

# Lambeth Domestic Violence Forum Newsletter

**February 2010  
Newsletter 7**

## Welcome

Welcome to the bi-monthly Lambeth Domestic Violence Forum newsletter. This e-newsletter will keep you updated on relevant local and national news in relation to domestic violence. Please help us to circulate this as widely as possible by sharing with your colleagues.

We would also like to use this newsletter as an opportunity to showcase the work that you are doing in relation to domestic violence so please let us know if you would like us to include information about your service in a future issue.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Best wishes,

Penny Prempeh  
**Domestic Violence Forum Chair**

Jade Holvey  
**Domestic Violence Coordinator**



## Lambeth and London News

### New Domestic Violence Chair

Hazel Saunders stepped down as Chair of the Domestic Violence Forum at the January meeting. A huge thank you to Hazel for all her hard work and commitment to the forum during her time as chair. Welcome to Penny Prempeh, Mozaic Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Project, who was elected as the new Chair. The role of vice chair is still vacant and if you are interested in taking this on then please contact Jade Holvey on the contact details at the bottom of this e-news. The closing date for vice chair nominations is the 31 March 2010.

### Lambeth Violence Against Women and Girls Project

In response to the Governments Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) agenda, Lambeth Council has commissioned the Women's Resource Centre to conduct a VAWG research project. The findings of this project will be shared with partners and other local authorities in order to support the future direction of the VAWG agenda at a local level.

The results of this research project will be presented at the Lambeth VAWG conference on Friday 26 March. The conference will be held at the Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre on the South Bank. The conference will feature presentations and workshops, delivered by a range of specialists on each strand of VAWG. If you would like further information contact Jade Holvey on [jholvey@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:jholvey@lambeth.gov.uk).

## Lambeth MARAC

The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference is a monthly partnership meeting to discuss high risk domestic violence cases. MARAC is attended by a number of statutory and voluntary agencies who share information on individual cases in order to create action plans to improve the safety of victims. An Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) is also assigned to offer support to each victim.

The following table shows a snapshot of the number of cases that have been discussed at the Lambeth MARAC in the last eight months. In the last 12 months there have been a total of 300 referrals. Of these 300 cases, 61 have been for repeat referrals. The current Lambeth repeat rate is 20.3%. This is below the national average which demonstrates the success of the Lambeth MARAC.

Month	Total Cases
February 2010	23
January 2010	32
December 2009	38
November 2009	23
October 2009	27
September 2009	24
August 2009	26
July 2009	18
Total	211

In order to ensure the effective operation of the Lambeth MARAC, we have entered into the Quality Assurance programme which is being managed by CAADA (Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse). CAADA is a national charity which advises on good practice for running MARACs.

For further information about the MARAC contact Sandra Anlin on [sanlin@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:sanlin@lambeth.gov.uk)

## Million Women Rise March

On 6 March 2010 the annual Million Women Rise march shall take place in London. The march provides an opportunity for both individual women and representatives from the Women's Voluntary and Community Sector to demonstrate against male violence. For further information [click here](#).

## New Shoes Theatre Performance- The Hurried Steps

On 8 March 2010 New Shoes Theatre shall be performing 'The Hurried Steps', a play which explores the issues of domestic violence, based upon the testimonies of real women. Following the performance there shall also be a panel discussion on domestic violence. The performance will take place at Spring Gardens, 100 Vauxhall Walk, London, SE11 5EL. For more information [click here](#).

## Prostitution Exiting: Engaging through Research

Eaves and the London South Bank University have been funded by the Big Lottery Fund to undertake a joint two-year research project. The PE:ER Project (Prostitution Exiting: Engaging

through Research) shall assess the effectiveness of different interventions designed to support women who want to leave prostitution, including those working on-street, off-street and those trafficked into prostitution. For more information [click here](#).

