

# A Working Guide to Dealing with Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence



***Derby City and  
Neighbourhood Partnerships***



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## Section 1 – Language Identification

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Unë flas Shqip</b>                   | Albanian         |
| <b>አማርኛ፡ እኛላለሁ።</b>                     | Amharic          |
| <b>أنا أتكلم اللغة العربية</b>          | Arabic           |
| <b>Ես Հայերէն կը խօսիմ</b>              | Armenian         |
| <b>Мен азербайжан дилиндə данышырам</b> | Azeri            |
| <b>আমি বাংলা ভাষায় কথা বলি</b>         | Bengali          |
| <b>Govorim bosanski/hrvatski</b>        | Bosnian/Croatian |
| <b>Аз говоря български</b>              | Bulgarian        |
| <b>ကျွန်ုပ် မြန်မာလိုတတ်ပါသည်။</b>      | Burmese          |
| <b>我說粵語</b>                             | Cantonese        |
| <b>Mluvím česky</b>                     | Czech            |
| <b>I speak English</b>                  | English          |
| <b>Ma räägin Eesti keelt</b>            | Estonian         |
| <b>من فارسی حرف میزنم</b>               | Farsi            |
| <b>Je parle français</b>                | French           |
| <b>მე ვლაპარაკობ ქართულად</b>           | Georgian         |
| <b>Ich spreche Deutsch</b>              | German           |
| <b>હું ગુજરાતી બોલું છું</b>            | Gujerati         |
| <b>NA YIA HAUSA</b>                     | Hausa            |
| <b>אני דובר עברית</b>                   | Hebrew           |
| <b>मैं हिन्दी बोलता हूँ</b>             | Hindi            |
| <b>Beszélek Magyarul</b>                | Hungarian        |
| <b>Anam asu igbo</b>                    | Ibo              |
| <b>Saya bicara bahasa</b>               | Indonesian       |
| <b>Мен казахша билемин</b>              | Kazakh           |
| <b>Nvuga ikinyarwanda</b>               | Kinyarwanda      |
| <b>나는 한국말을 합니다</b>                      | Korean           |
| <b>من به کوردی قسه ده کهم</b>           | Kurdish          |
| <b>Es runāju latviski</b>               | Latvian          |
| <b>Na lobaka Lingala</b>                | Lingala          |
| <b>Aš kalbu lietuviškai</b>             | Lithuanian       |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>Јас зборувам македонски</b>           | Macedonian |
| <b>Saya bicara bahasa Malay</b>          | Malay      |
| <b>我说汉语</b>                              | Mandarin   |
| <b>मी मराठी बोलतो</b>                    | Marathi    |
| <b>Би Монгол хэлээр ярьдаг</b>           | Mongolian  |
| <b>म नेपाली बोल्छु</b>                   | Nepali     |
| <b>Mówię po polsku</b>                   | Polish     |
| <b>Falo Portugues</b>                    | Portuguese |
| <b>ਮੈਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦਾ ਹਾਂ</b>              | Punjabi    |
| <b>زه پښتو خبرې کولای شم</b>             | Pushto     |
| <b>Vorbesc limba română</b>              | Romanian   |
| <b>Я говорю по-русски</b>                | Russian    |
| <b>Ja говорим српски</b>                 | Serbian    |
| <b>Ndino taura Shona</b>                 | Shona      |
| <b>මම සිංහල භාෂාව කතාකරමි</b>            | Sinhalese  |
| <b>Rozprávam po slovensky</b>            | Slovak     |
| <b>Waxan ku hadlaa af Soomaali</b>       | Somali     |
| <b>Hablo español</b>                     | Spanish    |
| <b>Ninasema Kiswahili</b>                | Swahili    |
| <b>Marunong ako magsalita ng Tagalog</b> | Tagalog    |
| <b>நான் பேசும் மொழி தமிழ்</b>            | Tamil      |
| <b>ผมพูดไทย</b>                          | Thai       |
| <b>నేను తెలుగు మాట్లాడతాను</b>           | Telugu     |
| <b>ኩግርኛ እጻረብ እየ።</b>                     | Tigrinya   |
| <b>Türkçe konuşuyorum</b>                | Turkish    |
| <b>Meka Twi</b>                          | Twi        |
| <b>Я розмовляю по-українськи</b>         | Ukrainian  |
| <b>میں اردو بول سکتا ہوں</b>             | Urdu       |
| <b>Мен ўзбекча гапираман</b>             | Uzbek      |
| <b>Chúng tôi nói tiếng Việt</b>          | Vietnamese |
| <b>mo lé sọ yoruba</b>                   | Yoruba     |

## Section 2 – Signs of domestic abuse in adults

The current Home Office definition of domestic abuse is as follows:

*“Any incident or pattern of incidents of **controlling, coercive** or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those **aged 16 or over** who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.”*

Controlling behaviour is:

“a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.”

Coercive behaviour is:

“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.”

Domestic abuse is about power and control and currently affects approximately 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men in the UK.

The following signs may be indicative that someone is experiencing domestic abuse:

- Is their partner jealous and possessive?
- Does their partner try to isolate them by cutting them off from family and friends?
- Does their partner have frequent mood swings, i.e. really nice one minute and abusive the next?
- Does their partner control what they do, who they see, what they wear?
- Does their partner monitor their movements, constantly phone or text to find out where they are?
- Does their partner blame them for the abuse?
- Does their partner humiliate them or insult them in front of others?
- Is their partner verbally abusive?
- Does their partner constantly criticise them?
- Does their partner use anger or intimidation to make them comply with their demands?
- Does their partner tell them that they are useless and couldn't cope without them?
- Has their partner threatened to hurt them or those close to them if they leave?
- Does the person change their behaviour to avoid making their partner angry?
- Does their partner force them to have sex when they don't want to?

## Key risk factors

The following are considered to be key risk factors in domestic abuse situations and can be used to determine if someone's risk of serious harm has increased.

These are based on the SPECSSS assessment used by some Police forces and include:

- Separation
  - Is the victim planning to leave the relationship or has recently left?
  - Are there any issues/ conflict over child contact?
  - Are there any court orders relating to the perpetrator that have been breached?
- Pregnancy
  - Is the victim pregnant or has recently given birth?
  - Has the perpetrator ever been violent whilst the victim was pregnant?
- Escalation
  - Has the level and frequency of the abuse escalated?
  - Has the perpetrator caused injuries to the victim previously?
  - Has the perpetrator used or has access to weapons?
  - Has the perpetrator ever tried to strangle or smother the victim?
- Cultural/isolation
  - Does the victim face barriers in accessing help i.e. language, isolation etc?
  - Does the victim live in an isolated (e.g. rural) area or are they isolated from family and friends?
  - Does the victim have a disability?
  - Does the victim or the perpetrator have any complex needs such as mental ill health or substance misuse issues?
- Stalking/harassment – Does the perpetrator harass the victim i.e. constant calling, texting, following them, social media etc.?
- Sexual assault
  - Has the perpetrator said or done things of a sexual nature which hurt the victim or made them feel bad?
  - Has the perpetrator ever committed or threatened to commit a sexual offence against the victim or anyone else?
- Suicide
  - Has the perpetrator ever threatened to or attempted to kill themselves?

If you feel that someone's risk has increased then you **must** complete a full MARAC risk assessment checklist. (see [Section 9](#))

## Section 3 – Signs of sexual violence in adults

The current legal definition of rape is as follows:

*“A person A ‘commits an offence if (a) he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person B’ with his penis, (b) B’ does not consent to the penetration, and (c) A’ does not reasonably believe that B’ consents.”*

Consent is now defined as:

*“A person consents if he or she agrees by choice, and has the freedom and capacity to make that choice. The law does not require the victim to have resisted physically in order to prove a lack of consent.”*

Sexual Assault is defined as:

*“Sexual assault is an act of physical, psychological and emotional violation, in the form of a sexual act, which is inflicted on someone without consent. It can involve forcing or manipulating someone to witness or participate in any sexual acts.”*

Adult victims of sexual violence are most likely to be young women between 18 and 24 years of age however men and women of any age, sexuality and race can be assaulted. This may be by a stranger but more likely by someone that they know.

Signs that someone may be experiencing sexual violence may include:

- signs of sexual activity such as sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancy
- pain, soreness, itchiness, tears or bruises in genital or anal areas, breasts, or inner thighs
- unusual difficulty in walking and sitting
- signs that someone is trying to take control of their body or body image, such as head banging, self-harm, putting on or losing a lot of weight, anorexia or bulimia
- sexualised behaviour by the person experiencing the abuse towards the perpetrator and/or towards other people
- behaviour that indicates that the person is afraid of the perpetrator, or a change of behaviour in presence of the perpetrator or avoiding the perpetrator.
- It may be that the perpetrator is observed to have an overly familiar or sexualised relationship with the person experiencing abuse.



