

# MEETING REPORT

**Meeting:** Full Council - 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
**Agenda item:** 23-073  
**Report subject:** To consider supporting The NALC White Ribbon Day initiative  
**Report author:** Councillor Alan Spencer

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#Changethestory  
[www.whiteribbon.org.uk](http://www.whiteribbon.org.uk)

## White Ribbon Day 2023 is 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023

White Ribbon is the UK's leading charity engaging men and boys to end violence against women and girls.

Their mission is to prevent violence against women and girls by addressing its root causes. The aim is to change long established, and harmful attitudes, systems and behaviours around masculinity that perpetuate gender inequality and men's violence against women. White Ribbon UK's work is preventative, aiming to end violence before it starts.

- 1 in 4 girls in mixed-sex schools have had experience of unwanted sexual touching in school
- 1.7 million women experienced domestic abuse in the year ending March 2022
- 6 in 10 women have felt harassed in the gym by a man

statistics sourced from <https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk>

These statistics convey the widespread nature of men's violence against women in our society. This is a sad reality – and one we can change.

Women have long been responsible for navigating threats to their own safety. The first step to take to #ChangeTheStory is to understand that women and girls live with a fear of violence – and a threat of this fear of violence – that men do not experience in the same way.

#ChangeTheStory is about reversing this narrative: #AllMenCan take an active role in stopping violence before it starts by recognising and calling out attitudes and behaviours that are harmful and constitute as violence, and lead to more extreme cases of violence.

NALC wish to make a video to show male support for White Ribbon Day. They want as many as possible from the sector to participate and send a video, following the instructions below:

- The video should be around 5 to 10 seconds long
- Hold a sign (piece of paper/white board, etc) stating who you are (e.g. Cllr John Doe, Example Town Council) and with the hashtag #ChangeTheStory
- Look at the camera and say, "This White Ribbon Day, I want to change the story to end violence against women and girls" (for individuals) or "This White Ribbon Day, we want to change the story to end violence against women and girls" (for groups)

There are no budgetary implications in this proposal, except for time.

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## **PROPOSAL: Ivybridge Town Councillors collectively record a short video supporting NALC's 2023 initiative for White Ribbon Day**

*Due to time limitations and getting all councillors together, an option for the video could be after the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, if councillors agree with this proposal. There is nothing in this proposal which prevents councillors recording their own individual support, this can be done by sending your videos to [daisy.petrov@nalc.gov.uk](mailto:daisy.petrov@nalc.gov.uk) or to 07496 415 361 on Whatsapp by 17 November 2023.*