



Welcome to the Somerset Domestic Abuse Newsletter for anyone interested in tackling Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in Somerset.

Please share this with your colleagues, at your team meetings and with local groups

Edition No 5: Spring 2015

What's in this edition?

Page 2: Feed back from Domestic Abuse Event in November 2014
Campaign dates for 2015

Page 3: Commissioning Update, New Domestic Abuse Services in Somerset
How to contact Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service

Page 4: Somerset Domestic Abuse Service Access Pathway

Page 5: Somerset Interpersonal Violence Training Dates 2015
Next Domestic Abuse Event – April 2015

Page 6: Somerset Domestic Homicide Review Update
New National Helpline

Page 7: New Somerset Interpersonal Violence Strategy 2014 – 2018

Page 8: Update on Somerset survivors website
Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service The Minehead Hub

Page 9: Somerset Domestic Abuse Service Performance

Page 10: Somerset Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service

Page 11: Improvements to Newsletter

Page 12: SARSAS Sexual Consent Campaign



Domestic Abuse Event that was held on 12th November 2014

This afternoon event included

Laura Richards from Paladin who gave an informative two hour overview presentation on Stalking

Updates were given on the new Domestic Abuse Service for Somerset, specialist domestic abuse training dates and Lighthouse (new Integrated Victim Care Service)

Unfortunately due to technical problems on the day we were not able to show the short film about Lighthouse, here is the link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BsBtTCZNbk&feature=youtu.be>

Feedback on this Event was very positive some examples below

"It was a very informative extremely well presented event. I also found Laura a very inspirational speaker who had been captivated with her achievements and knowledge"

"This is just to say a big thank you for organising the talk by Laura Richards on stalking. I feel it is important that as many women as possible know about this issue are made aware what stalking is, and what you can do if you or a family member become a victim"

More information on Stalking can be found at: <http://paladinservice.co.uk>

Earlier in March 2015 we also held a free multi-agency two hour overview briefing on "Clare's Law" (Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme)

If you are interested in attending any future briefings, then please email:

communitysafetyteam@somerset.gov.uk

Campaign dates for 2015

There are several key days/weeks during each year, which can provide a focus to any communications and campaigns. In 2015 these include

April	National Stalking Awareness Day
June (15 th)	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
November	Domestic Abuse Awareness Week
November (25 th)	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
December (10 th)	Human Rights Day

Your organisation/workplace could raise awareness on some of these dates during 2015 – for advice, please email
communitysafetyteam@somerset.gov.uk

Commissioning Update on Somerset's new Domestic Abuse Service

In January 2015, Knightstone took over the management of all the Somerset County Council commissioned domestic abuse services in the county. People who need some support as a result of experiencing domestic abuse can expect these services to be available:

- Accommodation across the county for women and men and their children who need to flee their homes, through a mixture of refuge and safe-house properties.
- Specialist community based support on a one-to-one or a group basis for female and male victims who want to stay in their homes.
- Support for children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse, and parenting support programmes (Knightstone Housing will be working in partnership with Barnardo's to deliver these).
- A dedicated work programme for perpetrators of domestic abuse to give them the opportunity to change their attitudes and behaviour.

Key changes for this service include:

- Single point of access to all elements of the service.
- Services are provided as a "whole-system approach" enabling a comprehensive assessment of needs, and support planning catered around the individual.

How to contact the new Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service

The generic domestic abuse service referral pathway follows on the next page.

**For any queries about the new service, or to make a referral please contact the
Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (SIDAS) Hub**

General Email: heretohelp@knightstone.co.uk

Referrals Email: here.tohelp@knightstone.cjism.net

Telephone **0800 6949 999**

Somerset Domestic Abuse Service Access Pathway

Professional recognises that their client maybe at risk of domestic abuse

Agency to complete CAADA DASH Risk Indicator Checklist (RIC)

Take the following actions dependant on RIC Score

Score - 0-13

Refer to Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (SIDAS) via Hub

Email: here.tohelp@knightstone.cjism.net
**

{attaching your CAADA Ric & completed SIDAS initial referral form}

Or telephone 0800 6949 999

The SIDAS will assess appropriate support/ service needed – ie:

- Community Outreach Support
- Refuge accommodation (female only)
- Safe house accommodation (male & female)

Score - 14 +

(or in your professional judgement the situation requires specialist IDVA intervention & referral to MARAC)

Refer to Somerset MARAC Operating Protocol – agencies send their CAADA DASH Ric & MARAC referral form to their agency MARAC Designated Representative.

