

Domestic Abuse Newsletter – July 2019

Bracknell Forest and RBWM



Local news

Dash Charity IDVA receives Police Commendation



Congratulations to Mirka from the Dash Charity for receiving an Area Commander's Commendation for exceptional performance in supporting the Force Value of Taking pride in delivering a high quality service.

Mika supported an extremely vulnerable adult which enabled medical and social intervention to be put in place and risks monitored. Engagement was key to support the victim's additional vulnerabilities and complex issues/needs.

Flag DV



The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is now funding free legal advice for domestic abuse victims across the Thames Valley.

Flag DV offer a 30 minute free legal advice appointment for victims of domestic abuse. The service is for those aged over 18 years who need advice about family law. Clients will be offered a telephone consultation or face to face appointment and the service is free and available across Thames Valley.

Typical types of referrals Flag DV would expect to receive include:

- Divorce or separation
- Child custody, residency and arrangements including contact with a child in care
- Application for legal aid
- Application of non-molestation orders, occupational orders, forced marriage protection orders
- Financial matters
- General court proceedings understanding

Please do make use of this valuable resource and promote to service users to promote empowerment and self efficacy as early as possible. More information and a referral form can be found online: <http://www.flagdv.org.uk/>

Bracknell Forest young carers

What is a young carer?

A young carer is a person under the age of 18 who provides, or intends to provide, care for someone who:

- is physically or mentally ill
- disabled
- has a long term condition
- misuses substances

Care giving includes providing emotional support to a parent or carer

What might a young carer do?

- Practical tasks, such as cooking, housework and shopping.
- Physical care, such as helping someone out of bed.
- Emotional support, such as talking to someone who is distressed.
- Personal care, such as helping someone dress.
- Managing the family budget and collecting prescriptions.
- Helping to give medicine.
- Helping someone communicate.
- Looking after brothers and sisters.

Whilst some young people help family members to some degree, some may be taking on caring responsibilities that are inappropriate and that have a negative impact on their own wellbeing.

Inappropriate tasks could include:

- Personal care such as bathing and toileting;
- Carrying out strenuous physical tasks such as lifting;
- Administering medication;
- Maintaining the family budget;
- Or offering, precociously mature, emotional support to the adult e.g. if, in effect, the child is "parenting their parent".

If you are a professional working with a family and you identify a young person as providing care, there is a duty under the Care Act 2015 and the Children and Families Act 2015 to offer them an assessment of their needs via the Local Authority.

For more information for Bracknell Forest please click [here](#). Or email young.carers@Bracknell-Forest.gov.uk

Additional information:

- [The Children's Society – Young carers](#)
- [Carers Trust](#)
- [Young Carers' Needs Assessment](#)

19 June

[Dash Charity receives £40,000 grant to tackle homelessness caused by domestic abuse](#)

Upcoming groups starting

Bracknell Choices Programme

6 week programme helping victims exploring the dynamics of both healthy and abusive relationships, the impact of abuse on children, different characteristics or perpetrators and early warning signs.

Next group for Bracknell Forest residents due to start autumn 2019, details yet to be confirmed. Contact Berkshire Women's Aid 0118 950 4003 for further information.

BRAVE (Building Resilience And Valuing Emotions)

Therapeutic support for victims of domestic abuse with additional emotional or psychological difficulties in East Berkshire (Bracknell Forest, RBWM, Slough).

- Slough based group (to include RBWM clients) starting September 2019.
- Bracknell based group starting November 2019.
- For more information and a referral form, click [here](#).

Anxiety Group (RBWM)

For children aged 8-12 years old, living in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, suffering some level of anxiety which is impacting on their schooling, family life, self-esteem, social activities or enjoyment of life.

Due to start September 2019, day of the week to be confirmed.

For more information or to apply, please contact Family Friends 0300 800 1005 or email info@family-friends.org.uk



Positive Intervention for Children Affected by Domestic Abuse (RBWM)

For children aged 8-12 years old, living in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, to have opportunities to process and understand what has happened in their family, to tell their stories, to be heard, validated and believed, and to begin to understand and heal from exposure to domestic abuse

Due to start Autumn 2019. Day and venue to be confirmed. Group starts at 8am with breakfast together, followed by the session. The children return to school at 10am.

For more information and for a referral form, please contact Family Friends 0300 200 1005 or email info@family-friends.org.uk

National and international news

5 April

['Paranoid' ex-boyfriend guilty of Halesworth flat arson](#)

8 April

[Cornwall woman who murdered boyfriend jailed](#)

10 May

[Shana Grice: PC failed woman killed by stalker ex-boyfriend](#)

15 May

[Stalking Steals Lives – Warwickshire Police film about Stalking](#)

7 May

[Warrington stables death: Man, 50, admits killing wife](#)

9 May

[Video hearings tested in domestic abuse cases](#)

10 May

[Laurens Brand jailed for murdering wife Angela Mittal](#)

13 May

[Domestic abuse: PM vows to end 'postcode lottery' for victims](#)

15 May

[Call for enquiry into abusive parents' access to children](#)

20 May

[Samantha Gosney murdered by boyfriend after funeral row](#)

21 May

[Man jailed for wounding with intent – Oxford](#)

21 May

[Spotlight on child protection in family courts](#)

22 May

[Almost half of millennials in UK exposed to domestic abuse during childhood, poll finds](#)

23 May

[Preston man jailed for girlfriend's crowbar murder](#)

29 May

[Farnham puppy farm murderer John Lowe 'was father figure'](#)

