

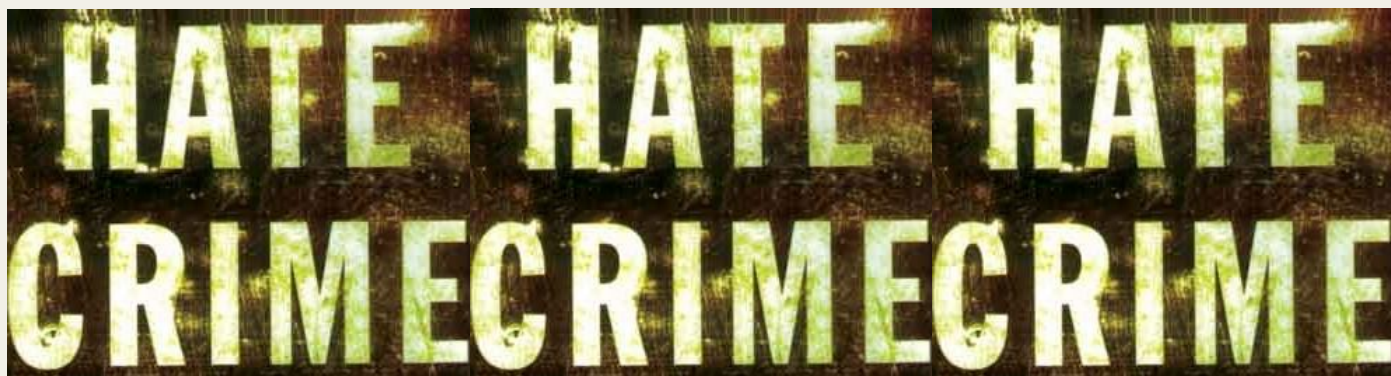
Issue 1

November 2010

## Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the Community Safety newsletter. Northamptonshire County Council is a large organisation working with statutory and voluntary sector partners. Obviously in our many service areas there is a lot going on, particularly in relation to community safety. We feel sure that in the coming months there will be many changes so it seemed an appropriate time to launch this quarterly newsletter, which will inform you of changes and challenges we all face in tackling crime and disorder across the county.

**Anthony Lewis**  
Safer Communities Manager, Northamptonshire County Council



**The Community Safety Team is leading on the introduction of a hate incident reporting system within the council.**

In partnership with other agencies, through the County Hate Incident Forum, we will be adopting common hate incident reporting forms. Staff will be provided with information on why, and how, they should report incidents they become aware of. Training will be available for key staff – ie. those most likely to come across hate incidents during their working day. Many hate incidents go unreported and it is important we change this so that victims of hate incidents can be offered support.

Look out for more information over the coming months. In the meantime, if you have any queries or require more information please email us at [communitysafety@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@northamptonshire.gov.uk)



# The value of partnership work – Sarah's story



Picture posed by model

**The county council's Community Safety Team knows only too well that, when it comes to domestic abuse, no single agency can work alone.**

**In fact, as the Home Office highlighted, "...no one agency can deal effectively and safely with the effects of domestic violence..." and a multi-agency approach is required.**

**The Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Forum (NorDAF) has been working towards an integrated approach to domestic abuse. The story of Sarah\* is an example of good partnership work where a wide range of agencies has joined forces to help an individual.**

**“no single agency can deal effectively and safely with the effects of domestic violence”**

Sarah fled to Kettering from Northampton because of domestic abuse from her ex-partner and harassment from his family and associates. She was housed by Kettering Borough Council. Sarah was in contact with the Probation Service and Catch 22 which referred her to the Sunflower Centre because she was a victim of domestic abuse. She was seen by the Sunflower Centre and was assessed as a high risk case. Due to this, she was referred to MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) and the Sunflower Centre made a referral to Kettering Borough Council for the Sanctuary Scheme, provided by the Crime Reduction and Arson Task Force.

All of these measures helped to reduce the risks to Sarah but she agreed that ongoing emotional support would also be beneficial.

The Sunflower Centre put Sarah in contact with Wellingborough and East Northamptonshire Women's Aid who are now providing her with ongoing emotional support whilst monitoring her risk. Should the risks to Sarah increase, the Sunflower Centre would be made aware and see her again to provide her with a new safety plan.

\* Not her real name

# Domestic Abuse Week 2010

This year's Domestic Abuse Awareness Week will run in England and Wales from Monday 22nd to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

As part of this, **Northamptonshire Against Domestic Abuse** will hold a one day countywide conference for professionals on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November at Kings Park Conference Centre, Northampton. The event is now full but if you want to join the waiting list please contact [Dmaccoll@northampton.gov.uk](mailto:Dmaccoll@northampton.gov.uk) 01604 837752.

**Corby Radio** will host speakers from domestic abuse agencies each day of the week at 11.20am and a display will be available in **Corby** at the Cube.

Members of the public and professionals will also find useful information and awareness raising material at the following events:

Location	Date	Event
Brackley	20 <sup>th</sup> November	Have your Say Day
Kettering	24 <sup>th</sup> November	Annual Public Meeting
Daventry	26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Have your Say Day
Towcester	10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Have your Say Day

For more information please visit [www.nordaf.co.uk](http://www.nordaf.co.uk) or email [CommunitySafety@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:CommunitySafety@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

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## AGENCY UPDATE:

### Northampton Women's Aid: Choose to Change

This pilot programme is being run in conjunction with Northampton Women's Aid, PTLP and Action for Children in Northampton for young perpetrators of domestic abuse funded through the TKAP funding.