Agency MARAC Designated Officer checks draft MARAC referral & RIC, and after approval will submit to:

1. MARAC Co-ordinator
(SouthernMARAC@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk)

AND AT SAME TIME TO:

2. Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service- marked “MARAC referral”

(here.tohelp@knightstone.cjism.net)**

OR Is Victim Out of Crisis?

Can refer onto Overcoming Abuse Programme: Indicate in your email this is a Victim Programme referral

here.tohelp@knightstone.cjism.net **

A male who wants to change his abusive behaviour in intimate relationships? Refer onto the voluntary Lifeline Programme:- Somerset Integrated DA Service (here.tohelp@knightstone.cjism.net)**

If you do **not have a secure email account (e.g cjism, gcsx, pnn, gsi, etc) please send SIDAS referrals via Securesend (<http://securesend.somerset.gov.uk>)

For general enquiries about SIDAS please contact heretohelp@knightstone.co.uk.

Somerset Interpersonal Violence Training Dates 2015 Domestic Abuse Training – Identifying the Signs & How to Respond

Future dates for multi-agency domestic abuse training are listed below – places are limited, so if you or a colleague is interested in attending, please book as soon as possible!

To book onto any of these dates, please complete the training booking form, which can be found online at:

<http://www.somersetsurvivors.org.uk/information/training/>

Or email: ASCLearningandDevelopment@somerset.gov.uk
And an application form will be sent to you

Date	Area	Location
4 June 2015	South Somerset	Yeovil
17 June 2015	Taunton	Taunton
1 July 2015	Mendip	TBC
16 July 2015	Sedgemoor	Bridgwater
5 August 2015	South Somerset	Yeovil

Interested in attending the next Somerset Domestic Abuse Event in April 2015?

**The next event will be on 28th April at Ivel Barbarians Rugby club
In Yeovil from 1pm to 4pm – approximately**

The content of the Event will include

- Update on Somerset's new Domestic Abuse service
- Integrated Victim Support Service (Lighthouse)
- Somerset and Avon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Service (SARSAS)

If you are interested in attending this Event

Please email communitysafetyteam@somerset.gov.uk

We will then be in touch with full information and confirmation of places nearer the time

Somerset Domestic Homicide Review Update

Somerset has had their first formal Domestic Homicide Review approved by the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel, and this has now been published on the Somerset Survivors website at:

<http://www.somersetsurvivors.org.uk/domestic-homicide-reviews/>

Currently, the Safer Somerset Partnership has several other reviews that we are involved with, and the next report due to be published at the end of March, this will be able to be seen on the same link as above

New National Helpline

Revenge porn helpline launched by government In February 2015

The specialist helpline is the latest in a series of measures taken by the government to tackle the growing problem of people sharing intimate images online as a way of seeking revenge or ridiculing individuals

The helpline will liaise with law enforcement and media companies to remove content where possible, and offer details of free legal advice. It will also point individuals to additional support services, such as Women's Aid, Stalking helpline or Relate if needed.

The phone number for the helpline is: **0845 6000 459**

Please follow link below for more information

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/revenge-porn-helpline-launched-by-government>

