



**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

**June 2020**

Welcome to summer and once again to our newsletter. As the country focusses on Cummings and goings around Covid-19, we are continuing to share information from partner agencies as well as domestic abuse and sexual violence updates from national and local news.

During lockdown, many more people are listening to the radio for longer periods and we are taking advantage of this by launching an advert on Heart FM Cambridge to let people experiencing domestic abuse or sexual violence know that local and national services are still working to support them.

If you have anything you would like us to share in the newsletter, please contact [Amanda.Warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.Warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

**Julia Cullum**  
Partnership Manager



### **Innovate & Cultivate funding open**

Cambridgeshire County Council is pleased to announce that the next deadline for Innovate & Cultivate Fund applications is 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020. The fund supports initiatives that strengthen our communities and reduce pressure on County Council services, thereby giving a return on investment. Adult social care and children's services are inviting applications for this round. The fund is open to voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations based in and outside of Cambridgeshire, and public sector organisations in Cambridgeshire. Please note that projects serving Peterborough residents are not eligible.

#### **Upcoming application deadlines**

1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 - Cultivate grants (£2,000 - £19,000) and Innovate grants (£19,001 - £50,000)<sup>1st</sup>  
November 2020 – Cultivate grants only (£2,000 - £19,000) – subject to change

#### **Pre-application advice**

We encourage organisations to talk through project ideas before submitting an application. Bookings are now open for one-to-one telephone advice appointments on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June, please [book here](#).

Applications and further information about fund priorities and criteria may be found at this [website](#).

## DA and SV local support still available

The **IDVAs** are working remotely and doing telephone meetings with clients and are still accepting referrals, including MARAC referrals

For information on how to refer please visit

[https://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/referral\\_forms/296136](https://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/referral_forms/296136)

Professionals can email the Duty IDVA for advice [idva.referrals@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:idva.referrals@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

**Outreach support** is still being offered, again this is by telephone

Cambridge City/East Cambs/South Cambs – Cambridge Women's Aid 01223 361214

[www.cambridgewa.org.uk](http://www.cambridgewa.org.uk)

Fenland/Hunts/Peterborough – Refuge 07787 255821

The Victim and Witness Hub continue to pick up all standard risk domestic abuse where consent for support has been given. The team are also working with Women's Aid Peterborough to offer support to medium risk domestic abuse victims.

The **ISVA** Service is also still working with clients by 'phone

<https://www.caprco.org.uk/isva-service/>

**The Elms SARC** is still open for victims of sexual violence <https://www.theelmssarc.org/>

Or call 01480 425003

All the national helplines are also still available and many have online chat facilities – please see our website for details of these [https://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/support\\_directory/95236](https://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/support_directory/95236)

## Job vacancies

Standing Together are looking for two people to continue their work with housing providers in Cambridgeshire.

- Whole Housing Approach Programme Manager - <http://standingtogether.org.uk/news/whole-housing-approach-programme-manager-cambridgeshire>
- Private Rented Sector Development Manager - <http://standingtogether.org.uk/news/private-rented-sector-development-manager>

The closing date for both is 9am on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June and interview dates are included in the links above.

The Suzy Lamplugh Trust are recruiting a Stalking Advocate, based in London, on a fixed term contract. Closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> June, all details at this link <https://www.suzylamplugh.org/stalking-advocate>

## **Police Commissioner supports local charity to help children fleeing domestic abuse during Covid-19**

PETERBOROUGH Women's Aid are set to receive funding for equipment to support and entertain families fleeing domestic abuse during Covid-19, thanks to a grant from Acting Police and Crime Commissioner, Ray Bisby.

The charity has been awarded just under £2,000 from the Commissioner's Youth and Community Fund to buy tablets and headphones along with writing and drawing materials so the children living within the refuge can continue to learn during lockdown.

Acting Police and Crime Commissioner, Ray Bisby, said:

"For those experiencing domestic abuse, the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown measures can be particularly distressing. It is important to remember that there are still support services out there that can be accessed.

"I am pleased that my Fund has been able to help Peterborough Women's Aid providing them with the practical tools to continue with this vital support.

"I'm sure parents will agree that it can be a challenge entertaining children during lockdown, this is no different for those accessing services within the refuge and the tablets can also provide a source of entertainment. This can free up some space and time for mothers at this difficult time."

Anne Sturgess, Peterborough Women's Aid, said:

"With this grant we will be able to expand our support to the women and their children within our refuge who are recovering from the trauma of domestic abuse.

"Those fleeing domestic abuse often must leave quickly and can only take what they can carry. Lockdown restrictions makes it incredibly difficult to access the necessary materials to stimulate and educate children should victims be unable to take them with them when they flee the family home. Peterborough Women's Aid will be able to relieve this additional stress from women and children during what is already and incredibly painful time."

