



Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Newsletter

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

September 2026

Welcome to the September Newsletter

As we move into autumn, we are pleased to share the latest edition of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership newsletter, bringing together important updates, learning opportunities, and resources from across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

This month, we are particularly pleased to highlight the upcoming United in Safeguarding Conference, being organised by Cambridge United Foundation, which still has places available. The conference provides an excellent opportunity for professionals from across sectors to come together, share learning, strengthen partnerships, and explore emerging safeguarding challenges. We strongly encourage colleagues to secure a place and take advantage of what promises to be a valuable and inspiring event, details at the bottom of the newsletter.

We are also pleased to showcase local services, recovery programmes, and community initiatives that continue to make a difference to victim-survivors and their families.

We hope you find this newsletter informative and useful and encourage you to share relevant updates across your networks.

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 Recent: y 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](#)

16 Days of Action

Please see the information and links to book for the online sessions we are facilitating during 16 Days of Action this year.

Getting To Know The Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Community

26th November 14.00 – 15.30

Janie Codona

[Getting to know the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Community](#)

Employers Initiative on Domestic Abuse

30th November 12.30 – 13.30

Susan Bright & Sharon Livermore

[Employers Initiative on Domestic Abuse](#)

Honor Based Abuse

1st December 10.00 – 12.00

Peterborough Women's Aid

Please email Mandy Geraghty for more details and to book a place

amanda.geraghty@wa-support.co.uk

Active Bystander Training

2nd December 13.00 - 14.00

Helen Helps

[Active Bystander Training](#)

Recognising the Signs: Lived Experience, Coercive Control and Domestic Homicide

7th December 13.30 – 15.00

Claire Thatcher

[Recognising the Signs: Lived Experience, Coercive Control and Domestic Homicide](#)

Supporting Older Survivors of Sexual Violence

8th December 12.00 – 13.00

Amanda Warburton

[Supporting Older Survivors Of Sexual Violence](#)

Learning from DHRs

9th December 13.00 – 14.00

Sarah Fines

[Learning From DHRs](#)

Domestic Abuse Related Death Review (DARDR)

The Home Office are pleased to share that the new Domestic Abuse Related Death Review (DARDR) statutory guidance was published on Tuesday 15th September 2026, in tandem with commencing the legislation to change the name and amend the criteria.

The expectation to implement the new guidance and legislation applies only to reviews where the notification to the Community Safety Partnership of a death is received after 15th September 2026. Any notifications received or reviews underway prior to this date can continue under the old guidance. For more information visit:

[Domestic abuse related death reviews: statutory guidance - GOV.UK](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2024/21/section/19)
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2024/21/section/19>

Shared Lives

Cambridgeshire Shared Lives DASV Project Publishes Year 3 Report

The Cambridgeshire Shared Lives Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV) Project has published its Year 3 Interim Progress Report, highlighting another year of supporting adults with learning disabilities and/or autism who have experienced domestic abuse and sexual violence. The project remains the first of its kind nationally, combining specialist domestic abuse support with the Shared Lives model of care.

During Year 3, the project supported 10 survivors through a combination of Shared Lives and Outreach support, helping people access safety, justice, therapeutic services, increased independence and opportunities for recovery. The report also highlights the project's wider impact, including professional training, awareness raising, contributions to national research, and work to improve understanding of domestic abuse experienced by people with learning disabilities and/or autism.

Three years of delivery have generated valuable learning for services across the domestic abuse, health and social care sectors. Key themes include the importance of recognising that abuse is often hidden within wider care and support needs, the prevalence of family abuse, and the value of flexible, relationship-based support that allows survivors time to recognise, understand and recover from abuse.

To read the full report or find out more about the project, how to become a Shared Lives Domestic Abuse Carer or to enquire about the free training and awareness sessions for professionals, please contact **Libby Swannell-Bell** at libby.swannell-bell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

FGM resource pack, GOV.UK [Female genital mutilation: resource pack - GOV.UK](#)

RCE Wellbeing Hub

The RCE Wellbeing Hub offer a welcoming, supportive learning environment where adults across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough can explore practical tools and techniques to support their mental health and wellbeing. Courses are completely free, open to anyone aged 18+, and delivered by a unique team of trainers and people with lived experience. The Hub is built around their values of Hope, Control and Opportunity.

