



**Cambridgeshire
& Peterborough**
Domestic Abuse & Sexual
Violence Partnership

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

March 2022

Hi All

Hope you are all well, and welcome to our March Newsletter.

We are about to begin a procurement process for a service to provide Mobile Advocacy to victims of domestic abuse who need advice, information and support in staying safe at home, or seeking alternative safe accommodation. This service will be available to anyone over the age of 16 across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In order to inform the requirements, we have issued a survey. If you are working with, or know anyone, who has suffered domestic abuse, if you could encourage them to complete the survey by the end of March, we would be incredibly grateful

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/BI8KWF/>

Responses are being collated by SADA, our independent voice for children and adults who have suffered domestic abuse.

In other news.... Please take a look at the DASV Champions sessions coming up – we are always really grateful for you taking time out of your busy days to learn more.

There are links to various toolkits to support you in your work, webinars and guidance – please use what is useful and share with colleagues.

The “Enough” Campaign has just been launched and the messaging is really great – it really is everyone’s business to challenge abuse where we see it, in a way which is respectful – have a look over at YouTube and please share on any of your Social Media [Enough. Campaign to Tackle Violence Against Women & Girls Launches - YouTube](#)

We are here if you have any questions, ideas, thoughts or if there is anything we can do to help.

Vickie Crompton & Julia Cullum
DASV Partnership Managers



Abused by our grown-up children: mothers open up about this little-understood form of domestic violence

Thien Trang Nguyen Phan is a Doctoral Researcher and we're really excited that she is speaking at our Spring DASV Champions sessions on the topic of abuse from adult children.

Below is an extract from an article she recently published, we encourage you to follow the link to the full article.

Lizzy* picked me up at her local train station and drove me to the lounge of her favourite hotel, where for more than four hours we sat in a discreet corner while she told me her story. Andy, the person responsible for her broken arms and badly damaged jaw, was her 28-year-old son.

When we met in 2018, Andy had recently been given a suspended sentence after pleading guilty to serious assault. He had returned to live with Lizzy following his conviction and "nothing had changed". The abuse carried on. But despite this Lizzie, now in her late 60s, refused to give up on him.

Lizzy was the first interview participant in my doctoral research project, which started in September 2018. It was the first study of its kind in England and Wales which specifically investigated the abuse of parents – particularly mothers – by adult children. This is known as filial abuse.

I was interested in how mothers articulated the experiences of such abuse in its various forms and manifestations. I wanted to understand their journeys, how they sought help, and what barriers they faced in doing so.

Please click on the link to read the whole article - [Abused by our grown-up children: mothers open up about this little-understood form of domestic violence](https://theconversation.com/abused-by-our-grown-up-children-mothers-open-up-about-this-little-understood-form-of-domestic-violence) (theconversation.com)

The dates for the DASV Champions sessions are below

Spring DASV Champions Sessions

For our April sessions we are really lucky to be joined by Thien Trang Nguyen Phan, a Doctoral Researcher at Anglia Ruskin University, who will be talking about familial violence where the abuser is an adult child. Vickie Crompton will also be talking about how to support children still living in a household where there is abuse.

28th March 14.00 – 16.00

5th April 10.00 – 12.00

8th April 12.00 – 14.00

All three sessions are the same so you only need to book on one date, to book please email DASVChampions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Thien Trang is also delivering a free Connect Centre zoom webinar on Wednesday 6 April, 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

'It's ruined me being a mother' Mothers' experiences of abuse from their (adult) children

Violence and abuse perpetrated by adult children against their parents is under-researched and has remained relatively invisible within three overlapping research fields. While child to parent abuse research has traditionally focused on younger children and adolescents, elder abuse research has prioritised the age of the older person over a detailed examination of the parent-child relationship and domestic abuse research has been primarily concerned with intimate partners. Set against the backdrop of this 'limited picture' (Bows, 2018), Thien Trang Nguyen Phan's doctoral research sought to explore mothers' experiences of abuse by their now adult children. This includes how mothers articulate their experiences of abuse in its various forms and manifestations, their journeys of help-seeking and the barriers they faced in doing so, and their perceptions of effective support. In this webinar, she will discuss her findings and implications for policy and practice.

Please reserve your place via [Eventbrite https://thien_trang.eventbrite.co.uk](https://thien_trang.eventbrite.co.uk) . Your zoom link will be emailed before the event.

It's time we said Enough

The new UK Government 'Enough' campaign has been created in collaboration with victims and survivors, the violence against women and girls sector, academics and victims' services.