For those who are living with domestic violence, know that you are not alone; help and support is available. A list of local services is available on the Cambridgeshire Victim Services website [www.cambsvictimservices.co.uk](http://www.cambsvictimservices.co.uk).

### **Remote Hearing consultation results**

The Nuffield Family Justice Observatory carried out a rapid consultation on the use of remote hearings in family courts at the beginning of May. The findings were very much mixed with some professionals and clients welcoming hearings via telephone or computer whilst others struggled with the technology and not being able to see body language. Remote hearings also caused difficulties for people with sensory impairments and disabilities. The report on the consultation can be accessed [here](#).

## **Joint Statement about LGBT Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT+) Domestic Violence and Abuse During the COVID-19 pandemic**

Over the last month professionals and activists, agencies, policymakers and government have faced an extraordinary set of circumstances in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, including in relation to domestic violence and abuse. While work has been going on behind the scenes to ensure the delivery of services, the public face of much of the response has focused on reaching out to victims and survivors who find themselves isolated with an abusive partner to try and make sure that they know that help and support are available. Alongside this, there has been an increased emphasis on ensuring family, friends and neighbours also know how to recognise the signs of domestic violence and abuse and what they can do to help.

**Galop and partners have developed the following advice and guidance:**

- For friends and/or family who are worried that the **LGBT+ person they know is being victimised by their partner**;
- For friends and/or family who are worried that **the LGBT+ person they know is using violent/abusive behaviour towards their partner**;

This guidance is also useful for professionals and helpline operators who are receiving calls from friends/family who are LGBT+ either because they are being victimised by, or using violent/abusive behaviour towards their partner.

For a directory of LGBT+ specialist domestic abuse services in England please check Galop's **National LGBT+ Service Map** which includes relevant links and contact details.

Galop also host an **online LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Library**, which includes direct links to resources relevant for LGBT+ people, service providers working with LGBT+ victims of domestic abuse and researchers interested in the topic.

### **Action on Elder Abuse – what's in a name?**

The national charity Action on Elder Abuse have changed their name to Hourglass but their mission to speak out about abuse of older people remains the same. The new website can be found at <https://wearehourglass.org/>

### **Men too**

One in Five is a hard-hitting short film telling the true story of a male victim of domestic abuse. The film, starring Georgia Taylor (Coronation St), David Crellin (Emmerdale) and Robert Hardman (Coronation St), can be viewed on Vimeo at <https://vimeo.com/408623176>

## Mental health support via social media

The Peterborough Exemplar team at CPFT have launched a pair of Facebook pages [www.facebook.com/HowAreYouPeterborough](http://www.facebook.com/HowAreYouPeterborough) and [www.facebook.com/HowAreYouCambridgeshire](http://www.facebook.com/HowAreYouCambridgeshire) (and are busy in the background developing a website which will sit alongside – initially just for Peterborough but we are looking into also providing that for the rest of the county) that aims to bring together everything local that is good for mental-wellbeing. The FB pages are still in their infancy but we are starting to make good connections with activities going on in the local community that boost mental well-being – the idea is to think more creatively about what “mental health care” means and what it might look like, and bring together all the things locally that are already going on that provide some positive influence on mental health, alongside information from professionals. We hope the website/FB will fulfil three key roles; 1) help maintain good mental health for people experiencing no mental health concerns, 2) provide some gentle support for those with mild mental health challenges (either of a level they might not need to seek professional support, or perhaps something to be looked at in conjunction with a GP / social navigator / Primary Care Mental Health session to generate ideas for things that might support well-being, or perhaps whilst someone is waiting to be seen by Psychological Wellbeing Service), 3) provide a kind of mental health support for people who, for a variety of reasons, avoid accessing anything labelled as “mental health care” so do not reach help through traditional channels.

If you are aware of any local activities that you think we should feature, we'd love to hear from you! You can get in touch by email: [HowAreYou@cpft.nhs.uk](mailto:HowAreYou@cpft.nhs.uk). And please feel free to pass on this link to any group organisers you know so they can send us details of their activity: <https://bit.ly/3alt0pj>

## The Kite Trust go virtual

The Kite Trust, supporting LGBT+ young people, have set up virtual groups for young people across the county:

- 11-18s meet Wednesdays from 5-6pm  
16-25s meet Wednesdays from 7-8pm  
11-18s meet again on Thursdays from 6-7pm

If you know of any LGBTQ+ young people who would like to join, please ask them to email: [info@thekitetrust.org.uk](mailto:info@thekitetrust.org.uk)

They are also making weekly podcasts with well-known LGBTQ+ folk: "**I'm socially distancing with...**" 9 episodes available so far, available via Spotify and Anchor

## Webinar – Violence, Abuse & Mental Health

The Violence and Mental Health Network held a webinar on *understanding violence, abuse and mental health featuring* speakers; Prof Joanna Bourke (Birkbeck, University of London), Nicole Jacobs (Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales), Akiko Hart (CEO, National Survivor User Network) and Laura Fischer (artist, activist and researcher). You can watch the recording of the full webinar, as well as access additional resources from the speakers [here](#).

