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To: All Media Outlets and Organisations	
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Domestic Violence is a Crime

A new campaign aimed at highlighting the help available for victims of domestic violence, and the consequences for perpetrators of domestic violence is launched today (Thursday, 11th December)

A specially commissioned ‘ad-van’ carrying a series of uncompromising messages will be travelling around Nottingham for 7 days. It will begin its journey from the Central Fire Station on

Shakespeare Street at 1.00pm on Thursday 11th December when key representatives from Nottingham Domestic Violence Forum will be available for interviews.

Domestic violence is experienced by about 10,000 women in Nottingham and up to 500 men and 3 children in every class room. Domestic violence affects all communities in Nottingham equally, although some people have additional barriers to getting help.

Reporting the crime of domestic violence to the police or contacting an agency like the 24 hour free phone help line will enable survivors of domestic violence to receive help and support.

Reporting will also mean that perpetrators of domestic violence are held to account and this may help prevent further domestic violence and abuse in the future.

The Nottingham campaign will promote the 24 hour help line **0808 800 0340** and is timed to complement the international 'white ribbon' campaign which highlights violence against women. Nottingham City's contribution also includes a film at Broadway Cinema, 'Smashed' a seminar on drugs / alcohol and domestic violence and various events around the city which are managed by the Nottingham Domestic Violence Forum www.ndvf.org.uk

The timing of the campaign recognises that Christmas can be difficult time for survivors of domestic violence and their children as there is more opportunity for perpetrators to abuse their partners and children.

Jane Lewis, Domestic Violence Strategy Officer for the Crime & Drugs Partnership, said:

"Nottingham has a good track record in encouraging reporting of domestic violence and this 'ad-van' will be travelling around areas of Nottingham where domestic violence may be happening, but survivors aren't reporting. The CDP hopes that the messages will remind people that help and support is available and to make a note of the number should they need it over Christmas".

For further information, and to arrange interviews or photo opportunities, please contact Steve Youdell on (0115) 915 6375 or 07985 844425.

High Resolution versions of all the posters in the campaign are also available on request.

ENDS