## Section 4 – Confidentiality and information sharing

Your organisation will have a confidentiality policy and clear guidance about sharing information - you must refer to these in the first instance.

Below are some general guidelines about confidentiality with a domestic abuse or sexual violence client:

- Information should be treated in the utmost confidence and not divulged to anyone outside the organisation without the service user's consent, except where:
  - there is risk to another person
  - there is risk to the service user
  - there are child protection issues
- All information should be stored in a secure unit. It is stored as potential evidence should a case be presented at court.
- Clear and explicit boundaries of confidentiality must be stated, including situations where confidentiality may be breached.
- No conversation about an individual should take place with anyone who does not work for the service either as a volunteer or as a paid employee
- No personal information about an individual should be given to any third party even if the person is a member of their family.
- Confirm arrangements of future contact. Details of a 'safe' telephone number/contact details should be recorded and maintained at all times.
- Information will only be passed to another agency with the consent of the client unless exceptions apply.

There may be circumstances where for the reasons stated previously, you are required to breach confidentiality. It is always preferable to do this with this victim's consent, however where consent is not given you must discuss with your line manager about the reasons for disclosure without consent and the grounds upon which this is based.

### **Derbyshire Partnership Forum Information Sharing Protocol**

The aim of this Protocol is to provide a framework for the partner organisations to establish and regulate working practice. It is recognised that the lawful sharing of information between partner agencies is essential to meet this aim.

**For a copy of the DPF information sharing protocol please visit:**

[http://www.derbyshirepartnership.gov.uk/about\\_us/](http://www.derbyshirepartnership.gov.uk/about_us/)

### **Caldicott Principles**

The following principles should be considered:

1. Justify the purpose(s) of using confidential information
2. Only use it when absolutely necessary
3. Use the minimum that is required
4. Access should be on a strict need-to-know basis
5. Everyone must understand his or her responsibilities
6. Understand and comply with the law

## Section 5 – Responding to a disclosure

If you **suspect** abuse, but there is no disclosure:

- Decide if you are the appropriate person in your organisation to inquire further. If not, then report your concern to the identified colleague or manager.
- Where indicated, use the appropriate procedures for protection of adults at risk. ([see section 8](#))
- If you are the appropriate person to make an enquiry where abuse is suspected follow, the detailed procedures for your own agency.

If abuse is **disclosed to you**, however partially, then:

- If you are not the appropriate person to assist further, offer the assistance of the appropriate colleague or manager. If the adult asks that no further action is taken, you will need to explain your own need to discuss this matter with the identified colleague or manager.
- You must make it clear to the adult that you have an obligation to breach confidentiality should the disclosure raise any implications for the safety of a child, another person or the adult themselves.
- Where indicated use the appropriate procedures for adults at risk. ([see section 8](#))
- If you are the appropriate person to make an enquiry where abuse is suspected follow, the detailed procedures for your own agency.

Where appropriate:

- Provide emergency assistance and/or contact emergency services to ensure the immediate health and safety of the person concerned, yourself and others.
- Listen carefully to what the adult wants to happen as a result of talking to you. With permission and where appropriate to the disclosure, check out these immediate safety issues:
  - Does the person at risk have emergency contact numbers?
  - Does the person at risk have a safe means of contacting emergency services?
  - Does the person at risk need to move to a place of safety?
  - If not does the person at risk need to make their home more secure?
  - Can the person at risk leave some emergency money, keys and important documents with anyone safe in case they need to leave in an emergency?
  - If the person at risk has children at school or in nursery, do the school/ nursery know of his/her circumstances?
  - Is the person in contact with any other support agencies such as health visitor, children's centre etc. and are they aware of his/her circumstances?
  - Is there someone the person at risk can talk to and trust?
  - If the person at risk has pets, can they be left with someone?
- Consider whether the person is an adult at risk ([see section 8](#)) and requires a vulnerable witness interview.



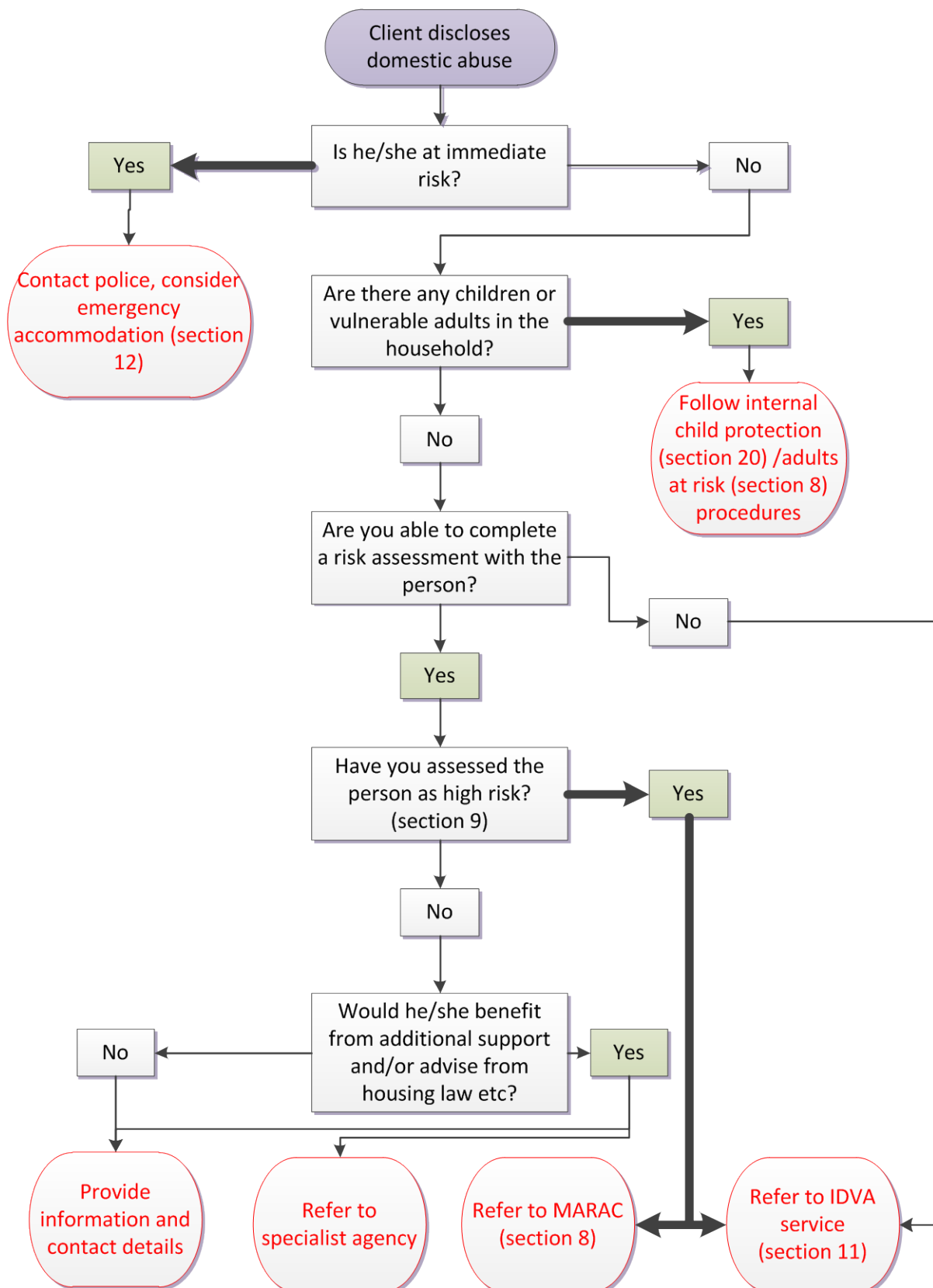
In all cases:

- Offer a gender appropriate person and a safe and private place for further discussion. Do not ask about domestic abuse or sexual violence in the presence of partners or other family members. Provide a trained interpreter if necessary. Do not suggest using family or friends to interpret for you.
- Explain that no information will be provided about what has been discussed to family, friends or the alleged perpetrator.
- In every case information leaflets should be offered, which contain details of specialist support and available housing services.
- Be clear about what you will do and who, if anyone, you will be contacting on behalf of the adult.
- Be clear what the contact arrangements will be if further contact with you is requested.

