

Changing Pathways is a domestic abuse charity working across the areas of Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Rochford and Thurrock. We provide free and confidential services to support people who are currently experiencing, or have previously experienced domestic abuse.

For too long, domestic abuse providers have tried to stretch their capacity and limited resources to meet the needs of victims of stalking and harassment. In many cases this has also extended to supporting the victims' circle of family and friends as the perpetrator has also targeted them.

As a result, Changing Pathways has been awarded funding by The Big Lottery Fund: Women and Girl's initiative to develop an Independent Stalking Advocacy Team to create a Stalking Advocacy Service in South Essex, covering the areas of Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Rochford and Thurrock.

Additionally, the Independent Stalking Advocacy Team support male victims/survivors of stalking via telephone support and individual outreach support.



Confidential self-referrals are welcome either by telephone or email

Tel: 01268 729707

Email: referrals@changingpathways.org

Agency referrals - download our referral form from

www.changingpathways.org

and email to referrals@changingpathways.org

or call us on 01268 729707



**Independent
Stalking
Advocacy
Service**



LOTTERY FUNDED



LOTTERY FUNDED

Stalking and Harassment impacts on all areas of society

Stalking and harassment impacts on all areas of the community from the individual victim, extending out to friends, family, work colleagues and other associates. If you are experiencing stalking by a current or previous partner, family member, work colleague or by somebody you do not know then we are able to offer you emotional and practical advice.

Stalking can occur in many forms and is a serious crime, despite common misconceptions. A stalker's behaviour may include following you, controlling your movements, attending your property unannounced or appearing nearby when you are in public, repeatedly making phone calls or sending text messages and emails. Stalking is also becoming more common through the use of technology and is often referred to as cyberstalking.

You may be feeling frightened, isolated, helpless and confused and may have been stalked for some time. If you have children, you may be concerned about how the stalking is impacting upon them.

You are not to blame for what is happening. You do not have to face this situation on your own. Changing Pathways' Independent Stalking Advocacy Service is ready to support you through your decision to reclaim your right to a safe, happy and private life. We will not judge you in any way and we will ensure that we only ever move at the pace you want to go.

How our Independent Stalking Advocacy team can help

The Independent Stalking Advocacy team supports service users who are experiencing stalking. As part of Changing Pathways our service can also support victims who do not have a direct link to the person who is stalking them.

We are able to meet with you at a range of community sites near to your home or at our main outreach centre in Basildon. In addition to meeting in person, we offer a tele-phone and email support service.

The aim of our service is to provide emotional support and practical assistance, including help to access legal advice, assistance with safety planning, signposting/connection with other agencies, information on rights, legislation and entitlements. Our Caseworkers can support you in documenting your experiences and in reporting to the Police if necessary.

Our Independent Stalking Advocacy Caseworkers can connect you with other services within our organisation where appropriate, and we can introduce you to partner agencies who may also support an element of your path-way to a new future.

How we can support other professionals

As a specialist Independent Stalking Advocacy service we are able to offer advice and support to other professionals and organisations who are supporting clients experiencing stalking via our telephone and email support service.