

WARWICKSHIRE AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

NEWSLETTER

12th January 2010

WELCOME to the latest edition of the Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse newsletter. We hope you find the information and articles useful and informative.

If you have anything you would like us to include in a future edition please contact me directly on 01926 412016, or email helenjinks@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Please forward this newsletter onto any colleagues you think may wish to receive it, or contact me with names and email addresses of anyone to be added to the circulation list. This newsletter is also available to download from the "Professionals" page of www.talk2someone.org.uk.

Helen Jinks

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NEWS & JOBS

Partner exploitation and violence in teenage intimate relationships

A landmark research report from the University of Bristol and the NSPCC
By Christine Barter, Melanie McCarry, David Berridge and Kathy Evans (September 2009)

Partner exploitation and violence in teenage intimate relationships (PDF, 1.05MB) is the first study in Great Britain to provide a detailed picture of the incidence and impact of teenage partner violence.

1,353 young people, between 13 and 17 years old from England, Scotland and Wales took part in the research survey and 91 young people took part in in-depth interviews.

Although a body of evidence exists on adult experiences of domestic violence, very little is known about partner exploitation and violence in teenagers' own intimate relationships and encounters in the UK.

Research from the US has highlighted the high level of violence in young people's intimate relationships. However, how these findings apply to the UK context has been unknown.

This research, funded by the Big Lottery Fund and the NSPCC, sought to bridge this gap in understanding.

Both the full report and exec summary can be downloaded from:

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/research/Findings/partner_exploitation_and_violence_wda68092.html



Birmingham & Solihull Women's Aid offers safe, temporary accommodation and support services to women and children affected by domestic violence. Applicants must have a commitment to services for women and children within anti discriminatory practice. Applications are particularly welcome from women from Black Minority Ethnic Groups and women who can speak any of the community languages of Birmingham and Solihull.



Community Relationship Service Team Manager **Salary £29,400**

The role requires developing, leading and project managing the community relationship service with other service providers and a range of partners. It involves developing domestic violence services including direct case work, floating support, training, youth work, criminal justice support, work in schools, as well as supervising a staff team. All applicants must have experience of project management and of working with women and children affected by domestic violence.

Outreach Workers

£21,937 (pro-rata for part-time)

Full-time (37 hours per week) and Part-time positions available
(part-time hours to be negotiated)

To provide a domestic violence support service including: undertaking outreach work, providing drop-ins and surgeries, developing awareness of domestic abuse and undertaking casework with women. We are particularly interested in candidates who can speak any African languages, French, Polish, or British Sign Language.

Outreach Children & Family Support Worker

£21,937 – 37 hours per week (full-time)

To work within a large team to design and deliver a comprehensive programme of play and support services to children and their mums who have been affected by domestic violence and accessing the Outreach Project

Refuge Project Worker

£21,937 (pro-rata for part-time)

Full-time (37 hours per week) and Part-time (28 hours per week, based in Solihull) positions available

This is an opportunity to work within our established refuge support service. Your role will be to deliver support, advice and guidance services to women living in refuge affected by domestic abuse. We are particularly interested in candidates who can speak South Asian languages.

Refuge Children & Family Support Worker

£21,937 – 37 hours per week (full-time)

To work with a team to design and deliver a comprehensive programme of play and support services to children and their mums who have been affected by domestic violence and living in refuge.



Community Development Worker (FGM specialist) with Language Specialism

£21,937 (pro-rata)

18 ½ hours per week (part-time)

To raise awareness of and assist in preventing the practice of female genital mutilation. You will undertake work with practising communities, especially with women, providing awareness, support and group work. You must be able to speak Arabic.

All posts listed are subject to a 6% pension contribution from BSWA. Positions based in Birmingham unless stated otherwise. These posts are applicable to women only: Section 7 of the Sex Discrimination Act applies.

Please note: all successful candidates will be subject to Criminal Records Bureau check before commencing their employment

If you are interested please submit your request for a recruitment pack in writing including a self-addressed-envelope (attach postage of at least 61p or Large Letter Stamp) to: **Birmingham & Solihull Women's Aid, Central Administration, Ryland House, 2nd Floor, 44-48 Bristol Street, Birmingham, B5 7AA**

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is: 12noon Thursday 11th February 2010.

PLEASE NOTE: Faxes are not accepted.

BSWA are also looking for volunteers to join its Board of Trustees. We are particularly looking for women with skills in financial management, company charity and family law and marketing skills. For an informal discussion please call Nashiema Sheikh on 0121 685 8687 ext 277.

