

A Year of Covid

(March 2020 - March 2021)

Coronavirus Bill

19 March 2020

SafeLives issues briefing for MPs, warning of an increase in domestic abuse as thousands of victims may have to isolate with perpetrators and flags areas of the Coronavirus Bill which may have unintended negative impacts on domestic abuse victims.

Reach In

30 April 2020

SafeLives launches 'Reach In' campaign encouraging people to act if they're concerned someone they know is experiencing domestic abuse during lockdown.

It's hard to **reach out** for help from behind closed doors. We need someone outside to



Training moves online

SafeLives mobilises to take its training online. Since developing remote training programmes we are reaching a wider cohort across the UK than ever before.

We have also continued delivery of our 'Domestic Abuse Matters' cultural change programme for police forces.



In the last six months of 2020, over 1,600 people participated in our specialised training and we delivered our Domestic Abuse Matters programme to more than 2,000 police officers.

Ask for ANI

April 2020

SafeLives' Pioneer survivors put forward the idea of a code word to be used in the few shops allowed to be open – pharmacies. With support from the DA Commissioner and Victim's Commissioner, we proposed a scheme to the Home Office and worked with them to create 'Ask for ANI'

Joint VAWG sector statement on emergency Govt funding

April 2020

Sector welcomes £750m fund to support frontline charities during the pandemic, but calls on the government to act quickly to support frontline VAWG services, with a ring-fenced fund that is simple, flexible, & fair, including support for specialist services for marginalised groups.

Hidden Harms Summit

21 May 2020

SafeLives makes the case for a long-term sustainable funding settlement for the domestic abuse sector and calls for more Idvas who provide a vital lifeline to victims and survivors.



Funders lean in

Summer 2020

NatWest donates £1m for the Circle Fund to support victims of economic and domestic abuse, in partnership with SafeLives and local services.

Vodafone launches the Great British Tech Appeal with Barnardo's, British Red Cross and SafeLives. More than 570 mobiles and tablets have been provided to survivors and their families.

Trusts and foundations offer emergency support.

Domestic abuse victims recognised in daily Coronavirus press conference

May 2020

SafeLives consistently applies pressure on Government to change public messaging to remind people lockdown restrictions don't apply if you are not safe at home. The exemption is highlighted in a 10 Downing Street Coronavirus press conference and Prime Minister repeats this again in his 3rd lockdown announcement in January 2021.



Rolling services & survivor surveys

August 2020

SafeLives publishes new data gathered from both survivors and services that show demand for services continues to increase.



61% of survivors not able to reach out for support during lockdown.

38% of services reported increases in caseloads.

86% cited tech and IT challenges.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Learning Partnership

October 2020

AAFDA, Chayn, Galop, Imkaan, Respect, Rights of Women, SafeLives, Social Finance, Standing Together, Surviving Economic Abuse and Women's Aid come together to form a strategic learning partnership - taking a long-term view of the sector's needs both during and beyond Covid-19. Supported by the National Lottery Community Fund.



Ask for ANI launched

January 2021

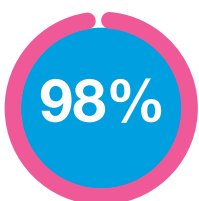
By April 2021, more than 5000 pharmacies including Boots and Superdrug are participating in the #AskforANI codeword scheme, enabling victims of domestic abuse to contact specialist DA services for support and advice. Currently, the scheme is being used once every 30 hours.



Support & Wellbeing sessions for the frontline

January - March 2021

With additional funding from the Home Office, SafeLives, in partnership with Rock Pool, develop support and wellbeing sessions for frontline domestic and sexual abuse practitioners in England and Wales. The objective is to increase resilience and morale at a time of immense pressure, enabling services to remain available and sustainable for clients.



respondents agreed the session will have a positive impact on morale

Government announces £40m fund for rape & domestic abuse victims

February 2021

SafeLives plays a key role in unlocking new Government funding for specialist services for victims of rape and domestic abuse, including a crucial £27m 2-year fund for Idvas and Isvas as a result of our joint campaigning in the sector.

