

Gloucestershire DASV Briefing Sheet

Please circulate widely to all those engaged in addressing the issues of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in Gloucestershire. Thank you!

Autumn 2019

16 days of Action 2019

25th November – 10th December 2019



Gloucestershire's theme for this year's 16 Days of Action is

'Our community against domestic abuse and sexual violence'



The campaign will focus efforts on awareness raising about domestic abuse and sexual violence, exposing myths and supporting communities in identifying domestic abuse, knowing how to intervene safely and advise on where to seek support.



We are developing a varied and exciting programme of activities across the county for the 16 Days of Action, [click here](#) to find out more - **Please take a look!**



The Gloucestershire Campaign will also be supporting the Public Health England (PHE) South West campaign around engaging with workplaces in the prevention and response to domestic abuse and sexual violence, following on from their campaign last year.



If you have any suggestions or plans for the 16 Days of Action calendar, please contact Helen Pritchard, County Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (DASV) Strategic Coordinator and she will ensure they are included in the programme. Email: glostakeastand@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk



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The UK's first Domestic Abuse Commissioner has been announced. The role of Domestic Abuse Commissioner will lead on driving improvements in the response to domestic abuse in the UK, championing victims and making recommendations on what more should be done to better protect victims and bring more offenders to justice. They will also be able to publish reports that hold statutory agencies and the government to account. **Nicole Jacobs** has been appointed to the role. Ms Jacobs has an extensive DA background and has been involved in some work within Gloucestershire. She will work initially as the designate Commissioner until the Commissioner's Office is placed on a statutory footing. The Government has stated its commitment to tackling domestic abuse, with commitments to bring in legislation during the Queen's Speech. [Click here](#) to read more.

Government Violence Against Women and girls (VAWG) Newletter - Spring 2019:

[Click here](#) to read further updates from the Government on the DA Bill, VAWG Strategy refresh, VAWG Men and Boys Position Statement and case studies and information on a variety of DA projects.

The new draft **Gloucestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy** has now been launched. Developed through extensive engagement with communities & stakeholders, the Strategy sets out how we can achieve the vision that the county is a place where everyone can live well, be healthy and thrive. **To give your views on the strategy**, please complete the online survey at: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing>. Feedback on the draft strategy will close on **15th October 2019** and will help to inform the final version.

The new **Safer Gloucestershire Strategy** is now available. To obtain a copy and the accompany action plan, please email karen.taylor@gloucestershire.gov.uk

GDASS has a new Look! The GDASS logo is changing – look out for the new logo on GDASS's website and all new literature:

GDASS
Supporting victims of domestic abuse
gdass.org.uk

Information HUB



Gloucestershire Framework Agreement for Domestic Abuse (DA) (Commissioning DA Services in Gloucestershire)

Reopening of the DA Framework: The DA Framework had its first annual reopening in May 2019 for new providers to apply to be awarded to:

Lot 2: Places of Safety

Lot 3: Addressing Perpetrator Behaviour

Lot 4: Young People

Lot 5: Early Identification & Workforce Development

Lot 6: Stalking (outside of DA)

The reopening was led by GCC Commissioning on behalf of all partners signed up to the Framework. Four new providers have been awarded to the Framework; these are **Connexus Housing Ltd, Julian House, Stroud Beresford Ltd and Stonewater Ltd**

Health Early Identification Pilot: We are pleased to announce that the DA Health pilot will continue to be funded until 31st March 2020; this will allow for the evaluation of the pilot to be completed and longer term commissioning decisions made.

Lot 4: Young People: GCC have commissioned West Mercia Women's Aid (WMWA) to deliver a new DA service for young people (13-19). The new service is called **STREET Gloucestershire** (Safe, Teen, Relationship, Education & Empowerment Team). WMWA will be working in close partnership with GDASS. For more information contact: Rebecca Twydell at Rebecca.twydell@wmwa.org.uk or call the information line on 01452 726584

Lot 6: Stalking: The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has awarded a call-off contract to Splitz Support Services for an **Independent Stalking Advocacy Caseworker (ISAC)** to support victims of non-DA stalking. To find out more, contact the ISAC by emailing isac@splitz.org or visit www.splitz.org

SafeLives Spotlight #8 Parenting through Domestic Abuse – SafeLives latest Spotlight is focussed on parents who are experiencing domestic abuse, shining a light on how it feels attempting to navigate complex systems and agencies, e.g. social care, while trying to keep yourself and your child safe. [Click here](#) to access blogs, webinars and other helpful resources and to contribute to the discussion.

Sexual Violence: Work is underway in the county's universities and colleges to upskill staff in responding to disclosures of sexual violence and supporting the development of robust sexual violence policies and procedures to better support those who disclose sexual abuse in further educational settings. To find out more email:

glostakeastand@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

As part of ongoing government efforts to ensure victims of rape and sexual assault get the help they need and restore faith in the justice system, **the government has just announced a further £5 million for specialist support services for victims of rape and sexual assault.** [Click here](#) to find out more.

A **Sexual Violence Needs Assessment** has been completed and will shortly be available on the [Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner \(OPCC\) website](#).

Make a Stand was launched in June 2018 by the Chartered Institute for Housing (CIH). It centres around a pledge CIH developed in partnership with the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) and Women's Aid. The pledge gives housing organisations the opportunity to sign up to making four commitments to providing support for people experiencing domestic abuse, enabling housing organisations to publicly commit to take action to support victims of domestic abuse. [Click here](#) to find out more.

A "**deeply hidden and disturbing side to rural life**" has been laid bare by an 18-month inquiry into domestic abuse in the English countryside. Domestic abuse victims suffer for longer, are less likely to report abuse and struggle to get support. [Click here](#) to read the **National Rural Crime Network** report '**Captive and Controlled**'

The **Violence Prevention Network e-bulletin** produced by Public Health England South West Team is a regular bulletin designed to keep subscribers in touch with violence prevention locally and nationally; as well as information on domestic abuse and sexual violence. To subscribe, contact lara.snowdon@phe.gov.uk

The next meeting of the DASV Information Network will be held in October 2019. For information about attending this meeting please contact: Heather.Ellis@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Please forward any information to be included in the next edition of the DASV Briefing Sheet to: Tina.Hemingway@gloucestershire.gov.uk by 31st January 2020