



Government
Events

The Tackling Gender-Based Violence Conference

Wednesday 10th March 2021

Event Guide





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Our Loyalty Discount

This discount entitles attendees to a 20% discount on any future conference being run by Government Events in the next 12 months. Please quote code Loyalty20 at the start of your booking.

How to Claim Your CPD Points

Regarding CPD credits, it is the individual delegate's responsibility to evaluate their learning and record it appropriately into their CPD portfolios according to your institute's requirements.

For this Conference, you are entitled to 8 CPD points.



Welcome Letter

Dear Delegate,

Welcome to The Tackling Gender-Based Violence Conference.

Gender-based violence and abuse is an umbrella term for any harm that is perpetrated against a person's will; it results from the power inequalities that are based on traditional gender roles. It is a major social and public health issue and is on the rise in the UK, exacerbated by the lockdown restrictions brought in to tackle coronavirus.

This violence comes in many forms and can affect people with any gender identity and from any cultural background. This event will bring together experts in GBV and provide practical case studies on what can be done to tackle this scourge on our society.

- The Crime Survey of England and Wales estimates 20% of women and 4% of men have experienced some type of sexual assault since the age of 16
- 137,000 women and girls living in England and Wales have experienced Female Genital Mutilation
- Approximately 2 million adults experienced domestic abuse last year, with 695,000 of these being male

(Home Office & Against Violence and Abuse)

At this event you will be able to learn from a diverse range of case studies and keynotes. Covering topics including domestic abuse, trauma-informed practice, cultural influences on GBV, lived experience and supporting LGBT+ individuals who have faced abuse. Sharing best practice, engaging in interactive workshops, and networking with like-minded colleagues will enable you to develop new and informed approaches to tackling gender-based violence.

If you have any technical issues, please get in touch with our technical team through the support button at the top of the EventsAir platform.

We hope you have a rewarding and enjoyable day.

Yours Truly,

David Blake
Government Events



Agenda AM

- 09:30-10:00 **Online Registration**
- 10:00-10:10 **Chair's Opening Remarks**
Chris Green OBE, Founder and Executive Director, White Ribbon UK and Anthea Sully, CEO, White Ribbon UK
- 10:10-10:40 **Icebreaker Networking**
- 10:40-11:00 **Keynote: The Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy**
Lynne Abrams, Deputy Director, Crime Policing and Fire Group – Interpersonal Violence, Home Office
- 11:00-11:20 **Keynote: Engaging Men in the Prevention of Gender Based Violence: Opportunities in the Business Sector**
Dr Stephen Burrell, Assistant Professor (Research), Department of Sociology, Durham University
- 11:20-11:40 **Questions and Answers**
- 11:40-12:00 **Comfort Break**
- 12:00-13:00 **Interaction Session**
Amy Abdelshahid, Head of Evidence, FORWARD
- 13:00-13:40 **Lunch Break**

*Programme Subject to Change



Agenda PM

- 13:40-14:00** **Case Study: Support for Gender-Based Violence Survivors through Housing and Legal Advice**
Ivié Itoje, Legal Advisor, London Black Women's Project
- 14:00-14:20** **Case Study: Speaking Up for Survivors of Gender Based Violence**
Rubie Marie, Forced Marriage, Honour Based Abuse and Domestic Violence Survivor, Ambassador and Facilitator, Oxford Against Cutting and Survivor Ambassador Panellist, Karma Nirvana
- 14:20-14:40** **Case Study: Strategic Approach to Tackling Harmful Practices**
Allen Davis, Operational Lead for FGM, Forced Marriages, Honour Based Abuse, Child Sex Abuse, Sex Workers and Chemsex and Lead of Honour, Belief and Sex Partnership Team, London Metropolitan Police
- 14:40-15:00** **Questions and Answers**
- 15:00-15:15** **Comfort Break**
- 15:15-15:35** **Case Study: Unheard Voices: LGBT Experiences of Gender Based Violence**
Gary Harkness, Community Safety Lead, LGBT Foundation
- 15:35- 15:55** **Case Study: Supporting Trans Victims of Gender Based Violence**
Mridul Wadhwa, Intersectional Human Rights Activist and Manager, Forth Valley Rape Crisis Centre
- 15:55- 16:15** **Questions and Answers**
- 16:15** **Chair's Summary and Close**