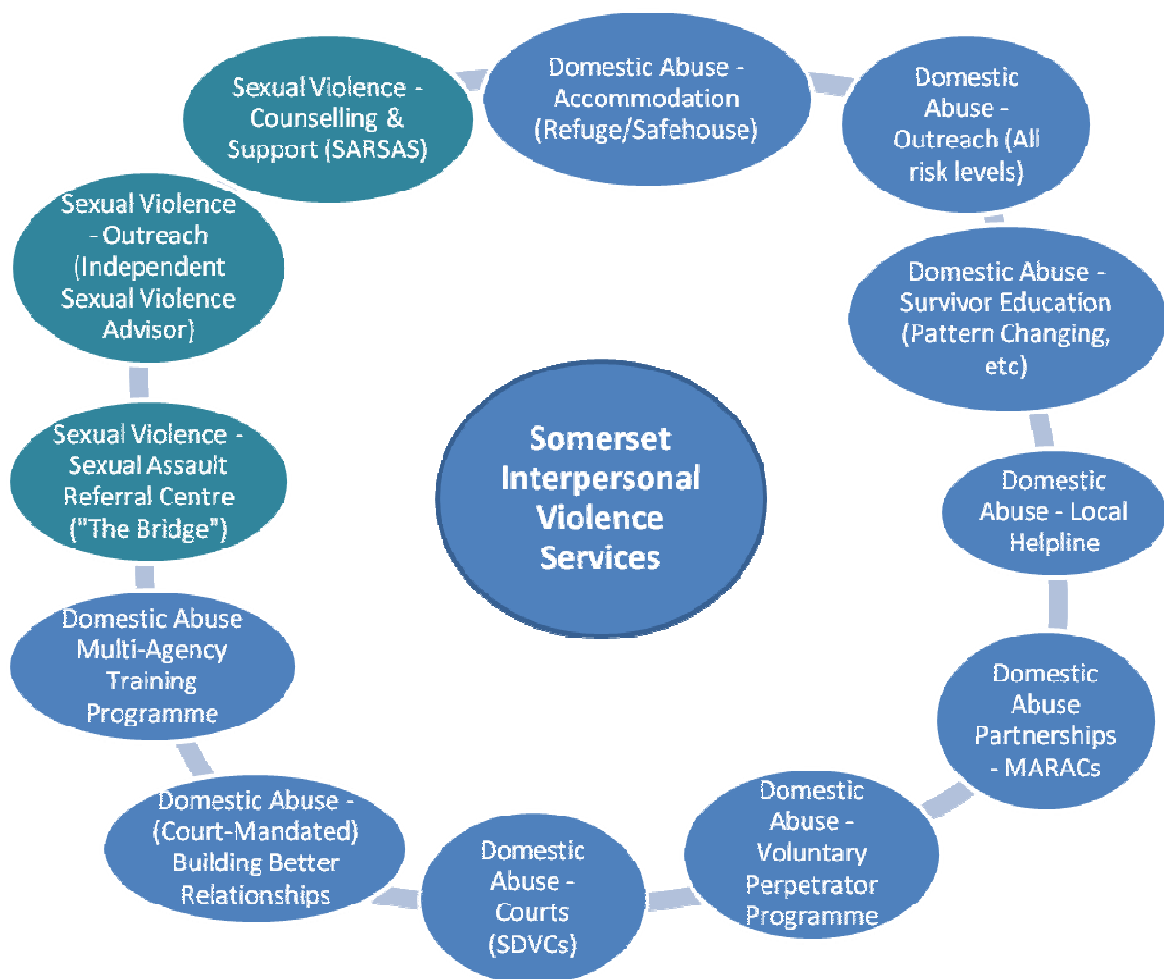
New Somerset Interpersonal Violence Strategy 2014 – 2018

At the end of 2014, the Safer Somerset Partnership approved the new Somerset Interpersonal Violence Strategy 2014 – 2018, this can be downloaded from the Somerset Survivors website

On the link: [http://www.sometsurvivors.org.uk/information/](http://www.somerset survivors.org.uk/information/)



Somerset IPV Strategy 2014



Update on Somerset survivors website

Most of the different local authority areas across the region have their own website to help tackle domestic abuse.

As most of you know, in Somerset this is the Somerset Survivors website at www.somersetsurvivors.org.uk

This website is in the process of being updated it will be out differently please take a look and it will also contain new pages for:

- Children and Young People
- Older People
- More links to useful sites
- Information for Employers

Your views are welcome please email us at

communitysafetyteam@somerset.gov.uk



Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service The Minehead Hub

Irnham Lodge Surgery opened it's doors to Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service from 2nd September 2014 to enable a service to be run in West Somerset

There are substance misuse workers at the surgery to support clients who have an alcohol or drug problem

