

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

#### February 2019

Once again, domestic abuse has been very much in the public eye recently. There have been four television programmes broadcast about domestic abuse this month which have gained significant press and social media interest. One of these featured cases from neighbouring county Norfolk and another tells the story of a male victim from Bedfordshire – see page 5 for how to catch up on these programmes if you missed them.

Looking to next month, 8<sup>th</sup> March is International Women's Day and the 2019 campaign theme of **#BalanceforBetter** is a call-to-action for driving gender balance across the world. The Women of the World Festival is taking place at the Southbank Centre in London and includes a range of performances and speakers over the weekend https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/festivals-series/women-of-the-world?page=1#events

Our new posters aimed at young people have been sent out across the county, please do contact Amanda if you would like some for your service.

Adding to our social media presence, we are now on Instagram! The link is in the logo below so do give us a follow.

Vickie Crompton & Julia Cullum Partnership Managers



#### Free webinar – DA in Polish families

Safe Lives have released a recording of this 30 minute webinar which was held earlier this month. It is presented by Vesta who provide specialist family support to Polish families in some areas of the UK. You can view the webinar at <a href="https://recordings.join.me/MZAnjoC8\_UOdVq9U8Hy78g">https://recordings.join.me/MZAnjoC8\_UOdVq9U8Hy78g</a>



#### Housing Providers can still sign up for DAHA Accreditation

Following renewed funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Accreditation programme will be continuing in Cambridgeshire until March 2020. A series of workshops have been set up as below. If any housing providers would like to attend one of them, please contact

Nikki.Zeferino@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Luminus Group, Brook House, Ouse Walk, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3QW		
26 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 – 12.30	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
26 March	9.30 - 12.30	Training
Cambridge CHS Group, Endurance House, Vision Park, Chivers Way, Histon,		
Cambridge, CB24 9ZR		
29 <sup>th</sup> April	14:00 – 16.30	Case Management
Cross Keys Homes, Peterborough, Shrewsbury Avenue, Peterborough, PE2 7BZ.		
12 <sup>th</sup> June	13.00 – 16.00	Equality and Diversity
East Cambridgeshire District Council, The Grange, Nutholt Ln, Ely, CB7 4EE		
17 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30-12.30	Policy and Procedure
Clarion Housing, Reed House, Peachman Way, Broadland Business Park,		
Norwich NR7 0WF		
11 <sup>th</sup> September	13.00 – 16.00	Risk Management

## Registration open for Walk a Mile event

Everything is now in place for people to register to do the sponsored walk for victims of domestic violence on 6th April. You can register online (www.ferryproject.org.uk) and registration costs £10 which covers all the administration etc. and the hire costs of shoes or ties. Fundraising can be done online via virgin money giving.

Please now sign up to do the walk and start getting sponsors. Children can take part but only with an adult who will be responsible for them. All the funds raised by this walk will help victims of domestic violence. This walk will really make a difference to people's lives, please play your part.



# **RISE**

### **Professionals Leaflet**

A programme for victims/survivors of domestic abuse whether they are in or out of the relationship. The programme uses reflection, discussion and activities to consider the following aims:

- To identify a healthy relationship and the impact of domestic abuse,
- Provide knowledge and understanding to enable participants to make positive choices.
- Identify the impact of domestic abuse on the individual and their children.
- Awareness of safety and support.

# The course will run for 6 weeks starting 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019

# **Huntingdon Youth Centre**

Referrals can be made by completing the attached referral form and an up to date DAASH with scores no higher than 13.

These should be sent to Karen Hunt.

karen.hunt@cambridgeshire.gov.uk for discussion at transfer meetings.

No crèche or transport provided

#### Domestic abuse features on prime time TV

Norfolk police have been working with Channel 5 on a documentary called The Abused which was aired at 9pm on Wednesday, February 20 on Channel 5. The programme is available on catch up viewing https://www.channel5.com/show/the-abused/

It follows the police and victim and witness services as they support two victims of domestic abuse. One case follows a victim from Gt Yarmouth and the other from Norwich. Both cases saw successful prosecutions of the perpetrators who received custodial sentences. The film company was provided extensive access to police material and the victims fully supported the documentary, providing consent throughout.