*Programme Subject to Change



Speaker Biographies (A-Z)

Amy Abdelshahid

Head of Evidence, FORWARD

Amy Abdelshahid specialises in behavioural insight and impact evaluations of health interventions. She currently heads Evidence and Knowledge Management at FORWARD, a leading African women's rights organisation, where she uses research and evaluation to inform evidence-based programmes and policy engagement. Previously, she was associate director at the research consultancy Kantar Public, where she led impact evaluations for governmental bodies and non-profits, including Public Health England, the NHS and the Wellcome Trust.

Lynne Abrams

Deputy Director, Crime Policing and Fire Group – Interpersonal Abuse Unit, Home Office

Lynne Abrams is Head of the Interpersonal Abuse Unit at the Home Office, leading work on all forms of Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) including the Domestic Abuse Bill, and the creation of VAWG and Domestic Abuse strategies due for publication in 2021.

Lynne joined the civil service in July 2019 as Head of the Serious Violence Priority Projects Unit, overseeing the £176.5m Serious Violence Fund and £205m Youth Endowment Fund. Before joining the civil service, she set up the London Violence Reduction Unit, the first VRU in England. She worked for over a decade in the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) in a number of policy and strategy roles. Prior to this, she scrutinised the work of the Metropolitan Police in their response to violence against women and girls. Her career in violence reduction began with frontline work supporting survivors of domestic abuse.

Dr Stephen Burrell

Assistant Professor (Research), Department of Sociology, Durham University

Dr Stephen Burrell is an Assistant Professor (Research) in the Department of Sociology at Durham University, currently undertaking a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship. He completed his PhD in 2019, which investigated work with men and boys to prevent men's violence against women in England, including how young men make sense of violence prevention campaigns. Subsequently, Stephen has carried out an Economic and Social Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship, which focused on the role men in the business sector can play in promoting gender equality and preventing violence against women. He has also carried out research for the Government Equalities Office about the impacts of masculine gender norms in the UK today.

Allen Davis

Operational Lead for FGM, Forced Marriage, Honour Based Abuse, Child Sex Abuse, Sex Workers and Chemsex and Lead for Honour, Belief and Sex Partnership Team, London Metropolitan Police

Inspector Allen Davis joined the MPS in 1996 and is the operational lead for Harmful Practices (FGM, Forced Marriage, HBA and Abuse Linked to Faith and Belief) and works at both a National and International level on these issues. He also leads on Chemsex and Sex Work and has an extensive background in tackling Gangs and working with Schools and Education.

He is Deputy Chair of the National Working Group of Child Abuse Linked to Faith and Belief and is national lead for Operation Limelight; a multi-agency safeguarding operation that focuses on Harmful Practices at the UK border.

Chris Green OBE

Founder and Executive Director, White Ribbon UK

Chris Green brought the White Ribbon Movement to Britain in 2005 by founding White Ribbon UK. The White Ribbon Movement engages with men and boys to change the cultures that lead to male violence against women. He has addressed the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Inter Parliamentary Union, the Oxford Union and many conferences on the theme of Engaging Men in Tackling Violence against Women. He was a member of the Council of Europe Task Force to end violence against women, the Violence Prevention Alliance of the World Health Organization, and the steering group of the Men's Coalition. Chris was named Cosmopolitan Magazine Man of Year in 2008 and was appointed OBE in 2017.



Gary Harkness

Community Safety Lead, LGBT Foundation

I have worked in the voluntary sector for over 25 years now initially in HIV prevention and community development in LGBTQ+ communities. For the last 15 years I have been professionally interested in developing awareness of same sex couples and domestic violence and abuse. I worked for victim support for 5 years initially directly supporting victims of serious/enhanced crime and then in learning and development training staff and volunteers. I have trained support staff and volunteers to support victims from generic crime through to sexual violence and domestic violence. I now work for the LGBT Foundation in Manchester as community safety lead. I oversee our street-based intervention project in Manchester gay village 'village angels' and the same project in soho London with our partner Westminster City Council. I also manage the domestic abuse service at the LGBT Foundation and support staff across all teams in any crime related issues. I have a vested interest in continuing to work with statutory and voluntary organisations and communities to reduce hate crime and violence toward our community.

