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Press release

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## **Domestic Violence Commissioner must give equal recognition and support to male victims of domestic abuse**

Following the announcement by the Conservatives that if they form the next Government they will introduce a new Domestic Violence Commissioner as part of a proposed new Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill, **Mark Brooks, Chairman of the ManKind Initiative, a national charity supporting male victims of domestic abuse, said:**

“Whilst we welcome additional focus on domestic abuse which a Domestic Violence Commissioner would bring, it will only be a success if the Commissioner gives the same focus and recognition to male victims of domestic abuse as they rightly will female victims.

“Male victims far too often come second when it comes to recognition and services. If we are to truly live in an inclusive, fair and equal society, male victims should be equally recognised and receive the same level of support if they have the same level of need and risk as any other victim.”

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

**About the ManKind Initiative**

The ManKind Initiative ([www.mankind.org.uk](http://www.mankind.org.uk)), based in Taunton, Somerset, is a national charity which runs a help-line, information and referral service for male victims of domestic abuse and domestic violence. The help-line number is 01823 334244 (weekdays 10am-4pm).

It received 1,500 calls from male victims (or from people on behalf of victims – often mothers and sisters) every year.

It created the award winning #violenceisviolence social experiment highlight society's double standards when it comes to domestic abuse against men:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3PgH86OyEM>

. **Media**

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