PUBLICATIONS

New documents available at www.talk2someone.org.uk

You can now find the following documents on the talk2someone website via the [Documents and Strategies](#) Section:

[Tackling Perpetrators of Violence Against Women and Girls: ACPO review for the Home Secretary](#)

[Together We Can End Violence Against Women and Girls: A Strategy, November 2009](#)

[Together We Can End Violence Against Women and Girls: Annexes, November 2009](#)

[Safety in Numbers: A Multi-site Evaluation of Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Services, November 2009](#)

[Multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling Cases of Forced Marriage, 2009](#)

[Forced Marriage – Prevalence and Service Response, July 2009](#)

[The Right to Choose: Multi-agency statutory guidance for dealing with forced marriage, 2008](#)

Children and families experiencing domestic violence Police and children's social services' responses

By Nicky Stanley, Pam Miller, Helen Richardson Foster and Gill Thomson (January 2010)

[Children and families experiencing domestic violence: police and children's social services' responses \(PDF, 1.05MB\)](#) is a research report from UCLan (University of Central Lancashire) and the NSPCC.

In England and Wales, the Adoption and Children Act 2002 amended the definition of significant harm provided by the Children Act 1989, adding a new category of "impairment suffered from seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another".

Since domestic violence and children's exposure to it represent a widespread social problem, this amendment has acted to draw a potentially large group of families within the remit of children's social services. The growing mountain of police notifications to children's social services of domestic violence incidents where children are involved and the pressures that this has created have been noted by a range of commentators in the UK, North America and Australia.

The notification system has emerged against what is acknowledged to be a background of fragmented services for children and families experiencing domestic violence, and represents an attempt to improve communication and coordination between universal and highly targeted services.

This research examined both the notification process itself and the subsequent service pathways followed by families brought to the attention of children's social services in this way. It also explored which other agencies contributed to services for families experiencing domestic violence and captured young people's, survivors' and perpetrators' views of services.

Executive summary

[Children and families experiencing domestic violence: police and children's social services' responses \(executive summary\) \(PDF, 608KB\)](#)

Full report

[Children and families experiencing domestic violence: police and children's social services' responses \(PDF, 1.05MB\)](#)

Both reports can be downloaded from:

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/research/Findings/children_experiencing_domestic_violence_wda68549.html

CONSULTATIONS

Working Together to Safeguard Children statutory guidance consultation

The Government has published a revised draft of *Working Together to Safeguard Children* inter-agency statutory guidance for consultation.

The revised draft guidance addresses 17 of Lord Laming's recommendations, as proposed in an earlier pre-consultation, and reflects changes to the policy and legislative landscape since *Working Together* was last revised in 2006.

Of particular interest is section 3 pages 8-9 which references LSCBs and MARACs.

A wide range of safeguarding partners is invited to respond to the consultation, which will close on 11 February 2010.

For further information please go to <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu/consultations.shtml>

Mainstreaming the commissioning of local services to address violence against women and girls

Tuesday 22 December 2009. Consultation Launch Notice.

Following the publication of the cross-Government strategy *Together We Can End Violence Against Women and Girls* on 25 November 2009 we have produced draft commissioning guidance to support local commissioners and partnerships to develop the best approach to commissioning services to prevent violence against women and girls, protect victims and potential victims and provide services to victims and perpetrators in local areas.

The guidance draws on existing good practice, on guidance offered by other government departments and the latest thinking about the strategic role of local councils in leading commissioning for their localities. With so many agencies and budgets contributing to provide services there are real risks of lack of ownership, duplication and poor links between services leading to an ineffective allocation of resources with money being spent on expensive interventions when simpler joint preventive and protective strategies could reduce future needs and costs. It is organised into five sections:

1. Getting the right people involved through a 'whole system approach'.
2. Using intelligence to understand need and set priorities.
3. Staying in the mainstream by reframing service priorities.
4. Getting good value by following the money and working with providers.
5. Holding services and commissioning to account.

The guidance is available for a 12 week consultation from Tuesday 22 December 2009 – Monday 15 March 2010 in order to:

- Secure a shared definition of good commissioning covering planning, strategy and governance;
- Learn useful lessons from other relevant and comparable sectors;
- Identify the support needed by Commissioners to develop and sustain better practice consistently across the country; and
- Promote joint commissioning within local partnerships and across areas so that services are commissioned and provided at the right level..

Please visit: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime-victims/reducing-crime/violence-against-women1/> to download the consultation document and for further information about violence against women and girls.

EVENTS

Please find below a selection of events taking place in the UK.

FEBRUARY

The Recovery Toolkit Facilitators Training 16th - 17th February 2010 ([Click here for further details](#))

Children Under Five Years Old and Domestic Violence 24th February 2010, London ([Click here for further details](#))

MARCH

Domestic Violence Prevention Work for Secondary Schools and Youth Settings 11th March 2010, London ([Click here for further details](#))

Children Under 10 Years Old and Domestic Violence 16th March 2010, London ([Click here for further details](#))

APRIL

Recovering from the Impacts of Domestic Violence - Injured Self-esteem 13th April 2010, London ([Click here for further details](#))

Further details for any of the events below, plus the full listing of events can be found at <http://www.talk2someone.org.uk/professional/events-training>.

To add your events to this webpage please send all details to helenjinks@warwickshire.gov.uk