



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

**August 2021**

Hi All!

We are in the middle of the children's holidays and hope that you all get a break to relax and refresh over the summer. It's been an intense year for everyone so far, and it is incredibly important to be able to recharge as much as possible.

Whilst the Needs Assessment is complete, we are always keen to hear from you about experiences of support from services regarding domestic abuse and sexual violence. What is (and isn't) working, is really important to us, and we appreciate any feedback at any time. Systems and services are continually evolving with the aim to improve support on the ground, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

In order to gain independent feedback from victim/survivors and children who have experienced domestic abuse, we have commissioned "Survivors Against Domestic Abuse, (SADA)" to consult with those who have suffered domestic abuse and feed this back to the partnership – their details are in the newsletter.

Child to Parent Abuse, Substance Misuse and Stalking will feature in the October DASV Champions sessions, we have been fortunate to secure some excellent speakers, so please let Amanda know if you would like to attend.

As ever, if there is anything we can do to support you to support those you are working with, we will do our best to help.

Have a lovely summer.

**Vickie Crompton & Julia Cullum**  
**DASV Partnership Managers**



## **DASV Champions Network – October sessions**

The next sessions will be held in October, over Teams, the sessions will feature 3 presentations, one from CGL about substance misuse, PEGS ([About Us | Pegs Support \(pegsupport.co.uk\)](#)), to talk about Child to Parent Abuse and Suzy Lamplugh Trust with an update on a new project running locally.

The dates of the sessions are below. To book a place, please email [DASVChampions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:DASVChampions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

19<sup>th</sup> October – 10am – 12.00pm

21<sup>st</sup> October – 2pm – 4.00pm

26<sup>th</sup> October - 2pm – 4.00pm

## **Older People's DASH pilot**

Older people experience domestic abuse at similar rates to younger people but evidence shows they are less likely to report the abuse or seek support. In addition, older people are just as likely to be abused by a family member as by an intimate partner.

Older people's experiences of domestic abuse have some unique features compared to younger victims/survivors such as increased risk due to health or disability issues and potential abuse from family members providing care. This can mean that using the standard DASH Risk Assessment Checklist results in a lower risk score for older victims/survivors so professional judgement becomes paramount, however PJ can vary depending on the knowledge of the practitioner.

To try to address these issues, we are piloting an Older People's DASH for a 6 month period from 1st August 2021 across Health and Social Care (although practitioners and volunteers from any organisation working with older people are encouraged to use it as well). The OP DASH is for use with victims/survivors of domestic abuse aged over 60.

You can access the OP DASH on our website [at Welcome to Cambridgeshire DASV Partnership \(cambsdasv.org.uk\)](#). We have also developed some guidance for any professional working with older people and domestic abuse - this is available below right but is still in draft form at present.

## **New service to gather feedback from domestic abuse survivors and their children**

As part of new statutory duties placed on local authorities by the Domestic Abuse Act, Cambridgeshire County Council have commissioned Survivors Against Domestic Abuse (SADA) to gather feedback from victims/survivors and children across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. SADA will be collating the experiences of using a range of services from victims/survivors and children who have experienced domestic abuse through a project which commences on the 1st of September 2021.

The project will run for 12 months and work with partners to feedback on the services the clients received from the different agencies across the county.

For more information please contact SADA at [SADAFedbackproject@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:SADAFedbackproject@stevenage.gov.uk) or call 07923253332.

## Update from NSPCC

As of 1.7.21, the NSPCC Peterborough Service Centre is in a period of consultation whilst we consider proposals by the NSPCC to change the model by which we deliver our services to children and families. The consultaion period is due to conclude on 11.08.21

Until that date – and possibly beyond – we will not be accepting any new referrals.  
Please do not send in any referral forms as these will be returned to you.

We are still operating a duty system and will endeavour to offer guidance and/or signposting to other services where we can. To access this service, please sent an email to [peterborough@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:peterborough@nspcc.org.uk) and request a call back, or call our office number on 01733 207620 and ask to be put through to the duty worker.

