



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

**January 2017**

Dear Partners

A belated Happy New Year to everyone!

We are looking forward to a number of things as we start 2017. After many months in the planning, we have just recorded our first two short information films for victims of domestic violence. We will be trialling the films in a specific area first and will be talking with partners about how and where in the next few weeks. We'd like to say a big thank you to Burwell House for their help in getting this project off the ground and to Mary Barnes who generously volunteered to be our actor for the films.

Sexual Violence Awareness Week starts on 6<sup>th</sup> February and we are launching the Ask for Angela campaign in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that week. The campaign was originally created by Lincolnshire County Council and aims to give people who are feeling unsafe on a date some options to seek support discretely. For more information, see page 5.

We are also looking forward to March when we are linking with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Adult Safeguarding Boards to host a conference around adult safeguarding and domestic abuse. The event will include presentations from national experts as well as workshops aimed to really get people thinking about how domestic abuse can affect adults at risk.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and remember that you can submit articles to [Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

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## Training update

A Joint training offer for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has now been developed – Please see our website for details of levels and training available  
[http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/training\\_1/86050](http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/training_1/86050)

### Next available courses

- ❖ Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment –
- ❖ Introduction to Domestic Abuse 8/9 February 2017  
<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/social>
- ❖ Introduction to the effects of Domestic Abuse (Peterborough) 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017  
<http://www.safeguardingpeterborough.org.uk/children-board/professionals/training/>

The [Safeguarding Adults Domestic Abuse course](#) has been increased to 1.5 days from December. Attendees need to have completed the half day training on Making Safeguarding Personal before they attend.

## Sexual Assault Referral Centre now based in Hinchingsbrooke Hospital

Cambridgeshire's new Sexual Assault referral Centre (SARC) opened at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital in Huntingdon last month (December 2016). The facility, known as The Elms, replaced the Oasis @Rivergate and provides a dedicated service to all victims of sexual assault by providing a safe place to receive medical aftercare, forensic examinations, support, and to anonymously report sexual assaults. There are also dedicated facilities for children and young people including paediatric clinics.

Support is available 24/7 to anyone who has experienced sexual abuse by calling 0800 193 5434. The services available at The Elms are provided by a partnership including Cambridgeshire Rape Crisis, Peterborough Rape Crisis, Embrace, Peterborough Women's Aid, Victims Hub, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Mountain Healthcare Ltd.

Rachel Matheson, The Elms' manager, said: "The Elms is a fantastic new facility, conveniently located on the hospital site which will make it very accessible for anyone who needs to use it. "The service we provide to victims is vital and I am pleased we are able to offer dedicated spaces for survivors of all ages and genders. While we work closely with the police, I would like to reassure anyone who attends the centre that everything they tell us is confidential and will not be reported as a crime unless they specifically ask for it to be."

Police and Crime Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite added: "More and more people are gaining the confidence to report cases of sexual violence and it is vital to me that we provide the best support we can to victims so that they are helped through the traumatic experience."

Peterborough Rape Crisis has also relocated to Thorpe Hall, Peterborough

The Elms will be officially launched on March 8<sup>th</sup>.



RCN: 1015716

FREE COURSE



## Non-Violent Resistance Programme (NVR)

A ten week programme for parents with children or adolescents, who are violent, controlling or destructive in the home.

Our 10 week NVR course offers parents the opportunity to deal effectively with their child's violence, aggression or destructive behaviour, by learning how to prevent escalation and violence within the home and re-build the adult/child relationship.

### NVR works on three main principles:

1. Taking a firm stand against violence, risk-taking and destructive behaviours.
2. Holding back from responding with verbal or physical violence/hostility.
3. Increasing your Parental Presence in your child's life.

**Start Date: Tuesday 14 March 2017 (10.30am – 12.30pm)**

**Venue: The Edge Cafe, 351 Mill Road, Cambridge, CB1 3DF**

**We take self-referrals and referrals from professional agencies. Families will be required to undergo an assessment to be enrolled onto this course.**

**To request a referral form or to book a place please call: Marc or Kelly on  
01354 293123**

**Email: [positive.pathways@ormistonfamilies.org.uk](mailto:positive.pathways@ormistonfamilies.org.uk)**

## **Domestic Abuse and Violence Update from Education Child Protection Services**

By way of introduction, my name is Jackie Cannell and I joined the Education Child Protection Services team as a Safeguarding Children Adviser back in August. I have lead responsibility within the team for domestic abuse and violence (DA/DV) and so thought it would be relevant and timely to share with you some of the work and recent developments within our team relating to this issue.

One of my main responsibilities is to represent education at the daily MARAC. This involves initial research into cases involving children attending any form of education, making contact with designated personnel in those settings, gathering relevant information to be shared at the meeting and taking agreed feedback and actions back to schools as appropriate. For the calendar year 2015-16 we have dealt with over 600 MARAC cases and over 330 of those cases were heard during the autumn term. To manage and complete casework for such high numbers alongside other responsibilities wouldn't be sustainable for one person so I count myself fortunate to have support from my colleague, Helen Scrivner, who is also a new member of the team.

As well as providing model policies and procedures relating to all aspects of safeguarding and child protection there is a specific Domestic Abuse Guidance document available which outlines multi-agency processes, professionals roles and responsibilities, signposting and support, the wider aspects of DA such as HBV, FGM, forced marriage, honour-based crimes, record keeping and information sharing. I'm in the process of revamping this and aim to have it ready for publication early in the New Year – watch this space!

The team also runs a daily 'Advice Line' for the designated personnel in settings to call should they need to discuss any safeguarding or child protection concerns or difficult cases for children in their care. During the calendar year 2015-16, we received over 100 calls via this service relating to DA/DV and received almost 50 calls during the autumn term 2016.