During March 2022, a TV advert, supported by billboards, radio and digital content, will feature the simple actions people can take to safely challenge and disrupt the abuse of women and girls. An accompanying campaign website will include further guidance and the support available for people affected by these crimes.

The key messages of the campaign are:

- We all have the power to stop violence against women and girls.
- Knowing what abuse is helps all of us to recognise it when it happens. It can be words or actions. Online or in person. At home, at work or in the street. Anywhere.
- By standing against all forms of abuse, and holding perpetrators accountable, we can create a society where women and girls are equal, respected and safe.
- Even small acts of recognition and support can help prevent abuse. Find out how you can be part of the change at gov.uk/enough
- If you are experiencing abuse, it's never your fault and you do not have to deal with it alone. Find out what support there is for you at gov.uk/enough
- Letting acts of abuse pass can make the people who commit them think their behaviour is acceptable.]

You can help by stepping in or reporting abuse when you witness it. Find out how to intervene safely at [Home | VAWG \(campaign.gov.uk\)](http://Home | VAWG (campaign.gov.uk))

If you are worried about your or someone else's behaviour, it's not too late to make a change. Find out how to change for the better at [Home | VAWG \(campaign.gov.uk\)](http://Home | VAWG (campaign.gov.uk))

There is also a You Tube video: [Enough. Campaign to Tackle Violence Against Women & Girls Launches - YouTube](#)

The campaign also includes a range of posters and social media assets, plus short films in British Sign Language, that can be downloaded at [Albums \(brandworkz.com\)](http://Albums (brandworkz.com))

Housing, Mental Health & Substance Misuse – new Toolkit

The Housing, Mental Health and Substance Misuse Toolkit has been developed by people working in a wide range of teams and agencies across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, with the help of experts by experience. It sets out the process to follow when housing, mental health and substance misuse issues occur in ten different scenarios.

The aim of the toolkit is to make it easier for each team to find out what to do and who to contact, particularly in services they may be less familiar with.

The toolkit can be downloaded at [Cambridgeshire Insight – Housing & Planning – Housing priorities – Housing need – Housing, mental health & substance misuse toolkit](#)

In addition, the new Housing IDVAs now taking referrals from Housing Teams and Housing providers - **Housing IDVAs** offer a direct service to victims/survivors who attend a housing service. They are able to offer advice on safety planning and risk management. They may also offer support to clients who are seeking housing assistance due to suffering Domestic Abuse. They will also offer support to those in temporary local authority accommodation due to domestic abuse. You can download the Housing IDVA Referral Form at [Welcome to Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership \(cambsdasv.org.uk\)](#)

ASKing Saves Lives

On Thursday 24th February Stop Suicide launched their new #ASKingSavesLives campaign.

Resources include a [campaign toolkit](#) to promote key messages and share with anyone you think you could help to support. This includes social media assets and a press release.

The campaign will equip local communities with the knowledge and skills to recognise the warning signs of suicide and ask directly about suicide if they are concerned about someone. Stop Suicide aim to encourage people to visit the [STOP Suicide website](#) to view the animated video and resources, as well as drive sign-ups to [free STOP Suicide Workshops](#) which have been made available. There will also be financial grants made available to support local organisations/community groups with wellbeing/suicide prevention work.

There will be a focus on Peterborough, in response to local suicide data, and, particularly, organisations/communities who work with vulnerable people who are facing social or economic hardship. This includes risk factors such as debt, unemployment, housing concerns/homelessness, loneliness and relationship breakdown – all of which have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The campaign will be promoted on social media via paid advertising, digital screens at bus stops and supermarkets, in the media and via partner engagement. This will feature new artwork and a [new video featuring Jen Anker](#) who kindly shared her personal story.

Opportunities to shape Government Policy

1. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities is seeking views on:

- Proposals to introduce regulations to enable victims of domestic abuse who need to move to another local authority district to qualify for an allocation of social housing in the new area, and;
- How local authorities are making use of the existing legislation and guidance to support victims of domestic abuse who wish to move within and across local authority boundaries.

The consultation closes on 10th May

[Consultation on local connection requirements for social housing for victims of domestic abuse - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/consultation-on-local-connection-requirements-for-social-housing-for-victims-of-domestic-abuse)

2. During the passage of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, concerns were raised over the current rules on joint tenancies, which mean that victims of domestic abuse who are in a joint tenancy with their abuser can be vulnerable to the threat of being made homeless by their abuser. Should the victim want to stay in the family home, there is currently no straightforward means to remove the abuser from the tenancy and remove the risk of homelessness.

