



IRISi NEWS

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IRISi
interventions

**TRANSFORMING
THE HEALTHCARE
RESPONSE TO
GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE**

**Empowering clinicians,
supporting survivors
and leading change
through evidence-
based programmes**

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IRISi UNVEILS NEW OVERVIEW DOCUMENT SHOWCASING COST-EFFECTIVE, EVIDENCE- BASED PROGRAMMES TO ADDRESS GENDER- BASED VIOLENCE

IRISi is excited to announce the launch of its latest promotional document, [IRISi's Activity Overview](#), aimed at healthcare professionals, stakeholders and organisations focused on preventing gender-based violence (GBV) and working in the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) sector. This new document provides an easy-to-understand breakdown of IRISi's mission, vision, and evidence-based programmes designed to strengthen the healthcare response to domestic abuse and sexual violence. It is a comprehensive resource for those interested in bridging the gap between healthcare and specialist GBV services, ultimately ensuring better support for survivors. The document highlights IRISi's national impact and the success of programmes such as IRIS and ADVISE, outlining how these interventions empower clinicians to identify and refer victims to specialist support.

Stakeholders will discover how IRISi's interventions are both cost-effective and evidence-based, making this overview an essential tool for those looking to implement impactful solutions within healthcare settings to address gender-based violence.

[Click here to read it in full](#)

Highlighting Survivor Voices and the Crucial Role of Healthcare in Domestic Abuse Support

IRISi recently published two articles that amplify the voices of domestic abuse survivors and underscore the vital role healthcare plays in identifying and supporting those affected by DA. These stories, "[IRIS Saved My Life](#)" and "[Unmasking the Hidden Struggles: Navigating Cancer and Domestic Abuse](#)", reveal the transformative impact of compassionate healthcare interventions. In the first article, a healthcare professional from Gwent shares how the IRIS programme helped her escape an abusive relationship, offering legal, emotional and practical support through Llamau's support. The second article features Marion, a survivor of both cancer and coercive control, highlighting how the newly launched toolkit from Macmillan Cancer Support, developed in partnership with the University of Bristol and Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse, can help healthcare staff recognise and address domestic abuse in patients facing cancer. Both articles emphasise the need for holistic care in healthcare settings.

>>> [Click here to read "IRIS Saved My Life"](#)

>>> [Click here to read "Unmasking the Hidden Struggles: Navigating Cancer and Domestic Abuse"](#)

London's Violence Reduction Unit supports expansion of the IRIS Programme to six new boroughs

London's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) has expanded its support for domestic abuse survivors by funding the IRIS programme in six additional boroughs. This initiative, delivered in partnership with the local domestic abuse services Aanchal, Refuge, Advance, and Sutton Women's Centre, reinforces the VRU's commitment to the public health approach to tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). By integrating IRIS into healthcare settings in Havering, Merton, Wandsworth, Harrow, Hillingdon, and Sutton, the programme aims to equip healthcare professionals with the tools to identify and refer survivors to specialist support services.



Lib Peck, Director of London's VRU, states: "Our partnership with the healthcare sector and domestic abuse specialists highlights that by working together, we can prevent VAWG". Caroline Dart, Senior Manager at London's VRU, underscores the crucial role of healthcare professionals in supporting survivors. "Healthcare staff see millions of patients every day and have a unique opportunity to ensure that survivors understand their rights to get the support they need and deserve. Survivors can access much-needed practical and emotional support through a direct referral pathway into specialist Domestic Abuse services so that patients can access ongoing support in their communities".

>>> To read the blog post, please [click here](#).

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Commissioned by Standing Together with funding from the Home Office, IRIS is now operational in Sefton, Halton and Herefordshire – with clinicians enthusiastically embracing this gold-standard initiative



IRISi, in collaboration with local organisations, has officially launched the IRIS programme across Sefton, Halton and Herefordshire, marking a significant step forward in addressing domestic abuse through healthcare. Commissioned by Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse (STADA) with funding from the Home Office, the programme aims to integrate the IRIS model into local general practices, empowering healthcare professionals to better identify and support domestic abuse survivors. This partnership highlights the crucial role of healthcare in tackling domestic abuse and reinforces the importance of equipping professionals with evidence-based tools and training.

Alison Maynard, Health Initiatives Project Manager at Standing Together, celebrates the launch of IRIS across these areas, highlighting its success in bringing together key partners for a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse. "Following our mapping, it was essential to commission an evidence-based intervention to ensure an effective and sustainable programme was being implemented. As the gold-standard for a primary care Domestic Abuse response, IRIS will be providing a crucial service for victim-survivors and health professionals alike."

>>> To read the blog post, please [click here](#).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE US A HAND?

Do you have anything to share about IRISi, IRIS or ADVISE - such as the impact of the intervention, suggestions or feedback? We would love to hear from you! Please email us at: geisa.davo@irisi.org.

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HIGHLIGHTS



Introducing Rowan Jackson-Smith to the IRISi Board of Directors!

We're excited to introduce Rowan Jackson-Smith, the newest member of the IRISi Board of Directors. Rowan's journey reflects his rich background and unwavering commitment to driving positive change. With over a decade of experience spanning investment banking, financial auditing and commercial consulting, he brings a wealth of financial acumen and strategic insight to our board.

[READ MORE>>](#)

Elevating standards: IRISi launches the National IRIS Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

In July 2024, we introduced the first national IRIS Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), a major step in ensuring consistent, high-quality responses to domestic abuse across general practices nationwide. Developed through consultations with key stakeholders, these KPIs set clear, data-driven targets for local IRIS sites to follow, enhancing the programme's ability to deliver impactful support to survivors. This initiative underscores our commitment to maintaining the IRIS model as the gold-standard in primary care response to domestic abuse, ensuring that every site upholds excellence in its work. [READ MORE>>](#)



DRIVING NATIONAL CHANGE: EXPANDING IRISI'S WORK TO SUPPORT EVERY SURVIVOR OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

By Medina Johnson, CEO of IRISi



At IRISi, we are deeply committed to ensuring our life-changing programmes are accessible in every corner of the country. We know the power and effectiveness of our interventions in supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse, and we are working tirelessly to secure sustainable funding and recognition for our mission. Our goal is to see our work implemented nationwide, helping all those in need. If you would like to support this mission and stay updated, please follow me on LinkedIn for the latest news and opportunities to get involved. [CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW ME>>](#)