

Press release: Kristallnacht 80 years on

To mark the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation has today (9 November 2018) released a short film with exclusive testimony from 6 British survivors of the Holocaust.

On the 9 and 10 November 1938, Jewish communities in Germany and throughout Nazi occupied territories faced widespread state-sponsored violence against their businesses, homes and places of worship. The pogrom became known as Kristallnacht (in English, crystal night) after the smashed glass that littered the streets on the morning of the 10 November.

Over the course of the evening an estimated 30,000 Jewish men were arrested and incarcerated in concentration camps, including Dachau and Buchenwald.

The UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation set out in 2015 to record the testimony of British survivors of the Holocaust. In interviews with broadcaster Natasha Kaplinsky, survivors recall their experiences of Kristallnacht and the aftermath of the violence on their daily lives, their families and their wider communities.

Watch [British Holocaust survivors recall their memories of Kristallnacht](#)

UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation co-Chair Ed Balls said:

Kristallnacht was a moment where prejudice turned into violence, and it is right 80 years on, that we examine this vicious escalation of the Nazi campaign against Jewish communities in Europe.

By understanding the steps that lead up to the Holocaust, we are can remain vigilant to any attempt to create divisions and stir up hate in our society today.

UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation co-Chair Lord Pickles said:

The Foundation was set up to increase the visibility and scope of Holocaust education in the United Kingdom, securing the legacy of the British Holocaust survivors who have dedicated their lives to educating the future generation on where prejudice, intolerance and hatred can lead.

Our hope is that the short film released today, with moving testimony from men and women who recall the impact of Kristallnacht

on their own communities, is a small step in achieving these aims.

The aftermath of Kristallnacht

Kristallnacht was a turning point in the Nazi persecution of the Jewish communities in their territories. The events of the pogrom, widely reported in the international press, lead to a wide range of responses.

British Jewish community organisations and charities, including World Jewish Relief, rallied the UK government to allow the transport of children from Germany and Austria to the United Kingdom. Less than a month after the shocking events of Kristallnacht, on 2 December 1938, the first group of children arrived on British shores to be placed with foster families. Ultimately, 10,000 child refugees entered the country in what came to be known as Kindertransport.

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[News story: Four fishermen rescued after vessel capsized in English channel](#)

On the afternoon of 07 November HM Coastguard received a call from a merchant vessel reporting that they could see a capsized fishing vessel with two people sitting on the hull and two people in the water in the south west lane of the English Channel. HM Coastguard also received a distress alert transmitted from the fishing vessel's EPIRB.

The HM Coastguard Lydd search and rescue helicopter was immediately launched, as well as the Eastbourne and Newhaven RNLi all weather lifeboats to the scene.

A mayday relay broadcast was also issued by HM Coastguard asking all vessels

in the area to assist if they were nearby. Many vessels responded to the broadcast and also made their way to the scene.

The merchant vessel, who reported the incident, picked up two persons from the water and the two people on the hull were picked up by the HM Coastguard helicopter.

Kaimes Beasley, duty controller for HM Coastguard said: 'This was a very successful outcome to what could have been a tragic one. There was a huge effort to rescue these four men in near gale force conditions in the English Channel. Thankfully, all four fishermen have been picked up and despite being cold and wet are otherwise safe and well.

The rescued crew were taken to Dover coastguard station where they were assessed by the HM Coastguard Lydd helicopter crew paramedics. The crew do not require hospital treatment but an ambulance is making its way to the station as a precautionary measure to check them over.

[Film of rescue](#)

Press release: Funding boost for vulnerable female offenders in the community

- £3.3 million awarded to 12 organisations in first wave of community services investment
- Funding covers services from employment to counselling in areas from Brighton to Barnsley
- It is part of the Government's commitment to divert vulnerable women from prison to community support

This follows the publication of the [Female Offender Strategy](#), which set out a range of measures aimed at shifting focus away from custody towards rehabilitative community services.

