



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

July 2026

Welcome to the July Newsletter

Summer is well and truly here and as the weather heats up, we hope everyone will get chance for a well-deserved break at some point. We are starting to prepare for the autumn with our October DASV Champions sessions and the Cambridge United Foundation Safeguarding Conference focusing on Young People and VAWG, which has been rescheduled to Friday 16th October. Details of both can be found in the main newsletter.

Autumn will also bring preparations for White Ribbon Day on 25th November and the 16 days of action for the elimination of violence against women and girls. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved, please let us know.

We would also like to highlight that the Domestic Homicide Reviews for Amelia and Miles have recently been published. These are available to read on the Peterborough City Council and Huntingdonshire District Council websites.

As always, please do stay in touch—we greatly value hearing from you.

Best Wishes

Julia & Vickie

Julia Cullum, DASV Head of Service – Cambridgeshire

Vickie Crompton, DASV Manager - Peterborough



Local support service contact details

Cambridgeshire IDVA service:

Telephone: 01480 376200

Email: idva.referrals@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Monday – Friday 09.00 – 17.00 (16.30 on Fridays)

Peterborough IDVA service:

Telephone: 07983345580

Email: peterboroughidvas@peterborough.gov.uk

Monday – Friday 09.00 – 17.00 (16.30 on Fridays)

Cambridge & Peterborough Rape Crisis Helpline:

Telephone: 01223 245888

Wednesday 19.00 – 21.30 & Sunday 10.00 – 12.30

Cambridgeshire domestic abuse outreach support - DASS:

Telephone: 0300 3731073 Monday – Friday 09.00 – 17.00

Peterborough domestic abuse outreach support – Peterborough Women’s Aid The Peacock Project:

Telephone 01733 894964 Monday – Friday 09.00 – 16.30 (16.00 on Fridays)

Cambridgeshire Victim Services (Victim & Witness Hub):

Support Directory: [Victim Services | Cambridgeshire & Peterborough](#)

Telephone: 0800 781 6818

Email: victimandwitnesshub@cambs.police.uk

DASV Champions

The next online sessions will be in October.

Vickie Crompton will be speaking about Victim Blaming and Sarah Fines will be speaking about Learning From Recently Published DHRs

Dates:

1st October 10.00 – 12.00

6th October 14.00 – 14.00

8th October 13.00 – 15.00

Please use the link below to book:

[October DASV Champions Sessions: Victim Blaming & Learning From Recently Published DHRs](#)

Domestic Abuse Commissioner Launches New Three-Year Strategy

This new three-year plan comes at a moment of real opportunity to overhaul the approach to domestic abuse and the attitudes that cause it.

New priorities have been shaped by listening to victims and survivors, frontline domestic abuse services, statutory agencies and political leaders. Through this engagement, three persistent problems have been identified.

- Too many victims reach out for help and don't get the response they need at the moment when the right support could be lifesaving.
- Frontline services are chronically underfunded, leaving too many people without anywhere to turn.
- And when the system fails victims, there is little accountability to make it right.

For the next three years, Dame Nicole Jacobs and her office will focus on specialist services, health, policing and probation. Across each area, they will use their statutory powers, evidence and convening role to drive accountability and systemic improvement.

You can read the full Strategic Plan [here](#), including the Commissioner's vision for each of the priority areas.

You can also access a large print version on [GOV.UK](#).

The strategy launches alongside a refreshed website, which will make it easier for practitioners, policy makers and other professionals working on domestic abuse to find resources and evidence.

Visit the new [resource centre](#) to find out latest consultation responses, reports and briefings, and the [lived experience engagement page](#) to find out more about the approach to involving victims and survivors in the Commissioner's work.

Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)

Please access the links below for summaries of 2 recently published DHRs

[Amelia - Peterborough](#)

[Miles - Hunts](#)

Crime and Policing Act 2026

On 29 April 2026 the Crime and Policing bill received Royal Assent to become the Crime and Policing Act 2026. It introduces a new statutory duty for individuals undertaking key roles with responsibility for children and young people in England to report sexual abuse when they are made aware of it. It also includes a new criminal offence of attempting to prevent someone reporting child sexual abuse. Ahead of implementation, the government will develop and publish detailed guidance on the mandatory reporting duty.