## The Hideaway by Pam Smy

Billy McKenna packs his bags and leaves home. He just can't bear what's happening at home any more. He seeks out a hiding place in the graveyard on the edge of town, and there he meets an old man who is trying to prepare the graveyard for a strange, secret event. As Billy helps the stranger he thinks about the life he has left behind and wonders about the mystery unravelling around him. Can he ever go back? Will things ever be different?

One magical evening he understands what he needs to do.

Pam Smy is an illustrator and author from Cambridge. She worked closely with the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership to develop the storyline around what Billy is experiencing at home. The Partnership are able to offer a hardback copy of the book free to all primary schools in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and all libraries will also have a copy. The book is recommended for age 9+

Pam Smy has some availability after September to give talks about making the book, the illustrations and the ideas or do run writing and drawing workshops around the themes in the book. If you're interested in a visit from Pam, please contact [Amanda.Warburton@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.Warburton@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## Free Online Training

Alpha Vesta are offering some free training webinars on a variety of domestic abuse related topics including Domestic Abuse & Eating Disorders, DA and Pets, and DA in the Workplace. For more information and booking, please visit [Alpha Vesta CIC Events | Eventbrite](#)

**On Friday 10th September 2021** they have a free 2 hr Webinar is for professionals in the legal arena looking for increased knowledge and understanding of domestic abuse as well as the family court system. The session is also suitable for someone trying to support a victim or survivor of domestic abuse through the Family Court system or a victim or survivor themselves.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/domestic-abuse-and-family-court-tilting-the-axis-tickets-165256774461>

## Update from Cambridge Women's Resource Centre

Both our Cambridge and Peterborough centres are fully open and welcoming clients for face-to-face support sessions and groups. See our timetables below to find out what's on or just pop in for a cup of tea.

### Cambridge sessions & Groups

Course Name	Date & time
Walking Group	Mondays 11am – 12pm
Book Club	4th Tuesday of the month, 2 -3pm
Coffee Morning	Wednesdays 11am – 12pm
Art Drop In	Thursdays 12.30 – 2.30pm
Mailable Materials	Tuesdays to 17 August 12.30 – 2.30pm
Material Things sewing course	Tuesdays 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept – 12 Oct 12.30 – 2.30pm
Future Options	Wednesday 18 August 12pm – 2pm

### Peterborough Sessions & Groups

Course Name	Date & Time
Coffee Morning	Mondays, 11am – 12pm
Book Club	Fridays, 1-3pm
Healing Trauma	Fridays 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept – 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 10am
Healthy Living	Fridays 6 <sup>th</sup> August – 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept 10am
Finding Your Voice	Wednesdays 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept – 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct 1pm
Art Class	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 1pm
Soup Making	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> August, 10am – 12pm

We are running Book Club once a month and this month's book is 'Women who Run With The Wolves' by Clarissa Pinkola Estés. We would welcome new members to Book Club.

During the school holidays Angie will also be offering crafting courses in Peterborough. Children are welcome to join in for the Origami session when accompanied by an adult.

If you'd like to come along to any courses in Cambridge contact us at [info@cwrc.org.uk](mailto:info@cwrc.org.uk) or call 01223 321148 to sign up. Priority is given to women working less than 24 hours per week.

If you'd like to come along to courses or summer holiday activities in Peterborough, please contact [angie@cwrc.org.uk](mailto:angie@cwrc.org.uk) or call 01733 889354 for more information.

## Survivors UK report – Silenced Survivors

Survivors UK carried out a survey earlier this year to explore the prevalence of sexual violence and silence amongst men who identify as gay or bisexual. The findings indicate that gay and bisexual men are widely affected by sexual violence in various spaces, in various ways, and their journey of recovery (including accessing support) is highly variable. It is important to note that the sample size was relatively small (505) but Survivors UK are keen to repeat the research with a wider sample size in the future.

