

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

April 2025

Hello All

Firstly, an update on the changes to the DASV Partnership and the IDVA Service – the consultation has now closed, and we are moving onto the stage of interviewing and appointing to roles within the Cambridgeshire DASV Team – the first of which is confirming Julia as the permanent Head of Service for DASV.

The new DASV Partnership Manager in Peterborough City Council is Vickie Crompton – Vickie will be responsible for managing the IDVA and MARAC functions across Peterborough and will still very much be part of the wider DASV work across the county as it has been decided to keep the DASV Strategic Board across both Councils for now. Vickie's new email address is Vickie.Crompton@peterborough.gov.uk Look out for the flyer for the Peterborough Domestic Abuse Conference in this newsletter too!

It is envisaged that the new separate functions for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough IDVA Services will be live from the end of May at the latest, and the Cambs DASV website will be updated with new referral links accordingly – for the time being, please continue to use the referral page at [Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership - Make a Referral](#)

As ever, please do let us know if you'd like news from your organisation to feature in the newsletter.

Best Wishes

Julia

Julia Cullum, DASV Head of Service



Update on support for children who have experienced domestic abuse

From 1st April, Embrace are now only commissioned for therapeutic support for children who have experienced DA in Cambridgeshire. Due to the decoupling, support needs to be commissioned separately in Peterborough and we have not been able to get this in place yet. We will keep everyone updated via the newsletter.

Other sources of support for children are:

[Home - Nessie](#) In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, funded by Public Health to support schools, parent/carers, children and young people who are struggling to attend schools.

www.centre33.org.uk – Centre 33 offer counselling and advice & guidance to young people from the age of 13 upwards across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. Centre 33 also offer the Young Carers support project in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire [caring - Centre 33](#)

www.ypcs.uk – Young Peoples Counselling Service – offers counselling to young people in the Peterborough area.

[YOUnited Self Referral | CPFT NHS Trust](#) – YOUnited is an emotional wellbeing service for children and young people covering Peterborough and Cambridgeshire – accepts children of all ages.

[Homepage - Cogwheel Counselling](#) – Cogwheel Trust also provides counselling to children, young people and families in and around Cambridgeshire. It is accessed via self-referral by the child, young person or their parent.

[The Cambridge Acorn Project: Home](#) – provide counselling support to children and young people in the Cambridge area.

[Cambridge & Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership – CAPRCP](#) – Offer counselling to children and young people who have been victims of sexual assault or sexual offences. Referrals can be made via their website. They also offer a CHISVA service which children and young people can be referred to for practical support through police investigations, court cases etc.

[Diverse | Sexual Health Matters | Cambridgeshire and Peterborough](#) – Offer counselling for young people aged 11 upwards with issues around Sexual Health, HIV, Sexuality, Sexual Identity, Sexual Relationships, Sexual Trauma, Inappropriate or Risky Behaviours is affecting their mental health and wellbeing. It is free to people within Peterborough and Cambridgeshire.

CPSL Mind Perinatal Services

CPSL MIND's Perinatal Services offer courses/groups to expectant and new Mums, providing support for their mental wellbeing. The courses are designed by Mums, for Mums and give participants the opportunity to connect with others, who may be experiencing similar concerns.

Not forgetting Dads, there is also a peer support group for new Dads.

For more details of their courses, Mums Matter, Connecting Mums, Supporting Muslim Mums and the groups Mindful Mums and Supporting New Dads - and to make an enquiry - please visit CPSL MIND's website: [Supporting You Through Parenthood | CPSL Mind](#)

Call for research participants – working with older survivors of abuse

We've had a request from Ellie, a PhD researcher at the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences at the University of Exeter, to share her call for participants for her research

Ellie is looking to interview individuals who meet the following criteria:

- **Victims/survivors** of intimate partner violence/abuse, aged 70+, who have experienced intimate partner violence/abuse after the age of 60, whether as a new experience or a continuation of earlier abuse.
- **Practitioners** who work directly with victims/survivors and have experience supporting individuals aged 70+ who have experienced intimate partner violence/abuse.

