



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

May 2016

Dear Partners

Welcome to our May newsletter which once again is filled with news of happenings in the world of domestic abuse and sexual violence in Cambridgeshire and beyond.

Nationally, the UK Says No More campaign had its official launch at the House of Commons on 17th May. The campaign has been successful in the US in raising awareness about domestic abuse and sexual assault and the organisation Hestia have now brought it to the UK. See more on page 2.

Locally, the Chairman of Cambridge United Football Club, Dave Doggett and Cambridge City Councillor Ann Sinnott helped us to launch our Euro 2016 campaign to raise awareness of domestic abuse and alcohol excess – see more on page 4.

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

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East Anglian charity receives funding to bring a brighter future for young victims of domestic violence

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

The charity will deliver the 12 week programmes 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 will give particular focus to children to help them recover from the experience of domestic violence and will provide a catalyst to lead more positive lives. Qualified facilitators will help those enrolled to understand their feelings; address thoughts around blame and responsibility; understand the roots of domestic violence and make plans to stay safe, whilst increasing 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, at Ormiston Families comments: "This funding will make a real difference to children and young people affected by domestic violence across Cambridgeshire. It will enable us to help young people to have positive futures by reducing anxiety or depression, increasing feelings of self-worth, and improving mental health and self-esteem."

Outgoing Police & Crime Commissioner Sir Graham Bright commented: "People who experience domestic violence can be left with deep mental scars which can take years to overcome. Locally-based charities such as Ormiston Families are best placed to understand and address this very real need so that victims can look forward to brighter futures."

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

UK Says No More campaign launch

At the launch, Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland said that tackling violence against women would be one of her "personal priorities" in office and she reminded people that everyone has a "choice" to support efforts to eliminate violence against men, women and children. We will be supporting and promoting the campaign via our social media pages. You can print off the poster on page 19 of this newsletter and take a photo holding it, upload to Twitter or Facebook and tag us.

Review of Domestic Abuse measures

Following the implementation of Domestic Violence Protection Orders and Notices in 2014, the Home Office have released their assessment of how the measures are working in practice.

The data supplied by 43 police forces shows that from implementation up to 31 December 2014, a total of 3,337 DVPNs had been authorised with 3,072 DVPOs granted by magistrates. 565 (18%) of DVPOs had been breached

A number of considerations were recommended from the assessment, including providing clearer guidance to magistrates on the DVPO process and sentencing guidelines for breaches, consideration of an annual collection of data from all police forces and police training to identify coercive control in domestic violence cases to ensure DVPOs are not limited to cases where there is only obvious physical violence. There is also a consideration on how to implement effective interventions on perpetrators as part of the DVPO process.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/506148/2016-03-08_DVPO_report_for_publication.pdf?dm_i=10XE,461C8,5P1NOH,F5OE0,1

Also assessed was the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, often referred to as Clare's Law. The indicative data from the police shows that between 8 March 2014 and 31 December 2014 a total of 4,724 applications had taken place with 1,938 disclosures made. Considerations recommended include updating the guidance to make powers clearer, Home Office collation of annual data and more police awareness of the scheme.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/505434/2016-03-08_DVDS_report__final_.pdf?dm_i=10XE,461C8,5P1NOH,F5OE0,1

Forced Marriage campaign

Local organisation It's My Right, No Forced Marriages are calling for schools, colleges, youth centres and community centres to be directly involved in their 'Stand up, speak out and reject Forced Marriage' initiative. More information is available in this article in The Asian today

<http://www.theasiantoday.com/index.php/2016/04/29/its-my-right-no-forced-marriages/>

We're heading towards the summer holidays and this is a significant time when children are taken away for forced marriage so school staff are being asked to be extra vigilant.

Euro 2016 domestic abuse and alcohol campaign

Chairman of Cambridge United Football Club, Dave Doggett and Cambridge City Councillor Ann Sinnott helped to launch our Euro 2016 campaign to raise awareness of alcohol excess and domestic abuse during the tournament. Police and domestic abuse services see a significant increase in incidents during major sporting events and many of these involve alcohol. Our colleagues in Cambridgeshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team have taken the lead by distributing posters to partners for display across the county. If you can display a poster for us, please contact Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

The photo below shows Dave Doggett and Cllr Sinnott with first team players Greg Taylor and Dylan Williams.



