

A group of women dancing at a party

Description automatically generated![A group of girls in uniform

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**Increasing Young Women’s Safety**

**Engagement Pack**

**Wise Women, 120 Sydney Street, Glasgow, G31 1JF. Tel: 0141 370 0739. Email:** [**info@wisewomen.org.uk**](mailto:info@wisewomen.org.uk)

**Web:** [**www.wisewomen.org.uk**](http://www.wisewomen.org.uk/)

**Twitter: WiseWomenTweet**

**Facebook: WiseWomen Glasgow**

*“I was followed from town here by a male …..I eventually crossed the road to the bus stop to avoid the underpass, and he sat at the opposite side keeping an eye. Another member of the public commented ‘you have an admirer’…. It was reported to the police, but all they could do was keep an eye out for man matching the description – nobody came out to speak to me, and I’ve never walked this direction alone again.”*

Contribution to previous survey

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1. **Background**

Wise Women, with partners Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership and Glasgow Girls Club, are currently undertaking a safety survey with young women, 13 to 25 years old.

The aim of this survey is to get young women’s voices heard. All information from the survey will be taken to strategic and working groups with Glasgow City Council and partners to address how we can increase women’s safety together. Glasgow City Council has already responded to concerns about lighting highlighted in a previous survey and some solutions have been found.

The survey will be open for contributions from 25th August 2023 until 24th November. A full report of the findings will be launched with recommendations on 8th December, during the 16 Days of Action against violence against women.

1. **Can you help?**

We are asking workers across Glasgow to speak to the young women they support in groups and ask them about their experiences of public harassment and abuse.

We realise how busy everyone is so below is an outline of a workshop that you can use as part of your programme. This may be a one off group session or it may be one session in a course or programme of workshops.

We would appreciate any feedback from the women and have included an Information Feedback Sheet, (see Appendix 1) for guidance on collating the information young women contribute. Please complete the Worksheet and return to Women, 120 Sydney Street, Glasgow, G31 1JF or email to [info@wisewomen.org.uk](mailto:info@wisewomen.org.uk). All information will contribute to recommendations to Glasgow partners on how to address young women’s safety needs.

1. **Running your workshop**

We are aware of the level of skills and groupwork that is taking place in Glasgow. Below are discussion points that would guide you to gather information from young women. If you already have a group that would like to contribute you can organise your discussion in a way that is familiar to your group and the facilitators.

If you do not normally run groups we have included a suggested session outline below.

**Venue – It would be much better to hold in person sessions where possible. This allows you to ensure confidentiality and allows women to work together to identify some of the challenges they have experienced and any solutions they can identify.**

**Target number of delegates:** venue dependent & risk assessed

**Staff Support:** Facilitation, note taking.

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**Session outline:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 15 mins | Welcome and Introductions | * Introduce the topic through an icebreaker to get women chatting. You can find examples of icebreakers online.   https://teambuilding.com/blog/icebreaker-games |
| 15 mins | Background to the project | * Statistics on violence against women. * Purpose of sessions. |
| 50 mins | Discussion | * Where possible split the group into smaller groups to encourage everyone to take part. * Put each of the questions on flipchart paper and display on the walls. * Allocate a flipchart to each group to answer. * After 15 mins rotate the groups so that each group is answering another questions. * After 15 mins rotate the groups again so all groups have had an opportunity to answer each question. * After 15 mins return to large group and encourage discussion about anything participants had in common or that they found surprising. |
| 20 mins | Comfort break |  |
| 50 mins | Multiple Choice | * During the break remove the flipcharts and display the multiple choice questions on flipchart paper, see appendix 3. |
|  | Close | * Facilitator shares how the information will be used & next steps |

Before commencing your group discussion always refer to your policy and procedures, including risk assessments.

1. **Violence Against Women**

We know from research that young women continue to experience high levels of harassment and abuse, and that this age group are particularly at risk of violence and abuse. More than half of initial serious sexual assaults experienced by women or where only one was experienced happened between the ages of 16 and 20 years (Rape Crisis Scotland).

**37% of sexual crimes recorded in 2021/22 were under 18 years old.**

**31% of girls reported sexual abuse within their relationship (Safe Lives, Young People and Domestic abuse).**

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1. **Questions**

We are aware that discussing public harassment and abuse can be challenging. We appreciate that groupworkers will understand their group and may judge that it is more helpful to discuss young women’s experiences in general rather than the personal experiences of individual group participants.

The questions can be discussed in the following way,

1. Describe what feeling safe is when you are in public spaces.
2. When have you not felt safe in a public space in Glasgow?
3. What would help you to feel safe in Glasgow?

