

# Domestic Abuse Newsletter

## Bracknell Forest and RBWM



August 2024

### LOCAL NEWS

16 August

[Force admits 'missed opportunities' in murdered wife case](#)

### Updates from BWA

#### Changes to Helpline hours

From 1 August 2024, BWA's Helpline hours will be:

Monday 9am-7pm  
Tuesday 9am-5pm  
Wednesday 9am-5pm  
Thursday 9am-7pm  
Friday 9am-5pm  
Saturday 9:30am-12:30pm  
Sunday and Bank Holidays CLOSED

This change in Helpline hours is to provide survivors who find it difficult to contact helpline staff during working hours to have an increased opportunity to call in the evening and/or Saturday morning to speak to one of BWA's skilled and experienced Helpline staff. This improvement to the service will ensure survivors have greater flexibility regarding when they can speak to the team directly.

Outside of these new extended hours, an 'out of hours' answerphone message will explain the opening times and ask survivors to leave a message which will be responded to the next working day. All callers will be given the details of the National Domestic Abuse Helpline number for out of hours information, support and advice, and will be advised to contact the emergency service if they require urgent support.

### Lived Experience Group

BWA are expanding the ways in which survivors can contribute to the development of their services and help shape local and national responses to domestic abuse. BWA's Lived Experience group launches in September and survivors are still welcome to join the group which will meet for the first time later in September. Survivors do not need to have accessed BWA's services directly and the group is open to anyone who has lived experience of domestic abuse. Anyone interested can contact Annabelle at [volunteer@bwaid.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@bwaid.org.uk) for further information.

### Updates from the Dash Charity

The Dash Charity run three Freedom programmes which are due to start again from the week commencing 9 September.

In August, the Children's team had a successful day out with families that they had supported to Bournemouth and the sun was shining!

Please look out on the Dash Charity [website](#) for events that they will be attending over the next few months.

The Dash Charity will be monitoring [early release of prisoners](#) on how it affects their domestic abuse clients.

More media coverage for the Dash Charity as part of an opinion piece with [Marie Claire](#).

### Browns Community Services CIC Intensive Counselling Support for residents of Bracknell

**BROWNS**  
COMMUNITY SERVICES CIC

**INTENSIVE COUNSELLING  
SUPPORT FOR  
RESIDENTS OF BRACKNELL**

**18 FREE SESSIONS**

Available to any resident  
of Bracknell, aged 18+  
seeking counselling

All referrals and enquiries to go to  
[bracknellcounselling@brownscs.co.uk](mailto:bracknellcounselling@brownscs.co.uk)

### Updates from Kaleidoscopic UK

Vickie Robertson, CEO of Kaleidoscopic UK, has written an **open letter**, calling on the Ministry of Justice regarding post separation abuse measures. The letter can be viewed and signed [online](#).

### Post Separation Abuse Campaign 16-23 September 2024

Please join in sharing **#PSAAW** to highlight any area of Post separation abuse during the week (16 - 23 September 2024).

Please also add to your posts a yellow ribbon emoji, wear a yellow ribbon (available from Kaleidoscopic UK) as they are the reminder ribbon, and like the song 'Tie a yellow Ribbon'

which refers to a consensual reunion, Post Separation abuse is a choice by only the perpetrator!

Domestic abuse is more than physical abuse. It can be physical, verbal, emotional, psychological, sexual, spiritual, economic or financial abuse. When the relationship ends, the abuse does not stop, it transitions to a new form of abuse referred to as post-separation abuse which can last months or years with little accountability but continued impacts,

You can also:

- View and share the Kaleidoscopic UK [Post Separation Abuse awareness video](#)
- Complete and share the [Post Separation Abuse survey](#)
- Buy a ticket to attend the [Kaleidoscopic UK Convention](#) in October.

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## TRAINING

### Introduction to domestic abuse

Gives participants an understanding of domestic abuse issues through increasing knowledge and understanding and how to respond supportively.