## **VAWG and COVID-19 impact on Black and Minoritised Women and Girls**

Imkaan have published a report on the impact of COVID-19 on violence against BME women and girls. The report includes new survey data and key recommendations on addressing the “two pandemics”. To read the report [click here](#).

### **5 factors report on mothers/children and DA**

Qualitative interviews with 15 mothers and 15 children were held to explore their experiences. Findings suggested that five interlinked factors influenced levels of closeness, distance, and strain in mother–child relationships:

- (1) perpetrator’s/father’s behavior toward children,
- (2) perpetrator’s/father’s use of domestic violence,
- (3) perpetrator’s/father’s undermining of mother–child relationship,
- (4) mother’s ability to emotionally connect to children,
- 5) children’s views of mother and perpetrator/father.

These findings have global significance for services and practitioners who work with domestic violence–experienced mothers and children and may help to tailor responses more effectively to mothers’ and children’s needs. Read the full report [here](#).

### **Dhiverse diversifies**

Dhiverse have a selection of lockdown specific sex and relationship information sheets on their website. <https://www.dhiverse.org.uk/safe-sex-healthy-relationships-during-covid-19-factsheets-fun-activities/>

They are also developing four very carefully selected resources free to schools which will consist of a factsheet for young people, some basic information for parents and one or two RSE activities or discussions that can be done at home

They are also offering free condoms within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough by post in discrete packaging.

Centre 33 provides **free & confidential** support & information for young people **up to the age of 25** in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

**We are here to listen and to help**

## HOW WE WORK

We have had to change the way we work because of the Coronavirus but we can still support you by **phone, text, WhatsApp & email.**  
You can get in touch about anything.

*We don't judge, we are just here to help.*

*We're used to talking with young people about all sorts of things.*

## HELP

We can support you with your mental health and refer you for counselling support. If you are looking after someone at home, then we can give you some support with that. We can help with housing issues and with your sexual health. We can help you with your money and with food and let you know about other help in your area.

## GET IN TOUCH

Tel: 0333 4141809 (Mon to Fri 12noon-4pm).

You can leave a message any other time and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

Text/WhatsApp: 07514 783745

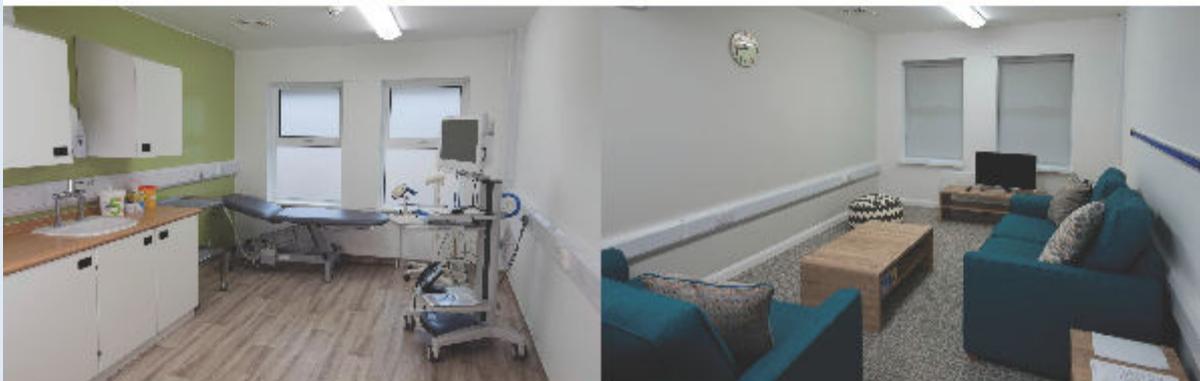
Email: [help@centre33.org.uk](mailto:help@centre33.org.uk)

**Need help now?**

[www.centre33.org.uk/help/need-help-now](http://www.centre33.org.uk/help/need-help-now)

# Our SARC services are still available during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If someone in your care discloses sexual violence or sexual abuse, please contact us for advice.



Mountain Healthcare provides Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) services across Bedfordshire and Luton, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Essex. We are still operating during the COVID-19 pandemic, with all services being carried out in line with current guidance and with additional health and safety measures in place.

If someone discloses their experience(s) of sexual violence or sexual abuse, but does not want police involvement, please get in touch with us directly. We will be able to arrange for initial screening and an assessment to be carried out remotely, before arranging for the individual to attend one of our SARCs for an examination (if required).

Note: Whilst we will maintain confidentiality for self-referrals, we will still have to raise any safeguarding concerns with appropriate agencies if required (i.e. children and vulnerable adults or risk of harm).

Please contact **0330 223 0099** to speak to one of our Pathway and Support Service Co-ordinators, who will be able to arrange a telephone appointment for the individual with one of our specialist nurses in the region.