Qr code

Description automatically generatedAlternatively appendix 2 can be distributed for completion. Participants can complete this in the group or can take to complete at a later date. When the participants return the forms these can be forwarded to Wise Women at the contact details below. There is no need to collate the information.

Young women can also download the App from the QR code below, or from the business cards or posters, and complete at a time that suits them.

1. **Priority Groups:**

We want to ensure that we represent young women’s voices across communities. In our previous experience of surveys we have found that some groups access the survey more than others. We were able to use the information we gathered from monitoring forms to highlight these challenges and this allowed us to target underrepresented communities through focus groups.

We would appreciate it if you could complete the attached Monitoring Form, (see Appendix 3), to help us ensure we hear from women in all protected characteristic groups.

1. **Returning Information**

We would like to thank you in advance for contributing to the Women’s Workstream’s aim to collate information on women’s experiences during the pandemic. All of the information will contribute to our recommendations to Glasgow about moving forward after covid.

**Please return the information to Wise Women, 120 Sydney Street, Glasgow, G31 1JF or email the information to info@wisewomen.org.uk.**

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**Appendix 1**

**Information Feedback Sheet**

Please complete a sheet for each topic. We realise people are extremely busy and any information is extremely helpful. Notes taken during the session will helpful. These can be sent in paper form, photographed and emailed or retyped.

|  |
| --- |
| **Group Details**  Name of Group:  Date of Session:  Number of participants:  Does this group meet regularly? Yes No  Contact for facilitator: |

|  |
| --- |
| **Discussion point covered:** |
| Feedback from young women (please summarise feedback, highlighting particular issues and / or solutions women raised.) |

Any information used will be protect the anonymity of women and groups. If we have any questions would your group be open to us contacting them to clarify points and / or ask for additional information? Yes No

**Appendix 2**

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**Young Women’s Safety Survey**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Street name** |  |
| **Postcode** |  |
| **Park name, if (relevant)** |  |
| **Description of the area if no information available (e.g. Canal in Maryhill)** |  |

**Why are you in this area today / this evening?**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **How safe do you feel in this area?** | | | | | | |
| **1** | **2** | | **3** | **4** | | **5** |
| **Not at all** | | **Somewhat** | | | **Extremely** | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WWhat contributed to making you feel unsafe** Please tick any of the following that is relevant. | |
| Lack of police. |  |
| Groups of men hanging around. |  |
| Historical attacks on women and girls. |  |
| The area is run down. |  |
| There is not enough lighting. |  |
| I have experienced harassment and abuse here previously. |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Please indicate the form of travel or transport you are commenting on** | |
| Buses |  |
| Trains |  |
| Walking |  |
| Cycling |  |
| Taxis |  |
| Other (please state \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) |  |
| Not relevant |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Do you ever avoid areas in Glasgow?** | |
| No |  |
| Yes, there are areas I will not walk through at anytime. |  |
| I do not go out after dark. |  |
| I do not go out alone. |  |
| I do not have a choice. |  |
| Prefer not to say. |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Have you ever experienced harassment and/or abuse in public spaces in Glasgow at any point?** | |
| Never. |  |
| Once. |  |
| More than once. |  |
| On numerous occasions. |  |

**Wise Women will be conducting focus groups after the survey has closed. Women who have participated, and have indicated they would like to be involved, will be invited to take part to find solutions that will make the city safer. If you would like to participate in a focus group, please indicate by submitting your email address below:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Wise Women is working with women to influence Glasgow City Council and their partners decisions about women's public safety. What would you like to tell them? Please include any suggestions for improvements you may have.**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Appendix 3**

**Multiple Choice Questions**

|  |
| --- |
| **If you feel unsafe in any way, why do you feel this way? Select all that apply.** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Known for violence |  |
| Police on the streets |  |
| Previous experiences of crime |  |
| Intimidation |  |
| Feels isolated |  |
| Infrequent public transport |  |
| No Police on the streets |  |
| Threats |  |
| Religious tensions in the area |  |
| Run down |  |
| Groups of young people |  |
| I feel trapped here |  |
| Loitering |  |
| Fly tipping / rubbish |  |
| Anti-social behaviour |  |
| Poorly lit |  |
| Groups of men |  |
| Racial tensions in the area |  |
| Discrimination |  |
| Other |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Do you avoid areas in Glasgow? Why?** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Always |  |
| After dark |  |
| On weekends |  |
| Never |  |
| If alone |  |
| Daytime |  |
| I can't avoid this area |  |
| Other |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **How could Glasgow be improved? Select all that apply.** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Improved infrastructure |  |
| Cleaner streets |  |
| Community events |  |
| Educating men about gender-based violence |  |
| More lighting |  |
| Free toilet facilities |  |
| More support for people experiencing homelessness |  |
| More frequent public transport |  |
| Harassment first-aiders in venues |  |
| Spaces for young people/Youth Clubs |  |
| Bar staff allies |  |
| Campaigns about harassment and women's safety issues |  |
| Other |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **If you have experienced public harassment or abuse did you report it to the police** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **If no what stopped you reporting to the police?** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| It was not a crime |  |
| I did not think police would take it seriously |  |
| I didn’t know how to |  |
| I am frightened to go to the police |  |