Real stories

The Centre for Crime and Justice Studies are publishing a series of short articles where women can tell their stories. Online now is Tasha's story which details a journey through domestic violence, mental health issues and prison <http://www.crimeandjustice.org.uk/resources/tasha-i-want-move>

Violent crime 'decrease' disputed

At the recent Eve Saville Memorial Lecture, Sylvia Walby talked about her ground-breaking new research which shows that violent crime has been rising since 2009, driven by increases in violent crime against women. Drawing on an article published in the British Journal of Criminology at the end of last year, Walby and her team disputed the Office of National Statistics' view that violence crime is increasing and said that her research shows an increase in violent crime and especially in the amount of violent crime against women and by domestic perpetrators. The current ONS capping method only counts the first five incidents against each victim which shows the rate of violent crime overall appears to still be falling, as is violent crime against women. Also, if victims are the unit of measurement, the same pattern is found as for the capped analysis, with the appearance of a continuing fall in the rate of violent crime and violent crime against women, but a cessation in the falling rate of domestic violent crime. However, basing estimates on all reported crimes allows the extent and significance of high-frequency victims to be seen. When all violent crime reported to the CSEW is included, there is an increase in violent crime. This increase is found especially in repeated crimes against the same victims. It is found especially in violent crime committed by domestic perpetrators and violent crime against women. You can read the full BJC article [here](#).

Jason Ablewhite elected as new Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire

Jason David Ablewhite has been elected as Cambridgeshire's new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The vote took place on Thursday 5th May across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, with the result being declared on Friday 6th May at 17:27 at the Ross Peers Sports Centre in Soham, where Jason Ablewhite also took the PCC's Oath.

The Conservative Party Candidate beat Dave Baigent, Labour Party, after second preference votes were counted, as neither had managed to get 50% in the first round. Turnout across the county was 30.56%.



Space Project to feature in Local Government Chronicle

We have reported in previous newsletters about the Space Project – an innovative approach to working with mothers that have had children permanently removed from their care. The Local Government Chronicle have expressed interest in the project and the article below will appear in the LGC soon.

“We have to do something different for these women rather than just keep taking their children away”

This was the conclusion of Elaine Petch, Principal Social Worker, in early 2015 when she wrote a business case which also coincided with a drive to reduce the number of children entering Local Authority Care. Extensive research locally and nationally enabled the development of the current Cambridgeshire project, named SPACE - “Space to Think, Time to Plan”.

Vickie Crompton is the Strategic Lead for the project within the County Council and holds responsibility for drugs, alcohol, domestic abuse and sexual violence within her portfolio, “when I was asked to produce a project plan I started by speaking to everyone I could think of who works with women who have a baby permanently removed. I also reviewed 20 cases from 2014 – I have to admit I was unprepared for the levels of learning difficulties and sexual abuse within this cohort. It was clear these were, mainly, young women for whom life had been very unkind, and we needed to respond to them in a way which was accessible and helpful to them as women, as opposed to their status as “mothers””. In developing the project and from professional experience Vickie anticipated that the majority of these women would have some form of mental health challenges, and that treatment can be difficult to access. For this reason, it was decided that one of the two posts within the project would need to be a mental health nurse.

In June 2015, the University of Essex held an event setting out the work of “Positive Choices” in Suffolk and the research which the university was doing with the project. Positive Choices is part of Suffolk County Council and consists of two social workers, who operate in an outreach capacity across Suffolk working with women who have had their baby permanently removed. Their presentations were powerful, and the feedback from the women worked with, was impressive. Cambridgeshire has similar rural issues to Suffolk and this event showed what is possible if there is the commitment to make something happen. It was at this event that Vickie realised the model and ways of working in Cambridgeshire needed to be very similar to Suffolk. It is with thanks to the immense professional generosity of Roberta Owen and Ruth Macdonald, giving their time and knowledge, that a model of working was developed for Space.

