FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL PRESS RELEASE

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Fenland partners join forces for domestic abuse awareness campaign

Frontline agencies across Fenland have been working together to help people spot the signs of abusive relationships.

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership (CSP), which brings together organisations including the police, local authorities, and fire service to address community safety concerns, has been working with Refuge, Change Grow Live (CGL) and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership (DASV) to raise awareness of domestic abuse and coercive control.

The Domestic Abuse Awareness Campaign has included targeted training for frontline professional and community organisations working for and supporting Fenland residents, and a community awareness campaign to increase confidence in victims and their families to report and seek support. This has included posters and stickers in locations throughout the district, and posts on social media.

Cllr Andrew Lynn, who is the Chairman of the Fenland CSP and Fenland District Council's Portfolio Holder for Communities, said: "By working together with our partners, we were able to reach out to various members of the community. We gained support from over 45 major employers, community organisations, faith groups and the hospitality sector, who helped us to display posters and stickers in both English and Eastern European languages."

The campaign also met the recommendations of recent Fenland domestic homicide reviews that highlighted that by working together, frontline services could help to raise awareness of domestic abuse reporting and support options for victims and their families.

Vickie Crompton, DASV partnership manager, added: "We are happy to be supporting the Fenland Community Safety Partnership domestic abuse campaign, to raise awareness of domestic abuse in Fenland and the support available to victims. We would urge anyone fearful of a partner or family member to seek advice or support from the agencies available."

Mandy Geraghty, Senior Operations Manager at Refuge, said: "Refuge is delighted to have the opportunity to support the Fenland Community Safety Partnership in raising awareness of domestic abuse in Fenland and the support available."

Support available

Help and advice on domestic abuse and coercive control can be found at:

 $\label{eq:continuous} \textbf{Refuge Outreach Service} - \text{support for victims of domestic abuse Fenland}, \\ \textbf{Huntingdonshire}, \textbf{Peterborough}$

T: 07787 255821

E: outreachcambridgeshire@refuge.org.uk

Cambridge & Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership

T 01733 225937

W: www.caprcp.org.uk/

ISVA and Chisva – support for adults and children that have experienced sexual violence or abuse

T: 01733 255937

W: www.caprcp.org.uk/

Embrace – support for child victims or witnesses of domestic violence or sexual violence aged 13-19 (24 with additional needs)

T: 01480 422972

www.embracecvoc.org.uk/

Dhiverse ABC programme – support for people with learning disabilities, learning difficulties and autism around sex and relationships

T: 01223 508805

W: www.dhiverse.org.uk/learning-disabilities-difficulties/

Dhiverse Counselling – free counselling for any victim of sexual abuse or sexual violence

T: 07983 150429

E: lisa@dhiverse.org.uk

Victim & Witness Hub – support for victims and witnesses of crime in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

T: 0800 781 6818

W: www.cambsvictimservices.co.uk/

E: victimandwitnesshub@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

T: 101 (non-urgent and general enquiries); 999 (emergencies)

W: Report domestic abuse | Cambridgeshire Constabulary (cambs.police.uk)

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Notes to Editors

For media enquiries, please contact the Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226 or email: communications@fenland.gov.uk