



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

April 2017

Dear Partners

An update from Sarah Ferguson, Service Director – Children, Families and Adults

Work has been ongoing to consolidate our partnership work across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to secure the best support to victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse and sexual violence, and maximise our joint work with the Police and Health partners. Towards this aim, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are combining resources to jointly deliver Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence services. As part of this the team will be responsible for a range of existing and new partnership activity including the coordination of work to deliver services being developed through new funding streams such as that received from the DCLG.

Peterborough City Council's contract for IDVA/ ISVA services with Peterborough Women's Aid (SASP) came to an end at the end of March 2017. The staff have moved through TUPE transfer to Peterborough City Council but will be managed as part of a joint team with Cambridgeshire colleagues. The whole service will continue to be managed and overseen by Deirdre Reed – see page 4 for more information. The ISVA service is provided by Cambridge and Peterborough Rape Crisis from 1st April, with the lead for commissioning sitting with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner as part of a wider partnership.

Work is currently underway to develop an integrated (across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough) domestic abuse service, using a 'single front door' approach to provision. This model, if fully realised, would bring together:

- Governance, management and administration of services
- Case management and information sharing systems
- IDVA and ISVA services
- MARAC / MASH
- Community-based outreach provision
- Oversight and commissioning of the 3 refuges within Cambridgeshire
- Domestic Violence Perpetrator Panel (DVPP)
- Police responses (investigation, safeguarding, and local policing)
- Services based at the Victim and Witness Hub.

Work will progress across the partnership to develop streamlined processes through the new Integrated Front Door, with the aim to have implemented the new model by April 2018.

Countywide Community Safety arrangements have been under extensive review led by Cambridgeshire Constabulary and as part of this a new DASV Delivery Group is being established which will report into a reformed Community Safety Strategic Board, with clear lines to the Local Safeguarding Children's Boards and the Health and Well Being Board. The DASV Delivery Group will be chaired by the Head of Public Protection in the Constabulary, with the Vice Chair being a Service Director acting for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The first meeting will take place in May 2017.

There is significant planned activity in relation to the operational delivery of DASV services as well as the wider partnership work over the coming months. It will be essential to review what the ongoing capacity and needs of the team will be, and as such there will be a review of the longer term requirements which will take place with partners during the Autumn of 2017.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and remember that you can submit articles to Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Sarah Ferguson
Service Director, Children, Families and Adults
www.cambsdasv.org.uk



Training update

Please see our website for details of levels and training available in the joint training offer for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/training_1/86050

Next available courses

- ❖ Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment (Level 3) – 9th May
 - ❖ Introduction to Domestic Abuse (Level 2) - 28th & 29th June
 - ❖ Managing Domestic Abuse in Families (Level 4) - 21st February, 13th June
- To book: <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/social>

Following the transfer of the Children's and Adults Workforce Development teams to LGSS, more course dates are being planned so look out for future dates in the next newsletter.

- ❖ Domestic Abuse – Using DASH to risk assess the situation, 22nd May 2017
<http://www.safeguardingpeterborough.org.uk/children-board/professionals/training/>

The [Safeguarding Adults Domestic Abuse course](#) is 1.5 days and attendees need to have completed the half day training on Making Safeguarding Personal before they attend.

Against Violence and Abuse (AVA) have a number of courses coming up. There is a charge for these courses.

[Protecting Vulnerable Adults from Abuse](#) – 15th May in London

[Links between DA, MH and Substance Misuse](#) – 10th May in London

[Children under 10 years old and DV](#) – 14th June in London

Churches urged to respond well to domestic abuse

Responding Well to Domestic Abuse: Policy and Practice Guidance

Church communities are being urged to address the issue of domestic abuse and raise awareness of its impact on adults and children.

The updated practice guidance and policy from the House of Bishops, published in March by the Church of England, encourages churches to become places of safety where domestic abuse is taken seriously, survivors are believed and respected, and alleged or known perpetrators challenged. The updated document reflects legislative and other changes since the 2006 guidance.