Cambridgeshire already has a project for Chronically Excluded Adults, originally funded via Making Every Adult Matter, which operates in a similar way to Positive Choices. The project manager Tom Tallon, agreed to take on the operational management for the project. His specialism lies in working flexibly and collaboratively with those that other services may have found “difficult to engage”, and his knowledge and experience is essential in taking forward Space.

Space employs two workers, Sarah Newman, a Community Psychiatric Nurse and former school nurse, and Gail Sawyer, a specialist in working with homeless women

with extensive knowledge of all issues related to female homelessness. Their skills are complementary and whilst they work in the same way, their knowledge bases are very different, enabling them to support and to learn from each other.

In developing the project clinical supervision was felt to be key in ensuring the staff have a safe and confidential environment to be able to reflect on their work both personally and professionally, and this has been incredibly valuable. In addition to this, the project has operational input from a social care clinician and the additional perspective and knowledge has been essential.

It was agreed at the outset, that the project would not exclude women who did not wish to have long acting reversible contraception (LARC) as other projects require. "Space has negotiated a fast track to access LARC where a woman chooses to have this, and LARC will be encouraged, but it is by no means a mandatory requirement, it has to be her decision to accept it, not our insistence" says Vickie.

It is anticipated the project will work with around 40-50 women over 12 months, some of these women will only want a short intervention and may come back to the project at a later date and some will require a more intensive intervention, the challenge is working with the unknown, as this is something which hasn't been available in Cambridgeshire before.

The current criteria for Space are for referrals to come via a professional where the permanent removal has taken place within the last six months, and the baby has to be under the age of 24 months.

Referrals began in January of this year and to date there have been 28 referrals and active engagement with 20 women. The youngest woman is 19 and the oldest is 42. Many have difficulties with their cognitive processing and one of the key issues facing them is homelessness and insecure housing. Sarah told me "I have clients living in a range of difficult circumstances, including, with relatives in overcrowded properties, to tents and caravans, it is difficult to move forward when you have nowhere to call home". Many of the women have had 2 or 3 children removed, although some have had many more. "The women we work with have numerous challenges rather than a single issue to contend with, including significant mental ill health, alcoholism and abusive partners."

Whilst the project had only been live for a number of weeks, there have already been some successes; a 20 year old woman who spent a number of years in local authority care and whom had two babies removed by the age of 20 was homeless when referred. She was described by professionals as "almost impossible to engage". She is now in supported housing, has a contraceptive implant, and is moving on with her life, slowly, but surely. This was achieved through the kindness and patience of her worker, who was able to develop a relationship by driving her where she needed to go and buying her lunch, engaging at a pace that she was comfortable to move at, walking alongside her. Gail told me "we are not here to help her get her babies back, or to swoop down and be a rescuer, our role is as a supporter and advocate".

For another woman, who had a history of suicide attempts and hospital admissions, the joint working with mental health services prevented a crisis at a key moment, she didn't attempt suicide or become hospitalised as was feared she would.

Many of the women open to the Space Project have had no significant emotional or practical support from family members or friends in their lives. The women referred to Space do not only have the trauma of having one, or in some cases, six, babies removed from their care, challenging their identities as women, they have often suffered multiple trauma from a very early age.

Women open to Space have had social work interventions whilst pregnant, and in some cases, long periods of being known to social care – if change was going to be easy, it would have already happened and so creating the circumstances for change is a great challenge. Many women and children are enabled to live safe, healthy lives with their baby following social care intervention, but there will always be a minority who are not able to change, or sustain change enough to be able to care for their baby. It is these women which Space is working to engage with and support. It is early days for Space, but already it is changing the lives of women who would have otherwise been on their own and facing very uncertain futures. Those involved with and supporting the project are optimistic it will change vulnerable women's lives in Cambridgeshire as well as reduce the significant costs involved in the process of permanently removing babies and children from their mothers.

