

MAPPA stands for Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements – a set of arrangements established by Police, Local Authorities and the prison service in Tayside (known as the Responsible Authorities) to assess and manage the risk posed by sexual offenders.

Sexual offences cause considerable anxiety and although reconviction rates are very low the public is understandably concerned about sex offenders and the risk they present.

There have always been sexual offenders and they are present in every community. There is no typical sexual offence and no typical sexual offender, not all sex offences and sex offenders are inherently problematic or dangerous to the public, the vast majority of sexual offending is committed by people known to their victim, either a family member,

friend or acquaintance. Managing the risks posed by sexual offenders within the community is a complex task. It is recognised that one of the most important partners in public protection are members of the public and it is vital that they have confidence to report any concerns they may have.

The protection of victims is paramount importance and it is at the core of MAPPA in Tayside both in terms of current victims and those who may be at risk in the future. It is stressed that the work of MAPPA is committed to equal access to services for all groups.

If you suspect abuse of a child...

Don't keep it to yourself - Do Something!

roshni continue making their presence felt within the community

roshni are delighted to announce the appointment of two new trustees. Jawad Akbar has been actively involved in community work and volunteering for the past four years. A former member of the Scottish Youth Parliament and UK Young Ambassador, Jawad is currently studying Chartered Accountancy. Our second new trustee Maureen Honan has been associated with roshni for many years. Maureen has always supported the work of roshni and has a special interest in the protection of children and young people.

roshni is expanding its services, not only in terms of its outreach work but also in the number of projects which it is involved in. The geographical spread of roshni's work is also growing. With their head office in Glasgow, roshni now also have a presence in Dundee and hope to also launch in Edinburgh by the end of the year.

roshni and DCYPPC working for Dundee

Masjid Tajdar e Madina Dundee

Shaukat Sultan of roshni and Alan Baird, chair of the Dundee Children and Young People's Protection Committee, extend our thanks for the invitation to your mosque

Every child in Dundee has the right to be safe. It doesn't matter what their ethnic background is, they have that right. Every person in Dundee has a responsibility to keep children safe and to do something if they feel children are not safe.

The community of Dundee is an exciting mixture of people from many ethnic backgrounds and that is to be celebrated, Together, roshni and the CYPPC want to include people from all ethnic minority groups in the work to protect children from harm and abuse. - To take the steps that will prevent harm and abuse happening in the first place, and when it does, to do what is necessary to stop it.

If you require any information or guidance either as an individual or as an organisation please do not hesitate to contact either roshni or DCYPPC on the contact details below



Shaukat Sultan
Project Manager, roshni



Alan Baird
Chair, DCYPPC



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The Ethnic Survivors Launch forum



the Ethnic Survivors forum

There are some harsh truths which need to be challenged. Last week Glasgow, Dundee and Edinburgh saw the launch of the Ethnic Survivors Forum, an initiative which aims to support minority ethnic adults who have suffered from childhood sexual abuse. Not an easy subject to discuss openly, nor a topic which many people will argue is an issue in our community. Yet at the event launch we heard first hand the words of a female ethnic survivor who was sexually abused from the age of 6 to 13. It was not easy to speak of what is a taboo issue in the heart of the community without exposing herself to further hostility and vilification, yet in front of over 60 guests at each event, the survivor was shown tremendous compassion and respect for her courage in coming forward and sharing with us her horrific experience. Tears were shed in the room, shivers were running down the spine of many prominent community leaders and individuals were left with thought-provoking and powerful words embedded in their hearts. A few moments of silence were required by those in the hushed room to allow some level of composure..

and taking legal action as a fraught decision since it involves breaking their silence and publicly taking steps that are perceived negatively by the community.

roshni, the organisation leading on this initiative are at the forefront of breaking down the barriers of under-reporting within minority communities.



Supported by the Scottish Government, the Ethnic Survivors Forum will work with males and females who traditionally would have thought turning to outside agencies

“On behalf of roshni, we extend our gratitude to the survivor, for not only having the courage to talk openly, but for also realising that her words will most definitely provide support to others who have faced similar tragedies. This service is for members of all ethnic minority communities and we hope that they will feel that they can now begin the journey to ensuring that their lives and the lives of their loved ones can move forward.

roshni also extends a vote of thanks to all the guests covering communities, local government, statutory bodies and the voluntary sector. There is no doubt that the heartfelt plea from the survivor will reverberate for a long time.