**Whistle blowing:**

Always act whenever abuse is suspected including when your legitimate concern is not acted upon. Whistle blowers are given protection under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998.

## Section 6 – Flowchart for domestic abuse in adults

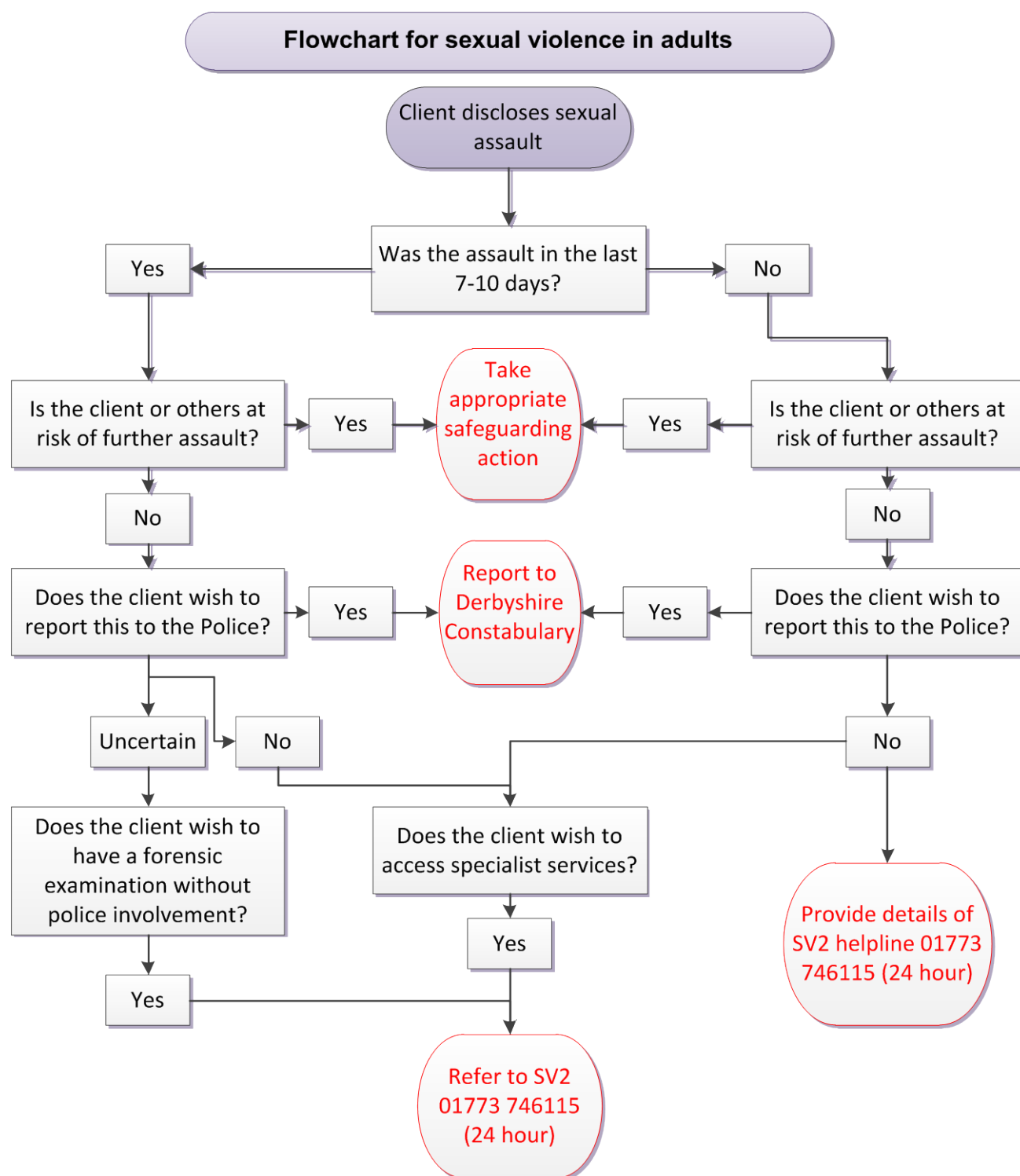


Key:

**→** Urgent step – requires immediate response

→ Next step

## Section 7 – Flowchart for sexual violence in adults



## Section 8 – Safeguarding Adults at Risk

The definition of an adult at risk in Derby and Derbyshire is:

*“Any person 18 years or over who is or appears to be eligible for local authority/mental health services assistance by reason of mental ill health, physical or learning disability, illness or age related frailty, AND/OR may be unable to take care of themselves or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation.”*

Abuse can happen anywhere and can include:

- Physical – hitting, slapping and punching.
- Sexual – rape and other acts to which consent has not been given.
- Emotional or psychological – threats or humiliation.
- Neglect – left without food, heating or personal care.
- Financial - theft of money, fraud, persuading an adult at risk to enter into a financial agreement which is to their detriment.
- Discrimination – unfair treatment because of gender, race, culture, background, age, disability, sexuality or illness.

Abuse and neglect can amount to serious violations of an individual's human and civil rights. Many acts of abuse constitute criminal offences and adults at risk are entitled to the full protection of the law. Where a crime has been committed, or is likely to be committed, it may be necessary to involve law enforcement agencies.

In addition, abuse and neglect are often characterised by a lack of respect for, or a violation of, the respect for individual dignity and decency that are at the core elements of both good care, and of fundamental social norms.

If you are concerned that an adult is being abused (or is at risk of abuse) then you should report this to your line manager as a matter of urgency and follow the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults policy and procedures.

**A copy of the safeguarding policy and procedures can be found at:**

**Derby City:** <http://www.derbysab.org.uk/>

**Derbyshire:**

[http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what\\_we\\_do/safeguarding\\_adults/default.asp](http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what_we_do/safeguarding_adults/default.asp)

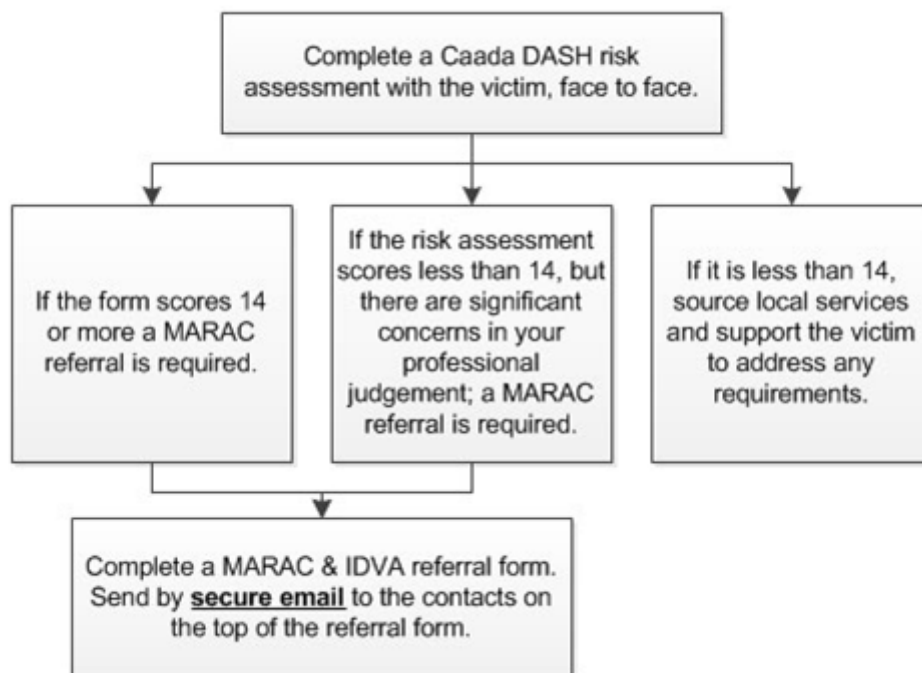
## Section 9 – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a multi-agency approach to managing cases of domestic abuse where the victim has been identified as being at high risk of serious harm or homicide. Monthly meetings bring together representatives from both statutory and voluntary agencies with the aim of sharing information and developing a safety plan for victims and their families with a view to reducing the risks and the likelihood of repeat victimisation. The victim does not attend the meetings but is represented by an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) who speaks on their behalf.

All agencies have a responsibility to complete a CAADA DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking and harassment and Honour based violence) risk assessment checklist and must refer into the MARAC process if the assessment scores 14 ticks or more.

In the event that the risk assessment does not score 14 ticks or more but a professional has serious concerns about a victim's situation, such as extreme levels of fear, cultural barriers to disclosure, immigration issues or language barriers particularly in cases of 'honour'-based violence, they should refer the case to MARAC and the reasons should be justified clearly on the referral form.

