



Preventing and Tackling Gender Based Violence: progress, challenges, and opportunities for partnership working

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Director, AMOSSHE

Changing the Culture and the evidence base

Research on prevalence of sexual violence/GBV

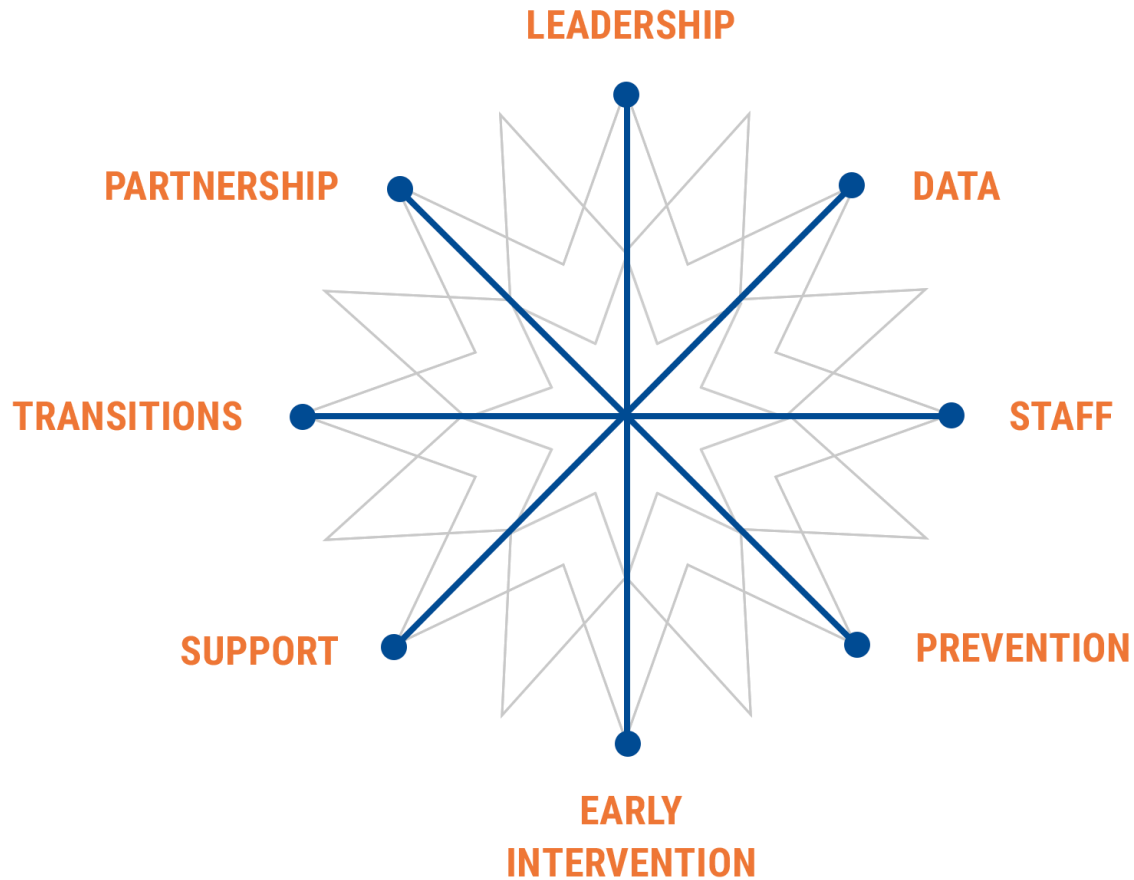
- [Hidden Marks \(NUS, 2010\)](#)
- [NUS, 2014](#)

Changing the Culture (UUK, 2016)

- Recommends wide ranging changes
- Whole institution approach
- Partnership with SU and other agencies in community
- The gendered nature of sexual violence....?