Ivié Itoje

Legal Advisor, London Black Women's Project

Ivié Itoje is a women's rights advocate and a specialist in BME women's issues. She currently trains professionals and community members on how to support minoritised women experiencing gender-based violence and on their rights under UK law. She works at the London Black Women's Project, a charity dedicated to ending Violence against Women and Girls giving legal advice. Prior to this, Ivié worked internationally in Nigeria for an NGO made up of lawyers and law professionals engaged in the promotion and protection of human rights in Nigeria. Here, she worked specifically supporting women on death row. Ivié has also worked in the US, as a legal researcher for the Mississippi Office of Capital Post-Conviction Counsel, with a focus on race relations.

Rubie Marie

Forced Marriage, Honour Based Abuse and Domestic Violence Survivor, Ambassador and Facilitator, Oxford Against Cutting and Survivor Ambassador Panellist, Karma Nirvana

I am a 38 year old mother of two young adults. My daughter has special needs and is entirely dependent on my care. I am a survivor of sexual abuse, domestic violence and psychological abuse in addition to a victim of forced marriage as well as honour-based abuse. I was married at the tender age of 15 and taken out of mainstream school, where I was kept a prisoner and forced to marry and fall pregnant soon after, to ensure I was able to return to my home in the UK. As a result of refusing to stay in my situation I endured family disownment and lived a life of poverty as a young single parent. In addition to my personal struggles I had a pre-cancer health scare for four years but that did not deter me from fulfilling some life changing accomplishments

I was able to return to education where I was determined to complete my GCSE'S at 25 years old followed by Integrative Counselling, Personal Performance Life Coaching, CBT Therapy, Mindfulness, Reiki and Psychology, for a more holistic approach towards supporting health and wellbeing. I have used my lived experience of honour-based abuse and being a child bride to become an ambassador and spokesperson for Karma Nirvana, a human rights charity that raises awareness on honour based abuse and forced marriages and was instrumental in making it a criminal offence under UK law. I have used this platform to talk to various media channels, including written and broadcasting media to highlight the importance of preventative measures of a hidden abuse. I was awarded and recognised for my work in the House of Lords in 2017 by Baroness Cox and the CEO of Karma Nirvana, Jasvinder Sanghera and world class leading Public Speaker Harry Singha.

I have been involved and contributed to academic studies in specialised education material for honour-based abuse and assisted higher education students in dissertations to further explore the subject matter in further detail using various sources to support case studies.

I have contributed towards an International anthology book called, "Beyond the Scars" which was an Amazon best seller within 24 hours of release. In which I talked about my battle with poor health, abuse and overcoming cultural barriers. I believe in educating others and so no one will have to endure the same pain I had to go through and determined to make a difference using my story to give a voice to the voiceless. I am in the process of completing my own autobiography to get the message out there and to reach those who may need it the most.

My journey has taken me down the route of modelling and pageantry, where it has enabled me to build the confidence to speak out on an international platform and reach a wider audience globally. I have gone on to become the first ever Ms Galaxy UK National 2016, Ms Galaxy 2016/2017 international and Ms Earth UK National 2017/2018. In 2018 Internationally achieved Ms Earth Wind first runner up and in February 2020 I placed third runner up in Ms Great Britain celebrating 75 years on the longest running British pageant.

My aim is to give hope to others in similar situations and to encourage them to never give up regardless of background, strict upbringing and barriers. To show despite facing many obstacles you can be true to you and remove the unhealthy conditioning that victims may have been forced to



grow up in. My dedication to the public is to motivate and empower women with a strong passion for hope and healing and celebrating empowerment.