A multi-agency response is essential in ensuring that victims and their families are as safe as possible. Each agency working with a client holds a piece of the jigsaw and only by communicating with one another and working together can the best outcome for the victim be achieved. Consideration should be given to both the victim and any children living with him or her AND any children living in the household with the alleged perpetrator.



## Section 9.1 - MARAC Referral Process

- **Identify** - agencies should have processes in place to identify victims of domestic abuse.
- **Risk Assess** – once identified as suffering domestic abuse, the CAADA-DASH Risk Identification Checklist (RIC) should be used to establish if the victim is at high risk of harm.
- Carry out **immediate safety measures** for victim, children and perpetrator.
- **Referral** - if high risk (score of 14+ on RIC) refer to MARAC and IDVA service.
- IDVA service will contact the victim to offer support and identify key risks and fears.
- **Research** - All agencies receive MARAC meeting agenda from MARAC co-ordinator and research all cases on the agenda.
- IDVA gathers background information from the victim and other agencies not represented at MARAC about the abuse.
- **Meeting and information sharing** - MARAC representative presents information at the meeting on their agency's referrals as well as information relating to other cases in which their agency has been involved.
- **Identify risks** for the victim, children, perpetrator and agency staff.
- **Action planning** - volunteer actions on behalf of your own agency and offer what you could do that would increase safety.
- IDVA service confirms that in their opinion the proposed actions are as safe as possible.
- **Follow up** - inform colleagues of actions and complete in time agreed.
- Keep IDVA informed of relevant information.
- IDVA service keeps victim informed of plan where safe to do so.
- IDVA service liaises with partner agencies to coordinate action plan.

A copy of the CAADA DASH risk assessment can be found at:

[http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what\\_we\\_do/domestic\\_abuse/marac/default.asp](http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what_we_do/domestic_abuse/marac/default.asp)



### **Warning signs of a stalker:**

1. They become demanding/controlling, they want to know who you are texting, e-mailing, what you are saying. They are suspicious, perhaps even paranoid.
2. They are contacting you multiple times a day asking you to confirm where you are at – if you are at an unusual place and they seem to know - suspect that they have put some geo location software on your phone.
3. They start sending aggressive, abusive or threatening texts.
4. They start to contact your friends and family trying to check up on you, get information about you, or trying to damage those relationships.
5. They start to spread rumours, put abusive, embarrassing comments online via social network, forums etc.
6. They seem to know information that you haven't told them or know what you do online such as websites you've gone to, people you've chatted or sent e-mails to etc. – suspect spyware on your computer
7. Your passwords stop working or keep changing.
8. You find e-mails marked read that you haven't read, or e-mails sent from your account you haven't sent.
9. Money starts going missing from your online bank account or goods being bought via online stores you use.
10. Information is deleted such as friend's contacts, computer files, e-mails.

### **Key actions:**

#### **Social Networks:**

- Block the abuser AND all his friends and family.
- Don't post too much information on your FB wall. Private message or text instead.
- Go to your photo albums and edit it to "only me"
- Go through each option on the privacy, account and profile settings. Use the "friends only" or "only me"
- Facebook "how people can contact you" and turn off all apps, disable public search, don't allow people to tag you etc.

#### **Computer:**

- Assume you have spyware on your computer. Get antispyspyware product - such as Spyware Search and Destroy (free) antivirus software won't work against spyware/monitoring products.
- Once your computer is clean - change your email, passwords and security questions on ALL your accounts. You can get free password management software so it is easy to manage different passwords for different accounts.

Continued overleaf

## Mobile

- If you are leaving an abuser, if you have an Android take out your battery if you have an iPhone turn it off so they can't trace you. Once you are safe you need to make sure there is no tracking software on your phone.
- Set up your mobile so you have to put in a PIN before you use it.
- Buy and use mobile security software.
- Use a call blocker with "white lists" that prevents anyone not in your address book from contacting your mobile - most mobile security software offers this feature.
- Turn off your Geolocation services and don't use geolocation apps on your phone such as "check in" apps, or maps

## Save Evidence

- Take a picture of all texts on your mobile phone so if the phone gets lost, damaged or you run out of room in your text box you have a record of them.
- If the stalker leaves a voice mail make a recording of it. Mobile phone providers will erase it after a short while.
- Harassing messages or online content - make a copy of your chat conversations. On your keyboard is a special key that says "Prt Sc - SysRq" or "PrintScreen". If you hold down the "ALT" key and press that special key, a Windows PC will take a copy of what is on your screen. Open up a new Word processor or Paint document and paste the image in it, be sure to add the time and date of the conversation.
- Create a log. Write down the time, date and nature of EACH incident and how it made you feel.

**For more information about stalking please visit: <http://www.digital-stalking.com/>**

## Stalking DASH (S-DASH)

There are legislative changes in relation to stalking and harassment that came into effect on November 25, 2012.

The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, inserts new provisions in the protection from Harassment Act 1997, and introduces two new offences of stalking and a power of entry, with a warrant, for a summary offence.

In brief, the legislation covers the following;

1. Section 2A of the 1997 Act prohibits a person from pursuing a course of conduct that amounts to stalking.

Examples of stalking are:

Following a person, contacting a person by any means, publishing a statement relating to or claiming to relate to a person, monitoring the use by a person of the internet or watching/spying on a person.

There is also a power of entry on warrant (application to J.P.) in relation to the offence of stalking - Section 2B.

2. Section 4A of the Act prohibits a course of conduct relating to the offence of stalking involving fear of violence or serious alarm or distress.

There must be a course of conduct (on at least two occasions) that causes a person to fear, that violence will be used against them or causes another person serious alarm or distress which has a substantial effect on their day to day activities.

A charge of stalking (summary offence) will carry a maximum sentence of six months or a £5,000 fine. Where there is a fear of violence (triable in either the magistrates or Crown Court), the jail term is up to five years or an unlimited fine.

**Please note:** The stalking DASH is a tool for the police to enable them to gather additional information when assessing the risk in cases of stalking and harassment. Agencies are *not* currently required to use the Stalking DASH assessment.

## Section 11 – Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA)

The main purpose of independent domestic violence advisors (IDVA) is to address the safety of victims at high risk (14+ on DASH risk assessment) of harm from intimate partners, ex-partners or family members to secure their safety and the safety of their children. Serving as a victim's primary point of contact, IDVAs normally work with their clients from the point of crisis to assess the level of risk, discuss the range of suitable options and develop safety plans.

They are pro-active in implementing the plans, which address immediate safety, including practical steps to allow the client to protect themselves and their children, as well as longer-term solutions. These plans will include actions from the MARAC as well as sanctions and remedies available through the criminal and civil courts, housing options and services available through other organisations. IDVAs support and work over the short to medium-term to put their clients on the path to long-term safety. IDVAs receive specialist accredited training and hold a nationally recognised qualification.

To contact the IDVA service please ring:

- Derbyshire – 01246 540444
- North Bolsover only – 01246 242503
- Derby City – 07812 300927

Or email the referral form via secure email to:

- Derbyshire – [idva.team@ndwa.cjsm.net](mailto:idva.team@ndwa.cjsm.net)
- **North Bolsover only** - [sharon.ryan@bolsover.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.ryan@bolsover.gcsx.gov.uk)
- Derby City – [dsvu@derby.gov.uk.cjsm.net](mailto:dsvu@derby.gov.uk.cjsm.net)

**A copy of the IDVA referral form can be found at:**

[http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what\\_we\\_do/domestic\\_abuse/marac/default.asp](http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what_we_do/domestic_abuse/marac/default.asp)

### **Accommodation for women and children**

A refuge is a safe house which offers temporary accommodation for mainly women and their children. Some refuges are specifically for women from particular ethnic or cultural backgrounds - for example black, Asian or South American women. Some refuges have disabled access, and staff and volunteers who can assist women and children who have special needs.

People can stay in refuge accommodation as long as they need to - this can be anything from a few days to several months. The refuge will help if the person needs to find a more permanent place to stay. If they need to they can stay in the refuge until they are permanently re-housed.

All refuge addresses and most telephone numbers are confidential, so that it's difficult for the abuser to find a victim who has left home. The person will usually be unable to stay in a refuge in their local area – this is for safety reasons. The refuge staff will want to be sure that the abuser will not be able to find them. Because of this they will need to be a safe distance from the areas that the abuser has associations with.

