



Domestic abuse policy

Easy-read version

What this policy is about

We believe no one should live in fear of abuse or violence at home. We want you to feel safe and we support anyone experiencing domestic abuse or at risk of it.

What domestic abuse is

Domestic abuse includes physical, sexual, emotional or psychological abuse, financial control, and controlling or coercive behaviour. It can happen between partners, ex-partners or family members aged 16 or over. We also cover Honour-Based Violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

What we will do to help

We encourage you to report domestic abuse and we take it seriously. We record reports and make sure you have a named officer to support you. If you are in immediate danger, we contact the police.

We accept what victims tell us so support can begin quickly, even if there is no evidence at first.

How we keep you safe

Our first priority is your safety (and your family's). We work with specialist services, help you access safe temporary accommodation, and refer high-risk cases to safeguarding teams. We give clear advice about housing options, including moving home if you feel unable to stay. We can provide information in different languages or formats if you need it.

How we treat victims

We treat people with respect and keep information private unless the law says we must share it. You can choose where to meet us and who supports you at meetings. We give clear information about your rights and housing options. Safety-related repairs are treated as urgent.

Working with other agencies

To keep people safe, we work with police, social care, health services and specialist domestic abuse organisations. We only share information when necessary and always think carefully about what needs to be shared.