

DVA concerns during COVID-19 lockdown

In the current situation domestic abuse or violence is happening in the homes of families.

We have put together some advice and important contact numbers, should you find yourself or someone you know experiencing DVA.

If you or someone you know is in danger:

- Call police on 999 in an emergency
- There is a '**silent solutions**' system in case you dial 999 and cannot talk. An operator asks which service: **if you can't answer and dial 55 the operator will forward you to your local police force.**
- All domestic abuse/ women's aid organisations are running services. Many are offering online chat options.
- Always try to keep a mobile on you/them so that you/they can call for help wherever in the house when it is needed.
- Safety remains the priority, whatever the lockdown advice. In an emergency leaving the house and going to a public place and ask for help – for example going to a local shop and asking them to call the police if you/they can't do this safely.

Useful contacts:

Solace Women's Aid: www.solacewomensaid.org

- Advice line: 0808 802 5565 / advice@solacewomensaid.org
- Rape Crisis helpline: 0808 801 0305 / rapecrisis@solacewomensaid.org

Women's Aid: www.womensaid.org.uk

- 24 hour national Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247
- Webchat: chat.womensaid.org.uk (Monday-Friday, 10am-12pm)
- Email: helpline@womensaid.org

LAWA (Latin American Women's Advocacy): offers telephone advice on Tuesdays and online chat via their website: www.lawadv.org.uk (Portuguese and Spanish speaking services available)

IMECE Women's centre (Turkish, Kurdish, Cypriot and other BAMER and migrant women): Offers advice and advocacy: www.imece.org.uk

KMEWO (Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation) : Provides information, advice and advocacy: www.kmewo.com

DVIP (Domestic Abuse Intervention Project): dvip.org offers support for men wanting to end abusive behaviour

Respect Phonenumber: Advice for perpetrators wanting to end abusive behaviour: 0808 802 4040/
respectphonenumber.org.uk

Mental health support:

iCope is currently offering phone support www.icope.nhs.uk, 0303 123 1000 (not a crisis service)

Samaritans offer telephone support 24 hours 116 123 or jo@samaritans.org www.samaritans.org

In **an emergency or crisis situation then;**

- Contact your GP
- Contact Camden and Islington Crisis services (020 3317 6333)
- Attend the Mental Health Crisis Assessment Service, Ground Floor, The Bloomsbury Building, St Pancras Hospital, 4 St Pancras Way, London, NW1 0PE. **NB: This replaces A+E mental health support at the Whittington Hospital so that clients can access support safely while coronavirus measures are in place.**