

Safeguarding Ambassador Bulletin June 2023

The Safeguarding Adults Executive Board (SAEB) are responsible for overseeing and leading on the protection and promotion of an adult's right to live an independent life, in safety, free from abuse and neglect across Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster.

Welcome to the SAEB Safeguarding Ambassador Bulletin June 2023

In this bulletin we extend a **warm welcome** to **Manju Likhman, the new Violence Against Women and Girls Strategic Lead.**



"I was really excited to join the Bi-borough of Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster to continue the great legacy that it had already created. I look forward to working closely with the Safeguarding Adults Board to ensure that our partnership can support the prevention and early intervention of domestic abuse and its impact on Safeguarding Adults".

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is the umbrella term used to describe a range of violent and abusive acts and behaviours, including:

- domestic abuse (including coercive control)
- rape and sexual violence
- female genital mutilation
- early and forced marriage
- so called "honour" based violence
- faith based abuse
- sexual harassment
- stalking
- Trafficking
- prostitution/sexual exploitation

It is called VAWG because it primarily affects women and girls, specifically because of their gender. Notwithstanding, we do recognise that men and boys can be victims too, in some of these issues. So we have a range of services in the bi borough to support female victims and tackle primarily domestic abuse. We are also commissioning a new service for male victims in Westminster. We also recognise that due to the high prevalence of VAWG, some staff may also be victims in their own right and we are keen to support all staff in the workplace and make sure that the correct information is shared accordingly. We still have a way to go and we are really keen to work with you all as professionals. So please feel free to get in touch with me so we can continue this important discussion.

Ending Violence against Women and Girls is a local strategic priority. We have recently launched a new 5-year strategy which builds on our previous work and explains our approach going forward. This partnership strategy has been co-produced by partners, including survivors, residents, and local businesses, and sets out our strategic vision to make our boroughs safe for anyone who is living, working, visiting, and travelling in Kensington and Chelsea.

[Violence against Women and Girls Strategy 2021 - 2026](#)

Anyone can experience VAWG regardless of their age, race, culture, sexuality or religion, however we know that it disproportionately affects women and girls. If you are experiencing abuse, support is available, visit the [Government website](#) for more information.

Maria Stoeva – Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Reference Group



Hello everyone, my Name is Maria Stoeva and I am the Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Reference Group. Our work is to raise awareness of safeguarding and empower our communities to be confident in responding to abuse and neglect.

This last month we have been busy planning the Community Engagement Prevention Agenda 2023—24. We are working with 'Standing Together' to raise awareness on Domestic Abuse. We are very excited to launch our prevention agenda focussed on this important area of safeguarding, which includes both webinars and an awareness video which we will launch later in the year to help people understand what domestic abuse is, and how you can report it.

You can register for the events via the links below.

Best wishes

Maria Stoeva



**STANDING
TOGETHER**
against domestic abuse

SAEB Learning Programme Domestic Abuse Awareness Training

These 1-hour workshop, delivered via Zoom are designed for all residents and carers living and working in the Bi-Borough of Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster as well as volunteers who are in contact with adults at risk.

These sessions will cover:

- *What Domestic Abuse is
- *How to recognise the signs of domestic abuse and coercion and control
- *Local services available

You can now register for these Training sessions via the Eventbrite links below and a Zoom invitation will then be sent to you.

	Date and Time	Link to register
Domestic Abuse Awareness Training	19/09/2023 14:00 - 15:00	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-saeb-learning-programme-domestic-abuse-and-older-people-tickets-666806364787
	14/11/2023 14:00 - 15:00	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/saeb-learning-programme-domestic-abuse-awareness-tickets-666923906357

The Interview Room

5 Minutes with Sally Jackson, Partnership Manager, Standing Together



Sally Jackson has over 30 years experience in the Women's sector, working to end violence against women and girls. As Partnership Manager at Standing Together she supports organisations across Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea to improve their response to survivors and hold perpetrators to account. If someone is subjected to abuse it can affect many areas of their lives, their health, their housing, or even their social and community life. We try to ensure that whenever they are able to reach out for help it is there.

Tell us about Standing Together and the work that you do?

Standing Together believes the best response to domestic abuse and violence against women is the Coordinated Community Response. That means that it's everybody in the community's responsibility to help survivors be safe, and so we help many different organisations and community groups to know how to ask about abuse, respond if someone needs help and where they can get specialist support. We work locally and nationally sharing best practice.

What are you looking forward to this year ?

I'm really pleased that the Safeguarding Adults Board is working with us to share more information for both older people and disabled people who may be more vulnerable to abuse. Together I know we can prevent, protect and support them.

What key messages do you have for our readers?

If you or someone you know might be frightened of a partner or family member there is help and support available. You can ask for help via your doctor, social worker or many other professionals. The Angelou Partnership offers a wide range of confidential help and support, it's free and you can contact them via their website <https://www.angelou.org/> or on the numbers below. Don't worry on your own, talk with someone you can trust.

Freephone: 0800 059 0108

Monday – Friday 10am - 6pm

Thursdays 8am - 9pm

angelou@advancecharity.org.uk

Or

Freephone: 0808 801 0660

Monday – Friday 10am - 4pm

Wednesday 6 - 9pm

advice@wgn.org.uk

To ensure that we keep up to date with all our safeguarding activities, we would love to continue to hear from you!

Please send your news, updates and comments to share in upcoming bulletins to:

makinsafeguardingpersonal@rbkc.gov.uk

The SAEB Safeguarding Ambassadors