with disabilities, for example

- Depriving them access to support services, such as specialist support or medical services
- Enforcing rules and activity which humiliate, degrade or dehumanise the victim
- Depriving them of their basic needs
- Taking control over aspects of their everyday life, such as where they can go, who they can see, what to wear and when they can sleep
- Preventing a person from having access to transport or from working
- Repeatedly putting them down such as telling them they are worthless

We are working with the Adult Safeguarding team to develop awareness for both the public and professionals about women with disabilities who experience domestic abuse.

Talking to young people about healthy relationships

In partnership with Avon, Women's Aid has produced a guide aimed at parents to help them talk to young people about healthy relationships. The guide will:

- help you recognise if your child is being controlled by their partner
- help you to talk about healthy behaviour in relationships with your child
- show you how to collect evidence of coercive control
- and tell you where to go if you or your child needs help

It can be downloaded from the Women's Aid website

<https://www.womensaid.org.uk/controlling-behaviour-in-relationships-coercive-control/>

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment Training

Course Aim:

This half-day course is being run as a pilot and takes an in-depth look at the risk assessment tools available to professionals working with domestic abuse.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Complete the DASH Risk Assessment with adults
- Complete the DASH Risk Assessment with young people
- Use the DVRIM tool to assess risk to children and young people

Target Audience:

This course is suitable for professionals working at NICE level 3 (see below for details) with individuals experiencing domestic abuse. It is expected that staff will have attended Introductory training around Domestic Abuse.

NICE level 3 - At Level 3, staff are able to provide an initial response that includes risk identification and assessment (RIM, DASH), safety planning and continued liaison with specialist support services, including referral to specialist community-based programmes.

Dates / Venues:

Tuesday 1 March Cambridgeshire FA, Histon

Tuesday 26 April Young People March, March

Thursday 30 June Stanton House, Huntingdon

Times: 9.30am – 1.00pm

Trainer/s: Ruth Croker and Julia Cullum

For course bookings, please go to:

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

Rape and serious sexual assault awareness campaign launched by Cambridgeshire Constabulary

CAMBRIDGESHIRE Constabulary is launching a month-long rape and serious sexual assault awareness campaign starting on January 4.

The campaign will highlight the issues around understanding consent and the importance and encouragement of reporting assaults. Each week will explore a separate theme.

The theme for week one is: 'consent'. Many people don't understand what consent is and believe the absence of a 'no' is consent. Things like inability to consent through intoxication or coercing people into committing sexual acts is not consent and we will deliver this message during week one.

Week two aims to educate people of the services available to them after they have been a victim of rape or sexual assault. Specifically to increase awareness of the Oasis at Rivergate in Peterborough - Cambridgeshire's Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC).

Week three of the campaign will aim to bust the myths associated with rape, including who victims are and how they are treated.

The final week of the campaign will focus on historical rape, informing people of the support available and action that can be taken against historical assaults. Educating people that it doesn't matter who it is or when it happened, sex without consent is rape.

Detective Inspector Leigh Allman, Rape Investigation Team (RIT) Manager, said: "Cambridgeshire Constabulary, in conjunction with partner agencies, is absolutely committed to tackling rape and serious sexual assaults and providing support to victims and catching perpetrators. The first week of the campaign highlights that rape is not contained to stranger rape scenarios, and that sometimes there is confusion over the consent issue between people who know each other. We want to deliver the clear message that 'only yes means yes' anything else is no, and sex without consent [yes] is rape. We are aware that many victims are worried they won't be believed or they don't remember what happened, however anybody with concerns should call us. We take rape and serious sexual assault very seriously and rape will never be acceptable."

Only 'yes' means 'yes'

A short skirt is not a yes

A red lip is not a yes

A wink is not a yes

A dance is not a yes

A walk home is not a yes

A drink back at mine is not a yes

A kiss on the sofa is not a yes

The absence of a no is not a yes

Only 'yes' means 'yes' -
Sex without consent is **rape**

**GET CLOSER
AND SUPPORT THE FORCE!**

Call: **101**
Textphone: **18001 101**
Visit: www.cambs.police.uk
Follow:     **CambsCops**
Subscribe: [@Cops.org.uk](https://www.cambs.org.uk)



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

Is there really a fall in violent crime?

Statistics claim that violent crime has been decreasing since the 1990's, but this may not be the true picture. Current surveys cap the number of incidents from one person at five – this therefore discounts some victims of domestic abuse who may experience many more incidents than this and who make up over 5% of the respondents. Sylvia Walby of Lancaster University has undertaken research which shows that domestic abuse and violence against women by acquaintances has actually risen since 2009, while violence against men continues to fall. Her research not only removes the cap of five incidents but also includes sexual offences, which are usually excluded from violent crime data.