**RBWM** (click on the relevant date to book – account required)

[Wednesday 11 September 2024](#), 10:00 – 13:30 (virtual)

[Monday 9 December 2024](#), 09:30 – 13:00 (virtual)

[Thursday 13 March 2025](#), 10:00 – 16:30 (face-to-face)

Virtual sessions via MS Teams

Face-to-face sessions to be held at Windsor Family Hub, 65 Alma Rd, Windsor, SL4 3HD

### Bracknell Forest

Tuesday 26 November 2024, 10:00-16:30 (face-to-face)

Thursday 6 February 2025, 09:30-13:00 (virtual)

Virtual sessions via MS Teams.

Face-to-face sessions to be held at The Willows Family Hub (Children's Centre), Priestwood Youth Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG42 1TU.

*BFC employees apply via iWorks, external staff please email [organisational.development@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:organisational.development@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)*

### MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) and DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Harassment and Honour Based Violence)

Gives participants increased confidence and skills in relation to responding to victims of domestic abuse. Including an understanding of high-risk factors for serious harm and homicide, how to use the DASH risk identification checklist and make appropriate referrals into and engage effectively with the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

**RBWM** (click on the relevant date to book – account required)

[Thursday 17 October 2024](#), 10:00 – 16:30 (face-to-face)

[Monday 13 January 2025](#), 09:30 – 13:00 (virtual)

Virtual sessions via MS Teams.

Face-to-face sessions to be held at Windsor Family Hub, 65 Alma Rd, Windsor, SL4 3HD.

### Bracknell Forest

Monday 23 September 2024, 10:00-16:30 (face-to-face)

Thursday 12 December 2024, 09:30-13:00 (virtual)

Tuesday 25 March 2025, 10:00-16:30 (face-to-face)

Virtual sessions via MS Teams.

Face-to-face sessions to be held at The Willows Family Hub (Children's Centre), Priestwood Youth Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG42 1TU.

*BFC employees apply via iWorks, external staff please email [organisational.development@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:organisational.development@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)*

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## NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### 3 June

[The women who knew they'd be killed – and the police who did nothing to stop it](#)

### 7 June

[Refuge for male victims of domestic abuse opens](#)

### 12 June

[Older domestic abuse often hidden – charity](#)

### 20 June

[Man, 87m charged with murdering his wife](#)

### 21 June

[No guns for domestic abuse suspects, top US court rules](#)

### 28 June

[Domestic abuser dislocated partner's shoulder](#)

### 28 June

[Final call of TV paramedic made just an hour before he was found dead with girlfriend, as police launch murder probe](#)

### 2 July

[Domestic abuser 'tortured woman with nasty words'](#)

### 2 July

[Domestic abuser who killed two women is sentenced to life imprisonment](#)

### 10 July

[Prisons crisis must not jeopardise Labour's pledge on domestic abuse, Starmer told](#)

### 11 July

[Tori Towey 'so relieved' to be in Ireland after Dubai ordeal](#)

**12 July**

[Rural domestic abuse convictions still 'woeful'](#)

**18 July**

[Boyfriend nails his girlfriend to a wooden plan in 'crucifixion' before setting her on fire leaving her with horrific injuries 'for ending their relationship'](#)

**18 July**

[Calls for coroner domestic abuse change after suicide](#)

**19 July**

[Regan Tierney inquest: Jury deliver conclusion after mum, 27, killed by ex in murder-suicide](#)

**23 July**

[Man jailed for murdering wife for life insurance](#)

**23 July**

['Justice system complicit in stalking escalation'](#)

**29 July**

['I felt a prisoner at hands of my police abuser'](#)

**30 July**

[Husband who put body in suitcase sentenced to life](#)

**8 August**

[New data indicates that 187,750 babies are present at police callouts for domestic abuse annually](#)

**9 August**

[Blake Lively: My domestic abuse film is tragic and inspiring](#)

**12 August**

[Met Police apologies for failing to protect domestic murder victims](#)

**15 August**

[Killed women count. 50 women allegedly killed by men in UK so far in 2024](#)

**16 August**

[Domestic abuse play makes Edinburgh Fringe debut](#)

**18 August**

[Smart spray used to protect domestic abuse victims](#)

**22 August**

[As a GP, I don't match people's idea of a domestic violence victim. I'm confused how I got here too](#)

**27 August**

[Murder charges over house fire that killed family](#)

**28 August**

[Social workers lack training to tackle coercive abuse, BBC finds](#)

**28 August**

[Former chief inspector cleared of strangling partner following trial](#)

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## NEW USEFUL PUBLICATIONS, RESEARCH & RESOURCES

**March 2024**

### **Cancer and Domestic Abuse: a toolkit for professionals**

This [toolkit](#) from Macmillan Cancer Support is designed to help healthcare professionals working with people affected by cancer. It can help professionals to identify and respond to domestic abuse affecting patients and carers. The launch of the toolkit can be watched on [YouTube](#).