Under the policy, Church leaders and Officers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults will be expected to undergo domestic abuse training with the issue being raised in appropriate contexts within church life including youth groups, marriage preparation and ordained training. They will also be expected to work closely with statutory and other specialist organisations.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media/3896806/responding-well-to-domestic-abuse-2017.pdf>

Sentencing Council consultation

The Sentencing Council has just published [proposed guidelines on sentencing for domestic abuse and for intimidatory offences](#) (which often occur within a domestic abuse context) and is embarking on a three-month consultation period in which it is seeking views from the public on aspects such as factors that should influence the seriousness of offences and the sentences that should be passed.

The previous sentencing guidelines on domestic abuse (then termed "domestic violence") are over a decade old, and some of the newer intimidatory offences have no current sentencing guidelines at all. We urge anyone with an interest in domestic abuse cases to read the guidelines and consider submitting a response to the consultation.

Update on changes to IDVAs provision in Peterborough

From 3rd April 2017, responsibility for delivering the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service in Peterborough transferred from Peterborough Women's Aid / SASP to Cambridgeshire County Council, following the closure of SASP. From that date, the IDVA team will be co-located with staff at the Victim and Witness Hub, Copse Court, Peterborough as part of an ongoing project to develop a 'single front door' response to domestic abuse across the county.

Contact details for the IDVAs will be confirmed in full shortly, but from 3rd April the team can be reached at peterboroughidvas@peterborough.gov.uk. In addition, all Peterborough IDVAS will retain their current telephone numbers (as below) for a period of 4 weeks, commencing 1st April. However, their PWA email addresses will be inactive from that date. The IDVAS' new PCC email addresses are attached below.

From 3rd April Peterborough IDVAS will only be responding to MARAC referrals (so 14+ (or professional judgement) on the DASH). These referrals will be accepted by the team via email in the usual way. IDVAS will continue to attend and support the MARAC process, as is currently the case. For information on MARAC referral pathways, please visit: www.cambsdasv.org.uk.

The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership, the Cambridgeshire Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner, Peterborough City Council, and Cambridgeshire County Council are working closely together to address the loss in provision brought about by this threshold change, but we do expect that there will be some disruption, especially regarding police-generated medium-risk referrals, and self-referrals from victims in the Peterborough area. However, we are seeking to maximise the impact of the recent DCLG grant award to ensure that appropriate outreach provision is available to all victims of domestic abuse in the City.

The management of the Peterborough IDVAS from 3rd April will be transferred to the structure supporting the Cambridgeshire IDVAS and MARAC teams. Day to day and case management functions will be the responsibility of the IDVA service manager (Deirdre Reed), whilst overall management for the service will be transferred to the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Manager post at CCC (Simon Kerss). The Chairing of the MARAC + in Peterborough will also be taken on by Simon and Deirdre from the start of April.

The IDVA Service Leaflet for Professionals has been updated to reflect these changes and will be sent out with this newsletter. The leaflet is also available to download from our website at http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/downloads_and_resources_1/96816

Peterborough Children's Domestic Abuse Support Service

The service is for 'high end' children in need or child protection cases, where a child or young person has been the victim or exposed to a domestic abuse incident. The case **MUST** be open to a social worker.

Referral process

Social workers will need to complete a DIS referral form and send to Eleanor Carey.

Contact information

Eleanor Carey, 01733 864338

Email: eleanor.carey@peterborough.gov.uk

Peterborough Early Help Service

Service criteria

This service is for children and young people who have been the victim or exposed to a domestic abuse incident and who are being supported through Early Help. Support from this specialist service can be requested by all partners supporting families through Early Help, including professionals from early years settings, schools and further education establishments, health services and the Police. In order to access the service, there will need to be an open and active up-to-date Early Help Assessment that details why the professional feels this is the most appropriate service.

Referral process

In order to ensure that those children and young people most in need of this specialist service can access it, referrals will only be accepted through the three locality based Multi-Agency Support Group (MASG) panels. This will ensure there is a comprehensive multi-agency discussion about the most appropriate support based on the needs of the family. Requests for cases to be heard at MASG is through the use of the Peterborough City Council web-based Early Help Module previously known as eCAF. Only partners who have been trained in the Early Help Module will have access to the system. Partners requiring training to access the system or needing support in activating the MASG workflow on the system should email earlyhelp@peterborough.gov.uk or telephone the Peterborough City Council Early Help Service on 01733 863649.

