

Men are victims are too

Mark Brooks (Chair)

Ian McNicholl (Survivor)

Content

- About the charity
- Key statistics
- Additional barriers men face
- Public sector equality duty
- Ian McNicholl and his experiences

The ManKind Initiative

- National charity (over ten years) set up by women and men and run by women and men
- Based in Taunton providing:
 - Direct services (helpline - signpost, emotional and information)
 - Advocacy through training and presentations

Context

More victims are women

No services to taken away from female victims and given to male victims.

Domestic abuse is not a gendered crime, it is a crime against the individual

National statistics

- One in every three victims are male
- 600,000 men and 900,000 women in 2010/11
- 20% of men who have suffered partner abuse have done so for more than one year
- Men twice as likely not to tell someone in authority

(Source - British Crime Survey)

Additional barriers for men

Maleness

- Do not recognise they are a victim
- Shame, embarrassment, pride, masculine identity and pride.
- Concern about being believed by friends, family and work colleagues
- Fear of being falsely accused
- Protect children and fear of losing contact

Additional barriers for men

Societal

- Men not being believed (what did you do to deserve it)
- Lack of awareness
- Media

Institutional

- Lack of inclusion in domestic abuse strategy
- Lost contact with children
- Awareness campaigns
- Lack of services, housing and training
- Political correctness (domestic abuse is a gendered crime)
- Where to escape to?

Services

- 75 bed spaces in refuges/safe houses male victims run by 12 organisations - none for heterosexual men in London

- The Good News:

Gradual growth in local organisations – new or extending services

Improving recognition by statutory agencies but not all

PSED - do you comply?

Responsibility to ensure there are sufficient domestic abuse/violence services to

- meet needs of female victims (and their children)
- meet the needs of male victims (and their children)

Place yourself in the shoes of a male and a female victim – what journey would you take?

Five step checklist

- (1) What do you know about male and female victims?
- (2) What services are available for male and female victims?
- (3) Are male victims part of policy and decision- making process and application of policy
- (4) Are all relevant staff trained to recognise, believe and support male and female victims
- (5) How will you make people aware of support

Summary

- Men twice as likely to under-report
- Do you comply with the PSED?
- Men, and their children, are victims too

