Shabina Begum, an assistant solicitor at Dawson Cornwell, will be conducting international research on the issue of child marriage, forced marriage, child abduction and stranded spouse cases. This research is warranted by the low number of the Bangladeshi Diaspora in the UK who come forward to report these forms of violence against women and girls. Anecdotal evidence suggests that these forms of violence exist in the Bangladeshi community however the reporting is not proportionate to the number of cases which actually occur, thus suggesting a low reporting culture.

Shabina will be undertaking a professional fellowship at Bangladesh Legal Aid Trust Services for three months, which will provide her a practical insight into the way the Bangladeshi legal system handles cases of violence against women and girls. Upon return to the UK she will continue to work closely with women’s aid and community support groups to support women and girls from the Bangladeshi community to report any violence which they are subjected to.

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Lead partner UK:
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