I request everyone to promote this service through their networks and ensure that there is no household that is not aware of this initiative. “

Ali Khan
Chair of roshni



Partners:



Supported by:



SurvivorScotland
A National Strategy for Survivors of
Childhood Sexual Abuse

For more information on the project, please visit the website:

www.ethnicsurvivorsforum.org.uk



Protecting you protecting children.

Over the summer period roshni will be launching the “Protecting you Protecting Children” programme. This initiative has been running under the “Disclosure” project name, however due to its immense growth the demands of the project are such that it really requires its own identity.

“Protecting you Protecting Children” will be an invaluable resource for organisations and individuals whom direct access to children and young people including those involved in teaching. The main thrust of the project is to assist organisations in ensuring that the children in their care are in a safe environment and free from risk or harm.

Organisations have a duty to ensure that the adults working unsupervised with children and young people are vetted by carrying out the requisite checks through the PVG scheme. roshni assists with what is an extremely time consuming and cumbersome process. We will work with organisations and individuals to ensure that they are

compliant with the required practices. roshni will also offer to look at governance issues, ensuring the organisation has appropriate policies in place, as there is a myriad of policies required.

What are the processes if an allegation has been made by a child or young person? Is there protection for the child? How do you deal with the individual that has had the allegation made against them? “These questions are just the tip of the iceberg”, says roshni Chair, Ali Khan

“We all have a part to play in the safety of not only our children, but the safety of all children. There has been a fair amount of media publicity lately, both in television and newspapers south of the border and in Scotland. There are increasing cases of paedophilia and forms of abuse against children. Minority communities are under scrutiny, as are faith organisations. We have to accept this scrutiny as it propels and highlights issues which would oth-

erwise lurk beneath the surface. Organisations can not play the race or religion card if they come under the media spotlight, they must ensure that there is transparency and honestly deal with internal conflicts or issues. There seems to be a knee jerk reaction to bad news, this reaction has to be tempered with the realisation that once an issue has been identified, especially in the media, it will not disappear by making noise.

Organisations need to demonstrate that they are taking the issue around child protection seriously. They will have to show the trail of documentation, policies, systems, and procedures to ensure that they are not culpable. Good practice should be the norm as opposed to the exception.

If you would like to discuss matters with roshni, please do not hesitate to pick up the phone or email us”

For more information, email info@roshni.org.uk



The front of the new child protection building in Dundee, near Kingscross hospital



Child Protection in Dundee

Agencies and services in Dundee whose role includes the protection of vulnerable people, are proud and pleased to have roshni working alongside them in the City.

An important part of the work being done together is to make all people more aware of the issues of abuse and neglect and to give people confidence to do something about it if they are a victim or if they have concerns about other people.

In this issue, we highlight that it is not only matters of child protection that require our attention.

The ill-treatment of adults, including those who may be elderly or frail or are vulnerable in others ways is an issue throughout the country. Dundee’s Adult Support and Protection Committee brings together those who work to remove this problem from our City and to protect the people who do suffer as a result of such abuse and neglect.

