Online Live Webinar

Thursday 16th May 2024



Key Speakers







Andrea Campos-Vigouroux







Ippo Panteloudakis

Noreen Wallace

Gudrun Burnet

Overview

There is an epidemic of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls in England and Wales, with an estimated 2.1 million people, experiencing these horrific crimes last year. Unfortunately, reports of domestic abuse-related crimes have increased markedly in recent years, further challenging already stretched services, leaving too many victims unable to access the support that they so desperately need.

To address these serious challenges, the Government launched the *Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan* in 2022 with the aim of driving down the prevalence of domestic abuse through prevention, perpetrator disruption and enhanced support for victims. Building on this, the Government launched the *Flexible Fund* through 2025 to help provide survivors one-off payments to flee abuse and secure a safe future. Additionally, the *Victims and Prisoners Bill* is currently going through Parliament and provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to improve how domestic abuse victims are treated in the criminal justice system and ensure they receive the justice they deserve. Whilst these reforms and initiatives are major steps forward, more needs to be done to tackle domestic abuse and deliver vital support and protection for victims.

This timely Policy Foresight online live conference offers a valuable opportunity for key partners from local authorities, the police, health, housing, social care, criminal justice, education, third sector and other key statutory agencies to examine the impact of recent strategies, initiatives and legislation. The webinar will also explore the impact of the current council funding crisis on service provision and how that can be addressed locally. This special online conference provides an ideal platform for participants to hear from experts and policymakers, learn from innovative best practice and share ideas with fellow participants to deliver trauma informed support for victims, improve multi-agency responses, and ensure perpetrators are brought to justice.

Why Attend?

- > Live webinar featuring presentations and panel discussions with a wide range of policymakers, experts and key officials
- Analyse the impact of recent and ongoing legislation, reviews and strategies including the *Domestic Abuse Act 2021*, the *Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan* and the *Victims and Prisoners Bill*
- ➤ Interactive *Question Time* sessions with opportunities to engage with all speakers
- > Examine the impact of the local authority financial crisis and explore how to work with key partners to address it
- > Explore how to enhance access to safe accommodation and specialist services for victims
- Improving support for marginalised or minoritised women, including migrant women, homeless, disabled, LGBTQ+
- > Learn best practice from experts working to protect and support victims and bring perpetrators to justice
- ➤ Gather knowledge to enhance existing frameworks, procedures, processes and toolkits
- Share ideas with fellow participants from local authorities, social care, the police, housing, health, criminal justice, education, third sector and other key statutory agencies
- > On demand Exclusive access to speaker presentations and post-event resources





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Programme

09:30 AM	Delegate Online Login						
10:00 AM	Introduction by Webinar Organiser						
10:05 AM	 Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks Gudrun Burnet, Advisor, Justice Reform and Domestic Abuse, Firebird Foundation 						
10:10 AM	 Keynote Session: Tackling Domestic Abuse – The National Picture Understanding the national picture – Responding to the current nature and scale of domestic abuse and the subsequent increases post-Covid and in the current cost of living crisis Analysing progress since the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, The Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan, as well as the proposals within the Victims and Prisoners Bill Exploring the impact of the council funding crisis on service provision and what can be done to address it Tackling the 'patchwork of provision' – Identifying and addressing the gaps in victim and survivor services Keeping the survivor's voice at the heart of service provision 						
	Andrea Campos-Vigouroux, Consultant; Criminal Justice Lead, Office of the December 2018						
40.20 484	Office of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner Veynote Session, Questions and Discussion						
10:30 AM	Keynote Session: Questions and Discussion						
10:50 AM	Comfort Break						
11:00 AM	 Panel Session One: Safeguarding Victims through Proactive Early Intervention Spotting the signs of abuse in all its forms, including emotional, physical, and economic abuse; controlling or threatening behaviour; and so-called 'honour' based abuse Preventing potential victims – Utilising the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) to ensure individuals are aware of their partner's previous abuse offenses Embedding a trauma-informed support for victims, including marginalised or minoritised communities The role of specialist women's domestic abuse services in supporting survivors and challenges they face The impact of the cost-of-living crisis and the role of the Flexible Fund to help victims flee their abusers, access support and safe accommodation and work on rebuilding their lives Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes – Delivering effective interventions that bring about lasting behaviour change and stops violence and abuse Lucy Hadley, Head of Policy, Women's Aid Ippo Panteloudakis, Head of Services, Respect Iona Hunter-Whitehouse, Domestic Abuse Projects and Partnerships Team Lead, Kent County Council Ghadah Alnasseri, Co-Executive Director, Imkaan 						
12:00 PM	Panel Session One: Questions and Discussion						
12:30 PM	Comfort Break						

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1:00 PM	Panel Session Two: Strengthening Partnership Working to Deliver Support for							
	 Victims in Every Area → Building capacity and improving local multi-agency working and data-sharing between the police, local authorities, health, housing, social care, education and the third sector → Improving local commissioning structures to ensure specialist services are adequately funded during the current local authority funding crisis → Implementing a whole system response to victims – Utilising a Coordinated Community Response → Putting safety before status – Improving support and services for migrant victims → Enhancing access to accommodation and housing support for at-risk individuals and their children through a 'Whole Housing Approach' 							
	Sally Jackson, Partnership Manager, Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse							
	• Ellen Miller, Chief Executive, SafeLives							
	Annabel Moores, Ending Violence Against Women & Girls Lead,							
	Hammersmith & Fulham Council							
2:00 PM	Panel Session Two: Questions and Discussion							
2:30 PM	Comfort Break							
2:40 PM	Panel Session Three: Bringing Perpetrators to Justice and Delivering Lasting							
	 Protection for Survivors Keeping victim's and children's safety and experience at the heart of the entire criminal justice and family courts process Enhancing police responses and investigations of domestic abuse cases, including the use of Domestic Abuse Protection Orders Implementing a Whole Justice Approach to domestic abuse cases – Improving prosecutions and convictions to bring perpetrators to justice and end abuse Delivering successful Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPAs) – Enhancing information sharing between the probation service and other key agencies to prevent perpetrators from reoffending Ensuring lasting protection for victims and families – Exploring the impact of the Families First for Children (FFC) Pathfinder Pilot Programme Noreen Wallace, Domestic Abuse Lead Inspector, HM Inspectorate of Probation Amy Glover, Head of Domestic Abuse Services, Advance Det. Supt. Kristina Windsor, Lead for Domestic Abuse, Avon and Somerset Police Michelle Blunsom MBE, Head of Domestic Abuse Services, East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services and Gudrun Burnet, Advisor, Justice Reform and Domestic Abuse, Firebird Foundation 							
3:40 PM	Panel Session Three: Questions and Discussion							
4:10 PM	Final Questions and Chair's Summary & Closing Comments							
4:15 PM	End of Online Seminar							

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