



## Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Newsletter - May 2021

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### **New Domestic Abuse Act 2021**

The government's landmark Domestic Abuse Bill received Royal Assent on the 29 April 2021.

The new Act is expected to formally come into effect this summer, however, to ensure people get the support they need now, the government has already allocated funding to councils and asked them to begin work from April 1.

Under the Act, victims of domestic abuse with a lifetime social tenancy who need to flee their current home to escape abuse, and are granted a new council tenancy, will have their security of tenure protected in their new social home – ensuring they have a safe and stable home to rebuild their lives.

The new duty on councils is one of a raft of measures that the Domestic Abuse Act will bring in to provide further protections for victims, and strengthen measures to tackle perpetrators, including:

- Introducing for the first time an all purpose legal definition of domestic abuse which incorporates a range of abuses beyond physical violence, including emotional, coercive or controlling, and economic abuse.
- Establishing in law the office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner and setting out the Commissioner's functions and powers.
- Banning perpetrators of abuse from cross-examining their victims in person in the civil and family courts in England and Wales.

See [more information about the raft of measures included in the Domestic Abuse Act.](#)

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# EDAN Lincs New Referral Process

EDAN Lincs have introduced a new initiative to tackle waiting lists and provide specialist, targeted, short term intervention to low risk victims of domestic abuse. This is a new and exciting initiative to meet the ever growing demand whilst providing crucial targeted domestic abuse awareness for victims and their children to live free from abuse.

The new initiative includes S.A.F.E Course -  
S.A.F.E stands for Safety, Awareness, Freedom and Empowerment.

The S.A.F.E course explores the dynamics of abuse, it helps victims to better understand their experiences and empowers them to make positive, healthy and safe choices for their future. The course is designed for adults and is primarily delivered through e-learning, however can be delivered on a 1:1 basis if needed.

It also includes a module on 'How domestic abuse impacts on children'. The aim of this module is to increase the non-abusive parent/caregiver's knowledge and awareness of the effects of domestic abuse on children and how they can help their own children to recover and importantly assist in rebuilding bonds that may have been damaged due to the abuse experienced.

There is full information on the new initiative in a leaflet available by clicking [here](#).

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# Multi-Agency Policy & Procedure Manual Updates

The below table outlines the changes made to the LSCP Policy and Procedure Manual at the end of April 2021.

Where there have been significant changes or a new policy has been included, a recommendation has been made that the chapter is read in full.

Please can you circulate this information within your organisation as appropriate.

Thank You.

<b>Updated Chapters</b>	
<b>Chapter Name</b>	<b>Details</b>
<u><a href="#">Referrals Procedure</a></u>	This chapter has been updated to update terminology, replacing CAF with Child and Family Early Help Assessment.
<u><a href="#">Safeguarding Children and Young People at Risk of Sexual Exploitation Policy</a></u>	This chapter has been reviewed to include teenage relationship abuse in Section 1, Introduction.
<u><a href="#">Model Drugs Policy for Schools Academies</a></u>	This policy has been updated has been updated to include updated terminology.

<a href="#"><u>Private Children's Homes Strategy</u></a>	This strategy has been updated to provide links to the most up to date OFSTED guidance.
<a href="#"><u>Safeguarding Children and Young People at Risk of Criminal Exploitation</u></a>	This chapter has been updated to include teenage relationship in the Section 1, Introduction.
<a href="#"><u>LSCP Joint Protocol for Missing Children and Young People</u></a>	This chapter has been amended to reflect changes to when Assistant Directors in Children's Services will be notified that a child has been reported missing.
<a href="#"><u>Managing Allegations of Abuse Made Against Persons who Work with Children and Young People</u></a>	This chapter has been updated to align with amendments made to Working Together to Safeguard Children in December 2020. This includes updates to the leaflet and referral form.  <b><u>This chapter should be read in its entirety</u></b>
<a href="#"><u>Safeguarding Compliance Checklist for Governors</u></a>	This documents links have been updated.
<a href="#"><u>Local Contacts</u></a>	These details have been updated.
<b>New Chapters and Features</b>	
<b>Chapter Name</b>	<b>Details</b>
<a href="#"><u>Safer Sleep for Infants Guidance</u></a>	This chapter has been added to the manual to provide advice, guidance and support to practitioners. The purpose of guidance is to provide a consistent message to parents and carers regarding safer sleeping arrangements for infants.  <b><u>This chapter should be read in its entirety</u></b>



## SPALDING'S NEW RURAL

# COMMUNITY HUB FOR DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIMS

Thanks to grant funding from Longhurst Housing Group and amazing collaboration between a generous Spalding family and Pepperells Solicitors, Boston Women's Aid (SoLDAS) sees the start of a second Community Hub offering support to victims of domestic abuse in the Spalding area.

Every Tuesday, from 10am till 2pm, specialist experienced domestic abuse workers from SoLDAS will be at the Spalding Hub to meet and support local victims of domestic abuse – male and female. In this informal setting, people can sit over a cup of coffee and discuss privately their experiences and concerns with a professional who understands and can help victims to safety plan and if they are ready, to end the abuse they and their children are experiencing.

This follows the success of the Holbeach Community hub which was made possible thanks to Holbeach United Charity and The Holbeach Hub has now been running since November 2018. Due to the pandemic, it was taken online during lockdown, but we have recently opened our doors again for physical appointments on a Thursday between 10am and 12noon.

SoLDAS hopes that the Holbeach and Spalding example might see the start of a series of Rural Community Hubs to provide this service in Boston and the very rural parts of South Holland especially, and we would welcome the opportunity to partner with other charities or parish

councils to establish hubs in their villages.

For more information, or to book an appointment, please call SoLDAS  
on 01205 311272 or email [admin@bostonwa.co.uk](mailto:admin@bostonwa.co.uk)

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**DOMESTIC  
ABUSE**  
TOGETHER WE CAN STOP IT  
**IN  
LINCOLNSHIRE**

## Domestic Abuse Resources

For any of the Lincolnshire domestic abuse resources please click on  
the [Domestic Abuse website](#).

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Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Team  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Myle Cross Centre,  
Macauley Drive,  
Lincoln, LN2 4EL  
Web: [www.domesticabuselincolnshire.com](http://www.domesticabuselincolnshire.com)  
E-mail: [natalie.watkinson@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.watkinson@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