For more information or to make a referral or enquiry to the Space project, please email Space.Project@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – 15th June

The implementation of the Care Act in 2014 introduced legislation around adult safeguarding for the first time in the UK. On 15th June, Action on Elder Abuse will be holding a conference to highlight World Elder Abuse Day and places can be booked [here](#) (please note that a charge applies). One of the workshops at the event will be lead by Nicki Norman, Director of Operations at Women's Aid, England who will be considering the new coercive control law, and what impact this should have on adult safeguarding and the domestic abuse of adults, including older people.

Cambs DASV will be joining with the Safeguarding Adults Team at the County Council to share awareness messages so make sure you follow us on Twitter and Facebook to keep up with the latest. The Safeguarding Adults Team offer a one day Domestic Abuse course that focusses on adults with care and support needs that may be at risk – details and dates on page 20.

Adult Sexual Exploitation

Peterborough Safeguarding Boards have been working with the Safer Peterborough Partnership to consider the issue of adult sexual exploitation since the role of the Sexual Exploitation Co-ordinator was extended to the area of adult safeguarding in April 2015.

With all of the media and professional attention that child sexual exploitation has rightly received in the last 10 years, it seems that the consideration of adult sexual exploitation should be the next step. After all, research suggests that the majority of women who find themselves sex working have experienced abuse in their childhood.

We have recognised that children cannot consent to sexual activity in exchange for money or gifts and we no longer recognise terms like 'child prostitute', so shouldn't we be considering whether these vulnerable women, who we still refer to as 'prostitutes' are any more able to consent?

On Wednesday 13th April, two members of the Board's business unit teamed up with Poppy Williams, from the Safer Peterborough Partnership to work with a small group of women from HMP Peterborough to explore issues around sexual exploitation in the context of sex work. Huge thanks must be offered to the women who took part in the workshop, for their openness and honesty. Their participation offered significant insights into what is all too often hidden away.

Some of the key messages that came out of the work were as follows:

- Everyone's story is different
- Just need to talk – don't need answers all the time
- Street working is most dangerous
- Sex for money is sex for money
- Children are considered vulnerable but adults in similar situations are considered criminals
- Sex and relationships education in schools is very important

It is intended that these messages will be used to raise awareness of the dangers and vulnerabilities associated with sex work with professionals and senior managers from partner agencies of both Boards agencies. It is hoped that this workshop will be the start of further work into the area of adult sexual exploitation, with a view to improving awareness, and supporting some of the women involved.

Operation Pheasant

Operation Pheasant (Peterborough) is a multi-partnership operation set up in October 2014 to look at identifying and actioning any concerns regarding potential Human Trafficking especially around servitude and slavery, but also sexual exploitation.

Education and awareness has been rolled out through dedicated presentations by trained officers to a wide range of partners and NGOs.

Partner agencies and practitioners, statutory, voluntary and local community have a direct and key link into how we protect and support identified Human Trafficking victims with the support networks they offer, strategies and joint working, accommodation, (short and long term), experience in dealing with differing nationality's, cultures, languages and experience in social care, leading to a victim focused approach.

As such our links with our multi agency partners are pivotal in delivering the Operations aims and objectives within identifying and assisting victims of Human Trafficking, prosecuting offenders and assisting in the gathering of intelligence on persons, premises and activities.

Human Trafficking is, by its very nature, a covert crime, meaning that it is difficult to establish the scale of the problem, although the harm that it causes is very clear.

Organised criminals see Human Trafficking as a lucrative and relatively low-risk crime, viewing the individual victims merely as another profitable commodity.

Operation Pheasant is not just about law enforcement, but about inter agency working providing care for the most vulnerable in our society, co-operation allows for open and direct contact and communication for all involved, protecting victims and disrupting further criminal activity.

Victims of Human Trafficking under such circumstances may have been kidnapped, or may be held against their will, and some will be unwilling participants in sex acts, being subjected to regular and ongoing rape.