Popular Courses This Autumn:

- **Wellbeing Discovery Programme** (6 weeks) - Perfect if you're new to the Hub or unsure where to start. Explore a range of wellbeing topics and discover what works for you.
- **Exploring Emotions** - Understand why we experience emotions and learn helpful techniques to navigate them.
- **Challenging Our Worrying Thoughts** - Practical ways to manage worrying and anxious thinking.
- **Knowing Our Worth** - Explore self-esteem, confidence and self-worth.
- **Bouncebackability** - Discover techniques to build resilience and recover from life's challenges.
- **Let's Talk About... Anxiety, ADHD, Low Mood & Depression** - Friendly sessions that increase understanding and challenge stigma.
- **Living Well With... Anxiety** - Learn practical strategies from people who understand these experiences firsthand.

A full timetable of all sessions from September-December is on their website here:

[RCE | CPFT NHS Trust](#)

How to Book...

If new to the RCE Wellbeing Hub an online enrollment form can be completed [Expression of Interest Capture Form](#) or email RCEWellbeingHub@cpft.nhs.uk

Carers Discretionary Safeguarding

Carers at risk of harm from abuse

Unpaid carers can sometimes experience domestic abuse from the person(s) they are caring for, and this is recognised within the Countywide Carers Strategy.

Where a carer doesn't have care and support needs in their own right, a discretionary section 42 (Safeguarding Adults) enquiry can be undertaken to identify any support needs the carer may have to keep them safe from significant harm. The process is via the usual safeguarding adults route that your organisation uses.

This sits alongside specialist domestic abuse support such as IDVAS, MARAC and DA outreach.

Free Wellbeing Project Available In Wisbech

The Cambridgeshire IDVA Service has successfully secured funding, through the Public Health Seed Fund, to deliver a wellbeing activity at Wisbech Community Farm.

Designed for mothers and children under 18, this project offers engaging group activities in a welcoming farm environment, promoting wellbeing, social connection, and positive family experiences.

- Group sessions held on Monday afternoons
- Starting 21st September
- Open to mothers and children aged under 18

If you are supporting someone who may benefit from this opportunity, please consider making a referral and helping them access this free wellbeing programme.

For more information and for a referral form please email: dasv@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Young Persons Service At Peterborough Rape Crisis Care Group (PRCCG)

PRCCG is a charity dedicated to supporting all survivors of rape and any form of sexual violence. The Young Persons Service provides specialist support for young people across Cambridgeshire aged 14–16 who have experienced sexual violence. It does not matter when it happened or whether it has been reported to the police. Their Young Person's support provision is designed using the SENSE model with clinical oversight from Dr Nicola Lester. Sessions are delivered online or via telephone on a fortnightly basis, and parental consent and a professional referral are required. The referral can be made by completing the online form which can be found through their website:

[Make a referral – Peterborough Rape Crisis Care Group](https://prccg.org.uk/make-a-referral)

For more information:

[Peterborough Rape Crisis Care Group – Here to support you](https://prccg.org.uk/make-a-referral)

01733 511250

Email: admin@prccg.org.uk

PRCCG

HOW TO MAKE A YOUNG PERSON SERVICE REFERRAL?

Referral for young people services can only be made by a professional and with parental consent. The referral can be done by completing our online form which can be found through our website at <https://prccg.org.uk/make-a-referral/> or you can access the link via the barcode.

For any enquiries, contact us at:
01733 511250
admin@prccg.org.uk

ABOUT US AND OTHER SERVICES

Peterborough Rape Crisis Care Group is a charity dedicated to supporting all survivors of rape and any form of sexual violence, no matter when the incident happened. We support both male and female survivors as well as supporting family and friends of survivors.

