



Bath & North East Somerset Council

Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA's)



- Offer crisis support to help the most vulnerable victims experiencing domestic violence and abuse or sexual violence
- Reduce the risk of serious harm to children and women and men in both straight and gay relationships

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For Bath and North East Somerset

- The Community Safety IDVA service is funded and supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner
- IDVA service is ran by Southside Project – a local charity based in the heart of our community
- 7 additional IDVAs trained – including a specialist IDVA for victims aged 16-25

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Southside – helping local people in their communities




Helped over 3780 victims and families

Support women, children, families, men & same sex couples

Over a 100 volunteers and growing

Offered added family support to over 1500 parents, carers and their children

Intense support for children and teenagers

80% of their staff and volunteers live in the communities within which they work

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Future plans:-

- Plans for 2013 include working with Connecting Families project
- Introduction of a drama scheme with the University of Bath for young survivors of DA
- Established a local group for children affected by domestic violence and abuse
- Work with Victim Support to link up specialist services and emotional support
- Negotiating with Salvation Army and churches to provide local support

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A central image of a woman covering her face in distress is surrounded by a network of service names in various colors:

- Blue:** Witness Care unit, Homelessness, Drugs & Alcohol Services, Clinical Commissioning Group, CCTV, Housing, Welfare Agencies
- Green:** DV court services, Family Mediation Services, Community Safety, Serious Case Reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews
- Red:** Prisons, Probation, Police
- Black:** Safeguarding Adults and Children, Southside DV Support, Health, ASB teams, Adult services, YOT, Victim Support, Children services, NHS, Public Health, Education, Environment Services, Social Services, Mental Health, Fire Services, Criminal Justice, Family Intervention Project

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Its me... I'm to blame

A woman covering her face with her hand is surrounded by text expressing self-blame and fear:

- He does love me... He says so...
- Why? Why am I like this?
- I can't face anyone
- I hate myself
- I won't tell anyone
- What about my kids?
- I will try really hard
- I just want to die**

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"As the years went on the abuse continued to become worse. I wasn't allowed to speak to my children during the evening.

He regularly used to turn off the electricity in the evening to prevent any of us from relaxing. Beatings were a regular occurrence for all of us... he even killed two of our family pets."


Melanie, victim of domestic abuse


*To protect identities names have been changed

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LISA'S STORY



Changing Lives 

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Young mother of two Tina Nash



She came to the nation's attention via news reports of the horrific injuries inflicted on her by her former partner, Shane Jenkin

Mother feels like she's been 'buried alive' after lover gouged out her eyes April 2011. (The Guardian)



Mother of two Tina Nash suffered 31 injuries - her nose, eye sockets and jaw were smashed during a 12 hour domestic violence assault



Tina Nash tells how she is overcoming horrific eye gouging attack

"You only get one life and I am not going to let him ruin it"

Tina Nash has lived in West Cornwall since childhood. She is now in her early thirties and is mother to two boys aged 14 and 4



Her experiences make her a brilliant spokesperson for survivors of domestic violence



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Domestic abuse has a lifetime impact on children



66% of victims have children under five

Children living with domestic abuse most at risk of behavioural problems

Live in fear and believe they will die

Don't talk about it and find it hard to make friends

Self harm and often find comfort in excessive eating

Mental blocking or disconnecting emotionally

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Some common Myth busters

- » Offenders are under stress
- » It only happens in poor families and social housing
- » Alcohol and drugs are the main causes
- » He loses his temper sometimes when he's out of control

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What have we learned?




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What about the offenders?



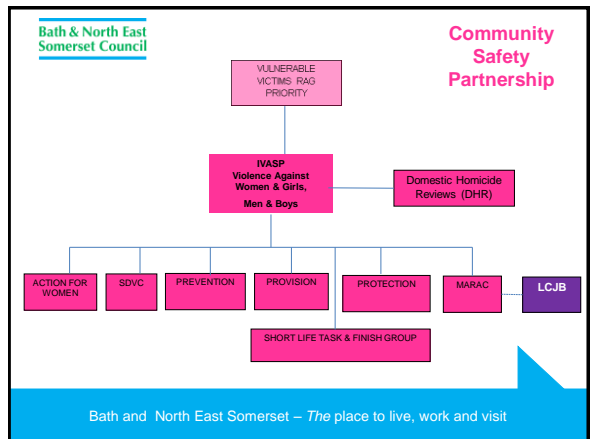
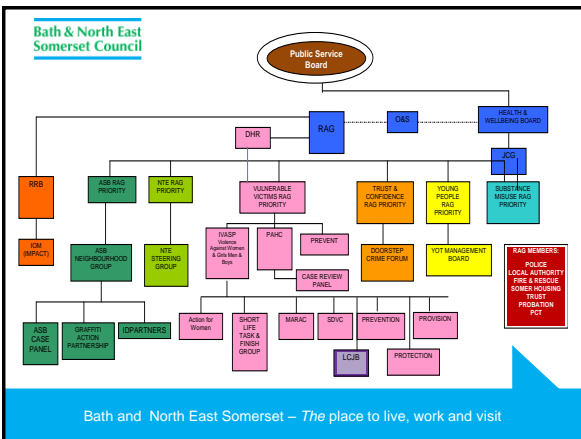
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What is Community Safety doing about it?



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Support contacts



- » Southside - www.south-side.org.uk 01225 331243
- » Freedom Programme www.freedomprogramme.co.uk info@freedomprogramme.co.uk
- » Women's aid national domestic Abuse helpline - 0345 023 468 FREE
- » Victim Support - 0845 3030 900 FREE
- » Refuges 24-hour national crisis line - 0990 995 443 FREE
- » Samaritans - 0345 909090
- » Survive - 0117 9612999 FREE
- » Well Woman information - 0117 941 3311 FREE
- » Next Link Domestic Abuse Services - 0117 925 1811 FREE
- » 24-hour National Domestic Violence Freephone Helpline 0808 2000 247
- » Broken Rainbow - 08452 604460 – www.broken-rainbow.org.uk for advice for LGBT victims

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We welcome any questions?



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