**April 2024**

### **New resources to embed healthy relationships across your whole school**

NSPCC Learning has created a [framework and resources](#) for sex and relationships education as part of its Talk Relationships service. The framework, created with the organisation Life Lessons, helps schools implement a whole-schools approach to sex and relationships. New resources include: an implication guide with step-by-step advice; the framework setting out components to a whole-school approach; and a snapshot tool for self-assessing sex and relationships provision.

**May 2024**

### **Funding safer futures – A government pathway for the quantity and quality of funding required to help women and children experiencing domestic abuse**

Women's Aid report including [analysis and recommendations](#) for the next government and local commissioners.

### **Too Many To Count**

The first [study](#) in the United Kingdom to explore the prevalence of brain injury in domestic abuse survivors accessing community-based services.

### **Safeguarding children in Elective Home Education**

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel [paper](#) about safeguarding and elective home education.

**June 2024**

### **A guide to criminal proceedings**

This legal [guide](#) from Rights of Women sets out information about what happens once the perpetrator has been charged with a criminal offence.

### **Information leaflets on strangulation**

Information leaflets from the Institute For Addressing Strangulation (IFAS) for victims of strangulation, developed in collaboration with those with lived experience. The leaflets are now available in a quick read version and 8 different languages and can be freely downloaded from the IFAS [website](#).

**July 2024**

### **Real Love Rocks**

A ground-breaking [education and awareness raising programme](#) developed by Barnardo's Safer Futures Trauma Services. Promoting children and young people's rights to healthy, consensual and safe relationships with peers,

partner, their family and across their community is at the heart of it.

### **A 'forced holiday' or 'no escape route'? Contrasting experiences of survivors and perpetrators of domestic abuse during COVID-19**

The University of Bristol's REPROVIDE team has published an [article](#) exploring accounts of domestic abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic from the perspectives of victim-survivors and perpetrators.

### **Domestic homicide review survey 2024**

The domestic homicide review survey was sent to all local authorities in England in response to feedback to the Local Government Association regarding the costs and resourcing of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). The [results](#) will be used to inform the future of DHRs.

### **Nowhere To Turn 2024**

In its eight year, the [No Woman Turned Away project](#) continues to highlight challenges faced by survivors, including experiences of further abuse while waiting for refuge space and being forced into sleeping rough.

### **SignHealth video library**

With the arrival of summer holidays, SignHealth have been highlighting the information about domestic abuse in their [BSL Health Library](#).

### **August 2024**

#### **Report 3: An analysis of Domestic Homicide Reviews with fatal strangulation**

The third [report](#) in this series is an analysis of 75 DHRs where the method of killing was strangulation.

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## **PUBLISHED DOMESTIC ABUSE RELATED DEATH REVIEWS (DARDRs) / SAFEGUARDING REVIEWS**

Domestic Homicide Review [library](#).

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## **TO WATCH...**

Channel 5 – [A Killer Makes A Call \(episode 5\)](#). The murder of David Jackson by his wife Penelope and a news article with details of the case is [here](#).

Netflix – ['Worst Ex Ever'](#). True-crime docuseries.

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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**



### **Bracknell Forest Domestic Abuse Forum**

10 September 2024, 11.30am-1.30pm

4 December 2024, 10am-12pm

*All via MS Teams*

For more information, contact Joyce

Barnett [joyce.barnett@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:joyce.barnett@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

### **RBWM Domestic Abuse Forum**

12 September 2024, 1pm – 3pm

*(Windsor Family Hub)*

3 December 2024, 10am – 12pm

*MS Teams*



For more information, contact Sophie Wing-King  
[Sophie.wing-king@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:Sophie.wing-king@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email Sophie Wing-King (Domestic Abuse Strategic Lead, RBWM & Bracknell Forest) [Sophie.wing-king@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:Sophie.wing-king@bracknell-forest.gov.uk) with 'Remove' in the title box