The Service is open from 9.30am to 4.30pm every Tuesday and Wednesday

On Tuesdays groups are being run AM for Inroduction to Change and PM Mindfulness

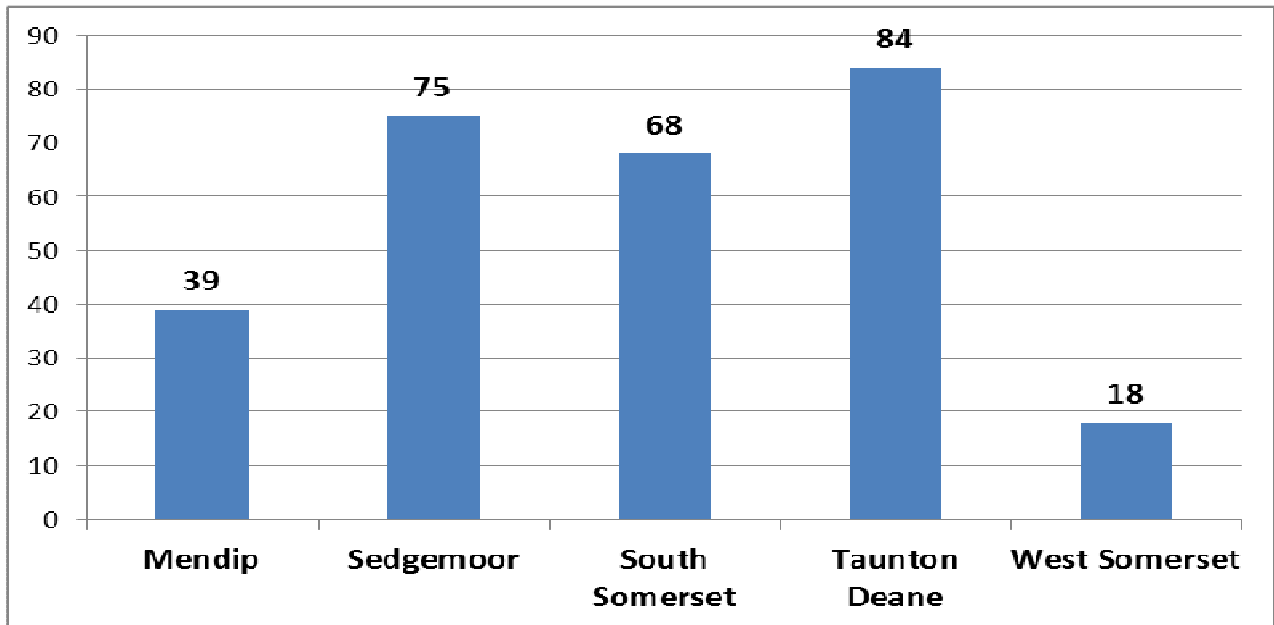
Wednesdays are for clients needing 1-1 sessions or an appointment for a Doctor

@ Irnham Lodge Surgery, Townsend Road, Minehead TA24 5RG

Contact: Marie Ingersoll, Senior Recovery Worker 01643 703289

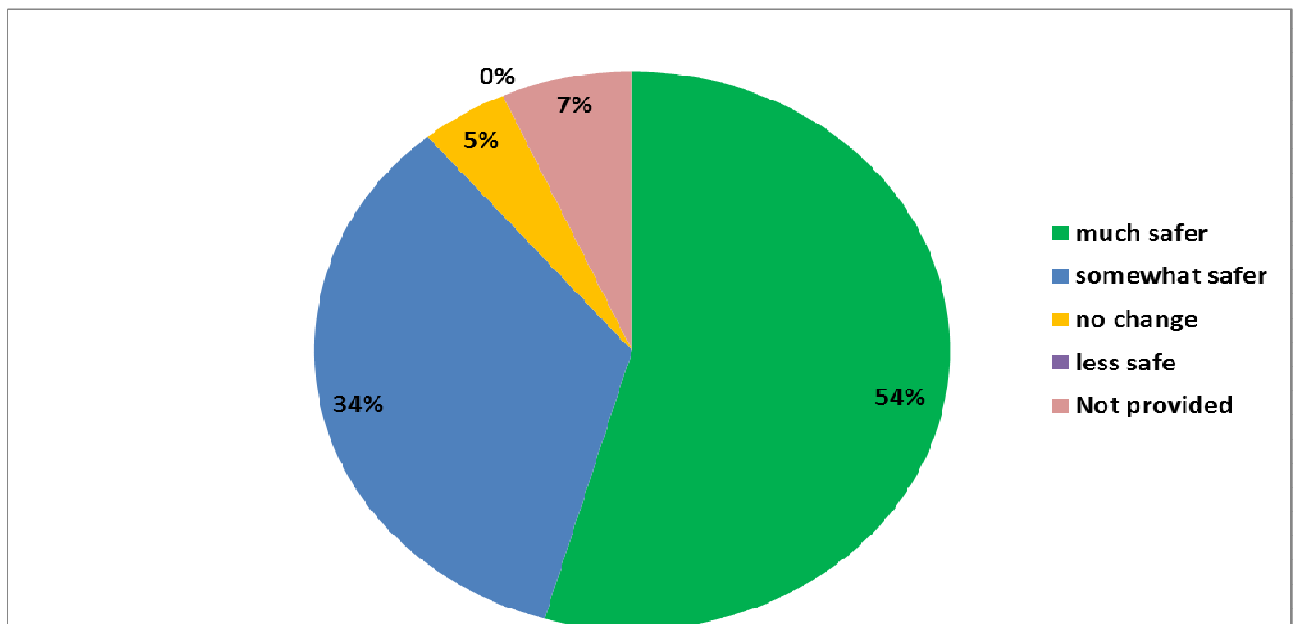
Somerset Domestic Abuse Service Performance