Intelligence has identified many premises within Peterborough that contain foreign workers, from a variety of countries. The combined effect of national research and local intelligence leads to reasonable grounds to suspect that premises exist within Peterborough where trafficked persons including children are being held in at times unsanitary and crowded conditions with no way to break free from exploiters with violence being an acute threat at anytime. Furthermore, intelligence has shown a high increase in the number of brothels and prostitutes working within, which is where the teams focus is. Officers are engaging, building up trust and trying to identify which females are most at risk.

The Home Office introduced the Modern Slavery Bill identifying the issues raised to be addressed and will only enforce current legislation to address all areas of Human Trafficking and how all law enforcement and multi-agency partners and organisations should work together to address any raised concerns.



Fenland targets domestic abuse

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership have identified Domestic Abuse as being one of the priorities for campaign work over the coming year, it will focus on improving reporting and highlighting hidden DA issues.

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership has developed a task and action group that includes representatives from the Police, Locality, Refuge, CCC, FDC, Centre 33 and Riverside Mental Health.

The team is focused on understanding which services and community groups exist in Fenland already to support vulnerable individuals and how we can promote their services to increase reporting. The team is developing a local based awareness raising campaign to be launched in July.

The campaign aims to:

- Improve reporting of domestic abuse in Fenland
- Improve access to information for victims of domestic abuse
- Empower communities and businesses to support awareness campaigns
- Improve training opportunities for organisations operating in Fenland

Identified businesses in Fenland will be encouraged to display awareness material in their establishment over a two week period in July to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse.

The FCSP will also be developing a short awareness video that we hope will be played in businesses that use TV / Monitors advertising as part of their everyday practices; we are also in discussion with the Luxe cinema in Wisbech to show the awareness package.

Alongside this, social media will be used to spread the word about the signs of Domestic Abuse and highlight the many specialist services available in the area.

We hope to develop a community workshop in the near future to link services together and create a network of people that can support people at a more local level.

FGM Fact Sheet

A one page fact sheet has been released by Government explaining the responsibilities for health and social care professionals and teachers to report female genital mutilation (FGM) to the police.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fact-sheet-on-mandatory-reporting-of-female-genital-mutilation?mc_cid=db54e51af1&mc_eid=273e6b246c

Event on Peer Education on VAWG - Lessons from AVA's youth participation project

Over the past three years, AVA has been funded by the Big Lottery to run innovative youth empowerment and participation projects on domestic and sexual abuse. A free event is being held to share learning and resources from the project

Keynote speaker will be Sarah Champion, MP for Rotherham and Shadow Minister for Preventing Abuse and Domestic Violence.

- Hear directly from young people affected by domestic and sexual abuse
- Learn from national expert speakers about current issues and best practice
- Learn how to undertake meaningful participation with young people affected by abuse
- Be the first to find out about our new resource- a toolkit on youth participation and working with young people affected by abuse
- Networking opportunity

Date: 5th July 2016 Time: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Venue: The Foundry, 17-19 Oval Way, London, SE11 5RR

To book your free place [please register here](#).

Trauma informed Practices

The US National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health (NCDVTMH) is engaged in efforts to identify, assess, and share information on evidence-based and promising trauma-informed practices relevant to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. As part of these efforts, NCDVTMH conducted interviews with 45 programs or initiatives identified by their peers as engaged in innovative trauma-informed work with survivors of violence and their children. Thirty of the interviews were conducted with domestic and sexual violence advocacy programs. In addition, 15 interviews were completed with programs providing trauma-informed or trauma-specific services for refugees and survivors of torture, as information gathered from these interviews may be relevant for domestic and sexual violence programs.

http://www.nationalcenterdvtraumamh.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/NCDVTMH_PromisingPracticesReport_2015.pdf?mc_cid=db54e51af1&mc_eid=273e6b246c

US study - Intimate Partner Violence & substance abuse

This applied research paper provides an overview of recent studies on the relationship between substance use and experiencing intimate partner violence (IPV), including the prevalence of co-existing substance use and IPV. While there is some evidence suggesting a relationship between experiencing IPV and substance use, solely focusing on IPV and substance use may be misleading in its simplicity. Given that, this paper describes factors that may mediate the relationship between substance use and IPV, as well as caveats and cautions for interpreting this body of research. This paper offers recommendations for substance use disorder treatment providers, as well as ways that future research can provide a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the relationship between IPV and substance use.

