

## Sanctuary Supported Living showing domestic abuse the red card

June 2024

As the excitement for the upcoming Euros football competition mounts, Sanctuary Supported Living, which runs domestic abuse services in Plymouth and Torbay, is aiming to raise awareness about the predicted rise in domestic abuse during the tournament.



Football matches should be a time for people to come together in support of their team, but unfortunately, major sporting events can also be a time of increased risk for victims of domestic abuse, and it can occur whether the abuser's team wins or loses. Research showed that the number of domestic abuse cases reported to Lancashire police force in the 2002, 2006 and 2010 World Cups surged by 38 per cent on the days when England lost, but incidents also increased by 26 per cent when the team either won or drew a match.

Sanctuary Supported Living's Plymouth Domestic Abuse Services (PDAS) and Torbay Domestic Abuse Service (TDAS) provide practical, non-judgemental support, advice and protection for all victims of domestic abuse in Plymouth and across Torbay, including confidential advice, support planning, and safe accommodation.

Nicola Blackwell, Local Service Manager at PDAS, said, "While football brings people together, it can unfortunately also lead to an increase in domestic abuse incidents. Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, regardless of their sex, age, sexuality or anything else, and many victims of domestic abuse will no doubt be worrying about what the next few weeks may bring for them."

Claudia O'Neill, Local Service Manager at TDAS, added: "We want to ensure that people

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# NEWS story



experiencing domestic abuse know they are not alone and that help is available. Our teams at PDAS and TDAS are dedicated to providing support, both during the Euros and throughout the year. If you are experiencing domestic abuse, or you're worried about someone who might be, please get in touch."

For more information about the support available for people experiencing domestic abuse, contact:

**PDAS** 0800 458 2558 (open Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm)

[www.sanctuary-supported-living.co.uk/pdas](http://www.sanctuary-supported-living.co.uk/pdas)

[PDAS@sanctuary.co.uk](mailto:PDAS@sanctuary.co.uk)

**TDAS** 0800 916 1474 (open 8am to 10.30pm every day throughout the Euros tournament)

[www.sanctuary-supported-living.co.uk/tdas](http://www.sanctuary-supported-living.co.uk/tdas)

[TDAS@sanctuary.co.uk](mailto:TDAS@sanctuary.co.uk)

If you're currently experiencing domestic abuse; in a non-emergency, call 101 or the Women's Aid 24-hour helpline on 0808 2000 247. In an emergency, call 999.

