



Aug 25, 2014 00:00 BST

## **Impact of domestic violence on children discussed at University conference**

The impact of domestic violence and abuse on children and young people will come under the spotlight before an invited audience at a high-profile conference to be held this Thursday, September 11 at Northumbria University, Newcastle.

The conference examines domestic violence and abuse from the perspective of the child or young person, understanding its impact, and has a distinctive focus on the experiences of and support for those affected in the North East of the region.

In partnership with the High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear, Ruth Thompson OBE and with the support of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Northumbria Honorary Graduate, Vera Baird QC, the full-day event, entitled Hearing the Voice of the Child, Creating Safe Spaces for Children and Young People, will hear from recognised experts including Dr Maggie Atkinson, Children's Commissioner for England and Vera Baird QC herself.

Professor Peter Francis, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Northumbria University, said: "The aim of the conference is to offer a timely opportunity for key stakeholder organisations to come together with academics and commentators in this field to share good practice, review partnership working and to examine current research findings in order to maximise opportunities to provide support and safe spaces for all young people affected by domestic violence and abuse.

"Working collaboratively, we will showcase expertise, celebrate innovation and explore new and creative ways of working. The programme for the day is informed by world leading and internationally excellent research so we hope to set the scene in a local and global context, while highlighting lessons from research and evaluation and exploring regulation and effective interventions."

Ruth Thompson OBE High Sheriff of the County of Tyne and Wear said: "The conference will welcome invited delegates from across the region and nationally who already play a key role in safeguarding children and young people, creating opportunities for organisations to come together and share good practice."

A further report of the conference findings will be released shortly.

---

Northumbria is a research-rich, business-focussed, professional university with a global reputation for academic excellence. To find out more about our courses go to [www.northumbria.ac.uk](http://www.northumbria.ac.uk)

If you have a media enquiry please contact our Media and Communications team at [media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk) or call [0191 227 4571](tel:01912274571).

## Contacts



### **Rik Kendall**

Press Contact  
PR and Media Manager  
Business and Law / Arts, Design & Social Sciences  
rik.kendall@northumbria.ac.uk  
07923 382339



### **Andrea Slowey**

Press Contact  
PR and Media Manager  
Engineering and Environment / Health and Life Sciences  
andrea.slowey@northumbria.ac.uk  
07708 509436



### **Rachael Barwick**

Press Contact  
PR and Media Manager  
rachael.barwick@northumbria.ac.uk  
07377422415



### **James Fox**

Press Contact  
Student Communications Manager  
james2.fox@northumbria.ac.uk



### **Kelly Elliott**

Press Contact  
PR and Media Officer  
kelly2.elliott@northumbria.ac.uk



### **Gemma Brown**

Press Contact  
PR and Media Officer  
gemma6.brown@northumbria.ac.uk