West of Scotland Housing Association

Willowacre Trust
Charitable subsidiary of West of Scotland Housing Association

# DOMESTIC ABUSE POLICY

MAKE A STAND
Our homes, our people, our problem.

Chartered Institute of Housing

women's aid
until women & children are safe

daha
Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance

| | |
|---|---|
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## 1. Policy Statement

1.1. This policy sets out how West of Scotland Housing Association (WSHA) and our subsidiary organisations views, and will respond to, reports of domestic abuse affecting our tenants and household members.

1.2. WSHA believes that its tenants and other household members should not live in fear of violence or abuse. WSHA takes domestic abuse very seriously and is committed to providing a sensitive and confidential response to anyone approaching the organisation for assistance in cases of domestic abuse.

1.3. Domestic Abuse is a crime, representing one of the highest risks to the personal safety of the victims. Domestic abuse impacts on the quality of life of victims, their family and their friends as well as impacting on a person's home. As such, we are committed to taking the strongest action possible against the perpetrators of domestic abuse where we have the power to do so and where appropriate the consent of the victim. We will deal with reports of domestic abuse as an emergency and respond within one working day.

1.4. WSHA will, where possible, take an early intervention and survivor centred approach, supporting victims as early on in their journey as possible to seek justice and support.

1.5. The **Make a Stand** pledge was developed by the Chartered Institute of Housing in partnership with Women's Aid and the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance.

1.6. West of Scotland Housing Association and its subsidiary charity Willowacre Trust signed up to the Make a Stand Pledge in late 2018. We remain fully committed to tackling domestic abuse.

1.7. WSHA aims to:

- Improve the overall safety and wellbeing of tenants and household members by recognising that domestic abuse is a serious crime which has an adverse impact on the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and our communities.
- Increase awareness and understanding of domestic abuse amongst our tenants, community members, staff, students and volunteers.
- Encourage the reporting of domestic abuse – and enabling victims to report it in various ways including in person, in writing, by telephone, online or via a third party such as a police officer or local authority or other partner organisations. They can meet any member of staff in confidence at the WSHA offices or at an agreed choice of safe venue. Tenants or their household members will also be offered the option of a member of staff of the same sex if that would support the reporting process and help the person to feel safe to talk.
- Facilitate early identification of domestic abuse and offer appropriate effective support, advice and interventions to reduce risk of harm - including tenancy sign up where if a history is disclosed additional security measures will be considered.

- Provide improved security to a victim's home (e.g. security lights, window locks) where the need is identified.
- Where appropriate, carry out a risk assessment by using the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and 'Honour'-based violence Safe Lives Risk Identification Checklist (DASH) the checklist can be found at www.safelives.org.uk safely planning to provide support for the tenant and their children where present.
- Respond rapidly, effectively and consistently to all reports of domestic abuse to reduce the risk of further harm and improve the safety of adults and children affected.
- Take a survivor centred empowerment approach ensuring that people experiencing domestic abuse have information on all the options open to them.
- Improve the response to victims through effective engagement and partnership working with external enforcement and support agencies.
- Create a consistent approach for recording and monitoring incidents of domestic abuse.
- Share information with Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC). For cases which meet the MARAC risk rating threshold or if there is a child protection concerns, WSHA has a legal duty to share information with statutory agencies. In cases where the threshold is not met, with the agreement of the victim, WSHA will make referrals to other support from relevant agencies (Police Scotland, Women's Aid or Victim support etc).
- Create a staff culture of continual improvement and best practice when responding to domestic abuse.
- Ensure that all staff, students, volunteers and contractors understand their role in tackling and responding to issues around domestic abuse.

## 2. References and sources

- Housing (Scotland) Act 2001
- Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011
- Housing (Scotland) Act 2014
- Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 Part 1 & Part 2
- Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021
- CIH Scotland and Scottish Women's Aid, 'Policies Not Promises' April 2023
- General Data Protection Regulation
- Housing (Scotland) Act 2025
- WSHA Tenancy Management Policy
- WSHA Antisocial Behaviour and Harassment Policy

## 3. Overview & Definition

3.1. This policy sets out how WSHA will take steps to assist and support any person suffering from or threatened with domestic violence or abuse. The policy applies to tenants and household members living within our properties.

3.2. Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) see domestic abuse as:

"Any form of physical, verbal, sexual, psychological or financial abuse which might amount to criminal conduct and which takes place within the context of a relationship. The relationship will be between partners (married, cohabiting, civil partnership or otherwise) or ex-partners. The abuse may be committed in the home or elsewhere including online".