DA/DV and the impact on children and families is an area we cover on both the Basic Child Protection and Designated Person training that we offer across early-years, schools, colleges, specialist schools and independent schools either as part of their subscription package or as something that can be 'bought in'. To complement this work I am also one of the named trainers for the LSCB on their "Children, Young People and Domestic Abuse" and the "Working with Parents who may be Non-Compliant or who offer Disguised Compliance" multi-agency training where I am able to provide an education perspective.

From March 2017, I will be running the first of the newly resurrected Domestic Abuse Lead training for designated personnel in schools to increase their knowledge and understanding of what constitutes DA, the multi-agency processes used in the prevention and support of cases and the longer term impact of DA/DV on the children and young people in their settings. (Thanks to the IDVA team for their support and 'guest spot' during the training!) New for this year, I am offering a pilot workshop on safety planning to schools which will run in the summer term. This has arisen through the work I do for MARAC and my awareness that many staff in schools have had limited experience or training when it comes to safety planning. The aim is to increase awareness and confidence in producing a plan that is proportionate to the presenting risks to children who are the victims of DA/DV.

## Police Commissioner supports campaign to make dating safe

A campaign to keep people safe while dating is being launched across Cambridgeshire on 6<sup>th</sup> February to coincide with National Sexual Violence Awareness Week.

The simple code-word campaign, Ask for Angela, encourages people who are concerned about their safety to discreetly ask for help by going to the bar. The message then alerts bar staff to the situation so they can phone for a taxi or offer a safe space to contact a family member or friend.

Posters will be on display in pubs across Cambridgeshire thanks to support from PubWatch, and CamBAC (Cambridge Business Against Crime).

Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite said:

“Anyone going on a date needs to be safe in the knowledge that if things are not going well, and they feel threatened in any way, there is help at hand. I would encourage everyone to spread the word about ‘Ask for Angela’ to family and friends who may be going out on dates.”

The poster also includes phone numbers for Cambridge Rape Crisis and Peterborough Rape Crisis for anyone who has experienced sexual violence or assault or needs to talk.

‘Ask for Angela’ was originally developed by Lincolnshire County Council and is currently being rolled out across the country.

The Campaign is supported by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership with local support from the Community Safety Partnerships.



## **Why do women return to abusive relationships? Opportunity to participate in research**

It is well documented that many women return to abusive relationships, but there is surprisingly little research into the phenomenon. Kerrie Bundock from the Oxford Institute of Clinical Psychology Training is carrying out a study that hopes to learn more about why some women return to abusive relationships and some do not. It is hoped that greater understanding will help inform services and health care professionals to support women to be able to stay away from abusive relationships.

The research study is looking for women (aged 18 and over) who have experienced abuse in an intimate relationship and have left the abusive relationship at least once.

Anyone who fits these criteria is invited to [complete an initial survey online](#).

## **Do you provide services for women experiencing multiple disadvantage?**

[AVA](#) and [Agenda](#) have been funded to map services across England and Wales that are specifically for women experiencing multiple disadvantage. Multiple disadvantage is defined as being affected by a combination of problematic substance use, mental ill-health, homelessness and/or involvement with the criminal justice system.

The map will be made available online in March 2017 and will provide practitioners with a facility to search for services as well as offering a national picture of service provision that will be useful for policy makers, funders and campaigners.

If you deliver any services for women specifically affected by:

- substance use
- mental ill-health
- homelessness
- offending

We would like to include information about the support you provide on the Mapping the Maze map.

Please submit information about your service(s) by clicking [here](#).

**The deadline for submissions is 21 February 2017.**

## **Justice Minister Sam Gyimah announces plans to double the maximum sentence for stalking.**

People who stalk victims and devastate their lives can be sent to jail for longer, the Ministry of Justice has announced.

The maximum custodial sentence available to the courts for stalking will increase from 5 to 10 years, and from 7 to 14 years if the offence was racially or religiously aggravated.

- maximum prison sentences for stalking to double from 5 to 10 years
- government acts to make sure punishment fits the seriousness of the crime
- move builds on recently announced plans for new stalking protection orders

Ministers say the plans will help make sure the punishment reflects the severity of the crime and its damaging consequences on victims.

Justice Minister Sam Gyimah said: Stalkers torment their victims and can make everyday life almost unbearable. We are doubling the maximum sentences available to the courts so these awful crimes can be properly punished. I would like to thank Alex Chalk MP and Richard Graham MP for their considerable efforts in highlighting this issue. We are also working across the criminal justice system to ensure mental health issues associated with these crimes are properly addressed.

The government will seek to implement the change through an amendment to the Policing and Crime Bill, currently going through Parliament. It will go further than the amendment recently passed in the House of Lords, as it will also raise the maximum sentence for harassment – from 5 to 10 years and 7 to 14 years if racially or religiously aggravated.

The move will make it possible for the courts to impose longer sentences in the most serious cases.

The government is taking further action to protect victims from stalking, including new protection orders to intervene early to keep victims safe and stop 'stranger stalking' before it escalates. The new measures will allow the police to place controls on perpetrators, preventing their behaviour intensifying while the crime is being investigated.



**Cambridgeshire  
Safeguarding Adults Board**  
*making a difference together*



# Save The Date

**Thursday 2nd March 2017, 09.30-15.30**

## **Domestic Abuse and Adult Safeguarding Conference**



**Deafblink Uk Conference Centre,  
John and Lucille Van Geest Place, Peterborough  
Cynet Road,  
Peterborough, PE7 8FD**