Somerset Domestic Abuse Outreach (non-IDVA) Referral Numbers by District



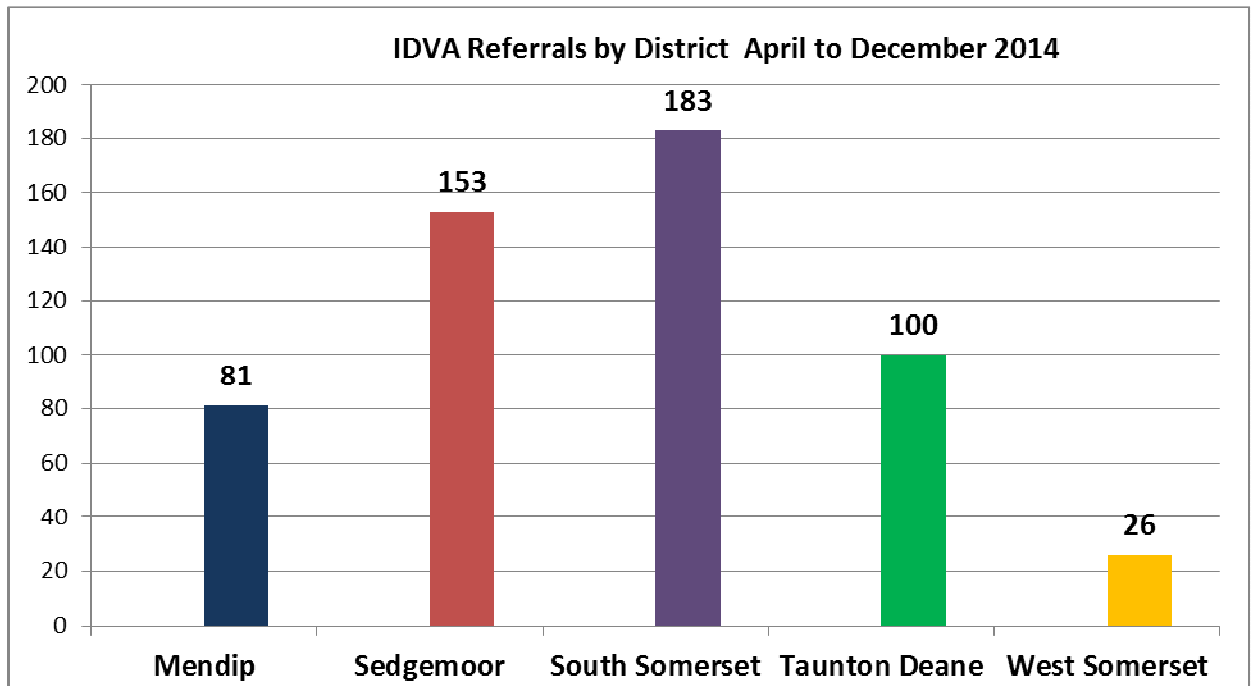
For the 9 months January to September 2014, there were a total of 284 referrals made to Somerset's IDAS Outreach support. The areas of Mendip and West Somerset mirror the referrals to the IDVA service, where they are similarly low.