3.3. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

- **Emotional Abuse** - includes non-physical behaviours that are meant to control, isolate, or frighten the victim. This may present in romantic relationships as threats, insults, constant monitoring, excessive jealousy, manipulation, humiliation, intimidation, and dismissiveness, among others.
- **Physical Abuse** - this could include hitting, punching, kicking, slapping, hitting with objects, pulling hair, pushing or shoving, cutting or stabbing, restraining, strangulation, choking, murder.
- **Sexual Abuse -** this could include rape and coerced sex, forcing a survivor to take part in unwanted sexual acts, refusal to practice safe sex or use contraception, threatened or actual sexual abuse of children and the use of digital imagery.
- **Financial Abuse** - this could include controlling money and bank accounts, making a person account for all their expenditure, running up debts in a person's name, allowing no say on how monies are spent, refusing to allow them to study or work and depriving them of essentials.
- **Psychological Abuse** - includes behaviour that aims to cause emotional or mental harm and may encompass a wider range of behaviours such as manipulation, control, gas lighting or intimidation.
- **Controlling Behaviour** - this includes a range of behaviour which makes a person reliant and/or dependent on another person by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacity for personal gain, depriving them of the means need for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.
- **Coercive Behaviour** – this includes an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim. This includes forced marriage and so-called 'honour violence.'

## 4. Equalities

4.1. We will not unfairly discriminate against any person within the protected characteristic groups as contained within the Equality Act 2010. To ensure equal access to the information contained in this policy for all, we are happy to provide copies in Braille, in larger print, translated into other languages or on tape to you or anybody that you know upon request and where practicable.

4.2. WSHA will seek to ensure that tenancies are managed in a manner that is fair to all sections of the community regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.

4.3. As with all Association policies and practices, the Association will adhere to Outcome 1 of the Scottish Social Housing Charter (Equalities):

'Social Landlords perform in all aspects of their housing services so that every tenant and other customer has their individual needs recognised, is treated fairly and with respect, and receives fair access to housing and housing services.'

## 5. Roles & Responsibilities

5.1. The Director of Housing & Community Services is responsible for ensuring adoption of, and adherence to, this policy and its associated procedures relevant to their operation.

5.2. The Director of Housing & Community Services has responsibility for ensuring that WSHA is compliant with legislative/regulatory requirements and good practice.

5.3. The Community Services Manager has day-to-day responsibility for the implementation of this policy in practice. They are responsible for:

- ensuring this policy is communicated with all staff;
- ensuring suitable and sufficient training and instruction is provided;
- ensuring this policy is followed by all staff; and
- ensuring the necessary equipment and resources are available to make sure compliance can be achieved.

5.4. To assist WSHA in carrying out its obligations, employees must:

- be aware of, understand and comply with this policy and any related operational guidance
- participate in any training which WSHA makes available; and
- communicate any issues with implementing this policy to their line manager and identify opportunities for continuous improvement.

## 6. Consultation

6.1. The Tenant Advisory Group and Tenant Scrutiny Panel were consulted on the proposed changes to this Policy and no further recommendations for changes were received.

## 7. Monitoring and compliance

7.1. This policy will be monitored to ensure that the operational arrangements are compliant with legislation and reflect best practice. The Director of Housing & Community Services will commission cases to be audited on a regular basis. Records of ASB cases stored on the appropriate systems will be reviewed to ensure cases are dealt with in a timely, fair and transparent manner.

7.2. Period of review

7.3. Until a new policy is formally adopted this document will remain in force and operational.

7.4. This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the policy review programme agreed by the Corporate Management Team (CMT).

7.5. If there are significant changes to legislation or regulation or there are found to be deficiencies or failures in this policy, as a result of complaints or findings from any independent organisations, the Director of Housing & Community Services will initiate an immediate review.

7.6. Where appropriate, key stakeholders and interested parties will be consulted as part of any review of this policy.

## 8. WSHA's Approach

8.1. Responding to a Report of Domestic Abuse

8.2. WSHA recognises that every domestic abuse situation will be different, therefore our response will be person centred and tailored to the individual's circumstances and needs.