The duty applies to anyone taking part in regulated activity with children in England, such as teachers, social workers, healthcare professionals and those working in voluntary roles with children.

[Crime and Policing Act 2026](#)

Parenting with An Abusive Ex-Partner

For many families, domestic abuse doesn't end when a relationship ends. Coercive and controlling behaviour can continue through communication about children, affecting both parents and children's wellbeing.

Both the parental & professional guidance is now available on the DASV website parenting page.

Please access the link below:

[Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership - Parenting](#)

Courses for parents are ongoing in Peterborough – the next date is 18th September 2026 and is 6 consecutive weeks



Parenting After Domestic Abuse

A support programme for parents experiencing post-separation abuse. Co-parenting after separation can be extremely difficult and sometimes feel impossible when there has been domestic abuse within the relationship.

For many survivors, this marks the beginning of a new and challenging journey. This course provides practical guidance, support and strategies to help parents move forward safely and confidently.

- Face-to-face in Peterborough.
- Course dates are ongoing.
- Please email admin@livingkeys.co.uk to register your interest for the next available course.

COURSE CONTENT

- SESSION 1: Introduction to the Course
- SESSION 2: Communication
- SESSION 3: Working with Professionals
- SESSION 4: Building a Good Home Environment
- SESSION 5: Self-Care
- SESSION 6: Strategies for Moving Forward

REFERRALS
Professionals can refer clients by emailing admin@livingkeys.co.uk

Please include:

- Name
- Email address
- Contact number

Self-referrals are also welcome. All enquiries will be acknowledged once received.

FURTHER INFORMATION
Linda or Charli: 07507 269081

Living Keys
Help to freedom from domestic abuse
EST 2021

Empowering Women. Changing Lives.

Cats Protection Lifeline



Cats Protection Lifeline is a specialist cat fostering service for people fleeing from domestic abuse, providing a safe, loving home to cats until their families are ready to be reunited with them after accessing emergency accommodation. Lifeline is currently looking for more volunteer foster carers to open their homes and hearts to cats in need. Through becoming a foster carer for Lifeline, volunteers know that they are not only supporting a pet, but a whole family too. All expenses are covered so there is no cost to you, and you are fully supported every step of the way.

Find out more about welcoming a Lifeline foster cat here: [Cats Protection Lifeline](#)

Peterborough DASV Conference



If you Missed the Peterborough DASV Conference on 24 June 2026 you can now listen to presentations and insights from the expert speakers by clicking the link below:

[4th Peterborough DASV Conference](#)

Save the date for the 5th Peterborough DASV Conference – **5th May 2027**

If there are any topics, speakers, or areas of practice you would particularly like to see included, please email:

vickie.crompton@peterborough.gov.uk or martha.ross-smith@peterborough.gov.uk

Electronic Monitoring of Domestic Abuse Perpetrators: Interim Findings

Key highlights from the evaluation:

- **Strong victim reassurance benefits** – Electronic monitoring is viewed positively by victim-facing professionals and can help victims feel safer and more confident that perpetrators are being monitored.
- **Tagging delays create risk** – Delays in fitting tags after release can leave high-risk perpetrators unmonitored, causing concern for victims and practitioners.
- **Better information sharing needed** – Victim Liaison Officers and Domestic Abuse Safety Officers reported limited visibility of tagging arrangements, breaches and compliance issues.
- **Concerns about breach enforcement** – Some professionals felt breaches were not always acted upon quickly or robustly enough, potentially affecting victim confidence.
- **No evidence of reduced offending yet** – Early findings show no statistically significant reduction in recorded domestic violence incidents, although fuller reoffending analysis is still to come

Link to full document:

[Electronic monitoring of domestic abuse perpetrators on licence: process and interim impact evaluat...](#)

Refuge

Digital Breakup

In England and Wales, one in four women will experience some form of domestic abuse in their lifetime, and tech abuse is an increasing part of that problem. Abusive partners may use technology to control, harass or intimidate.