Feedback from a Dad: 100% the support helped me to cope better. I didn't think it would be for me but it was good to have someone to talk to outside of the family.

Feedback from a mum: I have been supporting my daughter, where my daughter would share things and get upset I didn't know how to handle it and working with Jenny has given me the skills and confidence to support my daughter. I have been less stressed and I haven't been panicked.

THE YOUNG PERSON SERVICE

RAPE CRISIS PARTNERSHIP
CAMBRIDGE & PETERBOROUGH
PRCCG

YOUR VOICE MATTERS.

WHAT IS THE YOUNG PERSON SERVICE?

The Young Persons Service provides specialist support for young people across Cambridgeshire aged 14–16 who have experienced sexual violence. It does not matter when it happened or whether it has been reported to the police, we are here to help. Our Young Person's support provision is designed using our SENSE model with clinical oversight from Dr Nicola Lester. Sessions are delivered online or via telephone on a fortnightly basis, and parental consent and a professional referral are required.

WHAT IS SENSE?

THE SENSE MODEL STANDS FOR STABILISATION, EDUCATION, NORMALISATION, SOCIAL SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT.

- STABILISATION**
Working with the young person to find tools and techniques to manage overwhelming feelings.
- EDUCATION**
Helping young people make sense of their experience and understanding that it is not their fault.
- NORMALISATION**
Helping young people recognise that all trauma responses are natural and guilty challenging beliefs like "I shouldn't feel that way" by asking "why not?"
- Social support.**
Looking at the young person holistically and identifying who can support them in their healing journey.
- ENGAGEMENT**
Helping the young person to put the above into practice.

FEED BACK FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

"I have found the SENSE sessions really good, they have really helped me."

"I think the SENSE sessions have really helped me and I have felt really supported."

Take one day at a time.

Bikeability

Lydia Mack is running the Bikeability course again this year in October half term.

Although the course was originally developed to support families experiencing parental conflict, she is happy to accept referrals for children who have been affected by domestic abuse within the home, provided they meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the poster.

Whilst the programme is not intended as a therapeutic intervention, it offers children a positive and enjoyable opportunity to build confidence, develop new skills and take part in activities during the school holidays.

The programme includes two days of Bikeability training at Huntingdon Youth, Child and Family Centre, followed by an overnight stay at Grafham Water, where children will have the opportunity to participate in a range of fun and engaging activities.



**Bikeability Course-
October Half Term 2026**
4 days with an overnight stay at Grafham Water!

BEST START IN LIFE **FAMILY HUBS**

Expression of interest deadline: 10th October half term 2026

- Would your child benefit from participating in a course where they can improve their biking ability, build confidence and enjoy a half-term full of activities including an overnight stay at Grafham Water?
- Please express an interest for your child to attend this free course by completing the form accessed through the QR code

Criteria and Commitments

- ✓ Your child is in either Year 5 or Year 6
- ✓ There is, or there has been conflict between you and your partner or ex-partner
- ✓ Your child must commit to all 4 days
- ✓ Your child needs to have a basic cycling ability (looking behind, riding one-handed, maintaining control) before they start the course on Monday 26th October
- ✓ Your child doesn't have a bike? No problem, we can help

MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER TO THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2026 (OCTOBER HALF-TERM)

**HUNTINGDON YOUTH, CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE,
SALLOWBUSH RD, HUNTINGDON PE29 7AF**

Cambridgeshire County Council

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS:
PLEASE EMAIL:
BCLEAD@CAMBRIDGESHIRE.GOV.UK

To register an expression of interest please use the link below:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/BRksd0SRD4>

Peterborough City Council

Across Peterborough 'Recognise Him' is being launched to coincide with the White Ribbon theme this year '**It Takes All of Us**'. This reminds us that creating change starts with everyday actions and speaking up when something isn't right.

We are looking for nominations of men from workplaces, sports clubs, community groups and local organisations who are showing allyship with women and girls against sexism and violence against women and girls.

