

DASV BULLETIN

Croydon's Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Bulletin

September 2019

FJC opening times and contact details.

A quick reminder of our opening times and contact details! Please don't forget we have moved to a new location in Central Croydon and are no longer based at Park Lane.

If you or someone you know would like support with regards to domestic abuse or sexual violence please contact the FJC on 020 8688 0100 or email FJC@croydon.gov.uk. We are open from 9-5 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for appointments and drops in's. We are also a consent based service!

Also in this Bulletin

#relationshipgoals
BCWA

DASV Islamic work-
shop

DASV National News

A day in the life of...

DASV Partnership Forum

The DASV Partnership Forum is taking place on **Thursday 17th October 2019** at the CVA between 10-1pm. On the agenda is Domestic abuse and housing, Domestic abuse and the impact on children, #relationship goals BCWA, Survivor story and FGM.

The Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Forum is a quarterly meeting for all stakeholders to hear about local or national developments on domestic abuse, sexual violence and the wider Violence Against Women and Girls agenda. Discussions are held to inform local practice and policy so that that what is progressed within the borough is reflective of the partnership's ambition.

Anyone within a public sector, business, community, faith and voluntary organisation can attend

DASV Training

The FJC can offer free Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence training to your organisation, team, school or GP practice.

If you think your team would benefit from broadening their understanding of domestic abuse and sexual violence, please get in touch.

We have already trained a number of team within the council as well as attending school inset days and GP practices. We can tailor the length of the training to fit in with your business needs.

Some of training being delivered over the next few months includes the Income team in Gateway, a GP practice in South Croydon and the New Addington Family Centre.

We are also available to run a Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence stall at any community events.

To arrange either please contact Ciara Goodwin on 0208 681 0100 or Ciara.goodwin@croydon.gov.uk



#RelationshipGoals Project

2 women a week are killed on average in England and Wales by their current or former partner
(ONS, 2016)

50-70% of young people report experiencing abuse through technology (tracking, image based abuse, constant messaging)
(Safelives, 2017)

56% of young people have experienced controlling behaviour in a relationship
(Define the Line report, 2017)

Since 1975 BCWA has worked frontline to support women and children who have experienced domestic abuse. We aim to empower anyone experiencing domestic abuse so they can make informed choices about their future.

What is #RelationshipGoals?

Our work with young people aims to raise awareness about respectful and healthy relationships, and to support those who have experienced abuse.

#RelationshipGoals means we can deliver workshops to **11-20** year olds, in **schools** or other **youth settings**, in the boroughs of **Bromley** and **Croydon**.

These workshops are **free** of charge, and **flexible** to your needs. We can deliver a 6-week programme, a one-off workshop or talk, on off-timetable days – whatever suits your young people best!

We are able to cover a series of topics including Gender, Unhealthy Relationships, Digital Abuse, Consent, and much more.

“[the best part was] being able to open up without being judged” –14-year-old participant

“you were really creative in the way you took the topic seriously yet helped us enjoy the workshop” – workshop organiser

If you would like us to come to your organisation, or have any further questions, please contact our Young People's Engagement Officer Shirin on **0208 3139303** or on **shirin.m@bcwa.org.uk**

For further information on our other services, please go to our website www.bcwa.org.uk