Refuge has teamed up with Avast to raise awareness of tech abuse, both helping women understand what it is and also supporting them to secure their digital devices and platforms against potential tech abuse from a partner or ex-partner.

This interactive tool is designed to provide awareness and understanding of the various digital platforms a partner might have access to, whether it's social media accounts, online banking, or live location through apps such as Uber and Strava. The tool also provides women with the necessary knowledge to help them secure these digital platforms against potential tech abuse from a partner or ex-partner.

[Digital Breakup](#)

Funding Opportunity

Cambridgeshire County Council Public Health Inclusion Health Seed Funding Opportunity

Cambridgeshire County Council Public Health has launched a Health for All Inclusion Health Seed Funding programme for local charities and community organisations working with inclusion health groups with the greatest health inequalities (for example people experiencing homelessness, migrants in vulnerable situations, or those facing multiple disadvantages).

Grants of £5,000–£25,000 are available for new ideas, early-stage initiatives, or existing work that can be enhanced, that can make a positive difference.

To find out more and apply, visit:

[Health for All inclusion health seed funding | Cambridgeshire County Council.](#)

Deadline: 17.00 Friday 14 August 2026.

SafeLives

Routes to Safety Report

This first of its kind research shows that identity can significantly impact how quickly and safely victims of domestic abuse receive help. It highlights how the layering of identities and experiences - including sexuality, gender, race, disability, age and other characteristics - can shape survivors' experiences of abuse, help-seeking, and their routes to safety.

SafeLives are calling for a system that truly recognises the diversity of LGBT+ survivors' experiences, and the intersectional barriers many face, so no one is left behind simply because they don't fit a narrow idea of what a "typical" victim looks like.

Read the report here: [Routes to Safety - SafeLives](#)

Victim-blaming and Bias have no place in the Family Justice System

New evidence from Right To Equality's report:

Scratching the Surface: Victim-Blaming and Bias in Family Court Judgements

Highlights the urgent need for reform across the family justice system.

This blog explores the report's key findings, the changes needed, and why survivor-informed practice and specialist training are essential to improving outcomes.

[Victim-blaming and bias have no place in the family justice system.](#)

Domestic Abuse in Child Protection

University of Sheffield Report:

This report provides insight into how domestic violence and abuse (DVA) is understood and responded to within child protection systems, and reinforces that meaningful change requires us to move beyond crisis responses and work with the whole family, including those using abusive behaviour

[Microsoft Word - RDAC final version for publication.docx](#)

DASS

Reminder of Support Offer

Domestic Abuse Support Service (DASS) provides practical, trauma-informed support for people experiencing or recovering from domestic abuse. They offer safety planning, advocacy, support with housing and finances, and signposting to specialist services. Referrals are accepted for individuals aged 16+ who live in Cambridgeshire, are assessed as low to medium risk using the DASH risk assessment and have an identified practical support need.

While they do not provide counselling, mental health support or legal advice, they are happy to discuss appropriate signposting if someone is not eligible for our service or would benefit from alternative support.

They can be contacted via email or phone

dassreferrals@impakt.org.uk

0300 373 1073

Further information, including the online referral form, is available at [DASS Impakt](#)

The Meadows Children & Family Wing

For information on the support they offer please visit their website:

[The Meadows Children & Family Wing | Providing a fun, safe and stimulating environment.](#)

Living Keys



Applications are being taken for the 12-week Freedom Programme and the 6-week Parenting After Domestic Abuse Course both starting in September, dates still to be confirmed.

Drop-in Services will not be running during August but will return in September.

Cherished Group will not be running on Mondays throughout August but will back in September.

