

Safe and Sound (Wyre Forest)
November 2017

North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership
Chair – Sue Hanley

The White Ribbon Campaign 2017

Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for NWCSPP 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 being coordinated locally by Safer Wyre Forest in conjunction with The Worcestershire Forum Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, takes place between 25th November and 10th December (the 16 days of action). We encourage everyone to wear a White Ribbon and never to commit, condone or remain silent about domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Did you know that nationally one in four women and one in six men will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime and on average two women a week in England and Wales are killed 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 11075 crimes linked to domestic abuse in Worcestershire between July 2016 and June 2017 (up 6.2%). These incidents impacted on 5754 separate children, 789 children were exposed three or more times from the same household and 202 children were exposed five or more times. Over the same period, calls to the Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Helpline were up 26.8%, 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.

Ribbons will also be available at the Worcestershire Hub at Kidderminster Town Hall and at our stand in the Swan Centre, Kidderminster town centre on 7th December 2017 from 10.00am until 12.00.

If you need help, contact Worcestershire 24hr Domestic Abuse Helpline 0800 980 3331 (for women and men) or Worcestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre's helpline 01905 724514. To support the campaign:

<http://www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk/worcestershire>. Information about NWCSPP: www.nwcsp.org Follow us on Twitter @saferwyreforest and like our Facebook page - SaferWyreForest (Community Organisation).