Youth related (13-24 yrs) domestic abuse accounts for 15% of Domestic Serious Violence and 30-48 % of Domestic Violence offences.

Several agencies have identified that the generic services currently available do not offer any specific intervention for this target group so a programme of activities was compiled in order to give young people an insight into how their behaviours affect their relationships and coping strategies of how to solve their relationship issues, in a non threatening manner.

The term 'domestic abuse' covers a wide range of threatening, violent or otherwise abusive behaviours. We hope through this informal group work, young people will gain an insight into the problems their chosen behaviours impact on their relationships.

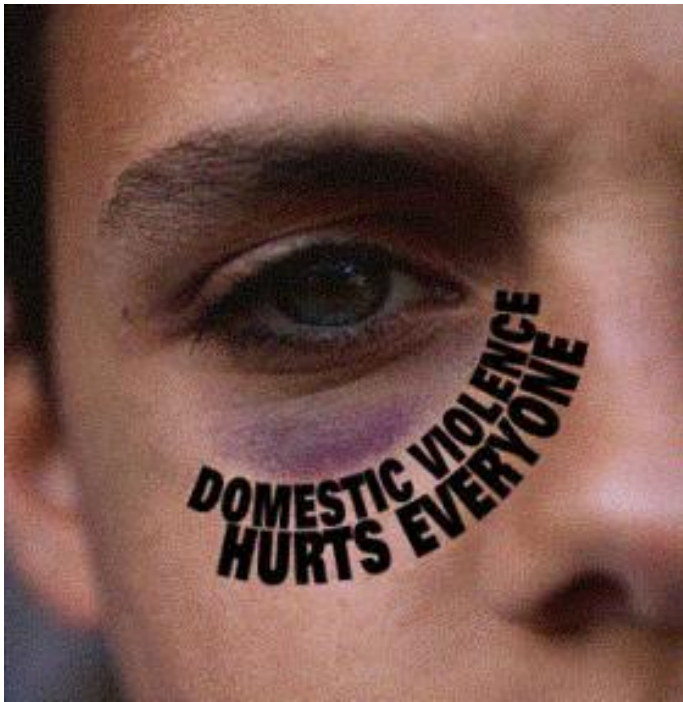
Facilitators will use a range of methods of delivery, taken from accredited training material. The course is being held at Kingsthorpe Children's Centre in St David's Road, Northampton at 4pm on Tuesdays.

Please note that support staff will be responsible to transport the young person to the group. If any agencies have any young people to refer or want more information, please contact Ann Bodsworth on 08451232311 or email [info@northamptonwomensaid.org.uk](mailto:info@northamptonwomensaid.org.uk).

# Interpersonal Violence

**One in five of the female population of Northamptonshire has been a victim of domestic abuse, sexual assault or stalking in the past 12 months.**

**The financial cost to Northamptonshire of this domestic abuse, sexual assault and stalking was £65,427,091.**



**The human and emotional costs have been estimated at £208,895,406 for the county.**

In April 2010 the Chief Executives Group adopted interpersonal violence as a strategic priority for development in the county in response to the national strategy Together We Can End Violence Against Women and Girls published in November 2009.

This month, November, sees the culmination of this developmental work and the delivery of a recommendation paper returning to the Chief Executives.

In the last six months, all key partners have been working hard to develop this agenda, which includes domestic abuse, sexual violence and rape, stalking, harassment, honour-based violence, sexual exploitation and trafficking.

The work has included significant consultation with the public and key stakeholders and young people, and has seen the launch and promotion of an online survey and Facebook page. In addition, significant work has been undertaken to assess local needs, to propose more streamlined partnership structures, identify gaps in provision and to look at more cost effective service delivery models focused on end-to-end support for victims.

This has represented a valuable opportunity for the County, its services and its victims and will give an important chance to ensure that we have a coordinated and effective system in place to respond appropriately to all aspects of interpersonal violence and to safeguard those at significant risk of harm.

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<sup>1</sup> All of these figures come directly from the ready reckoner, a tool to calculate prevalence and cost based on population figures, released by the Home Office. It must be noted, however, that there is no reference to the costs related to timescales.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/vawg-strategy-2009/end-violence-against-women2835.pdf?view=binary>

<sup>1</sup> Tackling Interpersonal Violence in Northamptonshire Facebook page:  
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=132008656812365>



# Where can you find a trader you can trust?

## The Trading Standards Buy With Confidence Scheme

Northamptonshire County Council's **Trading Standards** service launched the Buy With Confidence scheme in July 2010 to provide people in Northamptonshire with details of vetted traders they can trust.

The scheme aims to marginalise rogue traders while at the same time supporting legitimate businesses. There are now 46 traders approved under the scheme with many more applications being processed. For more information on the scheme please visit [Buy with Confidence](#) page on the council's **website**

### Please give us your feedback

- Did you find this newsletter informative?
- What would you like to see more of?
- What can we do better?

Please write, call or email us on the contact details email below; we really value your opinion!

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