Also coming in September:

Monday Afternoon's 15.00 – 17.00

Body Beauties

Healthy eating and exercise – weigh in is optional

Staff will still be available over the summer to take calls if anyone still needs help and support

07507269081

For more information on the support they offer please visit their website: [Living Keys](#)

Peterborough Women's Aid (PWA)

Dahlia Project Training Workshops – Please contact Mandy Geraghty to book a place



Own My Life Inspired 12-week online session starting:
15th October
18.00



For more information on services provided by PWA please visit their website

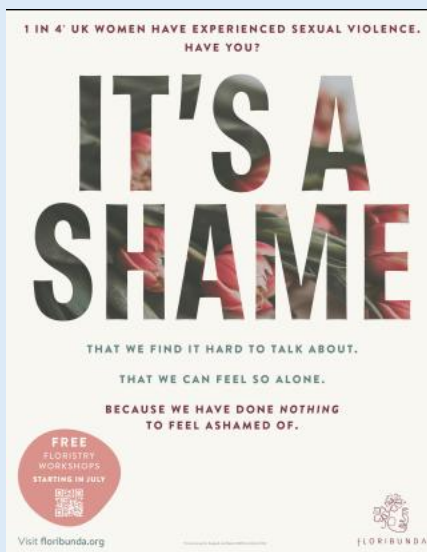
[Peterborough Women's Aid](https://www.peterborough-womens-aid.org.uk/)

The Angels Foundation UK

For more information on the support they offer please visit their website:

[The Angels Foundation UK](#)

Floribunda



Introducing Floribunda, a new free support service based in Cambridgeshire for cisgender women aged 25+ who have experienced sexual violence.

Floribunda is offering FREE floristry and well-being workshops to women.

This service has been designed to bridge the gap that can exist when formal support ends, but a woman still wants connection, community, and opportunities for continued healing. The service is intended for women who are not in crisis and who are looking for support as they move forward in their recovery.

Access is through self-referral only, empowering women to seek support when they feel ready.

Please find below a short introduction deck for professionals and our digital campaign for easy sharing with your networks.

While Floribunda may be relevant for women accessing your services, it may also be a valuable resource for colleagues within your own organisation as part of a trauma-informed approach to staff wellbeing and support.

Any questions please contact mia@floribunda.org



Floribunda Prof
Partner Info Deck.pdf

Cambridge Women's Aid (CWA)

Supporting Survivors, Strengthening Communities

CWA provide specialist support to women and children affected by domestic abuse, helping them rebuild safe, independent lives with compassion, expertise and hope.

Their dedicated team offer support through both their refuge and community services, ensuring women can access help whenever they are ready, whether they are still in an abusive relationship, planning to leave, or coping with the long-term impact of abuse many years later.

Their community team provides tailored 1:1:2 support with practical issues such as safety planning, housing, benefits, the criminal and family justice systems, as well as emotional support throughout each person's recovery journey. Alongside individual support, they offer specialist survivor groups and a Legal Support Project to help women understand their rights and navigate complex legal processes.

CWA has extensive experience delivering high-quality domestic abuse services and works in line with the National Quality Standards (NQS). Their staff provide trauma-informed, survivor-centred support that empowers women to make informed choices and move towards recovery.

Free Domestic Abuse Awareness Workshops

Through The Empowerment Collective they offer free, interactive workshops designed to increase understanding of domestic abuse and give people the confidence to support survivors.

Domestic Abuse Awareness & Effective Responses

- Learn about the dynamics of domestic abuse.
- Recognise the signs of abuse.
- Respond safely and confidently to disclosures.
- Understand how to signpost people to appropriate support.
- Book your place: <https://cambridgewa.org.uk/domesticabuseeffectiveresponse.php>

Community Power

- Explore the impact of domestic abuse on individuals and communities.
- Challenge common myths and victim-blaming attitudes.
- Discover how everyone can help create safer, more supportive communities.
- Book your place: <https://cambridgewa.org.uk/communitypower.php>

To find out more about their workshops or discuss training for your organisation, please contact Ana@cambridgewa.org.uk.

The Lotus Garden – Growing Hope Together

The **Lotus Garden** is a community gardening project supporting women as they rebuild their lives after domestic abuse. Currently, the project is open to women who have been supported by Cambridge Women's Aid.