30 May

[Sharon Perrett murder: Boyfriend jailed for 18 years](#)

30 May

[2,000 domestic abuse survivors placed at risk of homelessness a year, report finds](#)

4 June

[Lavinia Woodward: Stab attack student quits Oxford](#)

5 June

[Parents' plea over Molly McLaren knife murder review](#)

7 June

[Sally Challen: No fresh trial over husband murder](#)

12 June

[Tina Billingham: 'Missed chances' to help woman killed by partner](#)

17 June

[School places change for domestic abuse](#)

18 June

[Father faces jail for mental abuse of his daughters](#)

18 June

[Women's Aid praises Love Island viewers for calling out Joe's 'possessive behaviour'](#)

3 July

[Charlotte Huggins: 'Jealous boyfriend' accused of New Year murder](#)

3 July

[Aliny Godinho stabbing: Husband killed wife 'because of problems'](#)

9 July

[Pregnant teenager had detergent forced into her mouth to make her miscarry](#)

10 July

[Man charged with murder – Oxford](#)

12 July

[Woman who stabbed 'controlling' partner in neck jailed](#)

12 July

[Aliny Godinho stabbing: Husband 'never wanted to kill'](#)

12 July

[Jealous husband strangled wife after finding texts](#)

15 July

[Police launch national forced marriage crackdown at airports](#)

16 July

[Gay people being subjected to forced marriage in UK, police warn amid national crackdown](#)

16 July

[Domestic Abuse laws 'will tackle injustice'](#)

17 July

[Kelly Mary Fauvrelle death: Ex-partner 'accepts responsibility'](#)

17 July

[Aliny Godinho stabbing: Husband guilty of Surrey school run murder](#)

17 July

[Domestic abuse report exposes hidden side of rural life](#)

17 July

[Alberto Giraldo-Tacson: Murder accused 'burnt wife's body and buried it'](#)

New useful publications, research and resources

Hestia Bright Sky App

Are you or a loved one experiencing **Domestic Abuse?**

Download the **Bright Sky** app to:

- Record evidence in your Private Journal
- Find and contact your nearest support service
- Understand the signs of abuse
- Complete the 'Am I at Risk?' questionnaire

Bright Sky

Bright Sky is a free to download app providing information on domestic abuse, sexual violence and consent, stalking and harassment.

Download on the **App Store**

GET IT ON **Google Play**

Hestia.org/BrightSky

In partnership with

If you are in immediate danger, please call 999.

Hestia Vodafone Foundation Secured by Design UK SAYS NO MORE

1 May

Domestic violence: new study will examine programme for male perpetrators of abuse

A new study, led by the Domestic Violence and Health research group at the University of Bristol's Centre for Academic Primary Care, will examine how a behaviour change programme for men who cause harm to their partners, ex-partners and children works, and how the men account for and explain their behaviour.

For more information, click [here](#).

24 May

Forced Marriage Unit Statistics 2018

The Home Office has published statistics on the number of cases reported to the Forced Marriage Unit in 2018. Findings include: 17.7% of cases involved children aged 15 or younger and 14.9% of cases involved children aged 16 or 17.

To view the full report, click [here](#).

6 June

Domestic Homicide Reviews

The Home Office has published guidance for chairs of domestic homicide reviews (DHRs) on the support available to families bereaved by domestic homicide. The guidance covers: what services are available and how chairs should signpost families to them.

To view the guidance, click [here](#).

Domestic Homicide Review – Published 11 June 2019

The Safer Sandwell Partnership Local Police and Crime Board published a domestic homicide review on 11 June 2019.

“Tina* was tragically killed by her partner in 2017. He was jailed for life for her murder and ordered to serve a minimum term of 24 years”.

To review the Executive Summary and Overview Report arising from this review, and to read a summary of the key learning points from this review, click [here](#).

Dates for your diary

Meetings



Bracknell Forest Domestic Abuse Forum

14 October 2019 - 11.15am – 12.45pm

All meetings take place at Time Square

RBWM Domestic Abuse Forum

10 October 2019 - 10am – 12pm

All meetings take place at Maidenhead Town Hall



Training

Introduction to domestic abuse

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

BRACKNELL

Tuesday 5 November 2019

Wednesday 26 February 2020

Rowans Children's Centre - 9.30am – 4.30pm
Funded by the Community Safety Partnership

BF Council staff should book via [iWorks](#)

Or email

Organisational.Development@Bracknell-Forest.gov.uk

RBWM

Tuesday 17 September 2019 click [here](#) to book

Wednesday 13 November 2019 click [here](#) to book

Tuesday 4 February 2020, click [here](#) to book

Maidenhead Town Hall

9.30am – 4.30pm

Funded by the Community Safety Partnership

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).

BRACKNELL

Tuesday 8 October 2019

Wednesday 4 December 2019

Tuesday 3 March 2020

Rowans Children's Centre - 10am – 4.30pm

Funded by the Community Safety Partnership

BF Council staff should book via [iWorks](#)

Or email

Organisational.Development@Bracknell-Forest.gov.uk

RBWM

Thursday 26 September 2019 click [here](#) to book

Tuesday 3 December 2019 click [here](#) to book

Thursday 5 March 2020 click [here](#) to book

Maidenhead Town Hall - 10am – 4.30pm

Funded by the Community Safety Partnership

Book online via AfC CPD Online, click [here](#).

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email Sophie Wing-King (Domestic Abuse Coordinator, RBWM & Bracknell Forest) sophie.wingking@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk with 'Remove' in the title box.