

Monday 10 August 2020

Better safeguarding for animal owners with new information for vet practices on the links between domestic violence and abuse and animal abuse

Mary Wakeham, a University of Bristol PhD student has teamed up with Wendy Sneddon from the Lodestone Lounge, to make Mary's latest research on the links between domestic violence & abuse and animal abuse available to veterinary practices across the UK.

Mary and Wendy will develop a good practice guide, presentation and short video, which will then be promoted to veterinary practices.

These resources will raise awareness among veterinarians and practice staff about the link between animal abuse and domestic violence & abuse; and the role that the vets and practice staff can play in safeguarding animals, their owners and their colleagues.

Project lead, Mary Wakeham from the University of Bristol, says 'I was keen to collaborate with the Lodestone Lounge given Wendy's subject knowledge and passion in supporting veterinary professionals to tackle domestic violence and abuse for people and their animals. I'm really keen to see the training and resources which we will develop be put into use by vets and their practice staff.'

Wendy Sneddon, from the Lodestone Lounge, says 'I was delighted when Mary suggested this collaboration. For me, using the latest research will really help develop new resources for everyone working at vet practices. The aim is to support vets and practice staff to feel more confident in identifying people at risk, and so help to safeguard victims-survivors of domestic violence & abuse and their animals.'

Additional information

Project title: Raising awareness about the link between domestic violence and abuse and animal abuse.

Funder: this project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council Accelerating Business Collaboration fund.

People

- Project lead Mary Wakeham is a PhD Student researching animal abuse in the context of Domestic Violence and Abuse, School for Policy Studies at the University of Bristol.
- Natasha Mulvihill is a Lecturer in Criminology, School for Policy Studies at the University of Bristol.

Company information: Wendy Sneddon, from the business coaching, HR and recruitment consultancy Lodestone Lounge, is a qualified vet nurse and a Trustee for a number of organisations. <https://lodestonelounge.com>

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About the University of Bristol

The University is ranked within the top 10 universities in the UK and top 60 in the world (QS World University Rankings 2021); it is also ranked among the top five institutions in the UK for its research, according to analysis of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014; and is the 4th most targeted university by top UK employers.

The University was founded in 1876 and was granted its Royal Charter in 1909. It was the first university in England to admit women on the same basis as men.

The University is a major force in the economic, social and cultural life of Bristol and the region, but is also a significant player on the world stage. It has over 20,000 undergraduates and over 7,000 postgraduate students from more than 100 countries, and its research links span the globe.