

Sefton Independent Domestic Violence Advocates

Domestic abuse

- DA is a Government priority - Recent laws on coercive and controlling behaviour, DVPO/DVPN and DVDS (Claire's Law disclosures) have been beneficial to many victims of DA
- Is one of Sefton Council's strategic priorities and in 2018 Sefton's Domestic abuse strategy was updated and refreshed.
- Sefton IDVA team have been employed by council for 11 years and work closely with SWACA and Venus to ensure a consistency of support across Sefton, which can only be beneficial to our clients
- The Behind Closed Doors campaign brought about a multi agency approach to raising awareness of DA and local support services in a way that had not happened previously.

- Domestic abuse is a pattern of behaviour not just a one off incident.
- Domestic abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional and psychological, financial but is often a mixture of them all.
- Domestic abuse does not discriminate – it crosses all boundaries in terms of gender, class, culture, religion and geographical area – nobody is exempt
- It is estimated that 1:4 women and 1:6 men will be affected by domestic abuse during their lifetime
- 90% of children are in the same or adjoining room when an incident takes place
- It is the most under reported crime with by far the most repeat incidents
- It has a financial cost to our services – criminal justice and health in particular
- It has an impact on our communities

Who does IDVA support?

- High risk victims of domestic abuse
- Male and female – over the age of 16 years
- Short to medium term support
- Crisis intervention for current high risk victims and their families
- Medium risk and ongoing long-term SWACA
- Low level - Venus

What can they do?

- Risk based – assess risk and safety plan with the victim and their family
- When risk is reduced refer on to long-term support services – SWACA Venus
- Work includes accommodation issues, Target Hardening, support through criminal justice system

Work with Young people

Sefton have used some of their enhanced IDVA funding which to commission a piece of work by a small theatre group Access27 who deliver a performance exploring relationships from a number of diverse perspectives including scenarios depicting a same sex relationship, witnessing abuse between parents, a heterosexual relationship with a victim who is on the autistic spectrum, a male victim, a non binary young person.

The package includes a young peoples workshop based around healthy and unhealthy relationships. There is also a professionals workshop available for those professionals who support young people. The work is aimed at schools and youth groups for young people 11 years plus.

For further information on the young peoples work or for anything else please contact me on 0151 934 4841 or email me

Collette.rice@sefton.gov.uk

Contact

Independent Domestic Violence Advocates 0151 934 5142
email IDVA.Team@sefton.gov.uk

Collette Rice 0151 934 4841
Collette.rice@sefton.gov.uk