Anthea Sully

CEO, White Ribbon UK

Anthea Sully is Chief Executive of White Ribbon UK, the national charity that works with men and boys to end violence against women by raising awareness and changing cultures. She is a campaigner, social entrepreneur, and former local politician. She began her career in community arts and is the founder of Goldhay Arts for artists and performers with learning disabilities. Anthea has led high profile human rights campaigns for a number of charities and faith organisations.

Mridul Wadhwa

Intersectional Human Rights Activist and Manager, Forth Valley Rape Crisis Centre

Mridul Wadhwa is the manager of Forth Valley Rape Crisis Centre. She has worked in the violence against women and girl's sector in Scotland since 2005.



Delegate List

Age UK, *Safeguarding Manager*
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust, *Safeguarding Children Nurse Specialist*
BMR1- London Borough of Enfield, *Sustainable Team Pathway Manager -Resilience Team*
BMR1- London Borough of Enfield, *Specialist housing coordinator*
British Red Cross, *Casework Coordinator*
British Red Cross, *Safeguarding Assurance Adviser*
British Red Cross, *Casework Coordinator*
British Red Cross, *Safeguarding Assurance Manager*
Cumbria Police, *A/DCI*
Devon & Cornwall Police, *DC*
Devon & Cornwall Police, *DS*
Devon & Cornwall Police, *Detective Sergeant*
Great Places Housing Group, *GM Housing First Project Manager*
Great Places Housing Group, *Safeguarding Specialist*
Gwent Police, *Survivor Engagement Co-ordinator*
Hampshire Constabulary, *DS - Domestic Abuse Support Team Sergeant*
Hampshire Constabulary, *DS - Domestic Abuse Support Team Sergeant*
Hampshire Constabulary, *DS - Domestic Abuse Support Team Sergeant*
HISP Multi Academy Trust, *c/o Thornden School, Assistant Headteacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead*
Leyton Sixth Form College, *Safeguarding and Guidance Officer*
Middlesbrough Council, *System Change Coordinator MEAM*
Ministry of Justice, *Senior Policy Advisor*
MOD, *People-AFPSp Welfare Families 2*
Mosscare St Vincents Housing Group, *Head of Neighbourhoods*
Mosscare St Vincents Housing Group, *Community Safety Officer*
Mosscare St Vincents Housing Group, *Community Safety Officer*
Office for National Statistics, *Domestic Abuse Statistics Lead*
One YMCA, *Director of Family Support*
Police Service N.I., *DCI Rape Crime Unit*
Queens Park Community Nursery, *Nursery Manager*
Royal College of Nursing, *Education and Lifelong Learning Adviser*
South Wales Police, *Supt*
Sovereign Housing, *Regional Housing Manager*
Staffordshire Police, *Force Crime Registrar*
Staffordshire Police, *Control Room Manager*
Staffordshire Police, *Equalities and Inclusion Officer*
Staffordshire Police, *Detective Constable, CID*
Surrey Police Public Protection Command, *Sexual Offences Investigation Team & Complex Abuse Unit & RASSO*
Surrey Police Public Protection Command, *Sexual Offences Investigation Team & Complex Abuse Unit & RASSO*
Talking Matters Northumberland, *High Intensity Therapist*
Talking Matters Northumberland, *High Intensity Therapies Lead*
The Archbishop Council, *Caseworker, National Safeguarding Team*
Thurrock Council, *Housing Safeguarding Manager*
Travers Smith, *Head of HR*
Turning Point, *Safeguarding Manager*
West Yorkshire Police, *DI Adult Safeguarding*
World Health Organization, *Health Emergencies Team Lead*



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23rd March 2021, Online

[The Adult Social Care Conference](#)

30th March 2021, Online

[Improving National Workplace Health and Wellbeing 2021](#)

20th April 2021, Online

[The National Suicide Prevention Conference 2021](#)

22nd April 2021, Online

For any enquiries, please call 0330 0584 285 or email Enquiries@governmentevents.co.uk



Thank you for attending our conference.

We hope you found the day interesting and insightful. Speaker presentations will be made available to download on completing the post show survey which will be emailed to you within one week after the event.

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WC2H 9JQ

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