### **Sojourner No Recourse to Public Funds Project**

Eaves is currently delivering the Sojourner project, which is a pilot scheme funded by the Home Office to support women with no recourse to public funds. The project coordinates support, accommodation and subsistence for women, as well as liaising with the UK Border Agency on their applications. The project runs until the end of February 2010. For further information [click here](#)



## **National News**

### **International Women's Day - 8 March 2010**

Monday 8 March marks International Women's Day, which celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women, and is celebrated across the world. A number of commemorative and awareness raising events are being held across the UK on this day. For additional information [click here](#).

### **Refuge launch 'Care or Control' Campaign**

On 10 February, Refuge launched its Care or Control domestic violence campaign. This aims to raise awareness of controlling behaviour in partners, and is targeted to coincide with the Valentines day period. For further information [click here](#).

### **Teenage Relationship Abuse Campaign**

The Home Office has launched a campaign to raise awareness of teenage relationship abuse issues. NSPCC research has shown that abuse in teenage relationships is highly prevalent and that teenagers have surprisingly tolerant attitudes to violence in relationships. This campaign aims to challenge attitudes of young people and enforce the fact that abuse is unacceptable. For further information [click here](#).

## **Publications and Resources**

### **Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls: Guide to good practice communications**

The Government Equalities Office has developed a communications guidance and toolkit in order to support and inform government communication and campaign activity for the Governments Violence Against Women and Girls strategy. To view the guide, [click here](#).

### **Young peoples views on VAWG**

The Department of Health has published research completed by the National Children's Bureau, who conducted a consultation with young people aged between 14 and 19, in order to establish



their attitudes towards violence against women and girls and ways to address it.  
To view the research report [click here](#).



## Funding opportunities

### Comic Relief funding for Domestic and Sexual Abuse Programme

Comic Relief has released details of their grants programmes, including one on tackling domestic and sexual abuse. They are also funding work around 'Vulnerable Refugee and Asylum Seeking Women' and 'Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People'. To discuss the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Programme call 020 7820 5555

If the closing date for bids is 14 May 2010

For more information visit:

[http://www.comicrelief.com/apply\\_for\\_a\\_grant/uk/abuse](http://www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk/abuse)



## Consultations

### Home Office consultation on Commissioning of VAWG

The Home Office has launched a public consultation looking into the development of new guidelines for local authorities in order to mainstream the commissioning of local VAWG services. This shall assist local authorities to develop the best approach to commissioning services to prevent violence against women and girls, protect victims and potential victims and provide services to victims and perpetrators in local areas. The deadline for responses to this consultation is 15 March 2010. For further information [click here](#).

## Training, Seminars and Conferences

### Lambeth Violence Against Women and Girls

#### Conference-Save the date

As mentioned earlier, The Lambeth VAWG conference will be held on the 26 March 2010. This promises to be an interesting conference. Further details will be sent out at the start of March.



### Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board Multi Agency Training

The LSCB [Training Brochure](#), giving details of free safeguarding children training from 1st April 2010, is now available. Although Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board requires each agency to deliver its own basic awareness training to staff, the [Training Brochure](#) includes a course for staff and volunteers from agencies within the independent and voluntary sectors that do not yet have their own basic, in-house training. The LSCB also provides more advanced, multi-agency safeguarding children training for all organisations. The range of courses is designed to equip staff with the skills and knowledge required to protect children from significant harm. For further information [click here](#).

### Domestic Violence Conference: Prevention, Provision and Protection

Capita Conferences, in partnership with Women's Aid, Crown Prosecution Service and the Police, will be holding a conference examining the themes of prevention, provision and protection. The conference will be held on the 26 April 2010. For further information [click here](#).

## Future Forum meetings

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2010 from 10.00am-12.30pm

The Forum meeting will be held at the Lambeth YMCA, King George's House, 40 Stockwell Road London SW9 9ES.

Please see link for a map of the YMCA

<http://www.citikey.com/business/10058646/>



## Contact

Please let us know what you'd like us to include in future issues of Lambeth's Domestic Violence Forum Newsletter, or send us news from your organisation. Please send to Jade Holvey, Domestic Violence Coordinator on [jholvey@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:jholvey@lambeth.gov.uk) or contact Jade on 020 7926 4877.

For further information please visit: <http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/domesticviolence>