

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT & ABUSE NEWSLETTER

07.10.24

This newsletter is brought to you by the Victims Team at the West Midlands Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Our aim is to collate information and events that are relevant to parties whose work falls within the remit of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault and Abuse.

Please share and forward the newsletter to others who may be interested and could find it useful.

PCP SURVEY

Members of the public who want to influence policing priorities in the West Midlands over the next few years can do so by filling out the survey:

[Follow or click the QR Code to complete the Police and Crime Plan survey.](#)



west midlands
police and crime
commissioner





Summerfield Women's Clinic

A clinic for women (18 years +) who have undergone female genital mutilation (FGM)

A range of support and care is delivered by an all-female team, including:

- Physical assessments and treatment
- Emotional support and counselling
- General information

Address:

Summerfield Primary Care Centre
Heath Street
Birmingham
B18 7AL

Telephone:

Allison Byrne on 07989209483

Email:

swbh.summerfieldfgm@nhs.net



Sikh Women's Aid Conference – [Launching Report and Findings into DA/Sexual Violence](#)

When: 6th December 2024, 10:00-16:00

Where: Tally Ho Conference & Banqueting Centre, Birmingham

IFAS conference – [Tackling Strangulation: Working Together to Save Lives](#)

When: 12th November, 9:30 - 16:30

Where: Midland Hotel, Manchester

Illuminate - Sandwell Modern Slavery Summit – [Shining a Light on Best Practices to Combat Modern Slavery](#)

When: 10th October, 12:00 – 17:00

Where: Gateway Christian Centre, West Brom

Barnardo's Beacon Project – [CSA Conference: Broken Systems, Repairing Through Change](#)

When: 10th October, 9:30 – 17:30

Where: The Village Hotel, Dudley

St Mary's Centre Annual Conference 2025 – [Building Bridges: Collaborative Approaches to Addressing Sexual Violence](#)

When: 29th and 30th April 2025

Where: Midland Hotel, Manchester

COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE



HOW TO HELP: DONATE GENTLY USED OR NEW HANDBAGS

We're looking for handbags of all shapes and sizes that are in good condition.

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

Birmingham City Council
House Reception
Please mark FAO
The Community Safety Team

DROP-OFF TIMES:

Monday - Thursday 8:45 - 17:15
Friday 8:45-16:15

Donations will be accepted until
Monday the 2nd of December 2024

If you have any questions please email
bhamcomsafety@birmingham.gov.uk



Birmingham Community Safety Team are sourcing handbags to create support kits for sex workers in the community.

New or gently used handbags can be donated and they will store essential items such as toiletries, personal care products and safety resources to support those in need.

Donations accepted until Monday 2nd December and can be dropped off at Birmingham City Council House Reception, please mark donations FAO The Community Safety Team

FUNDING CALL

[Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy Evidence Centre](#)

Funding call for research into effective approaches to prevent modern slavery.

A maximum budget of £100,000 at 100% FEC is allocated per project and Modern Slavery and Human Rights PEC expect to fund two projects, one with focus on intervention to prevent harm and a second that looks to prevent re-exploitation.

For more information and details on applying, please see the [website](#)

Deadline for applications is 4pm 11th November 2024

RESOURCES AND PUBLICATIONS

A number of new government publications and updates to previous publications

Domestic Abuse

- [Extra support for women through the criminal justice system announced](#)
- [Responses to 'Police perpetrated domestic abuse: Report on the CWJ super complaint'](#)
 - Added letter from CoP and IOPC about progress on actions they undertook

Sexual Assault and Abuse

- [Victim of rape and sexual assault abroad](#)
 - Updated 'British Perpetrators' section
 - Victims no longer need to be under 18 to prosecute a British perpetrator in the UK
 - The act no longer needs to be criminal in the country where it was committed (reflects amendments to S72 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003)
- [Adult victim-survivor's journey through a sexual violence support service in Essex](#)

Education

- [Relationships, sex and health education: 2020 curriculum implementation](#)

VAWG

- [Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence \[TS No.73/2024\]](#)
- [New measures set out to combat violence against women and girls](#)
- [Top perpetrators of VAWG targeted under new national strategy](#)

Stalking

- [Stalking: findings from the Crime Survey for England and Wales](#)
- [The hidden harms of stalking](#)
- [Super-complaint on the police response to stalking](#)
 - Report from HMICFRS, IOPC and CoP has been added following the original super-complaint from the Suzy Lamplugh Trust being received

West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership

The West Midlands VRP have published their 2023/24 [annual report](#). The report is a snapshot of all the great work that has been delivered and/or supported on in the 23/24 financial year.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Children and Young Person's Independent Sexual Violence Advocate – RSVP

RSVP are recruiting for a CYP ISVA to provide a high quality and victim/survivor-focused advocacy service to CYP who have been subjected to sexual violence, abuse, sexual exploitation and/or coercion.