With the Yarmouth based victim, the case is an example of violence and contains graphic police body worn video images of the police responding to the 999 call and finding the victim with head injuries and her subsequent journey up to the court case where the perpetrator eventually pleaded guilty. In respect to the Norwich victim there is strong coercion and controlling behaviours demonstrated throughout by the perpetrator.

Channel 5 consider the documentary to be extremely powerful and have developed a communication plan nationally and locally with the constabulary. A shoulder programme immediately after the broadcast of the documentary will be aired with experts/ representatives from charities giving advice and support. Women's Aid and Refuge hotline details will be used before and after the documentary.

At the beginning of February, BBC showed the documentary **Behind Closed Doors** which featured the stories of children who have witnessed domestic abuse. The programme is available on the BBC iplayer https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0002fmv

Also on the BBC, **Abused by my Girlfriend** tells the story of a male victim from Bedfordshire who experienced abuse at the hands of his partner, who was the first woman in the UK to be convicted of coercive control. The documentary also hears from the victim's friends who describe how his behaviour and personality changed during the relationship

https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p0700912/abused-by-my-girlfriend

Channel 4 also broadcast a programme that, for the first time, allowed television cameras into a women's refuge. **Safe at Last** follows victims who agreed to be identified and can watched on catch up at https://www.channel4.com/programmes/safe-at-last-inside-a-womens-refuge/episodeguide/

#### Hand in Hand report

The challenges facing survivors of violence against women and girls has been laid bare in pioneering new research by women with lived experience. The report 'Hand in Hand' was coproduced by peer researchers with the charities AVA (Against Violence & Abuse) and Agenda, the alliance for Women and Girls at Risk, for the National Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence and Multiple Disadvantage.

The peer researchers were made up of 11 survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse. The report is based on their interviews with women facing 'multiple disadvantage' – who have experienced violence and abuse, and continue to face issues like homelessness, mental ill-health and substance use. It found most of the women, both peer researchers and interviewees, had experienced many forms of abuse throughout their life, which had wide-ranging effects. While more than a third had a mental health diagnosis, all described experiencing symptoms of trauma. Thirty per cent used drugs to cope and a quarter had had involvement with social services in relation to their children. Despite this, the report says, too many women struggled to get help, with services often failing to understand their needs.

#### The report calls for:

- More awareness raising and prevention work around abuse so that women and girls can recognise what they are experiencing as abuse
- More experts by lived experience involved in supporting women who understand what they have been through
- Multi-agency support so that women can access a range of services in one place
- Staff should be trained on understanding abuse and the impact of trauma
- The importance of empathy in building a trusting relationship between women and services https://avaproject.org.uk/hand-in-hand-survivors-of-multiple-disadvantage-discuss-service-support/

## Justice, Inequality and Gender-Based Violence

Thursday 9 May 2019, 10am - 4pm, King's College London

This conference will showcase the findings from the University of Bristol's recently completed research project on 'Justice, Inequality and Gender Based Violence (GBV)'. This large-scale project was funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), and led by Professor Marianne Hester OBE with a team from the Universities of Bristol, Cardiff and West of England and in conjunction with Women's Aid and Welsh Women's Aid.