Pinsent Masons Guidelines 2016

A whole institution approach




Other drivers for change

The power of universities to create change

The business case/reputation

Differential approaches in the UK

Office for Students 

**Catalyst for change:
Protecting students
from hate crime,
sexual violence and
online harassment in
higher education**




Welcome to the Equally Safe in Higher Education Toolkit - a free resource for Scottish universities working to prevent gender-based violence (GBV) on their campuses.



The Equally Safe in Higher Education (ESHE) Toolkit was created at the University of Strathclyde by the ESHE Project team and was funded by the Scottish Government. The ESHE Toolkit provides a practical collection of free materials and resources developed specifically for Scottish universities which can be used as they are or adapted to suit individual institutions.

Consultation

Office for Students 

**OfS consultation on
harassment and sexual
misconduct in higher
education**

This consultation runs from
9 January to 27 March 2020.

Good practice: awareness



Good practice: training

Future Learn Subjects Courses Using FutureLearn

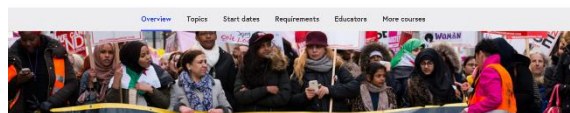
Search online courses

Courses / Healthcare & Medicine

Understanding Violence Against Women: Myths and Realities

Learn how to challenge attitudes that lead to violence against women and develop your knowledge of this human rights issue.

Email me when I can join



The Intervention Initiative

With thanks to the University of the West of England and Public Health England for their kind permission to reproduce these materials



#IsThisOk?

Bystander Training

20th November

Sign-up at:

www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/isthisok

Fearless Edinburgh: students tackle issue of sexual violence head-on

Edinburgh University is using workshops and gameshows to address growing problem



▲ Edinburgh University is one of the several trying innovative ways to make higher education institutions safer. Photograph: Murdo Macleod/The Guardian

The Scottish Intervention Initiative

#IsThisOk?

UNIVERSITY of STIRLING

Leadership In Sport Training

20th Nov 6pm - 8pm

21st Nov 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Sign up at: stirlingstudentsunion.com/sportsunion



Good practice: intervention and support



I want to talk to someone but my options and/or get support

Leave this website quickly click this button or press Esc

University Sexual Violence and Misconduct Liaison Officers (SVMLOs)

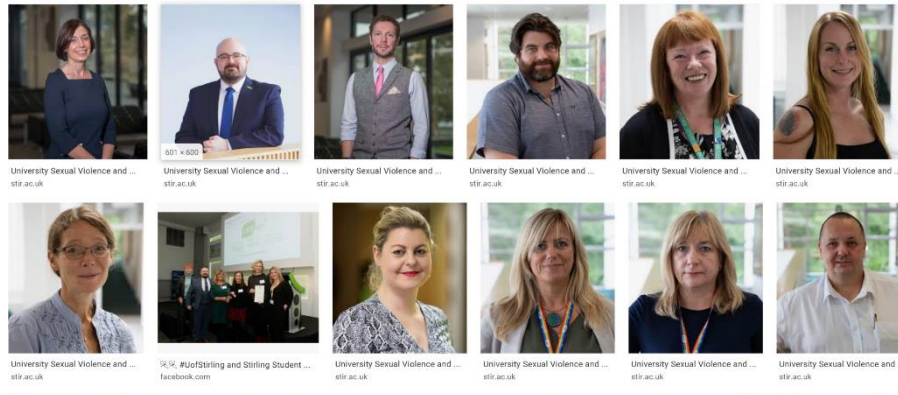
The University and Students' Union have trained a group of staff as SVMLOs. This means that they are trained in taking disclosures and supporting people who have been affected by sexual violence. They will listen empathetically to you without judgement. The SVMLO will provide you with information on your options if you have been affected by sexual violence in any way, even if it wasn't you that was directly affected.