Ian McNicholl

A Survivor's Experience

The impact

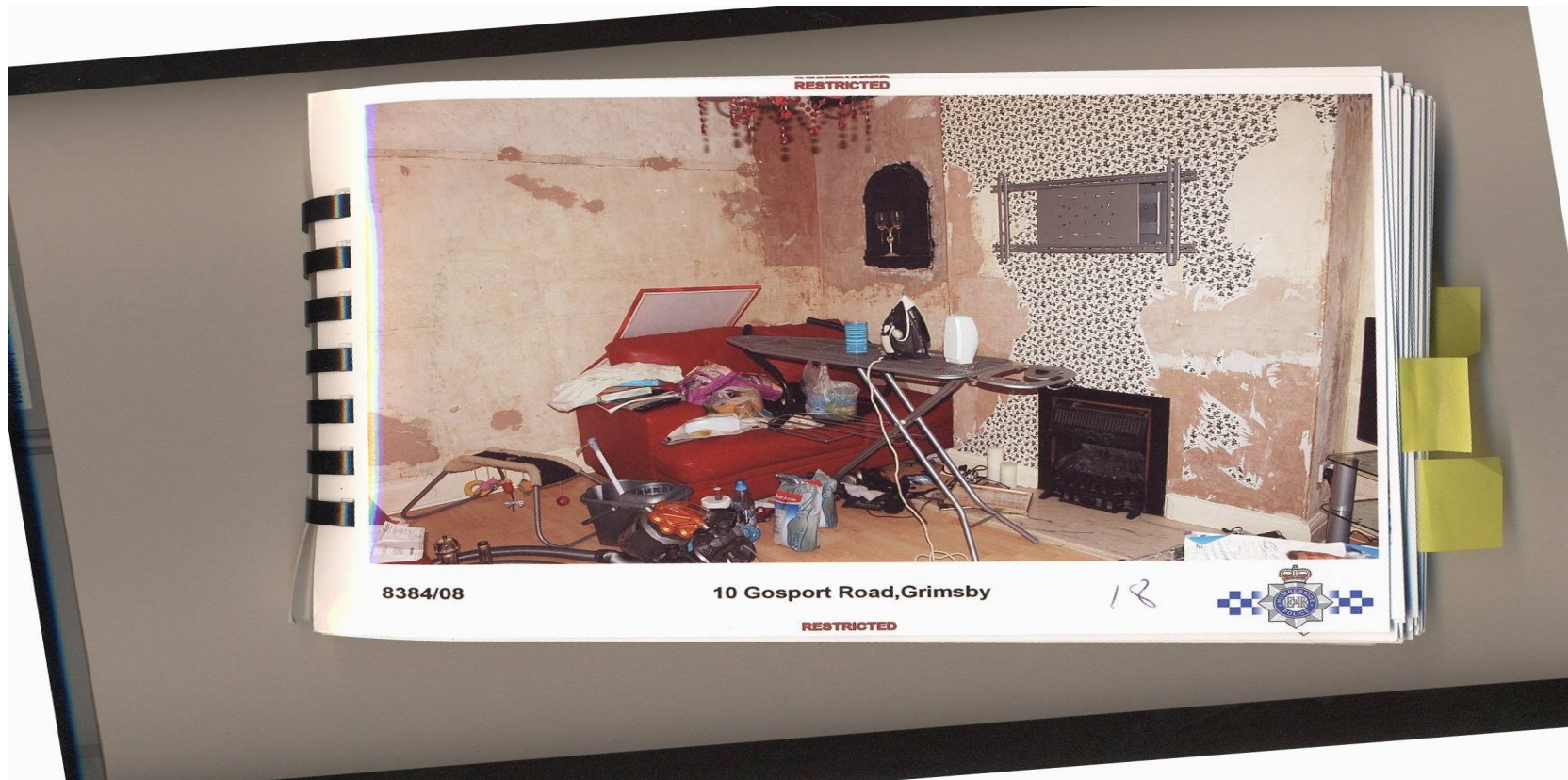
Unmarked to permanently scarred

Able Bodied to Registered Disabled

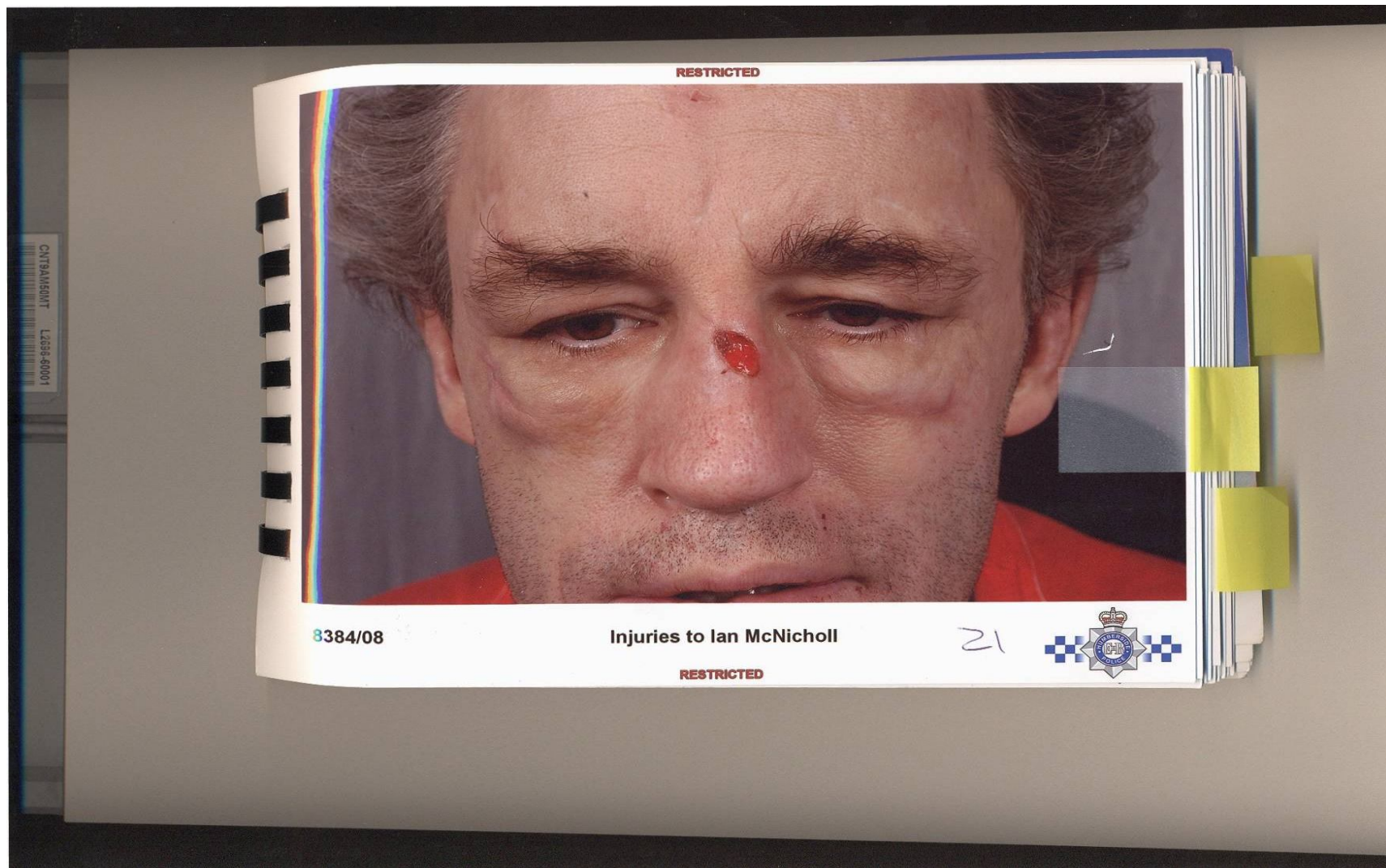
Home Owner to Homeless

Financially secure to verge of Bankruptcy

My home



My face



Applying my experience: in practice

Bail Conditions: Consistently applied

No Victim should become Homeless

Review of sentencing for Trauma Victims

Promote Victim Contact Scheme

Humberside Police

- Year on year increase in total victim numbers

2009 – 14,493

2011 – 17,485 (20% increase)

- Year on year increase in male victims

2009 – 2,481

2011 – 3,062 (23% increase)

- Local support services have regressed

Source: FOI Request 2012-00182

National definition

Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, **regardless of gender or sexuality**

Hull Domestic Abuse Forum Constitution...

“The forum’s approach is based on the premise that domestic violence and abuse is extremely serious. The forum defines domestic violence and abuse as **predominantly violence and abuse perpetrated against women and children by known men.**

Therefore, the Forum’s philosophy is founded on the belief that **the safety of women and children is of prime concern. This core belief should underpin the response of all member agencies.**”

Applying my experience: in principles

Equality of Awareness

Equality of Access

Equality of Support

Migration from Victim to Survivor