8.3. By taking a person-centred survivor approach, we will discuss and consider all available options including:

- Making arrangements for immediate personal safety for them and where applicable their children
- Reviewing and where possible improving the safety and security of their existing accommodation to allow them to remain there safely
- Reporting incidents to the Police which may result in criminal action against the perpetrator
- Where appropriate legal action against the perpetrator by WSHA
- All the support available to them - either internal or external.

8.4. On receiving a report of domestic abuse directly from a tenant or household member, **if it's safe to do so**, a face to face meeting with the named tenant will be offered within 24 hours (same-sex meetings will be facilitated where requested). Where this is not possible due to the weekend, or a bank holiday, the person will be referred to a relevant support agency or a meeting will be arranged on the next available working day. Where requested by the tenant a discussion will be carried out over the telephone.

8.5. Where a report of domestic abuse is received via a professional third party e.g. a police officer we will seek to establish from the third party what details have been taken from the tenant, what support is in place and what is required from us. Where required we will then contact the tenant or household member directly and offer a meeting with them as above. All meetings will be recorded using our Housing Management database and this will act as extra guidance to officers.

## 9. Carrying Out Initial Discussion with a Tenant / Good Practice Guidelines

9.1. We will:

- maintain confidentiality unless there are concerns about a child, young person or vulnerable adult – this must be explained to tenants in terms of safeguarding.
- deal with all situations of domestic abuse in a non-judgemental way.
- listen, believe, reassure and take what is said seriously.
- provide information about options but never make choices for people.
- use non-threatening, open questions.
- obtain permission to share information or approach other agencies unless there are concerns in relation to a child's safety.
- establish safe contact telephone numbers/addresses.

- not give out details to anyone else without the tenant or household members permission.
- never act as a go-between, between a tenant or household member experiencing domestic abuse and the perpetrator.
- always allow time for the tenant to talk and express their feelings.

9.2. Face to face meetings will be carried out in a sensitive and supportive manner and immediate housing options and tenancy rights will be discussed. Contact with the Police will be discussed – but we will not require a victim to make contact before support is offered.

9.3. A Safe Lives Risk Identification Checklist (DASH) will be completed (Refer to appendix A). A referral to MARAC will be made if the threshold is met Advice or support available (Domestic Violence, Women's Aid, Citizens Advice Bureau etc) will be given. At the end of the meeting, the Officer should agree with the tenant what action will be taken. The tenant will then be written to (or contacted by other preferred means) within five days with the agreed action plan. The Officer will ensure that contact is maintained with the tenant until they feel that support is no longer necessary.

9.4. Further contact with the tenant may need to include discussion on issues such as:

- Contacting the police if not already done so
- Longer term housing options
- Advice on welfare benefits
- Legal action to be taken against the perpetrator
- Re-housing options
- Additional security for the home
- Referral to Domestic Violence support Services
- Advice on how to self-refer to for Domestic Violence Support
- A referral to social work services when there is a child in the household.

9.5. Where possible, WSHA will assist and support a tenant or household member to enable them to remain in their home. (This could include a referral to suitable local agency). In some cases however, the tenant may feel unable to return to their home, either in the immediate or longer term - for example if the perpetrator of the domestic abuse remains in the property or in the locality of the property.

9.6. Where emergency rehousing is required WSHA will provide advice and support regarding options such as a referral to a refuge or to the statutory authority to be housed in a place of safety. We will provide the necessary information to the refuge or statutory authority and advocate on the victim's behalf where needed.

9.7. WSHA will aim to provide appropriate support to tenants of domestic abuse by ensuring that contact is maintained and with the permission of the tenant by ensuring that they are referred to other specialist agencies that can provide support.

## 10. Tenancies

10.1. If the tenant experiencing domestic abuse is named on the tenancy agreement, they may be able to transfer the tenancy agreement solely into their name.

10.2. This will depend on:

- the legal status of the relationship
- whose name is on the tenancy agreement.

10.3. If the tenant is married or has a registered civil partnership, the partner will have a right to live with the tenant within the family home, even if their name is not on the tenancy agreement. They will need to apply to the court for an exclusion order to suspend their rights to live in your home. The court will grant an exclusion order when it can be shown that it is necessary for a tenant's own protection or the protection of their children.

10.4. As part of a tenancy agreement tenants, those living with a tenant and any visitors to a property must not harass or assault any person in the house or neighborhood for any reason.

10.5. WSHA will consider arranging and paying for additional security of a property in order that a tenant of domestic abuse feels safe to return. This may include items such as lock changes or additional door or window locks. Senior Managers will approve such measures subject to budget considerations.

