



Domestic abuse and general support during Coronavirus/Covid-19 outbreak – newsletter #34 29-06-20

Hello all – please find latest information relating to the domestic and sexual abuse sector attached and below. Thanks again to those who have sent in items for sharing and for the feedback and comments. If you have any items or service information you would like us to share, please forward to this email address. Take care and kind regards, Steve

Content Note: some of the articles and information in this newsletter may include detailed discussion of physical, emotional and sexual abuse, please be mindful of your own triggers, safety and feelings – take care.

Major overhaul of family courts to protect domestic abuse victims - Survivors of domestic abuse and their children will receive greater protections after the government today (25 June 2020) announced an overhaul of how the family courts deal with the horrific crime. See more here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-overhaul-of-family-courts-to-protect-domestic-abuse-victims>

Views from the sector regarding family courts;

Refuge - <https://www.refuge.org.uk/refuge-responds-to-announcement-of-major-overhaul-to-the-family-courts/>

Women's Aid - <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/charities-welcome-government-recommendations-for-private-law-reform-to-protect-survivors-of-domestic-abuse/>

Government to review support in the workplace for survivors of domestic abuse – as part of the government's wider approach to tackling domestic abuse they have launched a review of employment rights for survivors of domestic abuse to look at what more could be done to help survivors in the workplace, views are sought on availability of flexible working and unplanned leave for domestic abuse survivors. Written submissions will be accepted until 9 September and should be sent

to domesticabuse.employmentreview@beis.gov.uk Find out more here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-review-support-in-the-workplace-for-survivors-of-domestic-abuse>

Standing Together, Health Pathfinder – this Pathfinder was a 3-year pilot project which brought together expertise and funding for specialist domestic abuse interventions to embed a 'whole health' approach to domestic abuse in 8 sites across England. The project ended in March 2020. The final project report and further information, including a toolkit and survivors consultation document are available here

<https://www.standingtogether.org.uk/pathfinder>

IRISi Guidance for General Practice – IRISi is a social enterprise established to promote and improve the healthcare response to gender based violence. See 'Guidance for General Practice Teams' and 'Guidance for Reception and Admin Teams' are available here <https://irisi.org/all-resources/covid-19-guidance-and-advice/>

Barnardo's - See, Hear, Respond – there is a new service for young people being offered by Barnardo's across England, "In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Barnardo's, in partnership with The Department for Education (DfE), will be delivering a new and innovative programme across England that co-ordinates a dynamic sector response." Referral here www.barnardos.org.uk/see-hear-respond or to find out more contact Kate Goodwin, email - Kate.goodwin@barnardos.org.uk phone - 07876 190420.

Male Survivor Helpline – please see graphic for use on social media etc below. 1 in 6 men in the UK have been targets of rape and sexual abuse, that’s 5 million men in the UK. Abusers don’t discriminate – abuse can happen to any man/boy of any age, race, class or sexual identity – helpline 0808 800 5005.

Latest news and articles relating to domestic and sexual abuse

1. Warning: COVID-19 Contact Tracing Apps Could Be Turned Into Tools For Domestic Abuse - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2020/06/19/warning-covid-19-contact-tracing-apps-could-be-turned-into-tools-for-domestic-abuse/#1d35a83ae736>
2. Family court judges given power to intervene in domestic abuse cases - <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/jun/25/family-court-judges-given-power-to-intervene-in-domestic-abuse-cases>
3. Family courts: 'Major overhaul' aims to protect domestic abuse victims - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53173266#>
4. Almost 50% of UK nurses and midwives have been sexually harassed by patients, survey shows - <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/nurses-midwives-sexual-harrassment-yougov-a4478826.html>
5. “Abuse does not end when a relationship ends” - <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/abuse-does-not-end-when-a-relationship-ends-when-perpetrators-use-family-proceedings-and-child-contact-arrangements-to-continue-to-control-and-abuse/>

Cumbria Domestic Abuse Champions’ Network social media – you can follow Cumbria Domestic Abuse Champions’ Network on social media for regular posts/updates. On Twitter [@AbuseCumbria](#) and on [Facebook](#) [@CumbriaDomesticAbuseChampionsNetwork](#)

Champions’ Network newsletters - You can find all the previous copies of these newsletters in PDF format at <http://www.womenscommunitymatters.org/cumbria-domestic-champions/> just in case you lose/misplace any info.

Kind regards, Steve