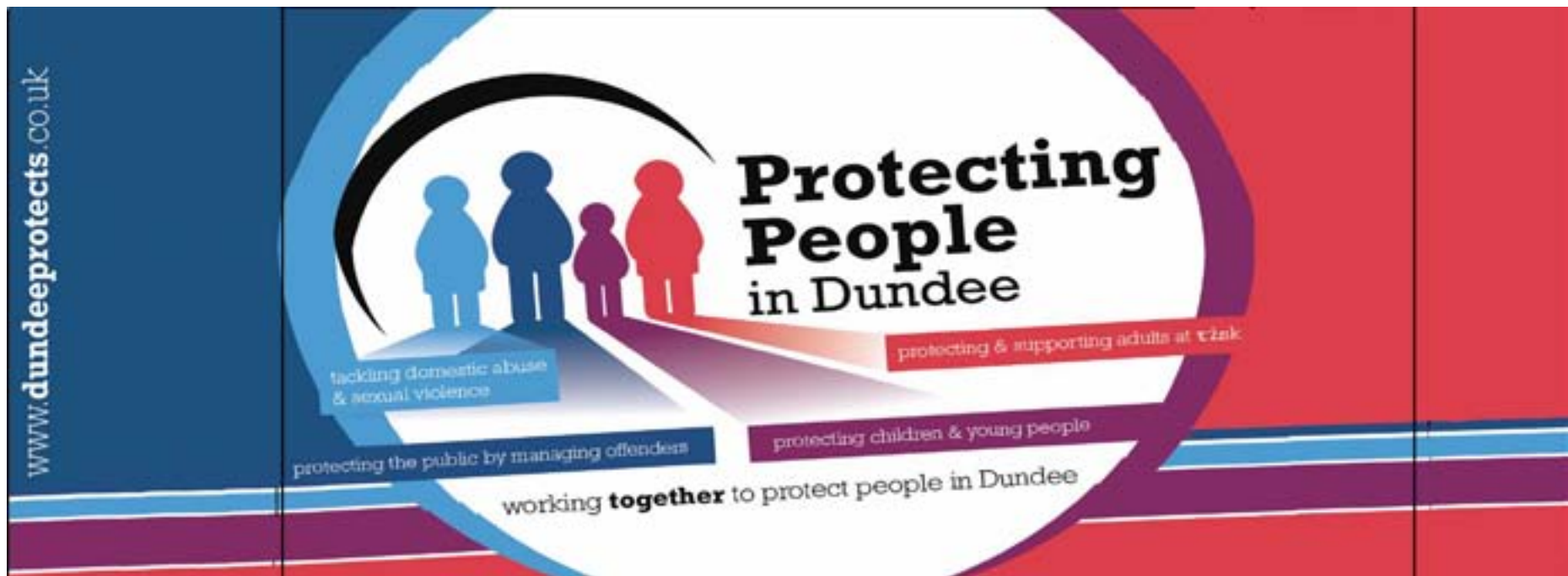
The Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership show us that, as in the rest of Scotland, the level of violence against women in domestic relationships is unacceptable. This is a major social problem that affects

not only the women involved, but also any children that are in the home. The ill-treatment of women in domestic relationships is totally unacceptable in our society.

Crossing all these other areas, is the important role of managing the behaviour of people in the community who might pose a risk to people. The Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements are in place to monitor and manage those who have been released from prison but are still considered to pose a risk to other people.

These areas, along with work on child protection led by the Children and Young Persons Protection Committee, combine to form the ‘Protecting People in Dundee’ approach to providing services in Dundee.





Making Adult Support and Protection Work in Dundee

Safeguarding adults who are at risk of harm has become a significant aspiration in Scotland over the past ten years. Harm caused by physical and sexual abuse, financial exploitation, emotional and psychological harm as well as neglect and discrimination, damage the lives of many citizens who are unable to safeguard themselves. Such harm occurs in every setting in which people spend their lives, from family homes, to nursing homes, to the wider community. Some cases of harm receive considerable publicity and lead to prosecution of the perpetrators; many instances of mistreatment, however, remain hidden or go unreported.

The Scottish Government, alone in the UK, has enacted legislation aimed specifically at preventing and responding to harm to adults. The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 complements a wide range of other legislation to achieve this end. Implemented in October 2008, it identifies people over the age of 16 years who are:

(i) unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests; (ii) are at risk of harm; and (iii) because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, are more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected. For an individual to be considered under the Act, all three criteria have to be met.

The Act also sets important principals to ensure the human rights of individuals at risk of harm are respected.

In addition, it also lays a statutory duty to collaborate on key agencies such as councils, health services and the police. The lead agency, however, is the council.

All citizens and the community have an important part to play in safeguarding. It is here that many of us become aware of people who are being harmed or suspect that they are of risk of harm.

Working to end Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse and sexual violence can affect anyone - it doesn't matter how old they are, what faith they practice (or do not practice), or their ethnic or cultural background.

There are some forms of domestic abuse and sexual violence, sometimes referred to as harmful traditional practices, which disproportionately affect women, children and young people from specific cultural or ethnic groups. Acts such as forced marriage, child marriage and "honour"-based violence are often justified in relation to religious or cultural traditions. However, they are forms of domestic abuse, an abuse of human rights, and where children and young people are involved, a form of child abuse.

All women, children and young people living, working or being educated in Dundee have the right to live their lives free from

violence and abuse regardless of their ethnic or cultural background.

The Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership is a multi-agency group working to end all forms of domestic abuse and sexual violence. This involves working with communities throughout Dundee and joining our colleagues in Child Protection and Adult Support and Protection to help protect all adults and children from harm and abuse.