Direct access to the Early Help Module can be found on the Early Help pages of the Peterborough City Council website at www.peterborough.gov.uk/healthcare/early-help/ under the heading of **Multi Agency Support Groups**.

Domestic abuse survivors given the chance to vote without risking safety

Domestic violence survivors will soon find it easier to cast anonymous ballots in elections, following a petition launched last year that said the voter registration system made it "impossible" for those wishing to keep their details off the electoral roll. It said women were prevented from voting through fear of revealing their location to an abusive ex-partner. Proposals to overhaul the system have now been unveiled.

Anonymous registration is available to people whose safety would be at risk if their name or address appeared on the electoral register, but it currently requires court documents signed by an attester. This must be a "qualifying officer" such as a high-ranking police officer or the head of the security service.

Among the [new measures announced](#) are plans to lower the seniority required for an attester from the police or social services.

Mehala Osborne, who launched the petition to change the law while living in a Bristol safe house, said the changes would ensure "survivors in the future will not be denied their voice".

Chris Skidmore, minister for the constitution, said it is clear that "the existing system has often let down those affected by domestic abuse".

Another domestic abuse survivor, Dawn Morville, said: "When I was living in a refuge, I could never register to vote as I was worried my ex would be able to hunt me down - and if he had been able to find my address, there is no doubt he would have come after me. For years after I left the refuge, I could still not vote, because I knew that he would find me if he could, and seriously harm me and my children."

Polly Neate, chief executive of Women's Aid, said: "Domestic abuse must not deny women their right to take part in democracy. The proposed new measures send out a clear message to all survivors of domestic abuse: that their voices matter, and their participation in politics matters."

Job vacancies

Refuge currently have vacancies for a Refuge Worker and Outreach Workers in the north of the county.

<https://www.charityjob.co.uk/jobs/community-outreach-worker-x-4/500512>

<https://www.charityjob.co.uk/jobs/refuge-worker-cambridgeshire/500054>

Centre 33 are looking for a part time Young Carer's Project Worker covering Cambridge city and South Cambs <http://www.centre33.org.uk/vacancies>

UK SAYS NO MORE Week

The first UK SAYS NO MORE Week will take place from May 15th-21st 2017. The theme of this year's week of activism is #TogetherWeCan – as it is only by working together that we can begin to make real change.

UK Says No More has set out three key action areas for the week:

TALK: Let's end the silence around these issues and say "NO MORE" to the excuses so often made. We can start conversations and spread vital awareness and resources.