Delivered in partnership with **Cultivating Change**, the project brings women together to grow plants, learn gardening skills, improve wellbeing and build supportive connections with others. As women move into their own homes after refuge, plants grown through the project are gifted to them, helping create welcoming spaces that symbolise hope, growth and new beginnings.

Find out more: <https://cambridgewa.org.uk/thelotusgarden.php>

If you would like to support the project or get involved, please contact Ana@cambridgewa.org.uk.

Cambridge Women's Resources Centre (CWRC)

CWRC are excited to announce that Cambridge Women's Resources Centre will be moving premises during the month of August.

From the 3rd of August, they will no longer be based in The Courtyard at Sturton Street.

New address:

2 - 4 Hawthorn Way

Chesterton

CB4 1AX

Phone number remains the same: 01223-321148

To help facilitate the move, CWRC will be completely closed from the 3rd August and will re-open at our new premises on the 25th August.

Only phone lines and 1:1 support will be available during the last week of August. All groups and classes will re-start in September.

Please check their website for more details - www.cwrc.org.uk

Anglia Ruskin University (ARU)

Open call for art for the exhibition on 22nd September 2026 at ARU Cambridge Campus



Open Call For Art



Artwork: The Meadows Children & Family Wing **Picture:** Sebastian Tobisiak

Apply to display your art at the 3rd iteration of **Breaking the Silence: Art Against Abuse** exhibition at ARU in collaboration with charities and survivors to raise awareness on **domestic abuse**. We particularly welcome diverse perspectives.

Exhibition Date & Location 22nd September 2026 @Helmore Street Reception and Atrium ARU Cambridge Campus 11am - 4pm	Art Submission Deadline 8th September 2026 Application email should include: • "Open Call" in the subject of the email • Type(s) of art (poetry, painting, digital, etc.) • Brief description and/or concept abstract • Any media/pictures of the artwork • Size and display requirements Artwork drop-off: 8-10am on day of event Artwork pick-up: 4-5pm on day of event  alison.hunte@aru.ac.uk
--	---

“The personal nature of the art made it very emotional. It was a beautiful and thought provoking exhibit. Profound and important.”

-Attendee on previous exhibition

Group Events in Cambridge

MEN'S HEMS

FREE DROP-IN FOR MEN FACING MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

- MENTAL HEALTH SAFE SPACE FOR MEN
- LEARN BASIC SEWING & MENDING SKILLS
- UPCYCLE & REDUCE TEXTILE WASTE
- FREE COFFEE & CHAT

TUESDAY EVENINGS 7-9PM
SEW POSITIVE HUB, GWYDIR ST, CB1 2LG



REGISTER ON
LINKTREE



Come to a free Sewcialise Good Mood Café

combining conversation,
connection & creative upcycling.

Thursdays, 10am -12pm (term time only)
Sew Positive Hub, Gwydir St. Cambridge.

No sewing skills needed,
just curiosity & creativity!

Tea & coffee provided

Register via Linktree
to take part or just drop in
for a coffee.



Sew Positive is a Cambridge
charity tackling social isolation
& mental health through sewing,
crafts, upcycling and mending.

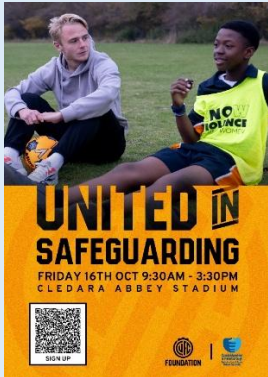
Sew Positive is a Registered Charity (No:1192682) and a Charitable
Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in England (CEO229568).
Free sessions are for people experiencing social isolation, mental
health challenges, or other forms of marginalisation. 30 sessions per
year will run weekly, term-time from Feb 26 -Jan 29.



mind
Cambridgeshire,
Peterborough and
South Lincolnshire

Learning Opportunities

Cambridge United Foundation Safeguarding Conference



Cambridge United Foundation are delighted to announce the new date for their inaugural 'United in Safeguarding' Conference in partnership with the Cambridgeshire DASV partnership

Friday 16th October 2026

Cledara Abbey Stadium

Cambridge

10.00 – 15.30

United in Safeguarding will bring together education, local authority, sport, policing, and community partners to address emerging safeguarding risks affecting young people.