If you can help Ellie, please contact eh728@exeter.ac.uk 07866 141 612

Changing Relations Webinars: Weaving Stories of Peer Sexual Abuse

Changing Relations have two upcoming webinars showcasing a co-produced animation from their pilot project *Weaving Stories of Peer Sexual Abuse*, created with secondary-aged students, survivors of peer sexual abuse, and an artistic team. The project amplifies young people's voices on the theme of unwanted sexual behaviour and the culture that enables it.

The first webinar takes place on 7th May from 1pm – 2pm book [here](#)

The second webinar is specifically for teachers, which takes place on 8th May from 4pm – 5pm book [here](#)

These webinars are offered by a national provider, not by the DASV Partnership.
For queries please get in touch with Kate (kate@changingrelations.co.uk).

Please note, these webinars are bookable by making a donation (minimum donation is £1.00)

Huntingdonshire District Council Achieve full DAHA Accreditation

Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) have been diligently working towards achieving the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) Accreditation. The accreditation sets the UK benchmark for how housing providers and councils should respond to domestic abuse and is endorsed by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales.

By becoming DAHA accredited, we are taking a stand to ensure we deliver safe and effective responses to domestic abuse.

Sharon Crosby, Senior Regional Lead for the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, shared her thoughts following the assessment process:

“We are delighted to congratulate Huntingdonshire District Council on achieving DAHA accreditation! The panel were impressed with the believing, non-judgmental, and trauma informed response that those experiencing domestic abuse receive when approaching the Housing team for advice and support. Staff create a safe, confidential, supportive environment and establish a foundation of trust as was demonstrated by providing safe spaces to talk away from the main office, giving survivors options of how they want to communicate and tailoring their response to the individual’s needs.

Although this accreditation is for Housing, we spoke to a range of front facing staff and the Senior Leadership Team all of whom demonstrated the same high levels of motivation towards tackling domestic abuse.

We particularly liked the way that they use plain English and avoid jargon to ensure that the service that they offer is inclusive, accessible and understandable to all of their community and how they go out of their way to provide practical help to those in need, whether this is helping people to stay in their homes if they wish to do so by making their homes safer or assisting them to move in a safe way, liaising with specialist services. Whatever response they provide they make the safety, dignity, and well-being of the person the priority.

It's such a pleasure to accredit a non-stock holding local authority where there is no gatekeeping at a time when there is so much pressure on housing services”

New research focuses on adult safeguarding recommendations within domestic abuse related death reviews.

A new research paper was recently published in the Journal of Adult Protection reviewing 24 Domestic Homicide Reviews/Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews spanning 2015-2018 that had recommendations around adult safeguarding.

Key findings include:

- 12 cases were intimate partner homicide, and 11 were adult family homicides
- There were four cases of homicide-suicide, three of which involved adults aged 66+
- Prior DA within the victim-perpetrator relationship was reported in just under half of DHRs (11/24).
- Most commonly, the homicide took place in the victim-perpetrator home (15/24), followed by victims' homes (7/24) and residential care homes (2/24)
- For DHRs involving adults aged 66 and over, the most common contextual factor leading up to the homicides appeared to be difficulties coping with victims' care needs and perpetrators' despair at the future
- This was also the most common context for the three homicide-suicide cases involving older adults
- perpetrators were acting as the main carer for the victim in half of all cases
- Perpetrators under 66 had significant risk and vulnerability factors, including a history of violent behaviour, drug/alcohol use and mental health diagnoses
- Most victims had received support from a service over the timeframe covered by the DHR. This included provision by physical health services, adult social care and community care services
- Most perpetrators had also received support or a service over the DHR timeframe. This included provision by physical and mental health services, ASC and community care services

Recommendations and learning points from the reviews include:

- Lack of multi-agency working and information management
- Improving DA risk assessment and carer's assessments
- increasing professional curiosity, ensuring service users are spoken to/responded to separately
- DA training was advocated in 16 DHRs, focussing on the intersections between DA, neglect, caring, mental capacity, particular health conditions and power of attorney
- Reviewing/complying with adult safeguarding procedures and DA policies

If you'd like to read the paper in full, please email Amanda.Warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk who will forward a copy.