[Meet our SVMLOs.](#)

- How do I contact an SVMLO? +

- Can I select the SVMLO I speak to? +

- What will happen during a conversation with a SVMLO? +



The Scottish approach



Equally Safe in Higher Education (ESHE) Toolkit

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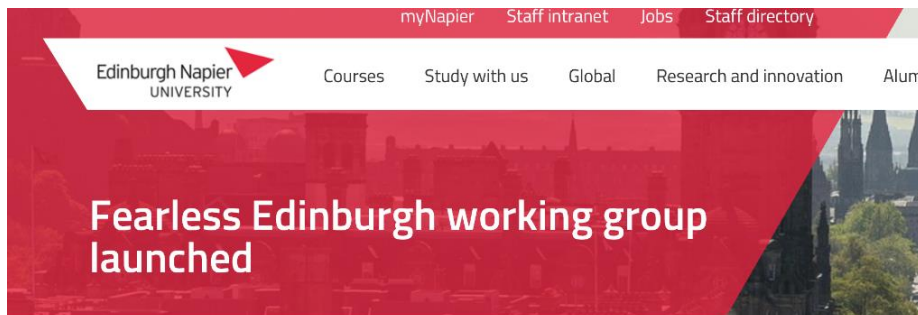


University of the Highlands and Islands
 Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean

Collaboration in Scotland: Partnerships



Stirling Gender Based Violence Strategy



2019-2022 |

Home ▶ About us ▶ News ▶ Fearless Edinburgh working group launched

New multi-agency approach to tackle sexual violence

Changing the Culture – 2 Years On

- ✓ Prevention
- ✓ Student involvement
- ✓ Campaigns
- ✓ Bystander intervention training
- ✓ Partnerships with external agencies
- ✓ Leadership

X reporting

X evaluation

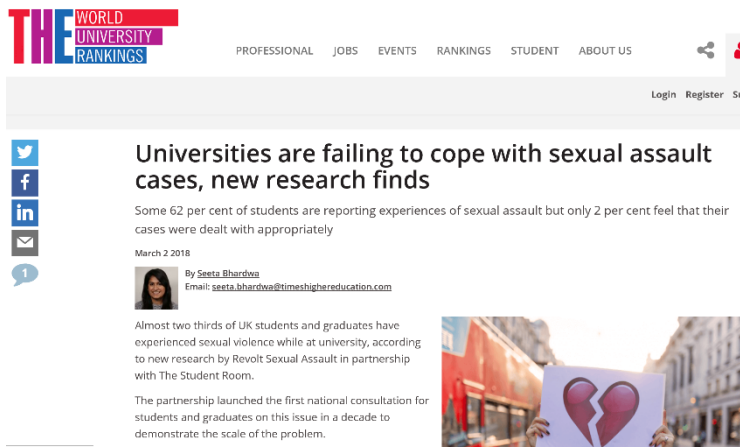
X reporting to the governing body

X risk management

X sustainable resourcing

X focus on hate crime

Progress...but not all good news



THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS PROFESSIONAL JOBS EVENTS RANKINGS STUDENT ABOUT US

Twitter Facebook LinkedIn Email 1

Universities are failing to cope with sexual assault cases, new research finds


Some 62 per cent of students are reporting experiences of sexual assault but only 2 per cent feel that their cases were dealt with appropriately

March 2 2018

By **Seeta Bhardwa**
Email: seeta.bhardwa@timeshighereducation.com

Almost two thirds of UK students and graduates have experienced sexual violence while at university, according to new research by Revolt Sexual Assault in partnership with The Student Room.

The partnership launched the first national consultation for students and graduates on this issue in a decade to demonstrate the scale of the problem.



This article is more than 4 months old

Universities failing to address thousands of racist incidents

Institutions are in denial about the scale of the problem, warns government equality watchdog



▲ Two students at Coventry University's graduation day. Black students reported the most racial harassment.

Are Universities doing enough?