Feelings of Safety (Outreach – non IDVA)

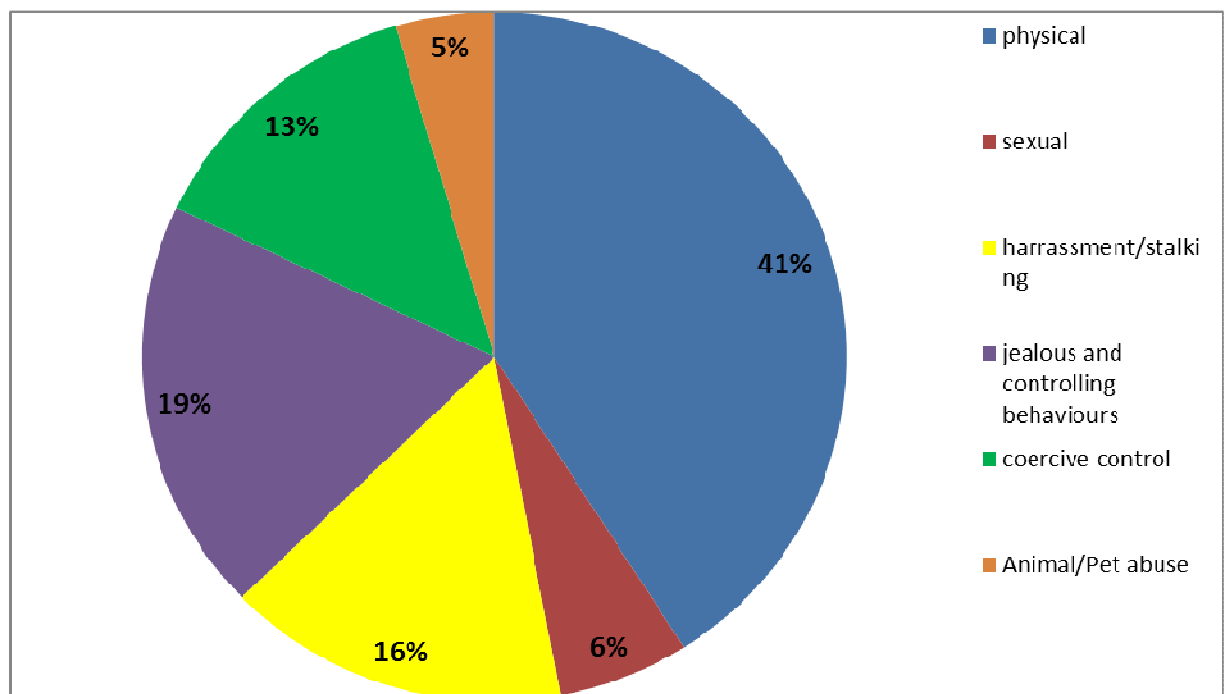


The majority of service users (88%) reported either feeling “much” or “somewhat” safer as a result of the support from the IDAS outreach.

Somerset Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service



For the 9 months April to December, there were a total of 543 referrals made to Somerset's IDVA service, with 60% being from just the two districts of South Somerset and Sedgemoor.



Many domestic abuse victims experience a mixture of abuse types – so although the vast majority of referrals indicated that the abuse was physical in its type, it's unlikely to have been the sole form of abuse taking place. This maybe indicative of people considering that it's only serious enough to access services when physical harm occurs.

Improvements to Newsletter

Thank you to those of you who've suggested improvements to this newsletter, which we have tried to take account of. Your comments are continued to be welcomed, so we can make this newsletter even better – if you would like to comment please email:

communitysafetyteam@somerset.gov.uk

**Don't forget if you have any concerns about Children
or Vulnerable Adults**

Initiate Safeguarding Policies for your Agency!



**DOMESTIC
abuse**
it can happen to anyone



**DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE - CALL THE
DOMESTIC ABUSE FREE PHONE LINE:**
0800 694 9999
confidential & free | 24 hour helpline | advice & referrals

IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 999 

SOMERSET
COUNTY COUNCIL
Working for Somerset

SARSAS Sexual Consent Campaign

SARSAS have just launched a campaign to increase awareness on active sexual consent campaign.

The website is now live <http://pauseplaystop.org.uk/>

To engage our target audiences; stickers, posters, leaflets, beer mats and postcards are being distributed throughout Somerset and Avon providing helpful information and directing people to a new website full of interactive resources



Can you help us distribute the materials and get people talking about active sexual consent?
Could you put this in any local newsletters?
Can you publicise it in any other ways?

The campaign is set to run for 2 years with aims to evolve and reach different target groups with some changes being made to the campaign materials as necessary.

Any help you can offer us with spreading the word of this campaign would be greatly appreciated.

Please forward this information on to anyone you think would be interested.

Please get in touch if you would like to know more or get involved:

SARSAS: [0117 929 9556](tel:01179299556)



Somerset & Avon
rape & sexual abuse support

This newsletter is produced by the Community Safety Team at Somerset County Council, on behalf of the Safer Somerset Partnership © 2015