Key findings:

- 45% of men said they had experienced a sexual assault
- 37% did not feel able to speak to anyone about the assault
- 18-44 year olds are more likely to report sexual assault to the police

Read the full report and recommendations for improvements to services at [Silenced-Survivors-A-report-by-SurvivorsUK-.pdf](#)

## What Works for child victims of domestic abuse?

**Researchers from UCL** are hoping to improve understanding of ‘what works’ for children and families who have experienced domestic violence and abuse and/or child maltreatment.

They would like to invite you to take part in an online survey to rate the importance of outcomes that they have identified by reviewing evidence and by talking to different people (e.g. survivors, practitioners/clinicians and professionals responsible for policy and commissioning services).

They are looking for experts in domestic violence and abuse or child maltreatment which includes being a survivor of or working (e.g. practice, policy, research, commissioning) in domestic violence and abuse or child maltreatment. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Claire at [c.powell@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.powell@ucl.ac.uk).

## Court Support report findings

This report was commissioned by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner to shine a spotlight on the support victims and survivors of domestic abuse receive in both the criminal and family justice system.

Recommendations include

- Better strategic support, coordination and understanding of sexual violence.
- Need for urgent action on court backlogs and increased long-term investment.
- Recognising the role of Idvas as an integral part of court systems
- Realising ‘trauma-informed’ courts and driving cultural change

The full report can be read at [Court Support Mapping Report - DAC Office and SafeLives.pdf](#)

## **Capacity currently available in the *For Baby's Sake* Service in Cambridgeshire**

As you will hopefully know, *For Baby's Sake* works in partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council to provide life-changing support to families where domestic abuse is a feature of the relationship, and where parents have generally experienced trauma in their backgrounds. This is an important collaboration that is in place to help us collectively to improve outcomes for vulnerable children.

*For Baby's Sake* works with families who might otherwise be at risk of meeting the criteria for statutory children's services intervention under child in need or child in need of protection processes. The service is open to families living in **Cambridge City, East and South Cambridgeshire** and who meet the referral criteria.

We are seeing a significant increase in the birth rate at present, and it is vital that we use all available resources to support families in need in these very challenging times. *For Baby's Sake* has capacity to support vulnerable families available now.

So I am asking that all managers in children's services consider whether the families with unborn babies known to our services and who meet the *For Baby's Sake* referral criteria would benefit from the specialist intervention provided by *For Baby's Sake*. If you think a family would benefit from the service, please contact the *For Baby's Sake* team for discussion without delay. I would also ask all practitioners to consider families they are working with, and discuss with your managers any who you think would benefit from the *For Baby's Sake* programme; you might want to contact the *For Baby's Sake* team to check eligibility first.

This would include referrals into the MASH that do not reach criteria for children's social care, but meet the *For Baby's Sake* referral criteria as well as families open to our early help services. Assessments by children's social care teams should also always consider whether the *For Baby's Sake* programme can offer an appropriate intervention. Managers should explicitly consider this at the 15 day review point, and discuss a referral with *For Baby's Sake* if the criteria is met.

Referrals to the *For Baby's Sake* service should also be considered for families open to our Family Safeguarding teams and who are being stepped down to early help, where they meet the criteria.

The leaflet attached provides more information about this valuable service, including who is eligible, and how to make contact to discuss a referral.

As I say, this is a valuable resource – so please let's make sure we make full use of it for the benefit of eligible vulnerable children and families.

The *For Baby's Sake* team can be contacted by email at: [forbabysake@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:forbabysake@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Or by telephone on: 01223 715622

Thanks and best wishes

Lou

**Lou Williams**

**Director of Children's Services**

**Peterborough City & Cambridgeshire County Councils**

## Updates from Children's Safeguarding Board

We are pleased to share the new Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Board's – **Child Sexual Abuse resources** with you.

The information and training materials have been developed in partnership with young people, parents / carers and professionals from across the County. A huge thank you to all the people who participated in the surveys and task and finish groups.

The resources are available at <https://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board/professionals/csa/> and includes;

- an updated partnership CSA Strategy,
- an updated partnership Online Abuse Strategy
- localised CSA assessment tool (this replaces the Brook Traffic Light Tool as the locally agreed tool)
- links to recorded CSA training ([https://youtu.be/XE9L\\_FYA4fc](https://youtu.be/XE9L_FYA4fc)) and training on the SARC (<https://youtu.be/7u5v0C3-YCw>) (that can be watched at your convenience)
- Virtual training (SWAYS) on sexual violence and safeguarding
- briefings,
- leaflets
- other resources.