Please see the posters for more details and how to nominate.



RECOGNISE HIM

Celebrating Men and Boys who are making a difference in Peterborough

Everyday across Peterborough, men and boys are helping to create a culture of respect by challenging sexism, promoting equality and supporting women and girls.

Whether it's speaking up against inappropriate comments, supporting healthy relationships, being a positive role model, or advocating for safer communities, these actions make a real difference.



IT TAKES ALL OF US.
SEE IT. CHALLENGE IT.
CHANGE IT.

WHO CAN BE NOMINATED?

Men and boys in Peterborough who:

- Challenge sexism, misogyny and harmful attitudes
- Promote respect, equality and healthy relationships
- Support the safety and well-being of women and girls
- Lead by example at home, work, school, sport or within the community
- Inspire others to become active allies

WHY IT MATTERS

- Violence against women and girls rarely starts with extreme behaviour
- It often begins with sexist attitudes, inappropriate comments and behaviours that are dismissed as "just banter".
- When these behaviours go unchallenged, they become normalised
- By recognising positive allyship, we can encourage others to take action and demonstrate that preventing violence against women and girls is everyone's responsibility.

SCAN TO NOMINATE



The **WINNER** will be announced at the White Ribbon Flag Raising Event

TIME: Late morning

LOCATION: Peterborough Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HA

NOMINATE TODAY
Until 9th November 2026

FLAG RAISING EVENT
25th November 2026

GET IN TOUCH: ✉ Vickie.Crompton@peterborough.gov.uk

Campaign concept inspired by the London Borough of Merton's White Ribbon "Recognise Him" campaign and adapted for Peterborough City Council.

Peterborough Women's Aid (PWA)

Access the link below to listen to the latest PWA Podcast 'Keep women Talking'. In this Podcast Mandy Geraghty (PWA CEO) talks to the Mayor of Peterborough Chris Harper who has chosen PWA as one of his charities during his year in office.

[PWA Podcast - Keep Women Talking Episode 5](#)

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

TRAINING WORKSHOP
Exclusive
All session delivered on Teams

Our expert-led sessions provide practical insights, and valuable learning to help you support survivors from the South Asian Community.

- 9th September 10-11.30 FGM October
- 7th October 10-11.30 Forced Marriage
- 3rd November 10-11.30 Breast Flattening
- 1st Dec 10-12 Honour Based Abuse
- 19th Jan 10-12 Harassment and Stalking
- 11th Feb 10-12 Coercive Control
- 11th Mar 10-12 Honour Based Abuse

Contact amanda.geraghty@wa-support.co.uk with the time and date of the session you would like to attend

Peterborough Women's Aid
Set yourself free

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

OWN MY LIFE
INSPIRED...

TAKE BACK YOUR POWER, OWN YOUR FUTURE!

If you're 18 to 25 and have experienced an unhealthy or abusive relationship, you don't have to face it alone!

Join our 12-week online programme, where you'll...

- Learn about healthy relationships
- Recognise signs of coercive control and unhealthy behaviours
- Build your self confidence and worth
- Take positive steps towards moving forward and regaining control
- Connect with other young women in a safe, supportive environment

Register your interest by emailing us at:
OML@WA-SUPPORT.CO.UK

ONLINE EVERY THURSDAY AT 6PM, STARTING 15th OCTOBER

Peterborough Women's Aid
Set yourself free

Online Male Groups run every 2 weeks, the next one will be 6th October 18.00hrs – 19.00hrs.

Great Eastern Run 2026

Mandy, PWA CEO, will be running the Great Eastern Run for Peterborough Women's Aid – dressed as a hot dog!

Mandy is running to raise vital funds and awareness for Peterborough Women's Aid, supporting women and children affected by domestic abuse.

If you'd like to support her slightly silly but seriously worthwhile challenge, please consider donating. Every pound will help make a difference.

