

Safe and Sound (Wyre Forest)
November 2016

North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership
Chair – Sue Hanley

The White Ribbon Campaign 2016

Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for NWCSP and each year we support the White Ribbon Campaign, an international movement encouraging men to speak out against violence against women and girls. Whilst the international campaign has a focus on women, in Worcestershire we show opposition to all forms of domestic abuse, irrespective of gender. The campaign, which is supported locally by the Worcestershire Forum Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, takes place between 25th November and 10th December (the 16 days of action) and we encourage everyone to wear a White Ribbon and never to commit, condone or remain silent about domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Last year Worcestershire achieved 'White Ribbon Towns' status which recognises our commitment to end violence against women and girls.

Did you know that nationally one in four women suffers from domestic abuse in their lifetime and two women are killed a week by their partner or ex partner? Domestic abuse is estimated to cost £23 billion a year and these crimes have a devastating effect on their victims.

West Mercia Police dealt with 10,618 crimes linked to domestic abuse in Worcestershire between April 2015 and March 2016. These incidents impacted on 6,068 separate children, 877 children were exposed three or more times from the same household and 261 children were exposed five or more times. Calls to the helpline were up 154% in the last 12 months, reflecting the increased trust and confidence of victims to report and seek help.

In addition to other awareness raising activities, our focus this year is on young people and across North Worcestershire schools will be marking the campaign with a range of assemblies and displays. Thousands of ribbons, posters and flyers will be distributed to all staff, parents and young people.

If you need help, contact **Worcestershire 24hr Domestic Abuse Helpline 0800 980 3331** or **Worcestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre's helpline 01905 724514**. To support the campaign: <http://www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk/worcestershire>.

Information about NWCSP: www.nwcsp.org Follow us on Twitter @saferwyreforest and like our Facebook page - SaferWyreForest (Community Organisation).