<http://www.nationalcenterdvtraumamh.org/2016/03/new-resource-the-relationship-between-intimate-partner-violence-and-substance-use-an-applied-research-paper/>

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)

13-14 July 2016 12-13 October 2016 6-7 December 2016

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment - 30th June, 11th October, 25th January 2017

Domestic Abuse Typologies – 21st June, 6th July

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

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

Cambridge Community Forum on Domestic and Sexual Violence/Abuse

Domestic Violence Survivors Conference

The Cambridge Community Forum on Domestic and Sexual Violence/Abuse was launched in February 2015 and led by Ann Sinnott, Lead Councillor on Domestic Violence. The Forum brings together leading figures from the City's institutions, large employers, relevant community organisations, community safety services/agencies, community sports clubs and community music venues to address the issue of domestic abuse. Cambridge City Council was presented with the [White Ribbon Campaign](#) Town Award at this event.

As part of the Cambridge Community Domestic Violence Forum, a Survivors Conference was held at the Guildhall Cambridge on 27th November, funded by Cambridge Community Safety Partnership. This event was part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign, which took place between 25th November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to 10th December, Human Rights Day.

This Survivors Conference uniquely brought together Survivors and domestic violence service-providers. Its aims were: to jointly explore the provision of services to victims of domestic violence/abuse and to inform future developments in a neutral environment.

Cambridge City Council Chief Executive, Antoinette Jackson, opened the Survivors Conference and welcomed all of the attendees. Councillor Ann Sinnott introduced the guest speakers with 70 Forum Members and Survivors attending the morning session. In the afternoon, a closed session was attended by 55 Survivors and service providers, as well as Women's Aid, who co-ordinated the Survivors attendance and scribes. Representatives of the six service providers, requested by Women's Aid on behalf of the Survivors, all attended on behalf of Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Cambridge City Council Housing, Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA) Service, CAFCASS, Children Services and Family Law. A crèche was provided by Cambridge City Council's Children and Young People's Participation Service (ChYpPS) to enable attendance by some of the Survivors and was appreciated.

The Conference supported the Forum's aims:

- to increase visibility and raise awareness in the general community
- to tackle victim-blaming myths and prejudices
- to increase reporting rates

Service providers were impressed by the strong presence of the Survivors and their willingness to discuss and share their experiences with the professional services.

There was positive feedback from Survivors evidenced on the conference evaluation forms such as:

- “Event was very good - the different people; agencies, survivors and the currently abused, coming together.”
- “That there are people out there that care.”
- “That people [who] suffer abuse are being acknowledged.”
- “Hearing the stories of different women and a feeling of togetherness.”
- “Getting help from a good solicitor is really important and not enough women know this. Directory of ‘good’ solicitors, who know about domestic violence/abuse needed.”

Some women felt that more information about help and support services needed to be more readily accessible. In response to this, Cambridge City Council has launched a new webpage which includes information about Housing Advice and options for legal advice.

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership works closely with specialist support organisations for vulnerable groups such as people with learning and physical disabilities and older people and materials are available in Easy Read format. They are currently planning awareness campaigns with women with physical disabilities and links to the Pink Festival for LGBT victims.

Councillor Ann Sinnott’s response to the collated Survivors feedback was:

“Reading Survivors' comments are both heartening and gut-wrenchingly saddening. Clearly, service providers do, for some victims, get it right some of the time and that is to be applauded. However, as comments show, this is not always the case. Survivors' comments provide valuable signposts to lacks and inadequacies in service provision. My hope is that this, in time, will lead to needed improvement and enhancement of service provision.”

Angie Stewart of Cambridge Women’s Aid commented: “It is so powerful to see all the women’s voices pulled together like this. It is a true reflection of what a fantastic day it was. Women still talk to me about how much that day meant to them.”