10.6. Where the police wish to install additional security permission will be given immediately subject to agreement on who will maintain such items.

10.7. In cases where the property has been damaged by a perpetrator of domestic abuse, repairs will be carried out by the organisation in line with the relevant policy. Although a crime reference number is usually required, in exceptional circumstances, the appropriate Officer has the authority to waiver this condition.

10.8. Any damage should be photographed and noted and a recharge raised against the perpetrator. Where appropriate, WSHA may seek to take direct action against the perpetrator and report the damage to the police as a crime.

10.9. Where the tenant or household member reporting domestic abuse requests to be re-housed, WSHA will prioritise the application as a management transfer. We will review this on a case-by-case basis, with a limit on the number of occasions we will offer this, usually only once.

10.10. Where domestic abuse is established and the statutory criteria are met, WSHA may consider using the new domestic abuse eviction ground. Where the perpetrator is the sole tenant, WSHA may seek recovery of possession in order to grant a tenancy to the victim who wishes to remain in the home.

10.11. Where the perpetrator is a joint tenant, WSHA may seek an order terminating only that tenant's interest in the tenancy, rather than ending the whole tenancy.

Before taking action, WSHA will have regard to any relevant Scottish Ministers' guidance and will assess risk and the victim's wishes.

## 11. Multi-Agency Approach

11.1. WSHA acknowledges that tackling issues of Domestic Abuse requires a multi-agency approach and will endeavour to work with any useful local agencies in individual cases to ensure cases are dealt with in the most effective and efficient way.

11.2. WSHA will actively try to engage in good practice when dealing with Domestic Abuse, such as making referrals to MARACs (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) and following any recommendations or action plans that may arise from them.

## 12. Victim Support

12.1. WSHA will provide support and assistance to victims as described in this policy. The organisation acknowledges that tenants who have experienced domestic abuse are often coerced, frightened and bullied into going back with the perpetrator.

12.2. Therefore, looking at the impact sometimes means that they are lacking self-esteem and self-confidence, it is not normally an event but a process of leaving. With this in mind we will support tenants to take up any support available to them in order to gain the confidence and strength required to address the situation.

## 13. Confidentiality/GPDR

13.1. WSHA recognises that incidents of Domestic Abuse are extremely sensitive, private incidents for tenants to report and will ensure total confidentiality on any cases that are reported.

13.2. WSHA may however share relevant information with local agencies such as the Police Scotland or Social Work Services. This will mean that cases are dealt with more effectively by either gathering extra evidence to carry out enforcement measures against the perpetrator or sharing information in the interests of the tenant and/or their dependants to provide better or more effective support.

## 14. Complaints or Appeals

14.1. Any complaints about failure to follow this policy or about the way a tenant has been treated in relation to this policy will be dealt with by WSHA's Complaints Procedure. The procedure can be used by anyone who receives a service from WSHA and is affected by a decision or action taken by us, or anyone who represents such a person.

## 15. Monitoring and Evaluation

15.1. Cases of domestic abuse will be reviewed on a three-monthly basis by the appropriate managers of services.

15.2. Cases will also be logged by individual officers on our Housing Management database and monitored.

15.3. **Appendix A**

15.4. Appendix A provides the risk assessment known as the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and 'Honour'-based violence Safe Lives Risk Identification Checklist (DASH).

15.5. **Appendix B**

15.6. A Directory of Services which offer support and accommodation in relation to domestic abuse can be found at Appendix B.

**Appendix A**

**SafeLives Risk Identification Checklist**

**Aim of the form**

• To help front line practitioners identify high risk cases of domestic abuse, stalking and 'honour'- based violence.

• To decide which cases should be referred to MARAC and what other support might be required. A completed form becomes an active record that can be referred to in future for case management.

• To offer a common tool to agencies that are part of the MARAC process and provide a shared understanding of risk in relation to domestic abuse, stalking and 'honour'-based violence.

• To enable agencies to make defensible decisions based on the evidence from extensive research of cases, including domestic homicides and 'near misses,' which underpins most recognised models of risk assessment.

**How to use the form**

**Recommended referral criteria to MARAC**

**1. Professional judgement:** if a professional has serious concerns about a victim's situation, they should refer the case to MARAC. There will be occasions where the particular context of a case gives rise to serious concerns even if the victim has been unable to disclose the information that might highlight their risk more clearly. ***This could reflect extreme levels of fear, cultural barriers to disclosure, immigration issues or language barriers particularly in cases of 'honour'-based violence.*** This judgement would be based on the professional's experience and/or the victim's perception of their risk even if they do not meet criteria 2 and/or 3 below.