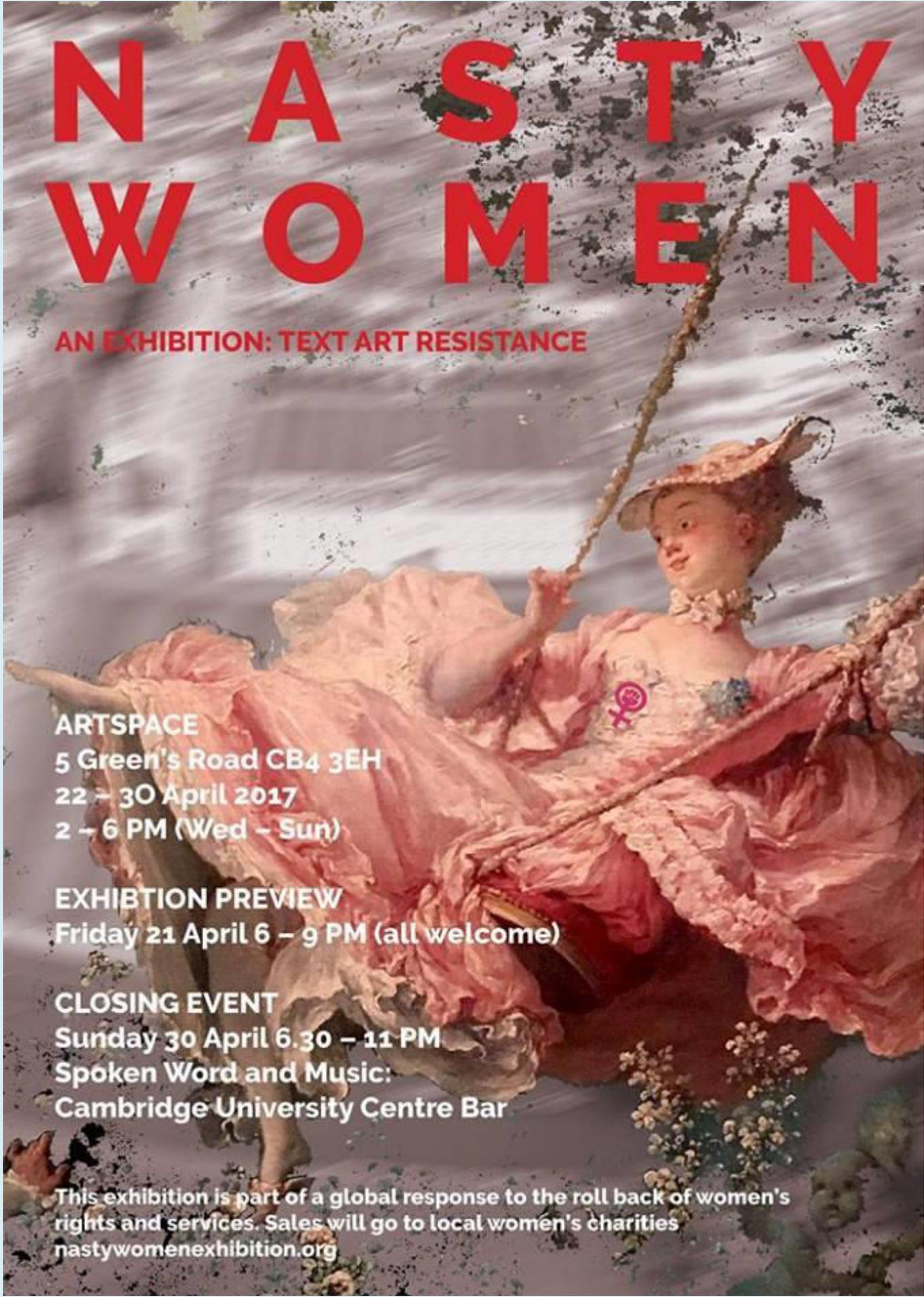
ACT: Set up an event to raise awareness during UK SAYS NO MORE Week (no matter how small!) Get inspired with our ideas in the [UK SAYS NO MORE Week Guide](#).

GIVE: Whether money or time, you can make a huge difference by donating to a non-profit organisation, enabling them to continue their work year-round.

The guide mentioned above includes images that can be used on social media and a poster that can be printed out and displayed. We will be using Facebook and Twitter to share the campaign throughout the week, along with our partners via the new countywide Public Protection communications group.

A poster for UK SAYS NO MORE WEEK. The background is black with a large cyan circle on the right side. The text is in white and cyan. At the top, it says 'UK SAYS NO MORE WEEK' in large, bold letters. Below that, it says 'TOGETHER WE CAN END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT' in white and cyan. At the bottom left, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, followed by '#TOGETHERWECAN' and 'UKSAYSNOMORE.ORG' in white. At the bottom right, it says '15th - 21st May 2017' in white. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for Hestia, which consists of a stylized sun or flame icon above the word 'Hestia'.

NASTY WOMEN



AN EXHIBITION: TEXT ART RESISTANCE

ARTSPACE

5 Green's Road CB4 3EH
22 – 30 April 2017
2 – 6 PM (Wed – Sun)

EXHIBITION PREVIEW

Friday 21 April 6 – 9 PM (all welcome)

CLOSING EVENT

Sunday 30 April 6.30 – 11 PM
Spoken Word and Music:
Cambridge University Centre Bar

This exhibition is part of a global response to the roll back of women's rights and services. Sales will go to local women's charities
nastywomenexhibition.org