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| Community Safety & Wellbeing eNewsletter header with West Sussex County Council logo**Welcome to our June 2024 eNewsletter**"The violence got too much, the punches, slaps, pushing me over... Too frightened to get back up as he kicked me."*Quote from a WORTH victim/survivor*No excuse for domestic abuse during Euro 2024We know that football (or any other sporting event) doesn’t cause domestic abuse, but sadly, research shows that incidents of harm increase when England play in big tournaments such as the Euros and the World Cup. And it doesn't matter whether they win or lose. In a study by [Warwick Business School](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.wbs.ac.uk/news/domestic-abuse-increases-almost-50-per-cent-after-england-win-at-world-cup//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/K7S-QicwpZknNYG6A4LdkcQox1Y%3D380) researchers found that cases of domestic abuse, where alcohol consumption was an aggravating factor, rose by 47% on the day of an England victory and cases were also 18% higher than average on the day after an England match.With Euro 2024 in full swing, we recognise that this can be an increasingly frightening time for adults and children living in an abusive environment, but you are not alone. In West Sussex you can contact WORTH Domestic Abuse Service for support, Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. Just call 0330 222 8181 or text 07834 968539. Outside of WORTH’s opening hours, anyone affected by domestic abuse can call the freephone, [24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/%23%3A~%3Atext%3DCall%2520us%252024%252F7%26text%3DCall%2520for%2520free%2520and%2520in%2Ca%2520day%253A%25200808%25202000%2520247./1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/_gQYAfeB-p4reTGY2e2y9Tj5sMQ%3D380) on 0808 2000 247.Sussex Police will also be increasing their activity around the Euros as part of Operation Hope – where discreet, pro-active visits will take place with people known to be at high risk of abuse.If you are at immediate risk of harm, you should always call 999 and press \*55 to use the silent solution option if you are unable to speak.

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| [**Find out more about WORTH**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/domestic-abuse/local-support-for-people-being-abused//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/Gnb2XvdztTe2zDuLimBgNh3SXt0%3D380) |

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Decorative imageDomestic abuse doesn't just happen during big sporting eventsWith June hosting Pride month (a celebration of the rich and diverse lives of the LGBTQ+ community) and World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (held on the 15th June each year to highlight the abuse and neglect of older people), it is always important to remember that domestic abuse can happen to anyone at any time.WORTH Domestic Abuse Service has teams of Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (also known as IDVAs) across West Sussex who work to identify, assess and assist people at risk.However, there are also specialist organisations available to support members of these communities who are suffering abuse from anyone, including a friend, partner, loved one or carer.In Sussex you can contact [Switchboard](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.switchboard.org.uk//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/n0jcFmUWLyDC0MAS4SKz40mqd_M%3D380), who provide specialist support to anyone from the LGBTQ+ community who is affected by domestic abuse. There is also the national LGBT+ anti-violence and abuse charity [Galop](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//galop.org.uk/get-help//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/OXFCO0MdHdZuqvSuqxif9RjI_Cg%3D380) who give advice and support to people who have experienced biphobia, homophobia, transphobia, sexual violence, or domestic abuse.For older people, [Hourglass](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//wearehourglass.org/hourglass-services/1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/Q8PJXsXxdoflZ-bJw_NmshM0kuk%3D380), the UK’s only charity focused on the abuse and neglect of older people, offers free confidential services to provide information and support to individuals who are at risk of, experiencing or recovering from any form of abuse or neglect. If you're in an abusive relationship, the County Council's website has information on steps you can take to help keep yourself safe.

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| [**Steps to take if you're in an abusive relationship**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/domestic-abuse/things-you-can-do-if-youre-in-an-abusive-relationship//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/1JM5eqibjW71LBaITeve1nmoO-o%3D380) |

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Close up of a young person's hand using a mobile phone*Photo by Alicia Christin Gerald on Unsplash*Help your children avoid sextortionSince the beginning of last year, Sussex Police has seen a concerning increase in the number of children and young people from West Sussex reporting that they have been a victim of sextortion.If you are a regular reader of our newsletter, you will know that sextortion (also referred to as financially motivated sexual extortion) is a form of blackmail where a perpetrator threatens to reveal intimate images of a victim online unless they give in to their demands.These demands are typically for money or further images and although this type of blackmail does affect girls, it is actually boys and young men aged between 14 and 17 who are most affected.To find out more, visit the dedicated sextortion page which has been created by our Digital Safety Team on the Safer West Sussex Partnership website.

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| [**Safer West Sussex Partnership | sextortion information**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/safer-west-sussex-partnership/latest-news-and-campaigns/sextortion//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/bbqmtaa_AE0KAWAM3QoyqU2-VaQ%3D380) |

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Report crime 100% anonymously at fearless.org - Fearless. Part of Crimestoppers. Hand holding mobile phone.Got knowledge of a crime but too scared to tell the police? Report it anonymously to fearlessOver 550 weapons were removed from the streets following Operation Sceptre, a week of action carried out by [Sussex Police](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/news/over-550-weapons-taken-off-the-street-during-week-of-action//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/TBY5tjZEMGu3ejJhh_gT4NN7dy8%3D380) last month as part of an initiative to tackle knife crime.As we are part of the Safer West Sussex Partnership, we often support Sussex Police when they do these operations, and this week was no exception as members of our team went to Crawley and Chichester to hand out leaflets, answer questions and raise the awareness and profile of knife crime – particularly with young people.As part of our conversations we were keen to promote Fearless, a site where crime, including knife crime, can be reported 100% anonymously, meaning young people can pass on information whilst keeping their identity completely unknown.If you have children, or work with young people, make sure they are aware of the Fearless website, where they can report any information about a crime without fear of being exposed.