**Appendix 4**

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**Young Women’s Safety Survey**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Street name** |  |
| **Postcode** |  |
| **Park name, if (relevant)** |  |
| **Description of the area if no information available (e.g. Canal in Maryhill)** |  |

**Why are you in this area today / this evening?**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **How safe do you feel in this area?** | | | | | | |
| **1** | **2** | | **3** | **4** | | **5** |
| **Not at all** | | **Somewhat** | | | **Extremely** | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WWhat contributed to making you feel unsafe** Please tick any of the following that is relevant. | |
| Lack of police. |  |
| Groups of men hanging around. |  |
| Historical attacks on women and girls. |  |
| The area is run down. |  |
| There is not enough lighting. |  |
| I have experienced harassment and abuse here previously. |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Please indicate the form of travel or transport you are commenting on** | |
| Buses |  |
| Trains |  |
| Walking |  |
| Cycling |  |
| Taxis |  |
| Other (please state \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) |  |
| Not relevant |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Do you ever avoid areas in Glasgow?** | |
| No |  |
| Yes, there are areas I will not walk through at anytime. |  |
| I do not go out after dark. |  |
| I do not go out alone. |  |
| I do not have a choice. |  |
| Prefer not to say. |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Have you ever experienced harassment and/or abuse in public spaces in Glasgow at any point?** | |
| Never. |  |
| Once. |  |
| More than once. |  |
| On numerous occasions. |  |

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Wise Women is working with women to influence Glasgow City Council and their partners decisions about women's public safety. What would you like to tell them? Please include any suggestions for improvements you may have.**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Appendix 5**

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**Young Women’s Safety Survey**

**Monitoring Form**

**Appendix 3**

**Monitoring Form**

**We ask these questions below to ensure that we are collating information from as diverse and wide ranging group. You cannot be identified by the information provided on this form.**

1. **If you do not want to complete this form please tick this box **
2. **Please tick one of the following boxes to tell us your sex:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Female   | Male   |

1. **Do you identify as transgender?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes   | No   | Please state Gender identity | Prefer not to say   |

1. **Please tick one of the following boxes to tell us your age group:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 15 and under   | 16 to 19   | 20 to 24   | 25 to 39   | 40 to 59   | Over 60   | Prefer not to say   |

1. **How would you describe your race / ethnic group? (same categories as 2011 Census in Scotland)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **White** | Scottish   | English   | Welsh   | Northern Irish   | British   |
| Irish   | Gypsy / Traveller   | Polish   | Other   |  |
| **Mixed or multiple ethnic group** |  Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | | | |
| **Asian,**  **Asian Scottish**  **Asian British** | Pakistani   | Indian   | Indian   | Bangladeshi   | Chinese   |
| **Black,**  **Black Scottish, Black British** | African   | Caribbean   | Black   | Other   |  |
| **Other Ethnic**  **Background** |  Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | | | |
| **Prefer not to say** |  | | | | |

**5. What (if any), religious, faith or belief group do you belong to?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Church of Scotland   | Roman Catholic   | Christian   Specify (if wish to)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Muslim   | Sikh   | Buddhist   |
| Jewish   | Hindu   | Other religion   Specify (if wish to)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | No religion   | Prefer not to say:   |  |

The social model of Disability defines Disability as a long-term limitation of a person’s physical, mental or sensory function and that disabled people are disabled by society and not their impairment.

**6. Would you define yourself as a disabled person?**

 Yes  No  Prefer not to say

1. **How would you describe your sexual orientation?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Heterosexual   | Lesbian   | Gay   | Bi Sexual   | Transgender   | Q   | Other   | Prefer not to say   |

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**Supporting young women who have experienced**

**public harassment or abuse.**

When someone tells you they have experienced public harassment or abuse it can be difficult to know what to say. The most important thing to know is that they are telling you because they trust you. This handout gives some guidance on how to respond if a woman tells you she has experienced public harassment or abuse.

**Try to stay calm.**

When we hear someone we care for has been hurt or frightened our instinct can be to become angry or frightened for them. This will not help them. Try to stay calm and if you initially react breathe and reassure the woman you are just worried about her, but you are ready to listen.

