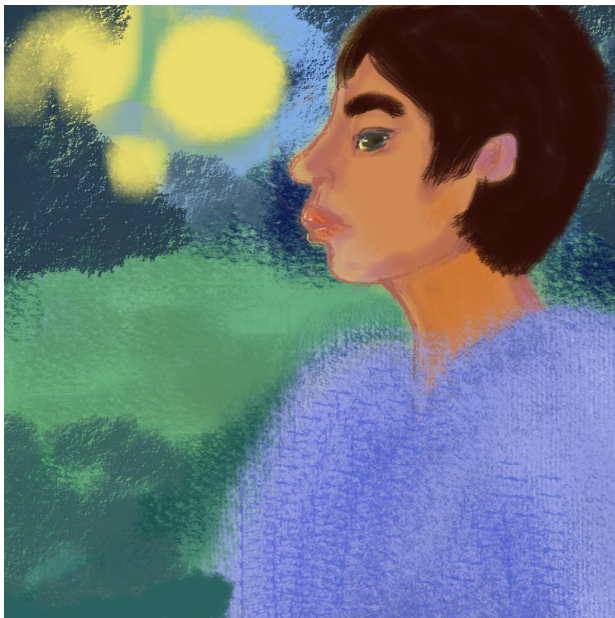


What is violence against women and girls (VAWG) and why should it matter to me?



VAWG is an umbrella term which includes the following types of abuses:

- Domestic violence and abuse
- Coercive and Controlling behaviour
- Sexual violence, abuse and exploitation
- Sexual harassment and bullying
- Stalking
- Crimes committed in the name of “honour”
- Harmful Practices
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
- Image based sexual offending
- Misogyny
- Gendered Gang Violence

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) covers a range of unacceptable and often deeply distressing crimes, ranging from rape and other sexual offences, stalking, domestic abuse, ‘revenge porn’ and ‘upskirting’, through to catcalling, innuendos and unwanted compliments. These offences disproportionately affect women and girls.

These crimes and behaviours can affect victims of all ages, abilities, sexualities and backgrounds. They take place in schools, workplaces and neighbourhoods across the UK and can happen within current or previous relationships, in families, and in neighbourhoods.

The Community Safety Partnership is working locally to raise awareness of VAWG issues among partner agencies and local communities.

Everyone can be part of the solution by challenging unwanted behaviour and providing support to those in need. It’s an issue that affects all of society.

What to do if you are a victim of harassment or violence

Report all incidents to the police on 999 (in an emergency) or 101. You can also report online at [how-to-report-a-crime/](#). Humberside Police will take all reports seriously no matter how small and, if they are unable to address the incident directly, will use the information you provide to direct education and resources in the future.

Tutor feedback

The Bystander Intervention Training was really informative and age appropriate. Students particularly enjoyed opportunities to answer questions on their phones, this was beneficial to students that are not as comfortable answering questions in front of a large group. Students were very engaged when given the chance to answer scenario questions and give their own opinions.

The overall content of the training was interesting and got the students discussing and thinking about the way they would handle situations going forward. The guest speakers were confident in their delivery, and they got students involved in discussions, which made the sessions more interactive.

Tutor feedback

The Bystander Intervention Training allowed a very informative insight into how you can support someone who is being harassed or bullied without having to take direct action which, due to the risk this could present, could put someone off from intervening. Simple suggestions such as providing a distraction or recording the event and passing it on has really made me think of alternative actions I could take if presented with such a situation. Victoria was engaging and related effectively with the students.

Simple actions to take against harassment sessions at Franklin

January and February this year saw two CSP officers deliver sessions at Franklin College to year 12 students.

The sessions were designed to be delivered within the Aspire programme which looks to ensure that students have personal and professional development and become well rounded employable adults.

The sessions were created in Mentimeter which is an interactive presentation tool that combines slides, polls and videos. The students learnt about the effects of street harassment and how they could intervene in a safe way at any level of confidence in their ability.

The programme covered the problem, types of harassment, and impacts of harassment and presented possible solutions in the form of the five D plan which includes Distract, Delegate, Direct, Delay and Document. (See posters developed below which are now displayed within the college.)

Also discussed were what to do if harassment happens to you and how to practice resilience.

Feedback received was all really positive. (See left)



Simple steps to take against harassment

DOCUMENT

Record the event
During or after the event, document useful information. For example:

- Record the events on your mobile phone
- Make notes e.g. date, time, location, physical appearance

Always ask the person being harassed before going to the police or posting on social media as it might make things worse for them or they might not want you to.

Simple steps to take against harassment

DELAY:

Take action after the event

After the incident is over, check in with the person. For example:

- "Are you okay?"
- "Do you want me to sit with you?"
- "Do you want me to accompany you somewhere?"
- "What do you need?"

This helps to validate their experience. Even a knowing glance matters.

Simple steps to take against harassment

DIRECT:

Speak up

Speak up, be firm and clear. For example:

- "That's totally inappropriate."
- "You can't speak to women like that."
- "Stop that."
- "What do you think you're doing?"

Remember, safety first. Try not to get into an argument.

You can also speak to the person being harassed. For example:

- "Are you okay?"

Simple steps to take against harassment

DISTRACT:

An indirect approach to deescalate the situation

Cause a distraction, for example:

- Ask the time
- Ask for directions
- Drop something noisy on the floor e.g. a handful of coins
- Pretend you know the person being harassed and ask how their mum is

Simple steps to take against harassment

DELEGATE:

Get help from someone else

Find someone who can assist, for example:

- The person next to you
- Bus driver
- Teacher
- Security guard
- Retail worker
- Bar staff

Walkabout Talkabout

Women working and living within North East Lincolnshire will have an opportunity to walk with female police officers (and officers from other organisations such as community safety and health) to share their thoughts on safety and help bring about positive changes in their local areas.

Those who take part can share their views and experiences with officers as they walk in areas they may feel vulnerable. The aim is to start a conversation between members of the public and officers so we can listen and respond to concerns. Walking whilst chatting is a more relaxed and informal way to share concerns.

The sessions will be taking place in ward areas across North East Lincolnshire and will start at a central meeting point.



Spring clean your socials

One of our current social media campaigns is to encourage people to spring clean their socials with hints and tips that will hopefully improve their experience on social media platforms.



People can be negatively affected by harmful content and abusive messages online so it's important to remind people to be kind to themselves and take time out. Ditch negative content and only engage with what makes you happy.



Vulnerability training

In January a morning of training was arranged at Grimsby Town Hall with the theme vulnerability for members of pub watch and local licensees and bar staff.

Training was given around over service of alcohol, vulnerability of those within the night-time or social economy and an overview was given around policing.

The event was well attended and positive feedback was received from licensees with many of them requesting further training.

