

DOMESTIC ABUSE : 11 MARCH 2020

Lucy Whittaker from Alpha Vesta gave a talk entitled 'Bridging the Gap' on her work with Alpha Vesta, who raise awareness of the important role businesses and organisations can play in the Workplace of tackling Domestic Abuse.

She is the founding Director and Lead Trainer and the company was founded by her in 2019. This talk was held on 11 March 2020 at the Patient Participation Group AGM.

Alpha Vesta provide bespoke training in domestic abuse for businesses and organisations who have recognised the need to invest in these services both for a healthier, happier, safer and more productive workplace as well as creating awareness within their communities.

It is a preventative rather than reactive approach. Resources need to be directed towards those people that are coming into contact with potential victims and perpetrators of abuse in order to recognise and respond to the early signs of abuse before the full impact or an escalation occurs.

Alpha Vesta have been funded by the PFCC (Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex) to run a 6 month pilot project 'Bridging the Gap' beginning in January 2020 and are looking for businesses and organisations to take part in the pilot project where all of Alpha Vesta's services will be provided free of charge. To obtain more information you can contact Alpha Vesta by email at enquiries@alphavesta.com or call them on 01245 791281.

1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will be affected by domestic abuse at some point during their adult lifetime. The social and economic costs of domestic abuse in England and Wales amount to £66 billion a year. It costs £34,000 to support a high-risk victim of domestic abuse yet only £5 per victim is spent on preventative work.

Domestic abuse occurs across communities regardless of socio-economic status. £1.9 billion per year is lost to the UK economy due to domestic abuse. One third of all violent crime in Essex is domestic related.