

APPG on Domestic Violence

Expert Discussion on Online Abuse

2-3pm, Wednesday 26 October 2016

Committee Room 20, House of Commons

The APPG on Domestic Violence 'Expert Discussion on Online Abuse' was convened to consider the intersections between, and actions to tackle, online and offline abuse.

The meeting was a closed, invitation only meeting, chaired by Jess Philips MP. A small number of speakers set the scene. The speakers were:

- Professor David Ormerod QC – Law Commissioner for Criminal Law
- Folami Prehaye – Founder, Victims of Internet Crime (VOIC)
- Laura Bates – Founder, Everyday Sexism Project
- Polly Neate – CEO, Women's Aid
- Katie O'Donovan – Public Policy and Government Relations Manager, Google

After the speakers' contributions, a wider discussion on a range of issues – including the nature and impact of domestic abuse, the adequacy of legislation, the response by the police and online providers, and the need for prevention and support to victims was opened with other attendees. The attendees included parliamentarians, social media providers, relevant government and agency representatives, the police and judiciary, survivors of domestic and online abuse, campaigners, and representatives from the domestic violence and violence against women and girls (VAWG) sector.

The conclusions from the APPG Expert Discussion will inform a set of recommendations, which parliamentarians and stakeholders can use to push for action. The APPG recommendations briefing will be launched in 2017.