[Just Giving Page - Mandy Geraghty PWA](#)

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

[Peterborough Women's Aid](#)

Living Keys

Applications are being taken for the next:

Freedom Programme

Domestic Abuse Recovery Toolkit

Parenting After Domestic Abuse

To apply please visit the website: <https://www.livingkeys.co.uk>

Coming in September:

Monday Afternoon's 15.00 – 17.00

Body Beauties

Healthy eating and exercise – weigh in is optional

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

The Meadows Children & Family Wing

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

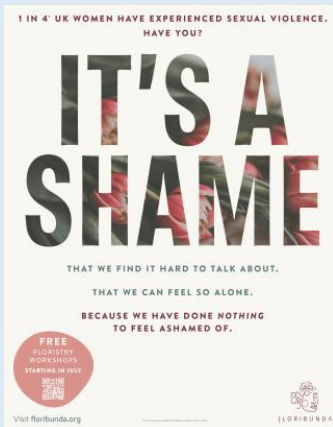
[The Meadows Children & Family Wing | Providing a fun, safe and stimulating environment.](#)

The Angels Foundation UK

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

[The Angels Foundation UK](#)

Floribunda



Floribunda offers 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. 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

Women of the World (WOW) Festival March 2027

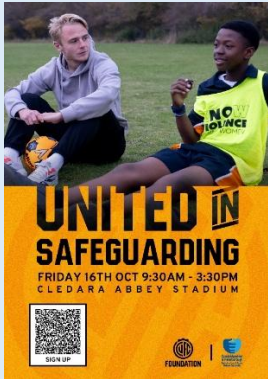
The world's biggest festival celebrating women, girls and non-binary people is back in London for 2027.

Early Bird Day Passes for [Friday](#), [Saturday](#) and [Sunday](#) and tickets to [Gisele Pelicot & Tarana Burke In Conversation](#) are on sale now.

For more information click the link: [WOW London 2027 | The WOW Foundation](#)

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](#)

PEGS

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

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](#)

PEGS Summit 2026

Child to Parent Abuse Summit 2026: ACT Advancing Change Together

Wednesday 14th October

09.45 – 15.15

Online

Join PEGS for the Child to Parent Abuse Summit 2026, a national online event bringing together professionals, policymakers, researchers, frontline practitioners and lived-experience voices to strengthen responses to Child to Parent Abuse.

Taking place on Child to Parent Abuse Awareness Day, ACT 2026 will explore how policy, criminal justice, safeguarding, education, health and family support services can work together to create safer outcomes for families and communities.

For more information please visit: [Child to Parent Abuse Summit 2026 | PEGS | PEGS](#)

Making Research Count

["I See it Running Through My Family": The Intergenerational and Collective Trauma of Gender-Based Violence](#)

6th October 2026

11.00 -12.30

Dr Michael Salter University of New South Wales (UNSW)

['Cuckooing' in the Context of Domestic Abuse & Domestic Homicide](#)

15th October 2026

11.00 -12.30

Simon Kerss, Anglia Ruskin University

[The Hidden Danger: Non-Fatal Strangulation, Domestic Abuse, and Pathways to Suicide](#)

25th November 2026

11.00 -12.30

To book places, please email: mrc@beds.ac.uk.

SafeLives

[Enhanced multi-agency response training](#)

This trauma-informed course is designed to help organisations develop skilled domestic abuse Single Points of Contact (SPOCs). Learners will develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to provide consistent advice, guidance and support within their organisation and respond effectively to domestic abuse.

2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th Novemebr

Online

Cost: £350

For more information click the link below:

[Enhanced multi-agency response to domestic abuse SafeLives training - SafeLives](#)

[DASH Risk Assessment training](#)

13th October

Online

Cost £105

For more information click the link below

[DASH risk assessment \(England & Wales\)](#)

Virtual Collage

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Recognising & Preventing FGM

Online

Free

For more information and to register click the link below:

[Recognising & Preventing FGM](#)

Southall Black Sisters (SBS) provides frontline professional training on FGM and other "honour-based" abuse. They also periodically run specialist "Harmful Practices" training for community groups and authorities.