

Partnership working to prevent violence against women and girls

Councillor Joanna Spicer

Chairman of the Suffolk Police Authority
and Chair of the Suffolk Domestic
Violence Forum



The partnership approach in Suffolk

- Suffolk County Domestic Abuse Forum brings together strategic and operational approach to VAWG
- Three year plan and annual action plan for Suffolk
- Joint pledge on VAWG led by County Council and Suffolk Constabulary
- Partnership working between statutory and voluntary sector – aimed at prevention, service response and reducing risk to achieve best outcomes for victims
- Key elements – all forms of domestic and honour based abuse including FM & FGM, sexual exploitation and prostitution
- Membership – challenges and holds services to account



Making a Difference Make a Change Team

Responding to prostitution and sexual exploitation

- Part of a multi-agency partnership involving a range of statutory and voluntary sector partners including Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Constabulary, the Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Action Team, Ipswich Borough Council, NHS Suffolk, the Border Agency and Norfolk and Suffolk Probation Trust.
- Established in 2007 following the tragic murders of 5 on street sex workers in Ipswich in 2006
- Initial focus on street prostitution in Ipswich in response a comprehensive strategy developed that included:
 - Identifying the problem - intelligence
 - Tackling Demand - deterring individuals who create the demand
 - Developing routes out - offering multi agency case conferencing
 - Prevention - awareness raising and early intervention
 - Coercive Adults - identifying individuals
 - Community awareness

Making a Difference Honour based abuse

Responding to HBV, FM and FGM

- **Operational**
Specialist service in place within Suffolk Constabulary to support those affected. The service has assisted the successful conviction of perpetrators for serious crimes at Crown Court.
- **Training**
Annual multi-agency training to increase recognition and understanding of domestic and 'honour' based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation and its prevalence open to all and statutory and voluntary agencies. Delivered in partnership between County Council and Suffolk Constabulary
- **Raising awareness**
Programme of activities aimed at media and communities to improve reporting

Making a Difference Bringing offenders to justice

Responding to the needs of victims for justice

- CPS works closely with the police to improve the quality of investigation and decision making. This has strengthened the prosecution process and brought more offences to justice
- CPS works closely with other agencies to drive forward change and improve performance within the criminal justice system
- CPS is championing the rights of victims and providing the necessary support to enable victims and witnesses to play their part in delivering justice resulting in:
 - Increase in successful prosecutions
 - Increased confidence in the criminal justice system

Making a Difference Sharing good practice

- Multi agency training
- Awareness raising and mutual support
- Publicity campaigns

The White Ribbon Campaign
recognises that two women are killed each and every week.

It also recognises the children that they leave behind and the unhappiness and suffering that they will endure lifelong

24hr Helpline
0800 7835 121

Are you her Valentine
or will you be doing time?

Anyone can be a victim, regardless of age, gender, background, faith, ethnicity or sexual orientation

HAPPY EASTER?
or will they be walking on egg shells, again!

Domestic Abuse... Anyone can be a victim
Regardless of age, gender, background, faith, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

In an emergency always dial 999

SUFFOLK POLICE AUTHORITY

Suffolk County Council

The year ahead

- Troubled Families
- Recession and economic situation
- Changes to schools
- Effect of public sector funding cuts
- Police Reform