### **How do I arrange refuge accommodation?**

You can call the National Domestic Violence Helpline on 0808 2000 247. It's best to phone the helpline on the morning that the person wants to go into a refuge, between 10am and midday. It's much easier to find a space in a refuge during the week, and the person can go into a refuge on the same day. However, the National Domestic Violence Helpline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so if the person needs to leave outside of these times they'll still be able to help.

You can also access refuge accommodation through the Derbyshire Domestic Abuse helpline on 08000 198 668, the Citizens' Advice Bureau, Housing Departments or the Police. Many refuge organisations are also listed in the telephone directory.

Once refuge accommodation has been arranged, a refuge worker will discuss the location of the refuge. It's important that you keep this information confidential.

### **Accommodation for males**

Derbyshire has one of the few refuges for males fleeing domestic abuse in the Country. The refuge is managed by Derbyshire SAM and is able to accommodate three males at any one time. There is a dedicated male refuge worker available to provide support.

The male refuge is available to males fleeing domestic abuse irrelevant of where they live in the UK. If you are looking for accommodation for a male victim of domestic abuse whether he is resident in Derbyshire County or Derby City please contact Derbyshire Support and Advice for Men (SAM) on 08000 198 668 or alternatively contact National Men's Advice Line on 0808 801 0327.

## **Accommodation for young women and girls**

The Harmony Project is part of a brand new service run by High Peak Women's Aid, supporting Girls and Young Women who are affected by domestic abuse and controlling behaviour in their relationships.

The Harmony project offers accommodation to young women aged from 16 years to 24 years who need a safe place to stay, with or without children. The service offers planned support which is tailored to suit the young woman's needs whilst also linking with other agencies to ensure that young women are given better opportunities which will enable them to move on successfully.

Staff are available throughout the day and in the evenings and staff also remain on the premises throughout the night. Our staff work closely with our Women and Girls Service (WAGS), enabling girls and young women (13yrs to 24 yrs) to access one to one support and group work which covers a whole range of issues which are aimed at keeping young women safe.

To find out more about the service or to make a referral please call 01457 856675 or e-mail [gwa@f2s.com](mailto:gwa@f2s.com).

Alternatively visit the website [www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk](http://www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk)



## Section 13 – Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

A SARC is a specialist 24/7 service for anyone aged 16 years and over who has been raped or sexually assaulted. They aim to provide the following services under one roof:

- medical care and forensic examination following assault/rape,
- counselling
- Sexual health services.

The SARC for Derbyshire County and Derby City is located at Millfield House in Codnor and is run by SV2.

The SARC is able to offer services to anyone, including those who do not wish to report the assault to the police ('self referrals') or those who wish to report anonymously.

Service users can choose whether they would like to inform the police at a later stage and have their samples stored (for up to 12 years) whilst they are considering what to do next. It is hoped that through this option service users can take back some control over what is happening whilst allowing more time to make such an important decision.

In order to preserve any evidence that may be present it is vital that help from the SARC is accessed *as immediately as possible* after an assault. In addition, SARCs can advise on and assist with other medical needs.

If someone has been raped or sexually assaulted in the last 10 days, and think they might want to report it to the Police, the following is advised:

- Talk to Millfield House—they can give the person some choices and breathing space
- If they haven't already, don't wash.
- Keep all clothing and underwear that they were wearing. Put them in separate bags and don't wash them. If they have been washed them, don't worry, still put them in separate bags.
- Keep any sanitary towels or tampons worn at the time of the incident.
- Keep any discarded condoms from the incident.
- Keep and do not wash bedding that the incident took place on.
- If the attacker drank anything, don't wash the glass or cup.
- If the attacker smoked, keep any cigarette ends.
- If the attacker chewed gum and discarded it, retrieve it and store it in the fridge.
- If the person has any injuries, ask a trusted friend or family member to photograph them.

In addition to offering the SARC service, SV2 (formerly known as Derbyshire Rape Crisis) also offers counselling and general support, for anyone aged over 14 years living in Derby or Derbyshire.

**For more information about the SARC please visit: [www.sv2.org.uk](http://www.sv2.org.uk)**

## Section 14 – Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA)

An ISVA is a trained specialist offering practical and emotional support to anyone over the age of 14 who has reported rape or sexual abuse to the police, or is considering it.

The ISVA is a friendly face who will support the service user through the whole process, from the initial complaint all the way through to the trial and beyond. This process can be lengthy and difficult, and the ISVA is there to make it a little easier through support, advocacy and information.

The ISVA can:

- Provide advice and support to help the service user think through their options.
- Provide face to face or telephone support at crucial times throughout the process.
- Keep the service user up to date with their case.
- Attend court with them.
- Explain some of the legal jargon and processes.
- Support them whatever the outcome of their report to the police.
- Give advice on the criminal and civil remedies available.
- Work with the service user to make sure they are safe.
- Provide warm introductions to other specialist services they may need.
- Help with accessing counselling with SV2.

Overall the ISVA is dedicated to supporting the service user after an experience of sexual violence.

It must be noted that an ISVA cannot discuss evidence and therefore cannot be present when the victim is being interviewed or providing a statement.

**For more information on the ISVA service please visit: [www.sv2.org.uk](http://www.sv2.org.uk)**

**You can also contact the Derby Domestic and Sexual Violence Team on 07812 300927.**

## Section 15 - Practical safety measures

Below are some practical safety measures to give to someone experiencing domestic abuse:

- Plan in advance how to respond in different situations, including crisis situations.
- Think about the different options that may be available.
- Keep to hand any **important and emergency telephone numbers** - e.g. your local Women's Aid refuge organisation or other domestic violence service; the police domestic violence unit; GP; social worker; children's school; solicitor; and the Freephone 24 Hour Derbyshire Domestic Abuse helpline.
- **Teach the children to call 999** in an emergency, and what they would need to say; e.g. their full name, address and telephone number.
- Is there a **neighbour** that can be trusted, and where the person could **go in an emergency**? If so, tell the neighbour what is going on, and ask them to call the police if they hear sounds of a violent attack.
- Rehearse an **escape plan**, so in an emergency the person and the children can get away safely.
- **Pack an emergency bag** for themselves and their children, and hide it somewhere safe - e.g. at a neighbour's or friend's house. Try to avoid mutual friends or family. (There are some suggestions below for what you need to take with you when you leave).
- Try to keep a small amount of **money** to hand at all times – including change for the phone and for bus fares.
- Know where the nearest **phone** is – and if the person has a mobile phone, try to keep it with them.
- **If the person suspects** that their partner is about to attack them, try to go to a **lower risk area** of the house - for example where there is a way out and access to a telephone. Avoid the kitchen or garage where there are likely to be knives or other weapons; and avoid rooms where you might be trapped - such as the bathroom - or where you might be shut into a cupboard or other small space.
- Be prepared to **leave the house** in an emergency.

## Section 16 – Signs of domestic abuse in children & young people

Children living in households where domestic violence is happening are identified as "at risk" of harm suffered by seeing or hearing ill treatment of others. This would include witnessing domestic abuse. Children are individuals and may respond to witnessing abuse in different ways. Some of the effects may include:

- They may become anxious or depressed.
- They may have difficulty sleeping.
- They may complain of physical symptoms such as tummy aches.
- They may start to wet their bed.
- They may behave as though they are much younger than they are.
- They may have problems with school.
- They may become aggressive or they may internalise their distress and withdraw from other people.
- They may have a lowered sense of self-worth.
- Older children may begin to play truant or start to use alcohol or drugs.
- They may begin to self-harm by taking overdoses or cutting themselves.

Children may also feel angry, guilty, insecure, alone, frightened, powerless or confused. They may have ambivalent feelings towards both the abuser and the non-abusing parent. **If you are concerned that a child may be experiencing domestic abuse you must follow the Derby & Derbyshire safeguarding children procedures.**

### Teenage relationships

Domestic abuse with teenagers can also occur within their own relationships. Some of the signs below could indicate that a young person is experiencing this:

- Physical signs of injury/illness.
- Lateness, Truancy, failing grades, lack of concentration.
- Withdrawal, passivity, being compliant.
- Changes in mood and personality, depression, self-harm.
- Isolation from family and friends.
- Frequent texts and calls from boyfriend/girlfriend.
- Inappropriate sexual behaviour/language/attitudes.
- Pregnancy.
- Use of drugs/alcohol.
- Eating disorders or problems sleeping.
- Bullying/being bullied.
- Very gendered expectations of behaviour, career and achievement.

