

Dear Stakeholder,

30th March 2020

In light of the current and developing situation with COVID 19, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV) services are taking action to continue to provide the lifesaving and lifechanging support to those who need it in Wales as well as protecting survivors and staff within their services.

We are currently facing a unique crisis and one which has changed both the services we can offer and the challenges our clients face.

While foremost in everybody's minds is the COVID 19 virus and the significant health implications for individual's health we must be mindful of the compounding effect this can have on pre-existing issues such as Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence. Evidence from China suggests that violence within the home significantly increased during the containment phase. We would like to support you in providing a proactive response to VAWDASV in Cardiff at this challenging time.

Respect and the Wales Change That Lasts perpetrator response team would like to assure you that we will be continuing to offer an adapted service in these difficult times. We are keen to support you whilst you are prioritising caseloads and responses to your service users.

We are writing to set out the service we are currently offering.

- We will provide telephone consultation to your staff if they would like to discuss cases in relation to VAWDASV and how they can best support service users
- We will offer telephone support to male clients where there is a concern about their behaviour towards women. This will aim to identify and manage risk within their relationship and provide strategies they can utilise in the current unique circumstances
- We will work closely with Cardiff Women's Aid (RISE) to ensure partners are offered appropriate support

Please feel free to telephone with any queries or questions: **07732801072**

Kind regards

Melonie Senior

Change that Lasts Wales Perpetrator Project Lead