

# What is Safe@Home?

The Safe@Home Service is made up of a number of different agencies who have joined together to offer people experiencing domestic abuse, the opportunity to access advice and support in the Wakefield district area. The Service brings together officers from a wide range of specialisms who have expert experience in the following:

- **Independent Domestic Violence Advisor**
- **Housing Advice and Options**
- **Sanctuary Scheme**
- **Police Advice**
- **Family Support**
- **Emotional Support**
- **Anger Management Programmes**

The purpose of the Safe@Home Service is to offer a 'one stop' approach providing advice and support to those affected by domestic abuse. Our main aim is to ensure that both you and your family are **SAFE**.

The service operates primarily on an outreach basis, or you could choose to visit our offices at the Open Door Project, Queen Street, Wakefield if you prefer. We will always try to provide our service at a place that is safe and suitable for you.

We provide services to everyone affected by domestic abuse regardless of gender, age, race or nationality. If English is your second language we will provide an interpreter or make arrangements to ensure the services can be provided.

## What services are available at the Safe@Home Service?

There are many services available from Safe@Home. If you need a service that we are unable to provide, we will point you in the right direction.

**Listed are the services available:**

### Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

Safe@Home has trained IDVA's, who specialise in assessing risk, safety planning and supporting people experiencing domestic abuse. They are able to help you in a number of ways depending on your own circumstances, such as going with you to appointments, or attending legal proceedings against the perpetrator (the person who has subjected you to domestic abuse).

### Housing Advice and Options

The Housing Officer can provide information to help with any housing problems that you have. For some people, the domestic abuse that they have

experienced is so severe that they may have to leave the family home. We can advise what the best course of action is, for example, a placement in a refuge either within the Wakefield District or another part of the country. There will be trained domestic abuse officers at the refuge who will provide support whilst you and your family are re-building your lives.

Moving to alternative accommodation should not be seen as the only option that is available to you. The abuse that you have experienced is traumatic enough without the added stress of moving home, changing your children's schools or leaving your family. We will discuss other options that are available to you as part of your safety planning.

### The Sanctuary Scheme

The scheme is specifically for those who wish to remain in their current home. The Sanctuary Co-ordinator will carry out an inspection of your home and will work with you to advise what can be done to make you feel safe in your home.

Depending on your situation, temporary accommodation may be available whilst the work is carried out.

### Police Advice

Police Officers can provide advice and support around pressing charges against perpetrators and other judicial matters. The officers are trained in dealing with domestic abuse and will be sympathetic to your situation.

### Family Support

During this time of stress you may have a number of problems that need our professional help. You have the opportunity to receive support from a Senior Social Worker, specifically for children or young people who live in your home.

### Emotional Support

For some people, domestic abuse can cause both emotional and psychological stress. In order to help you deal with this, Safe@Home have staff who are trained counsellors and who can provide one-to-one, group and also female anger management programmes. If you feel that this would be helpful to you, then sessions can be arranged.

### Anger Management Programme

We provide group work programmes for men who want help to change their abusive behaviour. For many men, talking about these issues is a very powerful first step towards dealing with them. By participating in the programme, you will have the chance to learn non-abusive ways to manage your feelings, strategies to cope with the difficult times in relationships and family life, and ways to better understand the needs of your partner and children.

**For more information about any of the services we provide:**

**Freephone: 0800 915 1561**

## Examples of how we can help

*I have been experiencing domestic abuse for a number of years from my boyfriend and he has now left my home. I don't want to leave as it's near my family and workplace, but I'm scared that he may use his keys to come into my home. Can you help me increase my home security so that I can feel safe?*

Yes we can. Arrangements can be made for an inspection to be carried out at your home to look at changing your locks and any other security feature that we feel will increase your safety.

*Can men experience domestic abuse? My wife has been physically and emotionally abusing me for a number of years. When she's not angry she is wonderful. I love her very much and do not want to leave her. What can you do to help me?*

You can have equal access to any of our services and your wife may want to access support from our Service to help her.

*I am a single woman who has just recently left my same sex partner because of physical violence. Is this domestic abuse or does it only cover those in heterosexual relationships?*

Yes it is domestic abuse. Domestic abuse can happen to anyone regardless of his or her sexual orientation or gender. Contact the Safe@Home Service and we will be able to advise you of what your options are.

Translations of this leaflet are available in Polish, Farsi, Kurdish, Urdu, French and Tigrinya. If you need this booklet interpreted into another language, please complete and return the form below. *Tick box for language required.*

- Polish**  
Jeśli potrzebujesz polskiego tłumaczenia tej broszury, wypełnij i odeślij poniższy formularz.
- Farsi**  
اگر این اطلاعات را به زبانی دیگر و یا در فرمتی دیگر میخواهید لطفاً از ما درخواست کنید
- Kurdish**  
ئەگەر دەتەوێت ئەم نامەلێکەییە بۆ کوردی تەرجومەبکەیت، ئەوا تکایە ئەم فۆرمەیی خوارمۆه پرێبکەر مۆه و ببێتەر مۆه.
- French**  
S'il faut vous traduire ce livret en français, veuillez remplir le formulaire cidessous et nous le renvoyer.
- Urdu**  
اگر آپ کو اس کتابچے کا ترجمہ اردو زبان میں چاہیے تو مہربانی کر کے نیچے دئے گئے فارم کو پُر کر کے بھیج دیں
- Tigrinya**  
እዚ መጽሐፍ ብትግርኛ ክትትርጎሙልኩም እንተደለኹም፣ ነዛ ኣብ ታላቲ ዘላ ፎርም መለእኩም ምለሱዎ።

Please indicate if you would like a copy of this **safe@home** leaflet in another language (not listed above) or any of the following formats and send to the freepost address below:

- Large print
- On audio tape
- In Braille
- Another language, Please state: .....

Name .....

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Please return this form to:  
FREEPOST WF 314  
Communication & Information Team  
Room 238, County Hall, Bond Street, Wakefield WF1 2QL

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# Safe@home

If you are experiencing domestic abuse and want advice and support, please contact the Safe at Home team on Freephone

## 0800 915 1561