**If you are concerned that a young person is experiencing domestic abuse you must follow Derby & Derbyshire safeguarding children procedures.**

A copy of the safeguarding children's procedures can be found at:

Derby City: [www.derbyscb.org.uk](http://www.derbyscb.org.uk)

Derbyshire County: <http://www.derbyshirescb.org.uk/>

## Section 17 – Signs of sexual violence in children & young people

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. This may involve physical contact including penetrative sex, oral sex, masturbation, kissing, rubbing, or touching outside of clothing, or it may involve non-contact activities such as involving children in watching sexual activities, producing or looking at sexual images, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Abusers can be men, women or other children.

Young people can also be abused through sexual exploitation. It involves situations and relationships where a person of any age manipulates or forces a child or young person under 18 to perform sexual acts in return for food, somewhere to live, attention, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts or money.

Possible signs that a child is being sexually abused or exploited include:

- Behaving in an inappropriate sexual way with toys or objects.
- Nightmares and sleeping problems.
- Becoming withdrawn or very clingy.
- Becoming unusually secretive.
- Sudden unexplained personality changes, mood swings and insecurity.
- Regressing to younger behaviours, e.g. bedwetting.
- Unexplained fear of particular places or people.
- Appetite loss and sudden changes in eating habits.
- New, adult words for body parts with no obvious source.
- Talk of a new, older friend and unexplained money or gifts.
- Self-mutilation (cutting or burning) in adolescents.
- Physical signs, e.g. unexplained soreness, pain or bruises around genitals or mouth; sexually-transmitted diseases, pregnancy.
- Running away; and/or
- Not wanting to be alone with a particular adult, child or young person.

See also [Section 23](#) on female genital mutilation.

**If you are concerned that a young person is experiencing sexual abuse or exploitation you must follow Derby & Derbyshire safeguarding children procedures.**

A copy of the safeguarding children's procedures can be found at:

Derby City: [www.derbyscb.org.uk](http://www.derbyscb.org.uk)

Derbyshire County: <http://www.derbyshirescb.org.uk/>

## Section 18 – Confidentiality & information sharing

Relevant information can and should be shared where it is necessary to ensure the safety of children.

- You should explain to children, young people and families at the outset, openly and honestly, what and how information will, or could be shared and why, and seek their agreement. The exception to this is where to do so would put that child, young person or others at increased risk of significant harm or an adult at risk of serious harm, or if it would undermine the prevention, detection or prosecution of a serious crime including where seeking consent might lead to interference with any potential investigation.
- You must always consider the safety and welfare of a child or young person when making decisions on whether to share information about them. Where there is concern that the child may be suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm, the child's safety and welfare must be the overriding consideration.
- You should, where possible, respect the wishes of children, young people or families who do not consent to share confidential information. You may still share information, if in your judgment on the facts of the case; there is sufficient need in the public interest to override that lack of consent.
- You should seek advice where you are in doubt, especially where your doubt relates to a concern about possible significant harm to a child or serious harm to others.
- You should ensure that the information you share is accurate and up-to-date, necessary for the purpose for which you are sharing it, shared only with those people who need to see it, and shared securely.
- You should always record the reasons for your decision – whether it is to share information or not.

### **Derbyshire Partnership Forum Information Sharing Protocol**

The aim of this Protocol is to provide a framework for the partner organisations to establish and regulate working practice. It is recognised that the lawful sharing of information between partner agencies is essential to meet this aim.

**A copy of the DPF information sharing protocol can be found at:**

[http://www.derbyshirepartnership.gov.uk/about\\_us/](http://www.derbyshirepartnership.gov.uk/about_us/)



## Section 19 - Responding to concerns or a disclosure

In the first instance you should always follow your own organisation's procedures and protocols for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children in your area, and know who to contact in your organisation to express concerns about a child's welfare.

Staff working with children should be familiar with the guidance in the DSCB Safeguarding procedures.

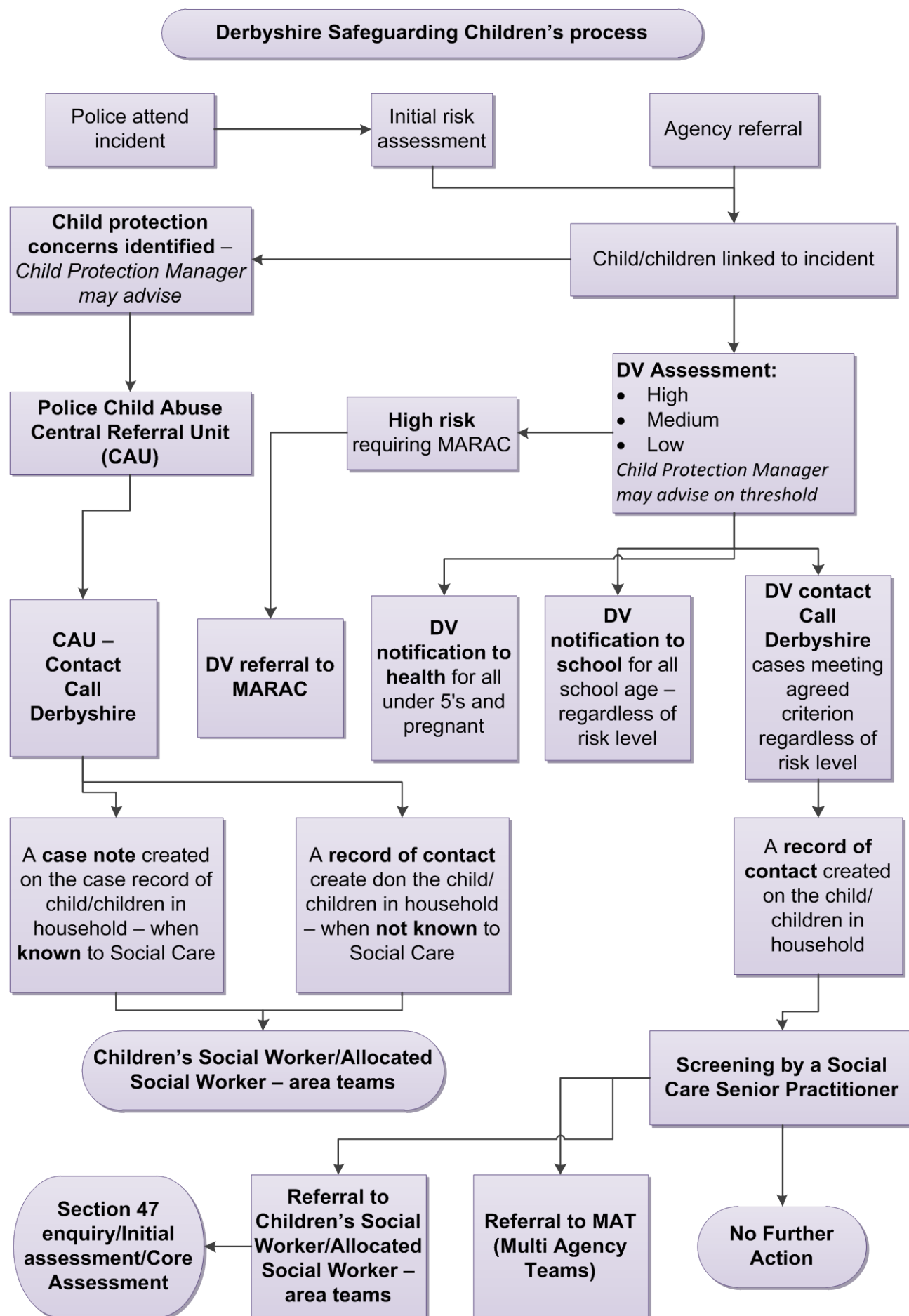
General guidance for responding to a disclosure from a child includes:

- Listen and be supportive, avoid questioning the child.
- Don't stop a child who is freely recalling events, but don't push the child to tell you more than he/she wishes.
- Tell the child or young person that you will need to pass this on.
- Take advice from the appropriate person in your organisation and follow any internal procedures.
- Write an account of the conversation as soon as possible.

**For more information about Information sharing please visit:**

<http://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/commonassessmentframework/InfoSharingGuideforPractandManagers.pdf>

## Section 20 – Derbyshire County Safeguarding Children’s process



### What is a ‘forced marriage’?

This is a marriage that happens **without** the full and free consent of both people. ‘Force’ can include:

- physical force
- being emotionally pressurised
- being threatened
- Being a victim of psychological abuse.

‘Forced marriages’ are not the same as ‘arranged marriages’. In an arranged marriage, families take the lead in selecting and introducing a marriage partner and the couple have **free will** and **choice** to accept or reject the arrangement.