UK universities accused of failing to tackle sexual misconduct

Guardian investigation finds many have not enacted reforms to support and protect victims

● **Have you been affected by sexual harassment at university?**



Warwick University apologises to women targeted by 'rape chat'

Vice-chancellor admits errors after report criticises handling of complaints



BBC News article header for "Universities 'failing' victims of sexual misconduct".

NEWS

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Universities 'failing' victims of sexual misconduct

By Dulcie Lee & Kate West
BBC News & File on 4

17 September 2019

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Newcastle University faces student backlash over stalker's return

Petition calls for reversal of decision to readmit offender whose victim still studies there



Channel 4 News article header for "82% increase in reports of sexual violence in universities".

News

Next on TV Tomorrow 7:00pm

Weather

UK WORLD POLITICS BUSINESS SCIENCE CULTURE TR

18 Jul 2019

82% increase in reports of sexual violence in universities

Cathy Newman
Presenter

Universities that provided figures to Channel 4 News showed an alarming rise in reports – from 65 in 2014, to 626 in 2018.

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Birmingham University refused to look into student's off-campus rape claim

Institution said it only dealt with cases linked to university activities or on its premises



Birmingham University told Asia it could 'normally only deal with allegations of misconduct that occur during a session that is related to its or its students' activities'. (BBC)

BBC News article header for "Sexual assault claims 'gagged' by UK universities".

BBC News

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Sexual assault claims 'gagged' by UK universities

By Rianna Croxford
The Next Episode

12 February 2020

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What is our responsibility?

Boundaries and responsibilities

What are universities responsible for in terms of major societal issues?

What is our responsibility and what is the responsibility of other stakeholders?

Expectations

Students, parents, lobby groups, media

Managing expectations and being clear about what is possible and what is not

Take care not to make things worse

Competition, marketisation and league tables

Challenges

- Reporting and recording – and anonymous data?
- Investigations and discipline process – fair, transparent, trauma informed, unbiased
- Support for reported person as well as reporting person – unbiased.... and not much support out there!
- Managing expectations – students, parents, media
- Convincing senior leaders to make this a priority
- Responding to a transient and ever changing population
- Lack of funding for specialist services

Collaboration between Student Services and Academic Registry

- Designing an end to end case management process with clear responsibilities and remits
- Holistic risk assessment process
- Robust, fair and person-centred investigation processes
- Robust support processes; SVMLO model
- Clear information sharing (within boundaries)
- Clear codes of conduct/ordinances - work together on it
- Embed it all in a strategy

The Stirling whole institution approach

University of Stirling and the University of Stirling Students' Union

Preventing and Tackling Sexual Violence & Misconduct 2016-2019

Ask yourself **#IsThisOk?**

1/8

Strategic Outcomes

We will:

- 1 Foster a culture where sexual violence, harassment and other forms of sexual misconduct are not tolerated and are actively challenged.
- 2 Ensure that our staff and students are clear about their options and receive appropriate support if they are a victim-survivor of sexual misconduct.
- 3 Ensure University staff and Students' Union officers are clear about how to respond to and support students or colleagues if they have been affected by sexual violence or misconduct.
- 4 Improve our knowledge and understanding about the prevalence of – and impact of our work to prevent and tackle – sexual misconduct in our community.

How can ARC and AMOSSHE work together?

- Identifying the common issues and priorities e.g. risk assessment model for the sector
- Pooling our resources to respond to key challenges e.g. SVMLO model, investigation training
- Identifying where we jointly need to influence policy makers, media etc. Being clear on remit and boundaries!
- Sharing good practice and getting into each other spaces – like this.

Come to AMOSSHE, we'd love to see you there!

Please contact me if you want to talk further!

jill.stevenson@stir.ac.uk

#IsThisOK?

www.stir.ac.uk/tacklingsexualmisconduct

The University of Stirling is serious about tackling sexual violence and misconduct

Whoever you are, whatever your role, ask yourself

#IsThisOk?

If it's not okay take action.

For support and guidance, visit
www.stir.ac.uk/tacklingsexualmisconduct