The aim of the project has been to address how 'justice' in its wider sense is understood, sought, and experienced by victims/survivors of GBV and key practitioners. Drawing on the project's findings, and with its emphasis on the voices of victims/survivors, this conference will be of interest to those working in, or with, social work, social care, and specialist GBV agencies. For more information and booking go to https://www.beds.ac.uk/research-ref/iasr/mrc/events

# Understanding and Responding to Forced Marriage, 'Honour'-Based Violence, Transnational Marriage Abandonment and Dowry Violence

Monday 20 May 2019, 10am - 1pm, King's College London SE1

#### **Practice Development Seminar**

This seminar will provide an overview on particular forms of domestic violence such as forced marriage, honour-based violence, transnational marriage abandonment and dowry violence. It will examine the specificities of these forms of violence as well as the commonalities between these manifestations of violence against women and girls (VAWG) and other more 'mainstream' forms of VAWG in order to understand the common socio-cultural roots of such violences. It will explore the impact on South Asian women in the UK in particular, though the implications for other communities will also be addressed. This seminar will explore some implications for practice – both in the short term and considerations for medium to long term support.

For more information and booking please go to https://www.beds.ac.uk/research-ref/iasr/mrc/events

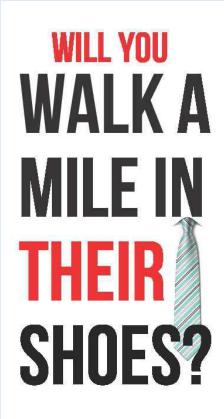
#### **Upskirting bill is passed**

Upskirting' perpetrators face two years in prison and being placed on the sex offenders register, as a new law making the act a specific criminal offence received Royal Assent today on Tuesday 12 February.

The Voyeurism (Offences) (No. 2) Bill legislates for the highly intrusive practice known as upskirting. 'Upskirting' typically involves offenders taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks.

The Bill inserts 2 new offences into the Sexual Offences Act 2003 for instances where, without consent, a person operates equipment or records an image under another person's clothing with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks, with or without underwear. The offences will apply where the offender has a motive of either obtaining sexual gratification, or causing humiliation, distress or alarm to the victim. Measures are also included to ensure that the most serious sexual offenders are made subject to notification requirements, commonly known as the sex offenders register.

The new law will ban the degrading practice to deter perpetrators, better protect victims, and bring more offenders to justice.



SATURDAY 6 APRIL, 2019 WALK STARTS AT 10:30AM

Awareness raising campaign, walking to raise money to support those fleeing domestic violence.

£10 sign up fee, sign up online www.ferryproject.org.uk or at The Ferry Project.

All funds raised will go towards an emergency fund for those fleeing domestic violence.

A pair of heels or a tie is available to borrow during the event.

For more information call 01945 429300

Making a stand against domestic violence.

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.FERRYPROJECT.ORG.UK

# COUNCIL REGAINS WHITE RIBBON ACCREDITATION AS PART OF COMMITMENT TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

CAMBRIDGE City Council has once again been awarded White Ribbon status as part of an international campaign to end male violence against women and girls.

The White Ribbon Campaign works to engage men in speaking out about violence against women and girls, to challenge gender stereotypes underpinning such violence and to challenge cultures that lead to harassment, abuse and violence against women.

The council first achieved White Ribbon accreditation in 2015 for its work in support of the aims of the campaign, and it reapplies for accreditation every two years. Work that the council has undertaken to earn its White Ribbon accreditation includes:

- \_ Ensuring housing and support services are available for women and children experiencing or escaping from domestic violence;
- \_ Coordinating healthy relationship workshops for children and a play about child sexual exploitation;
- Implementing domestic abuse training for council staff;

domestic violence, particularly against women and girls.

- \_ Appointing male White Ribbon ambassadors to raise awareness of the campaign and help other men and boys challenge violence against women and girls;
- Engaging with local sports clubs including Cambridge United FC and venues such as the Corn Exchange to inform men about the campaign;
- \_ Holding talks, training and awareness-raising events for residents, visitors to Cambridge, businesses, young people and others;

Earning White Ribbon accreditation is just one of the ways in which the council works to tackle domestic and sexual abuse and promote public safety.

Earlier this month the council recently supported Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week. This annual event seeks to raise awareness and generate discussion about the unacceptability of sexual abuse and sexual violence in any form.

