

03 September 2018

Statement on Celebrity Big Brother (Roxanne Pallett / Ryan Thomas)

Following the incident on Celebrity Big Brother and the appearance of Roxanne Pallett on Channel 5's Jeremy Vine show this morning, **Mark Brooks, Chair of the ManKind Initiative, a national charity supporting male victims of domestic abuse, said:**

"We welcome Roxanne's apology and clarification on the Jeremy Vine show this morning.

"We also welcome and support Jamelia's view that what happened to Ryan was a form of abuse where he was being discredited and humiliated effectively through the use of a false accusation.

"The positive issue to come out of this is that it will help society realise and open its eyes to the fact that men are subjected to this form of abuse including in current or former relationships. This will not only encourage more men to come forward as far too many fear that no one will believe them, it will help their friends, family and others such as the police better support and recognise it.

"We sincerely hope that Ryan comes through this and inspires others to do so including encouraging men to come forward."

Since the age of 16, an estimated 1.6 million men in this country have been victims of partner abuse in the country (450,000 per year). In 2016/17, 13 men died at the hands of their partner or ex-partner. 1 in 6 men will be a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime.

Men or their friends/families can call 01823 334244 or www.mankind.org.uk

ENDS

Notes to Editors

About the ManKind Initiative

The ManKind Initiative (www.mankind.org.uk), is a national charity which runs a help-line, providing a listening service, information and signposting service for male victims of domestic abuse and domestic violence. The help-line number is 01823 334244 (weekdays 10am-4pm). It received 1,800 calls from male victims (or from people on behalf of victims – often mothers and sisters) every year.

Media

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