More details of the research can be found in this Guardian article
<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/jan/13/hidden-rise-violent-crime-growth-violence-against-women>

FGM doesn't just happen in Africa

A group of Indian women who were subjected to female genital mutilation (FGM) as children are calling on the government to ban the ancient ritual. Little is known about FGM in India and India is not included on U.N. lists of countries affected by FGM but the ritual is carried out in great secrecy by the close-knit Dawoodi Bohra community, a Shia Muslim sect thought to number over 1 million.

The campaign is led by Masooma Rana, a 49-year-old publisher who has launched an online petition in which she describes how she was cut as a seven-year-old in Mumbai.

"The shock and trauma of that day are still with me. All of us feel scarred by it. It is there in our psyche," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

You can read more and sign the petition at
<http://www.trust.org/item/20160112150723-xkmft/?source=jtOtherNews3>

Funding from Police and Crime Commissioner set to bring a brighter future for young victims of domestic violence

A leading charity for children and young people in the East of England has been awarded £9,900 from the Police and Crime Commissioner to deliver three 'Cope and Recover' programmes aimed at supporting children who have experienced domestic violence.

Ipswich-based Ormiston Families will deliver the twelve week programme in Cambridge, Huntingdon and Peterborough and will support both mothers and children aged 9-11 years with a twin-track approach focusing on early intervention and prevention.

The 'Cope and Recover' programmes give particular focus to children to help them recover from the experience of domestic violence and to lead more positive lives. Qualified facilitators will help the children to understand their feelings; address thoughts around blame and responsibility; understand what domestic violence is; and make plans to stay safe and increase confidence and self-esteem.

There will also be support to help break the secrecy around abuse and identify who to talk to.

Marc James, Service Manager says:

"This funding will make a real difference to children and young people affected by domestic violence across the county. It will enable us to help young people to have positive futures whether through reducing anxiety or depression, increased feelings of self-worth, or improved mental health and self-esteem."

Ormiston Families provides services to support children and young people from disadvantaged communities who face the very real dangers of social exclusion. For more information about the charity visit <http://www.ormiston.org/index.html>.

The move from national to local commissioning of victim support services has enabled Cambridgeshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Sir Graham Bright to integrate and enhance the provision of evidence-based support services for victims of crime in the county.

A mixed model of funding services has been used which includes true commissioning and grant agreements.

For more details about the Cope and Recover programmes or to request a referral form, email: positive.pathways@ormiston.org

Cambridgeshire Schools to benefit from healthy relationship workshops

Two Cambridgeshire-based charities are joining forces to raise awareness with young people of the importance of healthy relationship. SexYOUAlity and Centre 33 have been awarded £2,500 from the Police and Crime Commissioner to run five healthy relationship workshops at secondary schools throughout the county. The workshops will support young people aged 9 to 11 to understand the differences between friendships, sexual contact and relationships.

Juliet Snell, Director of Centre 33 explains: "This is the age at which many young people enter new relationships and friendships and often explore their emerging sexuality. "Some young people can bring their own pre-conceived or received ideas about consent or power, prejudice, bullying and/or violence. Young people can be affected by abusive relationships either in a one-to-one or a group context, and they can also face cyber and on-line pressures as well as being victims of domestic violence themselves in their own families."

"Our schools workshops will help young people to explore and challenge their ideas about sex, relationships and power in a safe space. We support young people to understand the impact of what they say and do on their peers and future partners and to understand their rights and responsibilities in relationships. We also work with the whole school community to be confident to seek support if they are affected as victims."

Workshops will be provided during PSHE lessons at five schools across Cambridgeshire with the schools identified in partnership with the Cambridgeshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership.

As a result, young people with access to the workshops should understand the differences between healthy and non-healthy behaviour around sex and the impact of these behaviours; have the opportunity to explore power relationships and consent in relation to sex, sexuality and gender; and be signposted to where to go for support. They should also be able to support each other to recover if they have been victims.

During the 2014-15 academic year, 1584 students accessed the healthy relationship workshops in 6 schools from across the county.

Detective Superintendent Chris Mead, (Head of Public Protection for Cambridgeshire Constabulary) said: "As a result of these workshops, young people will feel confident to discuss these important issues in a safe and supportive environment. More importantly they will also have a better understanding of who to contact for further support and guidance, should they need to. "

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Tickets for the event above are £48.25 –more information and link to buy tickets can be found at www.coercivecontrol.co.uk

3rd Annual Conference

Friday 26th February 2016
9.30am-4.30pm
Medway Centre, Huntingdon

- **Opening Speaker to be announced**
- **Abi Billinghamurst, Abianda**
Gang Related CSE
- **Phil Mitchell, BLAST Project**
Sexually Exploited Boys and Young Men
- **Helen Rawden, Link to Change**
Educational Outcomes of Sexually Exploited Young Women
- **Anne-Marie Toal, F.A.C.E. Derby**
Parents support group

*£30 per delegate including lunch and refreshments
(£10 for students)*

To request a booking form email: sally@linktochange.org.uk



Dodgems Project



Helter Skelter Project



Helter Skelter
+Plus

Helter Skelter +Plus Project