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MAYOR OF LONDON

Domestic Abuse Awareness Workshop

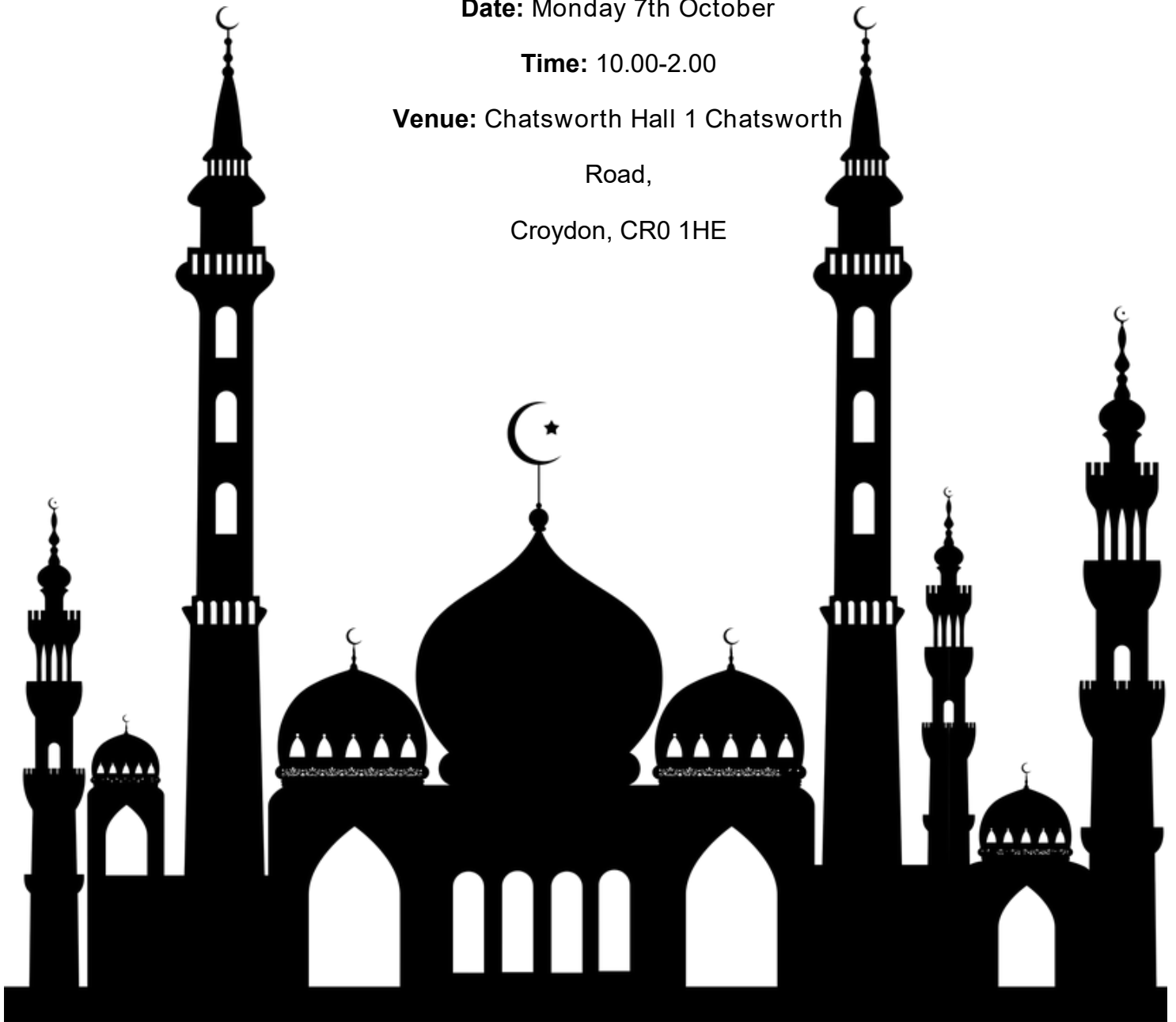
The FJC has been selected as one of three sites nationally to host a domestic abuse workshop to raise awareness of domestic abuse from a secular and Islamic perspective. This is a free event in partnership with the Strengthening Faith Institutions. The event is being facilitated by Domestic Abuse consultant Clare Walker and Imam Farooq Mulla.

Attendees will learn about the prevalence, myths and stereotypes of domestic abuse and how to identify them within the Islamic community as well as offer support. The event will involve presentations, case studies and informal discussions.

Date: Monday 7th October

Time: 10.00-2.00

Venue: Chatsworth Hall 1 Chatsworth
Road,
Croydon, CR0 1HE



If you work within the Islamic community please contact Seray Mehmet to book your space on 208 681 0100 or seray.mehmet@croydon.gov.uk



DASV National News!



Domestic Violence killings reach 5 year high

During 2018, 173 people were killed in domestic violence related homicides. This data has been obtained by the BBC from 43 police forces across the UK. This is an increase of 32 deaths from 2017. Whilst both men and women are killed by domestic violence, the majority of victims are women.

In England and Wales, between April 2014 and March 2017, around three quarters of victims of domestic killings are by a partner, ex-partners or family members were women, while suspects are predominantly male.

According to data. 165 domestic killings occurred in 2014, 160 in 2015, 139 in 2016 and 141 in 2017.

This rise in domestic violence killings comes as passage of new legislation on the issues was halted because of parliament's suspension.

The Domestic abuse bill was introduced into parliament in July. The bill would have provided increased protection for victim's fleeing violence by placing a legal duty on councils to provide secure homes for them and their children.

Rape convictions at a record low

The number of people prosecuted for rape in England and Wales has slumped to an all-time low, despite record volumes of cases being reported to police, new figures show.

The annual Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) report from the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) shows there were just 1,925 convictions for rape during the financial year 2018-19, down from 2,635 in the previous 12 months - a drop of 26.9%.

This is despite the number of rape claims dealt with annually by police in England and Wales rising from 35,847 to 57,882 during the last four years. It means around 3.3% of all reported rapes end in a conviction.