National DA Helpline for Armed Forces personnel & families

The Aurora New Dawn new Armed Forces Team offers support to any serving member of the Royal Navy or British Army who is experiencing domestic abuse, sexual violence or stalking – they also support family members experiencing these issues.

Services include:

- **One to one support** and advocacy, including support through the Service or Criminal Justice System
- **Group work recovery programmes** designed specifically for victims and survivors from the forces community
- **A helpline** offering initial advice, support and signposting

The services are available to women and men aged 16 and over, regardless of where they are based (UK or overseas.)

Helpline & WhatsApp: +44 (0)333 0912 527 - A helpline for Royal Navy, British Army, and Royal Air Force personnel and their family members who are victims and survivors of Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence or Stalking. The helpline is independent, confidential, and free. For all UK forces personnel and their families including those deployed abroad.

Helpline hours (GMT): 0900-1500 Monday to Friday

WhatsApp chat (GMT): Monday 0900-1500 / Wednesday & Thursday 1700-2000 / Sunday 1000-1400

[Armed Forces - Aurora New Dawn](#)

Stalking Awareness Week

The theme for Stalking Awareness Week (21-25 April) is how Health organisations and staff can help to recognise stalking and signpost victims to specialist support. Suzy Lamplugh Trust are also offering free Stand up against street harassment webinars - [Anti Harassment Bystander training](#)

Keeping with the Health theme, Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse have launched a new animation highlighting how Health staff can recognise and support survivors of domestic abuse. Did you know that 80% of domestic abuse victim-survivors will have their first or only point of contact-support in a healthcare setting? Find out more and watch the animation at [Take the Survivor Pledge — Standing Together](#)

Latest courses from the RCE Wellbeing Hub

RCE Wellbeing Hub (formerly Recovery College East) offers short bitesize courses, online and face to face, on a variety of topics aimed at helping us look after our own wellbeing and those around us.

Our courses are for everyone; whether you currently receive support from health services, are a carer or supporter for someone with health challenges, are employed in the healthcare sector or are simply someone who is keen to learn more.

The Language of Loss, Introduction to Mindfulness, Chronic Fatigue, Food n Mood and Menopause are just some of the courses and topics available in the new April – June 2025 timetable, and all courses are free! Why not have a look at what RCE offer [RCE | CPFT NHS Trust](#)

Unpaid Carers and Domestic Abuse – new resources

We have been working closely with colleagues delivering the countywide All-Age Carers Strategy over the past year and awareness raising resources are now available for unpaid carers subjected to domestic abuse. Caring Together have worked with the Carers Strategy project team to produce two posters/flyers aimed at unpaid carers, highlighting the support available around domestic abuse, and an article explaining some of the issues for carers featured in the latest Caring Together magazine.

You can read the article at the link below, and more information and links to download posters will be shared at our Spring DASV Champions sessions and in the May newsletter.

<https://www.caringtogether.org/category/caring-magazine/>

Kings Hedges Family Support Project

The Kings Hedges Family Support Project is a Cambridge-based charity dedicated to supporting families with young children from birth to five years of age. Staff work in partnership with health visitors, social care teams, children's centres, schools to ensure coordinated, child-centred support.

Core Services Include:

Weekly Drop-In Sessions: Free, welcoming sessions across North Cambridge for parents and carers with children aged 0–5.