The government has been carefully considering these issues. This consultation will enable us to better understand the complex legal and practical issues.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities is seeking views on the impacts of the law on joint tenancies on victims of domestic abuse in the social rented sector. We are interested in whether:

- perpetrators are using their ability to end a joint tenancy to threaten the victim with homelessness;
- victims feel trapped in their joint tenancy with the perpetrator;
- the current guidance for social landlords is sufficient to support victims in joint tenancies; and
- the law on transferring joint tenancies is functioning successfully for victims.

We are gathering evidence from victims, landlords, the legal profession, advisory services and other organisations and individuals associated with the domestic abuse sector with an understanding of the issues impacting victims in joint social housing tenancies.

[Consultation on the impacts of joint tenancies on victims of domestic abuse - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/consultation-on-the-impacts-of-joint-tenancies-on-victims-of-domestic-abuse)

Final phase of rape inspection published

The second and final part of HMICFRS and HMCPSI's joint inspection of the investigation and prosecution of rape in England and Wales has been published. The first part (Phase 1) examined cases from the point when they were reported to the police through to the decision (either by the police or the CPS) to take no further action. Phase 2 examines cases from the point of charge through to their conclusion, and includes those which were decided in court. The combined findings from parts one and two of this inspection provide a comprehensive assessment of the criminal justice system's current approach to rape, and an account of victims' experiences of the system.

In Phase 2, some consistent problems with the police and the CPS's management of cases were identified, including disclosure errors; failures to consider the use of bad character for evidence against suspects; and failures to apply for all of the protective civil orders available that can help prevent further trauma to the victim, and allow them to give their best evidence.

Nine recommendations have been published from both phases of the investigation:

- Recommendation 1 Immediately, police and prosecutors should review and significantly improve communications with victims from the point of charge onwards.
- Recommendation 2 Immediately, and no later than September 2022, the CPS should unequivocally define the role of the prosecutor in communicating with victims, and the standards expected in doing so.
- Recommendation 3 By December 2022, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) should complete a full mapping exercise of (1) demand for and (2) provision of specialist sexual violence victim services across England and Wales. They should then use this to make sure there is adequate and effective provision of specialist and bespoke support to all victims of rape, with long-term funding in place.
- Recommendation 4 Immediately, and no later than May 2022 to help clear the significant Crown Court backlog for rape cases, the MoJ should group adult rape cases into specialist rape offence courts.
- Recommendation 5 Immediately, and no later than May 2022, the Home Office and the Ministerial Lead for Rape and Serious Sexual Offences should consult widely on the benefits of a commissioner with explicit responsibility for and focus on tackling rape and serious sexual offences. This should include working with ministers, established Victims' Commissioners, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner and support services, and considering whether an expansion of the role of either the existing commissioner for domestic abuse or for victims is feasible and workable. Sustainable funding and appropriate staffing support must be in place to support this focus.
- Recommendation 6 Immediately, and no later than by September 2022, the MoJ should gather and publish quantitative and qualitative data on use of special measures in rape cases, including section 28.
- Recommendation 7 By September 2022, the CPS should make sure regular clinical supervision is available to all prosecutors who deal with rape and serious sexual offence cases.
- Recommendation 8 Immediately, the police and the CPS should work collaboratively to ensure that bad character is considered in all rape cases, and progressed wherever it is applicable.
- Recommendation 9 Immediately, forces should make sure that victims of rape are given the opportunity to make a victim personal statement (VPS) at the earliest possible time, with the option of updating this statement closer to the court trial date
- Full report [A joint thematic inspection of the police and Crown Prosecution Service's response to rape – Phase two: Post-charge \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk)

Review launched into protecting people from carer abuse at home

The government has launched a review into whether those people who receive care in their homes have suitable protection from abuse against those providing the care. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 doesn't cover the role of the carer as it defines domestic abuse as abusive behaviour between people over 16 who are personally connected - such as relatives or those who have been, or are, spouses/involved in an intimate relationship.

The review is being carried out by the Home Office and Department of Health and Social Care and will be completed by the end of this year. It will cover all people receiving care at home, including supported living or other housing with care arrangements, in England. It won't cover care homes as they're monitored by the Care Quality Commission. In relation to those people providing the care, it will cover those who are personally connected (as stated in the Domestic Abuse Act) as well as unpaid carers, such as friends or neighbours, paid care staff and volunteers.