Hours: full time, 38 hours per week | Mon 11-7pm, Tues/Thurs/Fri 9-5pm, Weds 9-3pm | 2 days working from home a week

Salary: Untrained ISVA: **£29,777** | Accredited ISVA: **£31,365**

Location: Birmingham City Centre offices with some remote working

Closing date: 30th October

[More information on the RSVP website](#)

Women's Perinatal Mental Health BAME Support Officer – FWT

Following on from a successful pilot for 'Perinatal Mental Health' in Rugby, FWT have been commissioned for a further 12 months to develop the work and support BAME Women's Perinatal Mental Health in Rugby and other areas of Warwickshire. This is part of a wider strategy looking at ethnic minority women's health inequality, and to share best practice of health programmes to new localities.

FWT are now recruiting for a 'Women's Perinatal Mental Health Support Officer' for this project to work from FWT, with project delivery across Rugby and parts of Warwickshire.

Hours: 30 hours per week

Salary: £24,500 per annum (pro-rata)

Location: Foleshill Women's Training (FWT) and co-location in Rugby with some travel to other sites in Warwickshire

Closing date: Friday 25th October 2024 (17:00)

[More information on the FWT website](#) or contact Christine.mcnaight@fwt.org.uk

WEMATTER ONLINE SERVICE

[Victim Support WeMatter Online Service](#)

WeMatter is a video-based digital service for children and young people (CYP) who have been affected by domestic abuse.

It provides specialist support to 8-17 year-olds who have been affected by abuse within their parent or carer's relationship, or within the family home.

It's not suitable for children and young people who are experiencing ongoing domestic abuse or for those who are still living with the alleged perpetrator.

Delivered online via Zoom, the toolkit offers a timetable of group work programmes, which young people can access during the school day, or at home after school. Each group session is facilitated by two specialist CYP programme facilitators. Groups include up to 12 participants.

WeMatter is delivered over eight weeks, with sessions lasting around one hour. Each session uses trauma-informed cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) based activities, games and discussions, all aimed at supporting the young person's individual journey.

The sessions offer children and young people a safe space to:

- understand their experience of domestic abuse
- develop health coping strategies for difficult emotions
- explore future healthy and positive relationships.



WeMatter

An online group work programme for children and young people affected by domestic abuse



WeMatter is a totally digital service providing specialist support to children and young people aged 8-17 years old, who have been affected by domestic abuse. WeMatter delivers the CYP Domestic Abuse Recovery Toolkit, which offers a range of activities and discussions informed by Trauma Focused Cognitive Behaviour Therapy. This group programme is designed to help child and young people understand their own experiences, develop healthy coping strategies, increase levels of safety and achieve positive future relationships.

To contact the team please call: 0300 373 0258

Email: wematter@victimsupport.org.uk

If you are in immediate danger call: 999

[victimsupport.org.uk](https://www.victimsupport.org.uk)



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CALL FOR EVIDENCE

Police and Crime Plan Consultation - Sent on behalf of Jonathan Jardine, Chief Executive

The West Midlands Police and Crime Plan for 2025-2029 will set the objectives and priorities for West Midlands Police and the work of Simon Foster, the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, in the coming years. We are currently in the consultation phase of the Police and Crime Plan's development.

A public survey on the proposed priorities and principles for the Police and Crime Plan can be found on: [West Midlands Police and Crime Plan Public Consultation \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com) and we are encouraging as many people as possible to fill this in. Two thousand people have already done so. Please send this link around your networks.

However, we are also seeking more detailed submissions to inform the Police and Crime Plan. We are looking for those with relevant expertise, knowledge, and experience to send us their proposals and analysis. With this evidence we can ensure the Police and Crime Plan is based on the best information and data.

Attached is a draft 'Plan on a Page' which sets out the priorities and principles the Police and Crime Commissioner has identified. Submissions are welcome on these priorities and principles, or any other issues relevant to the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The deadline for submissions is **15 October 2024**. They should be sent to wmpcc@westmidlands.police.uk with the email subject 'Call for evidence'.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Simon Foster, will also be holding a series of events that are targeting particular priority areas throughout the consultation period. Please come and join the Commissioner, your voice will help us to work towards a safer and more inclusive West Midlands.

Fairness and Belonging PCP Event 8th October 2024

[West Midlands PCC: Fairness & Belonging Police and Crime Plan Consultation Tickets, Tue, Oct 8, 2024 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Victims PCP Event 9th October 2024

[West Midlands PCC: Victims Police and Crime Plan Consultation Tickets, Wed, Oct 9, 2024 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

If you have any questions about this call for evidence, please contact simon.down@westmidlands.police.uk



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