- Creative and stimulating play activities for children
- A safe space for parents to meet, socialise, and share experiences
- Guidance and support from qualified Family Support Workers
- Access to information on health, wellbeing, and local services
- A free, healthy lunch for all attendees

Locations and Times:

- Mondays Together: The Fields Child and Family Centre, Galfrid Road
- Wednesdays Together: Campkin Road Community Centre, Morello Place
- Thursdays Together: Browns Field Youth and Community Centre, Green End Road

For more information, please visit www.khfsp.org.uk

New report highlights the impact of Adult Child to Parent Abuse

PEGS surveyed 100 parental figures experiencing abuse from adult children, aged 18 and over, for their latest report.

Key findings include:

- **98%** of respondents experience daily verbal abuse
- **12%** of respondents were aged 36–45, **62%** were aged 46–55 and **23%** aged 56+
- **25%** are physically assaulted each month.
- **91%** report property damage.
- **14%** of victims said they have physical disabilities
- **49%** reported that their adult children are using substances

Parents said they felt isolated, ashamed and guilty about the abuse and many said they were worried that they would be blamed if they asked for support.

A large number said they had spoken to their doctor about the abuse but were disappointed in the support available to them.

The report calls for a number of actions including:

- Continue working with policymakers to push for CPA to be formally recognised in legislation and safeguarding frameworks.
- Engage with professionals, ensuring they understand the complexities of CPA and the importance of non-judgmental support.
- Advocate for increased recognition of long-term CPA and the need for sustained support rather than short-term crisis intervention.

The full report is available to read at: [Parental figures experiences of adult child to parent abuse](#)

THIRD PETERBOROUGH DOMESTIC ABUSE & SEXUAL VIOLENCE CONFERENCE – LEARNING FROM SURVIVORS

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE 2025

You are invited to the third Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Conference, which will be held at
Bretton Baptist Church, Copeland, South Bretton, Peterborough, PE3 6YJ

9am Registration for a 9.30am Start, until 4.30pm

Speakers Include:

Peterborough City Council CEO Matt Gladstone, Living Keys, Peterborough Rape Crisis, Cambridgeshire
Constabulary, Cambridgeshire Deaf Association, Peterborough Women's Aid, Peterborough's Poet Laureate
Alex Tyler

Lunchtime will be a chance to Network, visit the stands or for those attending to go to **Peterborough
Women's Aid Annual General Meeting**

Drinks will be provided, to save on waste please bring your own mug or flask.

Please bring your own lunch –

we are hopeful of sunshine, you can eat together in the garden.

Parking on Site will be limited to those with Blue Badges or Stall holders, please check parking arrangements
with Google beforehand and car share where you can.

If you have any accessibility requirements, please get in touch.

RSVP

Vickie.crompton@peterborough.gov.uk

DASV Partnership Manager
Peterborough City Council

We look forward to meeting you there for an inspiring day



FENLAND VOLUNTEER BLEND

**Join our friendly groups to chat about
volunteering in your local community!**

Chatteris

Monday 19 May

10:00am - 12:00pm

King Edward Community Centre, 3 King Edward Road, Chatteris PE16 6NG

March

Wednesday 21 May

10:00am - 12:00pm

March Library, City Road, March PE15 9LT

Wisbech

Thursday 22 May

10:00am - 12:00pm

Trinity Methodist Church Cafe, Church Terrace, Wisbech PE13 1BL

Whittlesey

Friday 23 May

10:00am - 12:00pm

The Hangout Whittlesey, 5 Market place, Whittlesey, PE7 1BA

Open to all!



A project run by CCVS
Charity number: 1074947



North Cambridgeshire &
Peterborough Care Partnership



Cambridgeshire &
Peterborough

Women's Health Survey

Have your say!

We are running a survey to
better understand women's
health needs across
Peterborough

We want to hear your views
about your local community
and the services available for
women's health in your area.

To take part, scan the below QR code
or visit :
<https://forms.office.com/e/oTopsiTWwm>



Please complete the survey by 30th April 2025