DASV National News!



New DV commissioner announced!

The British government has named Nicole Jacobs, former chief executive officer of the Standing Together Against Domestic Violence charity, as the country's first Domestic Abuse Commissioner.

She is officially designated in the role until the independent commissioner's office is placed on a statutory footing, the Home Office said.

Jacobs has more than two decades of experience working to reduce domestic abuse as a frontline practitioner, in senior operational and management roles, and as a trainer and strategic leader.

She has written opinion pieces in sector journals and was a founding member of the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, which has pushed housing providers to make the matter a priority in their business plans.

As Domestic Abuse Commissioner, Jacobs is tasked to take the lead on driving improvements in responses to the problem in the UK, championing victims, and making recommendations on what more should be done to better protect victims and bring more offenders to justice.

Offenders convicted of controlling or coercive behaviour can now have their sentence increased if someone believes the punishment was not severe enough.

The offence is one of 14 to which the ministry of justice has included in the unduly lenient sentence (ULS) scheme, giving victims and others the power to ask the attorney general to consider referring a sentence to the appeal court for reconsideration.

Justice Secretary Robert Buckland said: "Sentences are decided by our independent judiciary based on the facts before them, but it is absolutely right that victims have a voice in the system when punishments don't appear to fit the crime."

A day in the life of: Natalie Wood, CUH IDVA

What made you decide to work with people experiencing DASV?

A woman's refuge approached my job agency in search of a woman and children's support worker. This sounded of interest to myself so I applied and was offered the position part-time working alongside my business. When I started the position and started to work with the women and their children I was totally overwhelmed by their courage to flee from their homes to be placed in an refuge and area totally unknown to them.

What are your most proud moments so far?

There are so many, when you work with a patient and support them to be free of abuse it's the most rewarding feeling of all! However, my most achievable moment was receiving a reward from the London Fire Brigade as I devised a domestic abuse programme for woman and their children to attend to take part in activities and workshops to build on their self-esteem and confidence.

If you could give one piece of advice to someone considering your career what would it be.?

This is the most rewarding job and no two days are the same.! To see a family fleeing from a DASV situation and helping them to start a new life in a safe secure environment is the most rewarding thing you can ever achieve.

What is the biggest challenge facing IDVAS at the moment?

FUNDING!! LACK OF SPECIALIST SERVICES!! HOUSING!!! The biggest challenge is the lack of specialist services for survivors i.e. refuge accommodation for NRPF and those with complex needs like mental health and substance misuse.

What does a typical day look like for you?

I start my day at the Corydon University Hospital by walking around the A&E and Maternity Department to ascertain if there are any patients that have been admitted to the hospital disclosing domestic abuse or signs that they are experiencing this to offer advice and support. As a Hospital IDVA I have to be very creative working closely with clinical staff to support patients who are experiencing DASV. Patients often come into the hospital with their abusers /partners so myself and staff have to find ways of making sure the patient can be seen alone in a safe space where they can disclose .Its only by being so embedded in the hospital as an IDVA that it is that these strong links are made with all departments to find ways to reach victims and hospital staff experiencing domestic abuse in a safe way.

As An IDVA working in a hospital setting you are working with clinicians who are trained to see people in terms of their injuries and immediate health needs, whereas IDVAs are trained to see them as a different entity in terms of measuring their currant risk and implementing safety plans to keep them and their family safe .So it's like two worlds working merging together and learning to work in cohesion.

How do professionals contact you?



FJC 0208 6680100

CUH 0208 401 3000 EXT 5316

Mobile 07935518507

Email Natalie.wood25@nhs.net
Natalie.wood@croydon.gov.uk

Thank you Natalie!

The DASV Tool Kit
is a resource for any
professional or
member of the public
who is concerned
about domestic
abuse



Congratulations to three of the FJC IDVA's for completing their training to facilitate the Freedom Programme at the FJC!!

The freedom programme is a domestic abuse programme created by Pat Craven. The programme is primarily designed for women as research shows us that the majority of visitors are women (1 in 4). The programme examines the roles played by attitudes and beliefs on the actions of abusers and the responses of victims and survivors. The aim is to help survivors make sense of and understand what has happened to them,. The programme also describes in details how children are affected by being exposed to this kind of abuse and how their life is improved once the abuse is removed.

For more information on this programme, please contact Community IDVA Helen Hills, FJC/Prevent IDVA Seray Mehmet or Police IDVA Michaela Doherty at the FJC.

Contact Us

If you, or someone you know, is affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence, please speak up.

Support is available. Please contact the FJC on:

020 8688 0100 or fjc@croydon.gov.uk

National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247