[Read more here](#)

A member of the DASV Partnership has been working on the issue of abuse by family carers for some time and has been invited to join the national project so we will provide further updates on the project via the VAWG Newsletter.

Update to MARM Process

The Multi-Agency Risk Management (MARM) process provides professionals from all agencies with a framework to facilitate effective multi-agency working with adults (aged 18+) at risk of harm **who are deemed to have mental capacity** for specific decisions that may result in serious harm/death through severe self-neglect or risk taking behaviours and refuses or is unable to engage with services.

The guidance is currently being reviewed and an updated version will be launched later this month by the Safeguarding Boards alongside a Sway (Virtual Briefing) for anyone who wants to know more about the MARM.

In May, the Safeguarding Partnership Board will be offering workshops (via Microsoft Teams) for professionals working with adults in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. These workshops will give participants an opportunity to review eligibility criteria, discuss case studies and ask questions for MARM leads from multiple agencies.

Domestic Abuse & Dementia Toolkit

The Dewis Choice Project has developed a toolkit for practitioners working with people where there is domestic abuse and dementia. The toolkit aims to address gaps in practitioners' knowledge on the co-existence of domestic abuse and dementia. The toolkit offers practical advice to professionals and includes a safety planning tool and a short film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6gD3SqVnhM>

The DASV Partnership are looking to develop some bespoke training around this subject for delivery later in the year.

In the meantime, the Domestic Abuse and Dementia Toolkit is available to download from our website at [Welcome to Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership \(cambdasv.org.uk\)](http://cambdasv.org.uk)

Upcoming Webinar:

Best practice in supporting older women VAWG survivors

Against Violence and Abuse are offering a free online webinar on the [23rd of March from 2 - 4.30](#) that will include expert input from Dr Hannah Bows, Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse at Durham University, AVA staff and survivors who worked on our Menopause Project, and Elize Freeman from the Aberystwyth University.

This webinar is for frontline practitioners, service leads, those with responsibility for safeguarding adults, service commissioners and trustees with safeguarding responsibilities.

The link to register for this webinar can be found [here](#).

We are still running the pilot of the Older People's DASH Risk Assessment in Cambridgeshire and guidance is available for practitioners working with older people experiencing domestic abuse at [Welcome to Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership \(cambsdasv.org.uk\)](http://cambsdasv.org.uk)

Trustee Opportunity

Alumah is a small charity based in West Suffolk reaching children, young people and adults who have been or are victims of relationship (domestic) abuse.

They are looking for trustees to join a small team and are looking for people with a Christian faith of any gender who can offer skills and experience in the following areas:

- Financial and business management
- Strategic leadership
- Education
- Fundraising
- Marketing and publicity

For more information, please visit www.alumah.co.uk

Is it always best to stay positive?

The latest issue of CC Chat magazine focuses on the topic of toxic positivity – when so much emphasis is put on being positive about a situation that the emotion and trauma are forgotten.

You can read CC Chat at [CCChat-Magazine 29 2 - Flipbook - Page 20 \(paperturn-view.com\)](http://CCChat-Magazine 29 2 - Flipbook - Page 20 (paperturn-view.com))

Boxing Futures new Yaxley venue

Boxing Futures are holding an official launch of their new Inclusive hub and boxing gym at Yaxley on the 24th March and inviting people to pop in from 1pm onwards. There will be taster sessions and demonstrations throughout the day and they will be showcasing their work, new learning zone facility and one to one meeting room space.

Boxing Futures works to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of disadvantaged young people and to empower young people by building positive relationships, developing core soft skills and increasing confidence and motivation.

Boxing Futures founder, Anthony York, is a White Ribbon Ambassador for Cambridgeshire County Council and is keen to link with other organisations to promote healthy relationships education for young people.



Fighting for Better Lives

Grand
OPENING

INVITATION

You are invited to help us celebrate the opening of our brand new 1800 square feet community hub and gym at Yaxley.

Thursday 24th March 2022 from 1pm.

A full day of activities for everyone.

RSVP openday@boxing-futures.org.uk



Unit 12, Crusader Court, Yaxley, Peterborough PE7 3PU

New poster aimed at male victims of domestic abuse

We have joined with local designer Stewart Harris to create a storyboard poster aimed at male victims of domestic abuse.

The new poster is being shared to pubs and clubs across the county, as well as gyms and leisure centres.

You can print off the full size poster on our website at [Welcome to Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership \(cambsdasv.org.uk\)](http://Welcome to Cambridgeshire County Council DASV Partnership (cambsdasv.org.uk))