It works with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership which aims to reduce the harm, risks and costs associated with domestic abuse and sexual violence and to prevent these crimes occurring across Cambridgeshire. The council is also a member of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership which prioritises particular issues in the city related to crime, disorder, antisocial behaviour and more. Current priorities include safeguarding people against violence and exploitation, and responding to

The council is a partner of Cambridge Rape Crisis, who offer support to those who have experienced rape, childhood sexual abuse or any other form of sexual violence. Among the other campaigns supported by the council is 'Ask For Angela', led by Cambridge Business Against Crime, which aims to keep people safe while dating.

In its role as a licensing authority, the council also provides safeguarding, equality and protection training for all licensed taxi drivers, to allow them to identify and respond to concerns about the safety of their passengers, including those who may be at risk of sexual violence.

Cllr Anna Smith, Executive Councillor for Communities, said: "I'm delighted that the council has

regained its White Ribbon accreditation which helps us to challenge male violence, and to spread the message that violence against women and girls in any form is unacceptable in any form. "As a council we do everything we can to tackle sexual violence and domestic abuse, and we work with a wide range of partners in the community who are doing some amazing work. Much work remains to be done if we are to help eradicate it – but by joining in with conversations such as those initiated by the White Ribbon Campaign, we can all play a part to help achieve this."

One of the council's eight White Ribbon Ambassadors, Adam Moghadas of Cambridge Family Law Practice, said: "I became a White Ribbon Ambassador as I shared the vision that men need to involved in 'calling out' threats, intimidation and violence by men towards women and girls wherever we see it.

"It's important for men to be part of the conversation about what's not acceptable – in relationships, in a bar, on the street, in the workplace or online. Too many of us stay silent on the issue, believing that it doesn't have anything to do with us. The fact that violence and abuse disproportionately affects women and girls – our daughters, mothers, sisters, partners, friends and colleagues – is a problem that we have to be involved in tackling. It is reassuring that Cambridge City Council will continue to be part of, and hopefully at the forefront of, this dialogue."

Another of the ambassadors, Ben Szreter, CEO of Cambridge United Community Trust, said: "I have been humbled to be involved with the energetic and important work of the council on the issue of domestic abuse since being asked to be a White Ribbon Ambassador. It's excellent news that the council has been reaccredited by the White Ribbon Campaign. The work that the council does to address the issue of domestic abuse in all its forms in our city is vital and extensive. This reaccreditation is testament to that."

Adam Ratcliffe, Manager of Cambridge Business Against Crime, said: "As a White Ribbon Ambassador, I am extremely pleased to hear that Cambridge City Council has received reaccreditation of White Ribbon status. This really is testament to those involved within the organisation, whose tireless efforts to drive change and raise awareness impacts both internally and externally, and I am extremely proud to work in partnership with the city council to continue progress around this extremely important issue."



## **Children and Young Peoples**

# **Independent Sexual Violence Advocate Post (Part-time)**

CRCC is recruiting a part-time Children and Young Peoples Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ChISVA) to support and empower children and young people who are survivors of rape, sexual abuse and sexual violence. The ChISVA role is part of a countywide ISVA team providing a pro-active service to children, young people and adult survivors of sexual violence within and outside of the criminal justice system to:

- Provide one-to-one emotional support to young survivors
- Support young survivors using the service to access their rights
- Support young survivors using the service to access other services they may require
- Risk assess and safeguard young survivors who are using the service
- Keep young survivors using the service informed of case progress
- · Provide support through the criminal justice system where appropriate
- Provide support to family members and/or care givers of children and young people

#### Post details:

- Hours: 21 hours per week (there may be occasional evening and weekend work)
- Location: Cambridge City
- Post coverage: Cambridgeshire
- Salary: £25,694 P.A. pro rata (this equates to £14,584 for 21 hours)
- Please note this post is funded for one year.

Closing date for applications is 5pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March Interviews will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March in Cambridge.

To get an application pack please email the Director, Norah Al-Ani at norah@cambridgerapecrisis.org.uk or telephone CRCC office on 01223 313551.