

Appeal for refuge items to help victims of domestic violence

Impact News Service

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Body

London: Sandwell Council, UK Government has issued the following news release:

Staff at Sandwell Libraries are seeking donations to help local refuges and to commemorate the work to eliminate violence against women.

Special boxes are at each local library in Sandwell for people to drop off donations to help people seeking help at refuges.

The work will commemorate International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November, also known as White Ribbon Day, and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, which run from 25 November – 10 December.

Donations to help the work of women's refuges in the area are being sought from a list of wanted items in the run-up to 10 December.

The items on the wanted list for the refuges include toothbrushes and toothpaste for adults and children, shampoo and shower gel for adults and children, towels, bed sheets and sanitary products.

They are also seeking scarf and glove sets for children and adults, adult slippers, children's toys, puzzles and games.

They also want books, baby blankets, baby and infant clothes, gifts for teenagers, mug gift sets, craft sets or craft items and toiletry gift sets.

Councillor Syeda Khatun, Sandwell Council's deputy leader, said: "Refuges are asking for donations of 16 items that would be useful for women and children who arrive at a refuge and often come without anything. I am pleased to see our libraries and Multistory working together on the project as we stand together against violence towards women."

All libraries will also receive a book called A Room of Their Own by photographer Susan Meiselas, commissioned by Multistory, about women in a Black Country refuge.

This book can be purchased from Multistory to help raise funds for a West Midlands women's refuge.

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Libraries and community centres will also display leaflets from Black Country Women's Aid to give more information and support numbers for anyone who is a victim of domestic violence or knows someone who is.

There will also be a reading from *A Room of Their Own* by Wolverhampton-based writer, poet and storyteller Emma Purshouse at Central Library, West Bromwich, on Monday 4 December, 3.30 – 4.30pm Free entry, no need to book

Information about events over the 16 Days, including the reading at Central Library, are on Multistory's events page.

For more information please contact Central Library, West Bromwich, 0121 569 4911. You can also like Sandwell Libraries on Facebook or follow @sandwelllibs on Twitter.

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