We are currently developing a virtual SWAY to support practitioners in using the local tool - this will be available shortly.

We are also please to share the updated Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Board's – **Child Exploitation Strategy** with you.

The strategy and supporting resources have been developed in partnership with both young people and professionals from across the County. A huge thank you to all the people who participated in developing this work.

Please find a link to our webpage on exploitation

<https://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board/professionals/exploitation/>. The page contains lots of information and resources including;

- an updated partnership Child Exploitation Strategy,
- an updated partnership Online Abuse Strategy
- links to recorded CSA training ([https://youtu.be/XE9L\\_FYA4fc](https://youtu.be/XE9L_FYA4fc)) and training on the SARC (<https://youtu.be/7u5v0C3-YCw>) (that can be watched at your convenience)
- Virtual training (SWAYS) on sexual violence and safeguarding, Child exploitation and online abuse
- leaflets
- other resources.

## APPG Inquiry into Mental Health and Domestic Abuse

Call for evidence: **launched 7th July 2021 – closing deadline 24th September**

**2021**

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic Violence and Abuse has launched a call for evidence for an inquiry into domestic abuse and mental health and would like to hear from you.

Domestic abuse can have a devastating and long-lasting impact on the mental health of survivors and their children and causes significant trauma. For groups facing forms of discrimination and inequality these impacts are compounded further still. Survivors also report that perpetrators use mental ill-health as a key tactic as part of control and abuse, and that the current health system response fails to meet their needs.

The inquiry will focus on the barriers and issues currently faced by survivors of domestic abuse when seeking support for their mental health, and how to address these barriers. The Group invites written evidence from survivors, experts, academics and practitioners on the barriers and recommendations to meet the mental health needs of survivors.

If you want to submit evidence to the inquiry, [please read the terms of reference available here](#).

To submit written evidence to the inquiry please email your submission in a **word document** to [appg@womensaid.org.uk](mailto:appg@womensaid.org.uk) by **24th September 2021**. Please ensure any submissions adhere to the **word limit (1,500 words)**, and provide the information outlined in the terms of reference.

## Cambs Against County Lines

Cambridge Community Safety Partnership, has launched the **Cambs Against County Lines** campaign, to help prevent the criminal exploitation of young and vulnerable people.

'Cambs Against County Lines' follows on from a 2020 survey by Cambridge Community Safety Partnership on drugs violence and gangs in Cambridge. The campaign, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, aims to raise awareness amongst young people and adults in Cambridge city of the risks around county lines drug dealing and to help young people and members of the community to recognise the signs of the related grooming process. On behalf of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership, a bespoke Cambridge-centred video (by [AlterEgo Creative Solutions](#)) was commissioned and a resource pack available for schools and the local community.

The resource focuses on a young man named Dex involved in county lines and goes through "Dex's 6-point business model" where he talks about grooming young people to work for him as part of his county lines operation. As well as the video resource, a resource package is available for schools, primarily targeted for Key Stage 3, in Cambridge.

There are two initial **'train the facilitator'** sessions taking place early August but there are likely to be more of these training sessions going forward to ensure that anyone watching the film also has access to the additional resource pack delivered by someone appropriately trained in delivering sessions about a difficult subject matter such as this.

There will also be virtual community engagement sessions over the summer with dates to be confirmed. For any further information, email: [countylinelines@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:countylinelines@cambridge.gov.uk)



## 6 Moments that Matter report

A new report has identified the 6 Moments That Matter in which survivors of economic abuse can be supported by organisations across the financial services sector.

The report, *The Economic Abuse Threat facing Girls & Women in the UK: 6 Moments That Matter in the Lives of Female Survivors* has been written by Jane Portas, creator of 6 Moments That Matter and co-founder of Insuring Women's Futures, and Dr Nicola Sharp-Jeffs OBE, founder and CEO of Surviving Economic Abuse.

