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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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Immediate Release

### **HOME AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE ON-LINE DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE - MALE DOMESTIC ABUSE CHARITY COMMENTS**

Mark Brooks, Chairman of The ManKind Initiative, a national charity that supports male domestic abuse victims, states: "For far too long the plight of male domestic abuse victims has been swept under the carpet by the authorities.

"This site will give them a welcome opportunity to make their voices heard so no longer can they be simply ignored. Men have been the forgotten victims of domestic abuse for far too long."

#### **Statistics On Male Victims**

##### Two in every five victims of domestic abuse are men

In 2005/06 ('Homicides, Firearms Offences and Intimate Violence 05/06 : Supplementary Volume 1 to Crime in England and Wales 2005/06 – Home Office Statistical Bulletin 02/07), 5.7% of women and 4.0% of men reported suffering non-sexual partner abuse, a proportion of 41% for men. Of these 3.0% of women and 1.8% of men reported suffering 'actual force', a proportion of 37.5%.

One in every four incidents of domestic abuse is against men:-

Figures from the British Crime Survey show that in the past six years, 24% of domestic abuse incidents are against men:-

*Thousands*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male Victims</b>	<b>Female Victims</b>	<b>% of Men</b>
2001/02	621	117	511	19
2002/03	501	135	366	27
2003/04	446	150	298	34
2004/05	401	92	308	23
2005/06	357	72	285	20
2006/07	407	94	313	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>2733</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>2080</b>	<b>24</b>

All figures subject to BCS roundings – Incidents of domestic abuse

Services for male victims

There are only two charities (The ManKind Initiative and MALE Advice Line) that offer specialist support for male victims and these are very small and find it difficult to attract funding. Funding for The ManKind Initiative's helpline stops at the end of January 2008.

There are over 470 refuges available to women but there are no dedicated refuges for heterosexual men and only one for homosexual men. There are only approximately twelve rooms available for heterosexual men nationwide in the 470 refuges and these are only available when there are no female occupants. These places are dependent on the goodwill of those who run the refuges.

The Home Office provide local authorities with £60 million per year in financial support under the Supporting People Initiative for Women at Risk of Domestic Violence. This funding does not support men and local authorities cannot bid for money from this fund to support men at risk of domestic violence.

**ENDS**

Notes to Editors

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