**2. 'Visible High Risk':** the number of 'ticks' on this checklist. If you have ticked 14 or more 'yes' boxes, the case would normally meet the MARAC referral criteria.

**3. Potential Escalation:** the number of police callouts to the victim as a result of domestic violence in the past 12 months. This criterion can be used to identify cases where there is not a positive identification of a majority of the risk factors on the list, but where abuse appears to be escalating and where it is appropriate to assess the situation more fully by sharing information at MARAC. It is common practice to start with three or more police callouts in a 12-month period, but **this will need to be reviewed** depending on your local volume and your level of police reporting.

**Before completing the form for the first time we recommend that you read the Quick Start Guidance for Domestic Abuse, Stalking and 'Honour'-Based Violence on page 7 of this Toolkit. Full practice guidance and FAQs can also be downloaded here:** https://safelives.org.uk/resources-for-professionals/marac-resources/

Risk is dynamic and can change very quickly. It is good practice to review the checklist after a new incident. Please pay particular attention to a practitioner's professional judgement in all cases. The results from a checklist are not a definitive assessment of risk. They should provide you with a structure to inform your judgement and act as prompts to further questioning, analysis and risk management whether via a MARAC or in another way. **The responsibility for identifying your local referral threshold rests with your local MARAC.**

**What this form is not**

This form will provide valuable information about the risks that children are living with, but it is not a full risk assessment for children. The presence of children increases the wider risks of domestic violence and stepchildren are particularly at risk. If risk towards children is highlighted, you should consider what referral you need to make to obtain a full assessment of the children's situation. Once completed, this form should be sent via secure means to the relevant Marac. Please do not send it to SafeLives; to do so would be a breach of the Data Protection Act. © SafeLives 2015. Please acknowledge SafeLives when reprinting. Registered charity number 1106864. referral you need to make to obtain a full assessment of the children's situation.

| **Name of victim**: | **Date:** | Restricted when complete |
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Once completed, this form should be sent via secure means to the relevant Marac. Please **do not send it to** SafeLives; to do so would be a breach of the Data Protection Act. © SafeLives 2015. Please acknowledge SafeLives when reprinting. Registered charity number 1106864.

| **SafeLives Risk Identification**<br><br>**Checklist for use by IDVAs and other non-police agencies1 for identification of risks when domestic abuse, 'honour'-based violence and/or stalking are disclosed.**<br><br>**Please explain that the purpose of asking these questions is for the safety and protection of the individual concerned.**<br><br>**Tick the box if the factor is present.**<br><br>**Please use the comment box at the end of the form to expand on any answer.**<br><br>**It is assumed that your main source of information is the victim. If this is not the case, please indicate in the right-hand column.** | **YES** | **NO** | **DON'T KNOW** | **State source of info if not the victim** (e.g. Police Officer) |
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| **1. Has the current incident resulted in injury?**<br><br>Please state what and whether this is the first injury. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| **2. Are you very frightened?** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| **3. What are you afraid of? Is it further injury or violence?** Please give an indication of what you think [name of abuser(s)] might do and to whom, including children. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| **4. Do you feel isolated from family/friends?** Ie, does [name of abuser(s)] try to stop you from seeing friends/family/doctor or others? | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| **5. Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts?** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| **6. Have you separated or tried to separate from [name of abuser(s)]** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | |

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| **within the past year?** | | | |
| **7. Is there conflict over child contact?** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| **8. Does [name of abuser(s)] constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you?**<br><br>Please expand to identify what and whether you believe that this is done deliberately to intimidate you?<br><br>Consider the context and behaviour of what is being done. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| **9. Are you pregnant or have you recently had a baby (within the last 18 months)?** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| **10. Is the abuse happening more often?** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| **11. Is the abuse getting worse?** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| **12. Does [name of abuser(s)] try to control everything you do and/or are they excessively jealous?**<br><br>For example: in terms of relationships; who you see; being 'policed' at home; telling you what to | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

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| wear. Consider 'honour'-based violence (HBV) and specify behaviour. | | | |
| **13. Has [name of abuser(s)] ever used weapons or objects to hurt you?** | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| **14. Has [name of abuser(s)] ever threatened to kill you or someone else and you believed them?**<br><br>If yes, tick who:<br><br>You ☐<br><br>Children ☐<br><br>Other (please specify) ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Comments:** | | | |