The 12 successful bidders were chosen following a comprehensive assessment process. The funding was offered to help sustain existing services in some cases and improve or provide new ones in others – covering both female offenders and women at risk of offending in the community. There is a further £1.7 million of funding which is part of the female offender strategy and will be awarded in the coming months.

Justice Minister Edward Argar said:

I am delighted to announce the allocation of the first wave of

funding and hope it will pave the way for vulnerable women across the country to receive the additional specialist support they need.

Evidence shows short sentences often fail to break the cycle of reoffending and we have set out clearly in our strategy a desire to divert women away from custody wherever possible.

This investment is a vital first step in achieving this aim, and expanding these essential services will help break the cycle of offending and prevent further victims.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Barry Coppinger said:

I am committed to delivering services that help offenders break the cycle of criminal behaviour and will assist them in tackling the underlying issues that cause them to offend.

This additional investment will allow us to enhance the support available for female offenders in Cleveland, particularly offenders from a BAME background or who have experienced domestic or sexual violence.

These vulnerable groups need additional support to enable them to make the positive changes needed to turn away from crime and look to a brighter future. I'm delighted these additional funds from the MoJ will help to make this a reality in Cleveland.

The funding recognises that while serious crimes will always be punished proportionally, a large number of female offenders are in extremely vulnerable positions. Many face issues with substance misuse and mental health problems, often as a result of repeated abuse and trauma – for example some 60% of female offenders have experienced domestic abuse.

Providing grants directly to small organisations for targeted projects ensures excellent value for money as they work directly in the communities they serve and are best placed to understand the challenges faced by the women they support. Each project will be evaluated to measure its success and any relevant learning can be applied to other vulnerable women across the criminal justice system.

Several of the grant recipients will use their funding to provide specialist services for domestic abuse victims. In Brighton & Hove, the funding will jump-start a Domestic Violence Trauma (DVT) pilot, supporting women who have

been victims of domestic abuse and have complex issues, including homelessness and mental health problems.

The PACT project in Berkshire includes a focus on employment – providing access to coffee machines for vulnerable women to receive specialist barista training. At the same time, a new dedicated BAME support worker will be recruited at the same organisation to work with vulnerable local groups.

This funding is just one of the many areas of reform being driven forward by the Government, with the Justice Secretary launching a dedicated Education and Employment Strategy earlier this year to set prisoners on a path to employment and break them out of the cycle of crime.

Notes to editors:

The 12 successful bidders are:

Stockport Women's Centre

Funding will boost services being delivered at women's centres across Greater Manchester, including support for women who have experienced domestic abuse and other complex needs.

Equinox Care, Brighton & Hove

A Domestic Violence Trauma worker pilot and other services to address women's needs will be launched within its Supported Accommodation Service.

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Devon & Cornwall

Funding will provide additional specialist outreach services across the counties, particularly to reach women in more rural areas.

The Nelson Trust, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire & Somerset

Newly recruited project workers will provide support for female offenders and women at risk of offending with 1:1 counselling and group therapy sessions.

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

Partnered with other local services, the PCC will introduce a network of female community hubs – designed as a central point for women being referred at all points of the criminal justice system.

PSS UK, Merseyside

Vital funding will secure the future of this domestic abuse service which had been at risk of closure. The investment will extend services delivered for women with addiction and mental health needs.

PACT, Berkshire

Specialist workers will be funded to deliver support for women who have

experienced abuse with a specialised service for those women who have children and need support to live independently.

The Good Loaf, Northamptonshire

A new centre in Kettering will be opened to provide support to women in the north of the county, complementing the service delivered at the Northampton women's centre.

Willowdene Rehabilitation Centre

Funding will extend the residential rehabilitation for women to the West Midlands and will also support the development of new services.

Anawim women's centre, Birmingham

The centre will be able to offer support to high risk female offenders, including 1:1 caseworkers and on-site psychologists available to provide specialist mental health support.

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

The grant funding will develop a new women's centre in Barnsley including a housing model with emergency bed spaces for women leaving prison.

Trevi House Ltd, Plymouth

Funding will enable the service to purchase a larger premises to support women in Plymouth.

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