**Take care with touch.**

Depending on what women have experienced it is essential that we respect their boundaries. We may wish to hug a loved one to support them. It is essential we ask permission before any physical contact. We do not know what they have experienced or the impact this has had on them.

**Believe her.**

It is vital that women are believed. She might not want to answer lots of questions and may think this means you do not believe what she is saying. Restrict your questions and openly tell her that you believe her and you are ready to listen.

**Let her tell her story.**

This should be at the woman’s pace. Let her talk about her experience in the way she wants. This is the beginning of her recovery. She will know what she wants to talk about. This might not be what you expect.

**Any harassment or abuse is the responsibility of the perpetrator.**

It is essential the woman knows that she is not to blame. The woman will be aware that society often looks for reasons why women are to blame for the abuse they experience, e.g. she had been drinking alcohol, her clothing, the were walking in a dark area. None of this is relevant. The blame lies only with the perpetrator.

**What to do next.**

When we think someone we care about is vulnerable we often want to do something to help. It is important that the woman feels in control of any decisions. Ask what she would like to do and do not pressure her into reporting to the police etc. The more in control she feels the more likely it will be that she will access support.

The only time you may have to go against a woman’s wishes is if she is under 16 years old and a child protection investigation is required. It is essential that you support the child to understand that you will have to break her confidentiality and what will happen next. If you are a worker consult your child protection policy.

**Wise Women, 120 Sydney Street, Glasgow, G31 1JF. Tel: 0141 370 0739. Email:** [**info@wisewomen.org.uk**](mailto:info@wisewomen.org.uk)

**Web:** [**www.wisewomen.org.uk**](http://www.wisewomen.org.uk/)**. Twitter: WiseWomenTweet. Facebook: WiseWomen Glasgow**

**Appendix 7**

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**Violence Against Women Services**

**Glasgow**

Glasgow has a variety of services to support women who are / have experienced violence and abuse. Below we have included all the specialist services in the area, however if you believe someone is at direct risk of violence you should contact the police immediately. If you believe someone is at risk of ongoing violence, abuse and / or coercive control you can refer them to services below.

Also refer to your organisation’s policies and procedures, particularly in relation to a woman who may be recognised as a vulnerable person.

**The Daisy Project**

Provides an integrated domestic abuse advocacy and support service.

Tel: 0141 634 4053 Email: [office@thedaisyproject.org.uk](mailto:%6Ff%66ice@theda%69syproje%63t.org.uk)  
Web: <https://the>daisyproject.co.uk

**Glasgow and Clyde Rape Crisis**

Provides a free and confidential support service to women and girls who have experienced rape, sexual assault, or sexual abuse.

Tel: 08088 00 00 14 Email: [info@rapecrisiscentre-glasgow.co.uk](mailto:info@rapecrisiscentre-glasgow.co.uk)

Web: https://www.[glasgowclyderapecrisis.org.uk](https://www.glasgowclyderapecrisis.org.uk/)

**Glasgow East Women’s Aid**

**We provide therapeutic work with women on an individual basis and through Group work.**

Tel: 0141 781 0230 Email: info@gewa.org.uk

Web: https://www.gewa.org.uk

**Glasgow Women’s Aid**

We have been supporting women, children and young people who are experiencing Domestic Abuse for over 35 years.

Tel: 0141 553 2022 Email: getsupport@glasgowwomensaid.org.uk

Web: https://glasgowwomensaid.org.uk

**Hemat Gryffe Women’s Aid**

We support women who experience domestic abuse at the hands of their husbands, partners, and/or extended family members.

Tel: 0141 353 0859 Email: womensaid@hematgryffe.org.uk

Web: <https://www.hematgryffe.org.uk>

**Routes Out of Prostitution**

Routes Out offers support to women who sell sex. The service is part of Community Safety Glasgow which aims to increase safety for people across Glasgow.

Tel: 0141 276 0737

Email: CommSafetyRoutesOut@glasgow.gov.uk

Web: [www.routesout.org](http://www.routesout.org/)

**SAY Women**

SAY Women offers safe semi-supported accommodation and emotional support for young women aged 16 to 25 who are survivors of sexual abuse, rape or sexual assault and who are homeless, or threatened with homelessness.

Tel: 0141 552 5803 Email: [enquiries@say-women.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@say-women.org.uk)

Web: https://www.say-women.co.uk

**Wise Women**

Wise Women address women’s fears and experiences of crime and violence through the provision of Personal Safety and Confidence Building courses and workshops

Tel: 0141 370 0739 Email:Info@wisewomen.org.uk

Web: https://www.wisewomen.org.uk