



Brighton & Hove and East Sussex – Domestic Violence and Abuse, Sexual Violence and Violence against Women and Children Strategy

Stakeholder consultation 2018

Brighton & Hove and East Sussex have a long history of working individually and together to address all forms of violence and abuse, with the aim of reducing the risk of anyone being a victim of violence and abuse, as well as ensuring victim/survivors get the help, support and protection they need. We also want to make sure that friends, families and community members can recognise violence and abuse and know where to get help and support.

In the next stage of working together, we are developing a joint strategy to create an enhanced and coordinated response to:

- domestic abuse (including physical, emotional, mental, financial and sexual abuse, and coercive and controlling behaviour);
- stalking and harassment;
- sexual assault, rape and sexual harassment;
- female genital mutilation;
- forced marriage;
- crimes committed in the name of 'honour';
- sexual exploitation, including through prostitution and the sex industry.

A key component of the strategy development process is identifying what we already do that works and what more needs to be done. To do this, we have commissioned a national charity, AVA, to conduct an independent consultation to gather the views of who live, work or travel to Brighton & Hove and East Sussex about these forms of violence and abuse.

The consultation includes:

- **A joint online survey for i) adult victim/survivors of any type of violence and abuse listed above, ii) people who have contact with victims/survivors or perpetrators in a professional capacity, and iii) anyone else who lives, works or travels to Brighton & Hove and East Sussex.** This includes people who may have been affected by a friend's or family member's experience, or have witnessed violence and abuse in their community. The survey link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PMHLDCD>.



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- **A short online survey for people who have used violence and abuse** towards a partner, family member or in the community. This survey can be accessed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XTZXH6T>.
- **Focus groups with victims/survivors and with professionals.** If you are interested in hosting a focus group for victims/survivors or participating in a stakeholder group for professionals, please email jennifer.holly@avaproject.org.uk. More information about hosting a focus group can be found at the end of this briefing paper.

Our aim is that all victims and survivors feel able to contribute to this consultation and benefit from the strategy that is developed from the results. These forms of violence and abuse are disproportionately gendered, with the majority of victims/survivors being women. But we also know that many men are also victims and this consultation is therefore an opportunity to better understand how we can support men who have experienced violence and abuse.

We therefore encourage the views of all victims and survivors: women, men and those who identify as non-binary to participate.

If you are supporting a victim/survivor or someone who has used violence and abuse to complete the survey, please note:

- 1) The survey is only for adults to complete, i.e. people over the age of 18.
- 2) The survey can be completed entirely anonymously. There is the option to leave contact details at the end if the person would like to participate in a follow-up focus group (for victims/survivors) or would like to be kept up to date with how the strategy is progressing. Alternatively, contact details can be emailed separately to jennifer.holly@avaproject.org.uk to ensure the person's survey answers are kept anonymous.
- 3) The only person to view the survey answers will be a researcher at AVA. All answers will be stored on a password-protected computer and will be deleted once the final consultation report has been produced.
- 4) If someone would like to complete the survey on paper, a Word version of the survey is available. This can then be sent to AVA (please mark as confidential and send to: Jennifer Holly, AVA, The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London, SE11 5RR) or you can input the answers into the online survey for the person.
- 5) We encourage people to complete as many questions as possible. It is no problem if someone doesn't want to answer some questions, isn't able to or isn't sure of their answer.
- 6) There are two questions for victims/survivors and two in the survey for people who have used violence or abuse about the abuse (which again there is no





requirement to complete) and all other questions relate to the support they may or may not have received.

- 7) There is a quick exit button on every page of the survey. It is at the top right hand corner and says 'Exit'. This takes you to the homepage of Survey Monkey, the website that hosts the surveys. Leaving the survey this way will not delete the person's browsing history. If someone you are supporting is worried about someone knowing they have visited the survey website, please read this guidance from Women's Aid on covering your tracks: <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/cover-your-tracks-online/>.

The surveys are open until May 14th 2018.

If you have any questions about the surveys, please email jennifer.holly@avaproject.org.uk.



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