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| [**Visit the Fearless website to find out more**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless/1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/71Z7v9Y8ctNcVdDiepnVJqxPKxo%3D380) |

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Four people standing in a town centre holding up leaflets in front of a gazebo Claire and Jason join Community Market Stall in Littlehampton to hear locals feedback Two of our amazing team members, Claire McNelis and Jason Lemm, joined the Littlehampton Community Market Stall a couple of weeks ago to hand out leaflets on all things community safety.There were lots of other partners there, including local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) from the Neighbourhood Policing Team, Arun Community Wardens and Arun Youth projects, and we were all on hand to talk to the local community and listen to any concerns they may have.Claire and Jason will be back at the Community Market Stall from 12pm - 3pm on Friday 5 July and Friday 6 September (weather permitting) to give you the opportunity to find out more about subjects the Community Safety and Wellbeing Team deal with, including online safety, knife crime and Prevent. It is also an opportunity to give us feedback about how safe you feel in your local area.The team look forward to meeting you when they are next in town.

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| [**Find out what we do on the West Sussex County Council website**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/qb0byK3-RqJ9LJ88nNIxRgRcDDk%3D380) |

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Training and events

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Spaces available for digital safety and cyber security session The South East Regional Organised Crime Unit and West Sussex County Council’s Digital Safety Team are offering you a great opportunity to attend a free, two hour training session which will give you the knowledge and insight of digital safety best practice and how to be secure online.Within the session, the trainers will cover the risks and potential online harms of the internet and how to safeguard against them, the influence of social media and how to use social media safely (including social media settings) and how to recognise and respond to changes in behaviour which could indicate something more serious happening online. You will also learn about the most common types of online scams and how to improve and advise others on online security.The session is strongly encouraged for anyone working to support the public or for residents to attend themselves. We currently have the following session available to book through Eventbrite:* [**Tuesday 25 June: 10am - 12pm**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/digital-safety-and-cyber-security-tickets-880116220307/1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/I2eSjix3NsrqSysJyIb3Rzrylxw%3D380)

Can't make this date? To find out more on how to help yourself or your family stay safe online, there is more information on our Digital Safety Team's Staying Safe Online webpages.

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| [**Visit the Staying Safe Online webpages for more information**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/crime-prevention/staying-safe-online//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/wE_1UFIPONUYsGcPexF5uhuLg8c%3D380) |

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One 'Are you scam savvy?' online session still available to bookEven though our Digital Safety Team are planning more 'Are you scam savvy?' sessions for later in the year, there are still spaces available on the online session taking place on **Friday 5 July**.This free 1.5-hour webinar, starting at 11am, is open to anyone who wants to stop themselves falling victim to different types of scams, including telephone, courier, and romance fraud.

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| [**Book your free place on Eventbrite now**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/community-safety-wellbeing-wscc-17456763912/1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/PQeoeeNNJiO_-RSSH3EwpalsOGI%3D380) |

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Free virtual event from West Sussex Mind - Pathological demand avoidance and anxietyWest Sussex Mind is hosting a free, 2-hour webinar on **Wednesday 17 July** from 7.30pm called 'Supporting Children and Young People with Pathological Demand Avoidance and Anxiety'.The session will explore the basic characteristics which may be presented in children and young people with [Pathological Demand Avoidance](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.westsussex.gov.uk/local-offer/information/health-and-development/conditions//1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/Wc2wSQa-y2j87RKhw5kNucTcVRk%3D380) and anxiety and provide practical tips on how parents and carers can best support their child or young person's mental health.To find out more, including the eligibility criteria for the session and how to access it, visit Eventbrite.

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| [**Head to Eventbrite to book your free ticket**](https://phhnqtzb.r.us-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parenting-service-virtual-event-pathological-demand-avoidance-and-anxiety-tickets-920640730207%3Faff%3Debemoffollowpublishemail%26ref%3Deemail%26utm_campaign%3Dfollowing_published_event%26utm_content%3Dfollow_notification%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Deventbrite/1/010101903bc10a68-5ecdf127-b920-4ab7-b568-ff7575b012f4-000000/jbv2PElJOhRJRVhql3b9SDWPXbk%3D380) |

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Keeping yourself and your community safe: free in-person training available on Monday 22 July**Did you know...*** Figures from UK Counter Terrorism Policing show that one in five of those arrested for terrorism-related offences are under 18.
* Over 20,000 children were identified as being trapped in county lines in 2023.
* There were 104,282 explicit self-generated online image reports of 7-10 year olds in 2023.

To support anyone who wishes to gain more knowledge and insight into emerging risks and harms associated with online safety, radicalisation and county lines, our knowledgeable and friendly team are offering a free course to highlight the dangers that young people encounter.This includes grooming, gaming and oversharing online, the dangers associated with children being recruited into drug dealing (known as county lines), and how to protect young people from radicalisation into extremism.The course is taking place in-person at County Hall North in Horsham on **Monday 22 July** from 9.30am until 2pm, with a half hour lunch break.In order to apply for this free course, you need to:* be 19 years old or over,
* be resident in West Sussex,
* have lived in the UK for a minimum of 3 years.

If you are interested in attending, please email communitysafety.wellbeing@westsussex.gov.uk.

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Investing in Better Roads - external govDelivery newsletter footer |

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