In June 2012 the Government announced that forced marriage is to be made a criminal offence in England and Wales and will carry a maximum custodial sentence of five years imprisonment.

### Warning signs

Below are some warning signs that may indicate the possibility of an impending forced marriage:

- Extended absence from school/college, truancy, drop in performance, low motivation, excessive parental restriction and control of movements and history of siblings leaving education early to marry
- Poor attendance in the workplace, poor performance, parental control of income and limited career choices
- Evidence of self-harm, treatment for depression, attempted suicide, social isolation, eating disorders or substance abuse
- Evidence of family disputes/conflict, domestic violence/abuse or running away from home.

### One chance rule

One Chance rule indicates that practitioners working with victims of forced marriage and honour-based violence need to be aware they may only have one chance to speak to a potential victim and thus they may only have one chance to save a life. This means that all practitioners working within statutory agencies need to be aware of their responsibilities and obligations when they come across forced marriage cases.

### Mediation

Mediation, reconciliation and family counselling as a response to forced marriage can be extremely dangerous. Professionals undertaking these activities may unwittingly increase the victim’s vulnerability and place them in danger.

**What help is available:**

Where criminal offences have been committed e.g. assault, kidnap or false imprisonment the police can assist with a prosecution.

Where there are any safeguarding issues the relevant services should be contacted e.g. Adult Social Care and Children and Young People's Services.

A Forced Marriage Protection Order can be applied for through the civil courts in order to prevent a forced marriage from occurring.

**What is a Forced Marriage Protection Order?**

A victim of forced marriage, or somebody else on their behalf, can apply to a Court in England and Wales for a Forced Marriage Protection Order.

This Order is granted by a judge and can be used to prevent someone being forced into a marriage or to protect someone who has already been the victim of a forced marriage.

The Order aims to change the behaviour of anyone who is trying to force someone into marriage. It is a legal document and places conditions on their behaviour. If they disobey the Order, they could be arrested and sent to prison for up to two years.

For advice and assistance making applications for FMPO's, please contact Derby Domestic & Sexual Violence Team on 07812 300927.

**For more information on Forced Marriage you can visit the Forced Marriage Unit website at:**

<https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage#forced-marriage-unit>

## Section 22 – Honour based violence

Honour based violence occurs when an individual is punished by their family and/or community for behaving in a manner which is believed to have brought shame or dishonour. This type of violence can be distinguished from other forms of violence as it is often committed with some degree and / or collusion from the family and/or community.

Honour based violence includes acts of harassment, assault, imprisonment, unexplained death (suicide), forced pregnancy/abortion and in some cases murder. The family may perceive that the person has acted inappropriately and dishonoured the family and community, the violence carried out is to punish them for this.

Signs may include:

- Family history of relatives gone missing, self-harm or suicide.
- Relatives making decisions on behalf of the victim.
- Victims may truant or have extended absences from school due to policing at home.
- Victims may report that they are being kept at home against their will.
- There may be a decline in academic or work performance.
- The victim may report threats to kill which tend to be credible.
- Victims may report they are being emotionally blackmailed.
- Victims may be isolated due to physical, financial or cultural barriers.
- Victims may suffer from depression, self-harm or attempt suicide.
- Psycho-somatic symptoms.
- Emotional and/or physical abuse.

For advice and assistance, please contact the Derby Domestic & Sexual Violence Team on 07812 300927.

**For more information on Honour Based Violence please visit:**

<http://www.karmanirvana.org.uk/>

## Section 23 – Female genital mutilation

Female genital mutilation (FGM) includes procedures that intentionally alter or injure female genital organs for non-medical reasons. It is mostly carried out on young girls sometimes between infancy and age 15 years. It is illegal to practice FGM in the UK and is a form of child abuse and sexual violence. There aren't any health benefits associated with FGM and it often results in long term consequences.

### **What are the signs that a child may be at risk of FGM?**

Suspensions may arise in a number of ways that a child is being prepared for FGM to take place abroad including:

- A mother, sibling or close family member who has had the procedure herself.
- Knowing that the family belongs to a community in which FGM is practised. UK communities that are most at risk of FGM include Kenyans, Somalis, Sudanese, Sierra Leoneans, Egyptians, Nigerians and Eritreans. However women from non-African communities that are at risk of FGM include Yemeni, Kurdish, Indonesian and Pakistani women.
- Knowing that the family is making preparations for the child to take a holiday, arranging vaccinations or planning absence from school.
- The child may also talk about a 'special procedure / ceremony' that is going to take place. Girls are at particular risk of FGM during summer holidays. This is the time when families may take their children abroad for the procedure. Many girls may not be aware that they may be at risk of undergoing FGM.

### **Indicators that FGM may have taken place**

Health practitioners in GP surgeries, sexual health clinics, schools and maternity services are the most likely to encounter a girl or woman who has been subjected to FGM.

Other Indicators that FGM may already have occurred include:

- Prolonged absence from school.
- Noticeable behaviour change on return.
- Long periods away from classes or other normal activities, possibly with bladder or menstrual problems.
- Some teachers have described how children find it difficult to sit still and look uncomfortable or may complain of pain between their legs.

If you have concerns that a girl or young woman may be taken overseas for FGM then you should call children's social care and/or the Police immediately

**Guidance on how to respond to FGM is included in the Safeguarding Children**

**Procedures:** <http://www.derbyshirescb.org.uk/procedures/>

**Support should also be offered to a woman who has experienced FGM. Further guidance is available in the safeguarding procedures:**

[http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what\\_we\\_do/safeguarding\\_adults/default.asp](http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what_we_do/safeguarding_adults/default.asp)



## Section 24 – No recourse to Public Funds

No recourse to public funds (NRPF) refers to destitute people from abroad who are subject to immigration control and have no entitlement to welfare benefits, Home Office support for asylum seekers or public housing.

The national 'no recourse to public funds' policy is a general rule for most people who apply to come to the UK.

However, the government is aware of the difficulties victims of domestic abuse face, in particular those who can't access public funds. Because of this, the government provides help to these victims who have been admitted to the UK with leave as spouses, unmarried partners or civil partners of a British citizen, or of a non-citizen who is settled in the UK.

This allows domestic abuse victims to apply for indefinite leave to remain in their own right, if they have been victims of domestic abuse during the first 2 years of that relationship.

### **The Domestic Violence Rule**

If the victim's relationship with a British citizen or a person settled in the UK has broken down as a result of domestic abuse, they may be able to apply for indefinite leave to remain. This is also referred to as permission to settle in the UK permanently.

To be given permission to settle as a victim of domestic abuse, they must prove that:

- They have been given permission to enter or remain in the UK as the husband, wife, civil partner or unmarried/same-sex partner of a British citizen or a person settled here (even if that permission is no longer valid);
- The relationship was existing and genuine (not a 'marriage of convenience', for example) when they were last given permission to enter or remain or they were last given leave in order to access public funds while they applied for indefinite leave on the basis of domestic abuse; and
- They were the victim of domestic abuse, and this is what caused the relationship to break down before the end of their permission to enter or remain.

Continued

### **Destitution Domestic Violence Concession**

On 1 April 2012 the UK Border Agency (UKBA) introduced the Destitution Domestic Violence (DDV) concession to replace The Sojourner Project. A person who successfully qualifies for this concession will receive temporary leave for three months, which allows them to apply for access to public funds (including jobseeker's allowance, income support and housing benefit). During this three month period the person should make a separate application for indefinite leave to remain under the Domestic Violence Rule.

There are strict eligibility criteria for the concession, which applies to single adults and adults with children. To meet the UKBA's criteria a person must:

- Have entered the UK or been given leave to remain as a spouse, civil partner, unmarried or same sex partner of a British citizen or someone present and settled in the UK; and
- have had that relationship break down due to domestic violence; and
- be destitute and in need of financial help; and
- intend to make a claim to stay permanently in the UK under the Domestic Violence Rule.

Spouses of EEA nationals do not fall within the scope of the concession and, at the present time, it does not cover the spouses of Commonwealth soldiers resident in the UK.

### **The role of Social Care**

Social services departments should assess a person or family fleeing domestic violence in these circumstances in the usual way, taking into account a local authority's duty to protect victims of domestic violence.

Where a person appears eligible for the DDV concession, the proportionate response is likely to be the provision of temporary support while their notification is processed.

The DDV concession only applies to people whose leave to enter or remain in the UK was as a partner of a British citizen or person settled in the UK and so social services departments may come across cases where the concession will not apply. In this situation the presenting person or family should be assessed in the usual way, taking into consideration whether they have no recourse to public funds under Schedule 3 Nationality and Immigration Act 2002.