**Appendix B - Further information and Support**

| Support for women experiencing domestic abuse |
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| **Glasgow Women's Aid**<br>The organisation provides information, support and refuge accommodation to women, children and young people who are experiencing domestic abuse<br>**0141 553 2022** |
| **Glasgow East Women's Aid**<br>Provides support for women, children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse<br><br>Telephone: **0141 781 0230**, Crisis Line: **0141 773 3533**<br>Email: collective@gewa.org.uk |
| **North Lanarkshire Women's Aid**<br>Provides confidential service offering support and temporary accommodation to women and their children who have experienced domestic abuse<br>Telephone: **01236 730992** or Email: **nlwaid@aol.com** |
| **South Lanarkshire Women's Aid**<br>Provides confidential service offering support and temporary accommodation to women and their children who have experienced domestic abuse.<br>Telephone: **01355 249897** |
| **North Ayrshire Women's Aid**<br>Provides confidential service offering support and temporary accommodation to women and their children who have experienced domestic abuse.<br>Telephone: **01294 602 424** |
| **East Ayrshire Women's Aid**<br>The organisation provides information, support and refuge accommodation to women, children and young people who are experiencing domestic abuse, forced marriage and honour-based violence.<br>Telephone: **01563 536001** or Email: **info@eastayrshirewomensaid.org.uk** |
| **Scottish Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline**<br>Free 24-hour helpline on **0800 027 1234** and website offering straightforward advice and information for people facing domestic abuse. |
| **Scottish Women's Rights Centre**<br><br>The Scottish Women's Rights Centre help women aged 16 and over affected by violence and abuse by providing free legal information and advice.<br><br>Freephone **08088 010 789**<br><br>Tuesdays 6-9pm; Wednesdays 1.30-4.30pm; Fridays 10am-1pm |

**Rape Crisis Scotland**
Free, confidential information and support for girls and women who have undergone sexual abuse at any time in their lives. **08088 01 03 02**

**SAY Women**
SAY Women is a voluntary organisation which offers safe and secure accommodation for young women who are survivors of childhood sexual abuse, rape or sexual assault and who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. **0141 552 5803**

**Support for BME women experiencing domestic abuse**

**Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid**
Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid provides support and practical help to Asian, black and ethnic minority women who have suffered mental and physical harassment and abuse either from the partner, ex-partner or within the extended family system. They are based in Glasgow and their services include a drop-in Centre and refuge. Hemat Gryffe has a 24-hour emergency helpline **0141 353 0859.**

**Amina**
The Muslim Women's Resource Centre offers a range of support services. You can call their free helpline **0808 801 301** and on Fridays there is an Imam you can speak to on the helpline. They have offices in Glasgow and Dundee. The languages spoken are Arabic, Bangla, English, Swahili and Urdu.

**Muslim Community Helpline**
The Muslim Community Helpline aims to provide any Muslim girl or woman in a crisis with a free, confidential listening service and referral to Islamic consultants, plus practical help and information where required.
Tel: **020 8904 8193** or **020 8908 6715.**

**Shakti Women's Aid**
This Edinburgh based service run by black women offers advice, information, counselling, support and temporary accommodation for black and minority ethnic women and their children escaping domestic violence. Workers can provide information on housing, benefits, legal issues, immigration, nationality, racial harassment and health. Their support services are available across Edinburgh, the Lothians, Fife, Central Belt and Tayside. Languages spoken include Arabic, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi, Singhalese, Swahili and Urdu. You can contact them on **0131 475 2399.**

| Support for men experiencing domestic abuse |
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| **Men's Advice Line**<br>Support and advice for men experiencing domestic abuse. **0808 801 0327** |
| **Survivors UK**<br>Survivors UK provides support and resources for men who have been sexually abused or raped or experienced any form of sexual violence. **02035983898** |

| Support for LBGT people experiencing domestic abuse |
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| **Broken Rainbow**<br>Support services and advice for lesbian, bisexual, gay and transsexual people experiencing domestic abuse. **0300 999 5428** |

| Support for perpetrators of domestic violence |
| --- |
| **Everyman Project**<br>Counselling project that helps men who are being abusive towards their partners to learn to control their behaviour. **0207 263 8884** |

| Support for young people |
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| **The Hideout**<br>Information for children and young people affected by domestic abuse.**0800 1111 ChildLine** |