The 6 Moments That Matter are key points during all our lives where we can take control to secure our financial future. They are: Growing Up, Studying & Re-Qualifying; Entering & Re-Entering the Workplace; Relationships: Making Up & Breaking Up; Parenthood & Becoming a Carer; Later Life, Planning & Entering Retirement; and Ill-health, Infirmary & and Dying.

The nature of domestic abuse means that abusers will use these moments as opportunities to control and coerce. For many survivors, abusers' actions affect lifelong financial resilience and this report highlights how they can be helped to take back control.

[The Economic Abuse Threat Facing Girls & Women in the UK: New report reveals the six key life moments when women are most vulnerable to abuse - Surviving Economic Abuse](#)

### Parental Conflict - Interventions for parents

There is FREE support available for parents living in or accessing services within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. If you are working with a family who are experiencing high levels of unresolved conflict in their co-parenting relationship, this could be a great programme for them to access and improve outcomes for themselves *and* their children. \*This programme is not suitable if there is current domestic abuse.

All details can be found on our website [here](#) including how to contact us with any questions you may have.

Please also consider if there's anybody you know personally (including yourself) who may be experiencing conflict in *their* parental relationship right now as this support is open to **all** parents in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough as detailed above. As an organisation, our staff's wellbeing is very important to us and we're mindful that everybody is experiencing situations they haven't before; some good and some maybe not so good and there are times when we all could do with an offer of help. We would always encourage you to talk to your managers if you require any support, but appreciate that, at times, you may want to seek help independently. Tavistock Relationships, a very well-renowned relationship support organisation offer a route to the reducing parental conflict programme that doesn't involve going via a keyworker if that is the preferred option. The short enquiry form on our website can be completed in 2 minutes and Tavistock Relationships will get in touch directly.

### Training for practitioner (New dates)

This training will help you to develop your skills and confidence in identifying and responding to parental conflict. All sessions are free to professionals in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

# Reducing Parental Conflict Training 2021



**Do you want to develop your skills and confidence in identifying and responding to parental conflict?**  
We are offering 2 different opportunities with availability starting immediately!

## **Option 1 - E-learning only - approximately 1½ hours of e-learning in total**

- Module 1 - Parental conflict and its impact on child outcomes
- Module 2 - Recognising and supporting parents in parental conflict
- Module 3 - Working with parents in conflict

The e-learning can be done at your own pace and in your own time

## **Options 2 - E-learning plus bitesize group teaching and reflection**

In this option you will:

- Complete modules 1 and 2 of the e-learning
- Attend Bitesize sessions 1 - a 1½ hour session with a trainer and others who have completed the e-learning to explore the difference between domestic abuse and parental conflict and reflect on your learning
- Complete module 3 of the e-learning
- Attend bitesize session 2 - a 1½ hour session with the same group to explore the tools and how you might use them

This option will be run in cohorts with the bitesize session dates as follows:

	<b>Bitesize 1</b>	<b>Bitesize 2</b>
<b>Cohort 7</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2021 (13.30-15.00)	17 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 (10.00-11.30)
<b>Cohort 8</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 (13.30-15.00)	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 (10.00-11.30)
<b>Cohort 9</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2021 (10.00-11.30)	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 (10.00-11.30)
<b>Cohort 10</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 (10.00-11.30)	21 <sup>st</sup> September 2021 (10.00-11.30)
<b>Cohort 11</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 (10.00-11.30)	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 (10.00-11.30)
<b>Cohort 12</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2021 (10.00-11.30)	16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 (13.30-15.00)
<b>Cohort 13</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2021 (10.00-11.30)	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 (10.00-11.30)

You will need to ensure you can attend both dates relevant to your cohort.  
Further dates will be made available later in the year.

## **How to apply**

Please email [RPCTraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:RPCTraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) with your name, role and contact phone number and whether you wish to undertake the E-learning only or e-learning plus bitesize. And if you are applying for the bitesize which cohort you wish to attend