We hope to provide a follow-up report assessing the impact of this event later in the year.

Do you know a child who has been affected by domestic violence?



Starting 11th January 2016

Ages 9-11 years

Venue to be confirmed

"This is the best group ever, we do fun things, get to talk about our feelings and you really take care of us..."
(6 year old boy)

The Community Group Programme for Children and their Mothers

The 12 week programme is an integrated community group programme for children and their mothers who have experienced domestic abuse.

Children's groups help children begin the healing process by:

- Allowing children to share their experiences with other children
- Exploring ways of expressing their feelings safely
- Looking at coping strategies for the future

Mothers' groups support women in understanding how to help their children recover by:

- Giving mothers an opportunity to meet other women who have had similar experiences and share their feelings
- Exploring the impact their experiences may have had on their children
- Finding ways to heal from the past and look to the future thereby strengthening the bond between mother and child.

Children can attend the programme even if their mother does not, but children respond best when mothers participate.



For further information and to make a referral please contact:

Name: Positive Pathways

Organisation: Ormiston Families

Tel: 01354 293123

Email: positive.pathways@ormiston.org

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Huntingdonshire Local Practice Group

Alcohol and Drug Abuse

The session will look at:

- The impact of parental substance misuse on children and parenting capacity
- The work of Inclusion
- How to work with families where parents who continue to use substances
- What does recovery mean?

Guest speakers will include:

Tracy Coulton-Weir, Link Worker Drug and Alcohol Action Team, Michael Chouler, Inclusion and Julia Cullum, Workforce Development Adviser

Date: Wed. 8 June 2016
Time: 3:00pm—5:00pm
Venue: Bargroves,
Cromwell Road,
St Neots, PE19 2EY



Please confirm your attendance via email lscbtraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call the LSCB on 01480 373522

Who are we?	We are an established lively network group from all agencies with an interest in the welfare of children, young people and families.
Who should attend?	ALL workers in statutory, voluntary and community sector who work with children young people and families.
Why should you attend?	It is an excellent way of finding out what is happening in the sector and open discussions are welcomed.

Refreshments will be provided

UK SAYS NO MORE

TOGETHER WE CAN END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

#UKSAYSNOMORE



Safeguarding Adults

Domestic Abuse

A One-day course

Course Aim

To ensure that professionals have a clearer understanding of the circumstances in which adult safeguarding and domestic abuse overlap and know how to safely respond.

Target Group

The training is aimed at anyone who has attended the Making Safeguarding Personal course in the past year, and who may be involved with adults who have care and support needs, as defined by The Care Act 2014. Attendees will include: Social Workers, Adult Support Coordinators, Nurses, Allied Professionals, Housing staff, Police and ambulance services. This list is not exhaustive as the course may be relevant to other services.

Learning Objectives

- Look at the common myths and definition of domestic abuse within the safeguarding setting
- Discuss the dynamics and effects of abusive relationships and how professionals can unwittingly collude if not aware of these indicators
- Illustrate the importance of responding appropriately fulfilling legal obligations
- Review the MARAC process and how you can support your adult's understanding of this process
- Reinforce the importance of documentation, record keeping and information sharing
- Illustrate the importance of safety planning and how to access additional support

Dates for April 2016 to March 2017

DATE	VENUE	LOCATION
Tuesday 21 June	CPDC	Trumpington
Wednesday 20 July	Stanton House	Huntingdon
Tuesday 16 August	CPDC	Trumpington
Thursday 13 September	Stanton House	Huntingdon
Wednesday 5 October	South Fens Business Park	Chatteris
Thursday 10 November	CPDC	Trumpington
Wednesday 7 December	Stanton House	Huntingdon
Monday 9 January	Young People Hall	March
Thursday 23 February	CPDC	Trumpington
Wednesday 15 March	Stanton House	Huntingdon

To book, click [here](#)

Prerequisite training requirements

Delegates should have attended Safeguarding Adults at Risk: Making Safeguarding Personal, prior to attending this course.