The focus of the event will be as follows:

- Domestic Abuse & Coercive Control -
- Lived-Experience Insight
- Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)
- Online Safety, Social Media & AI Risks/Digital Safeguarding Awareness
- Early Intervention Pathways
- Practical Policy Guidance

Speakers for day will include:

- Sanara Training
- Cambridgeshire PSHE Services
- Cambridge United Foundation
- White Ribbon Ambassador
- Nick Gazzard (Hollie Gazzard Trust)
- Rape Crisis

Please click on the link below to book a place:

[United in Safeguarding Conference 2026](#)

Empowera

What is Post Separation Abuse?

Separation doesn't always mean safety.

Join Empowera for an engaging and compassionate webinar that unpacks the realities of Post Separation Abuse. We'll explore the tactics, impacts, and support pathways for those affected, as well as what friends, professionals, and communities can do to help.

Friday 24th July 2026

12:15 – 13:00

Online via Zoom

[Click here to reserve your FREE space](#)

What is Coercive Control?

Abuse isn't always physical.

Join Empowera for an engaging and compassionate webinar that explores the realities of power and coercive control. We'll unpack what coercive control is, how it develops over time, the tactics used to dominate and manipulate, and the lasting impact it can have on those experiencing it.

Monday 10th August 2026

12:15 – 13:00

Online via Zoom

[Click here to reserve your FREE space](#)

Refuge

Understand the risks to survivors and children, best practice and how AI is reshaping the VAWG landscape.

From chatbots to note takers to translation apps, artificial intelligence has infiltrated every aspect of our lives, but what does this mean for survivors of domestic abuse and the future of direct support? Delivered by Refuge specialist Technology Facilitated Abuse and Economic Empowerment team, this webinar will take a deeper look at the emerging risks of AI for survivors and their children. Developing frontline understanding of how AI intersects with economic, and technology facilitated abuse, the session will look at the effects of algorithmic biases and how can we ensure best practice. Participants will leave with strategies to navigate AI-driven challenges centred around survivor safety and autonomy, empowering frontline professionals to explore the impact of AI and its role in reshaping the VAWG landscape.

Tuesday 18th August

09.30 – 11.30

Access the link below to book tickets

[Power and Control in the Age of AI](#)

This 90-minute webinar provides healthcare professionals with an essential introduction to the growing risk of technology-facilitated abuse (TFA)

Designed specifically for those working in healthcare, the session will explore how TFA can present in clinical settings, including misuse of everyday technology, assistive technology and the NHS app. Delivered by Refuge's specialist Technology Facilitated Abuse and Economic Empowerment team, this webinar will highlight the intersecting barriers faced by survivors. These insights will deepen clinicians understanding of how technology facilitated abuse impacts survivors of domestic abuse and their children.

Tuesday 1st September

13.00 – 14.30

Access the link below to book

[Digital Control in Clinical Spaces: Improving Responses to Tech Abuse](#)

PEGS

Click the links below to book an hour session, delivered by PEGS, on Child to Parent Abuse Awareness

Thursday 12th November

16.00 – 17.00

[PEGS - Child To Parent Abuse Awareness Session Thursday 12th November](#)

Thursday 17th December

10.00 – 11.00

[PEGS - Child To Parent Abuse Awareness Session Thursday 17th December](#)

Wednesday 6th January 2027

16.00 – 17.00

[PEGS - Child To Parent Abuse Awareness Session Wednesday 6th January 2027](#)

Tuesday 2nd February 2027

12.00 – 13.00

[PEGS - Child To Parent Abuse Awareness Session Tuesday 2nd February 2027](#)

Monday 15th March 2027

10.00 – 11.00

[PEGS - Child To Parent Abuse Awareness Session Monday 15th March 2027](#)

Full day session

Thursday 14th January 2027

[PEGS - Child To Parent Abuse Full-day training session Thursday 14th January 2027](#)