**For more information regarding no recourse to public funds please visit:**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/while-in-uk/domesticviolence/>

## Section 25 – Male victims of domestic abuse

Domestic abuse is very common. Statistics indicate that significant numbers of men experience domestic abuse at some point in their lives. Male victims, like female victims, may live with domestic abuse for years before they tell anyone or seek help.

Many men initially find it incredibly difficult to talk about their experience of domestic violence. Some feel that the very fact that they have suffered abuse somehow weakens them in their own or other people's eyes.

They fear the ridicule or disbelief of friends, colleagues and outside agencies, and worry they might fit the old stereotype of the 'hen-pecked' or bullied husband/partner.

They feel that they should be able to shrug off verbal, emotional, and sometimes physical violence from a partner, and that to talk about this or ask for help makes them less of a man. A 'real' man should be stoical, self-sufficient and able to cope in all situations

### **Derbyshire Support and Advice for Men**

Derbyshire Support and Advice for Men (DSAM) offers a specialist male advice line for males experiencing domestic abuse. A trained advice line worker is available on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10am to 4pm.

All of the outreach services in Derbyshire County and Derby City provide support to male victims of domestic abuse. Details of your local outreach service can be found in the directory.

Derbyshire has one of the few refuges for males fleeing domestic abuse in the Country. The refuge is managed by Derbyshire SAM and is able to accommodate three males at any one time. There is a dedicated male refuge worker available to provide support.

If you are looking for accommodation for a male victim of domestic abuse please contact Derbyshire Support and Advice for Men (SAM) on 08000 198 668 or alternatively contact National Men's Advice Line on 0808 801 0327.

**For more information about DSAM please visit: <http://www.derbyshiresam.org.uk/>**

## Section 26 – Male victims of sexual violence

It is estimated that around 1 in 20 men have been sexually assaulted at least once in their lifetime.

Men can be victims of sexual attack regardless of their sexual orientation. While the attacker is more often male, men can be and are sexually assaulted by women.

Effects vary from individual to individual, but common effects include:

- Feelings of isolation, depression, anger, anxiety, issues about sexuality and gender.
- Substance abuse, self-harm, eating disorders, negative body image, fears about abusing, hyperconsciousness of body and appearance, and even split or multiple personalities.
- Difficulty in forming healthy relationships.

All rape and serious sexual assault victims suffer in many different ways, some responses are gender specific, and some are not.

Few people even realise that male rape exists. A man who is trying to come to terms with a sexual assault can feel like there is nowhere to turn. But secondly, society itself places certain expectations on men - they are supposed to be “strong” and “able to take care of themselves”. This only heightens the sense of confusion and self-doubt felt by survivors of male rape and sexual abuse; many of them end up blaming themselves specifically when the sexual abuse happened when the victim was a child. As an adult they will question themselves as to why they did not try to stop the abuser, but this is because they are now reflecting on the memory as an adult.

Because there is less awareness of males as victims of sexual assault, they may not come forward to report the assault to the police through fear that they will not be believed. Other fears include how they will be viewed by friends and family. The police know how difficult it is for victims to come forward and will be sensitive to the situation and treat the case with consideration. It is important that men report cases of sexual assault and to seek the help and support they need.

**For more information about support available in Derby or Derbyshire please visit:**  
[www.sv2.org.uk](http://www.sv2.org.uk)

## Section 27 – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender & domestic abuse

Same sex domestic abuse is defined as

*“domestic abuse carried out by an intimate partner within a relationship where both parties are the same gender.”*

Domestic abuse in a Trans relationship, where one or both partners may be Trans may be heterosexual domestic abuse or same sex domestic abuse, depending on the partners involved in the relationship.

There is a further dimension to domestic abuse in the case of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT). Domestic abuse **as a result** of being LGBT is defined as domestic abuse carried out by family members or a former heterosexual partner against someone because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. There is a hate crime element to this form of domestic abuse and in some cases there may be elements of honour based crime or forced marriage.

When carrying out a risk assessment the CAADA DASH form is used.

There are significant additional factors for victims of LGBT domestic abuse, both in the nature of the abuse they may suffer and barriers to reporting and accessing support.

### Key factors:

- Having to ‘out’ themselves when reporting. In some cases repeatedly e.g. to police, health professionals, during court proceedings.
- Fear of being ‘outed’
  - Unintentionally - by police or service providers
  - Intentionally - by the perpetrator to friends, family or work colleagues as an abusive tool, or in retaliation for reporting.
- Fear of a hostile or insensitive approach by service providers – this can be either justified or not by previous experience or prior community perceptions.
- Assumptions that there is equal power or that it is an equal fight within a same sex relationship.
- Lack of understanding on the victims’ part about what domestic abuse is, or the belief that that abuse is an accepted part of LGBT relationships.
- Sexuality used as a tool to abuse – perpetrator may ridicule or belittle victim that they are ‘not a real lesbian/gay man/woman because of...’
- Gender Identity used as a tool to abuse, questioning gender identity, ridiculing or belittling appearance, targeting abuse at post-operative areas of the body.
- Preventing someone from being out about their sexuality or gender identity as a tool of abuse.
- Questioning somebody’s own definition about their sexuality or gender identity.
- Using children as a tool of abuse, threatening to refuse access because of sexuality or gender identity, threatening to ‘out’ the victim to children, questioning their suitability as a parent, encouraging children to be homophobic or transphobic.

Continued

- Community – Victim may not report domestic abuse as doing so would mean the close knit social circle or LGBT community would find out and possibly ostracise them.
- Isolation within the LGBT community and/or within the wider community used as a tool of abuse.
- Lack of specialised services – including specialist safety planning, limited crisis housing for male victims and issues with refuges for females not allowing female perpetrators access.

### **Services:**

In addition to Domestic Violence services LGBT individuals can be referred to:

- Broken Rainbow: 0845 260 4460 or [www.broken-rainbow.org.uk](http://www.broken-rainbow.org.uk).  
A helpline providing information and support to LGBT victims of domestic abuse.
- Derbyshire Friend: 01332 207702 or [www.gayderbyshire.org.uk](http://www.gayderbyshire.org.uk).  
Specialist LGBT support services for people in Derby city and Derbyshire.

### **Further information**

For Broken Rainbow policies, research and resources please visit:

<http://www.broken-rainbow.org.uk/policy.html>

For a Caada Briefing on LGBT domestic abuse please visit:

[www.caada.org.uk/policy/Briefing-on-LGBT-domestic-abuse.pdf](http://www.caada.org.uk/policy/Briefing-on-LGBT-domestic-abuse.pdf)

For a power and control wheel for LGBT domestic abuse please visit:

<http://www.caada.org.uk/policy/LGBT-Power-and-Control-Wheel.pdf>

## Section 28 – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender & sexual violence

The definition of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) sexual violence is:

*Any Sexual Violence where the victim identifies as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Trans.  
The sexual orientation or gender identity of the perpetrator is not important.*

Sexual Violence is just as traumatic for LGBT people and whilst some of the physical and emotional effects will be the same as for any other person there are some additional factors to consider.

### **Key factors:**

- Having to 'out' themselves when reporting. In some cases repeatedly e.g. to police, health professionals, during court proceedings.
- Fear of being 'outed'
  - Unintentionally - by police or service providers
  - Intentionally - by the perpetrator to friends, family or work colleagues in retaliation for reporting.
- Fear of a hostile or insensitive approach by service providers – this can be either justified or not by previous experience or historical perspective.
- Lack of specialised services – in particular for male victims.
- Assumptions that sexual violence does not happen between people of the same sex e.g. that a woman cannot sexually assault another woman.
- Assumptions around what is normal sexual behaviour for LGB or T people or that they were willing partners. If it is unwanted by the victim then it is sexual violence.
- Fear of being ostracised from the LGBT community.
- Physical damage to newly constructed genitalia for Transsexual individuals. If someone has gone through the gender reassignment surgery it will have been a long and difficult personal journey to get to that point and beyond; if they are then subjected to sexual violence this can be extremely traumatic and may even result in permanent damage.
- Sexual identity attacked - sexual violence that has occurred as a result of a person being LGB or T - If the sexual violence has occurred because the victim was LGB or T the individual may feel that their sexual identity has been attacked or blame their sexual orientation or gender identity and this may have an increased impact on coping.

### **Further information**

Male rape: information and advice for gay men guide please visit:

<http://www.healthygaynottingham.org.uk/pdf/MALERape.pdf>

## Section 29 – Disability & domestic abuse

If the client is disabled, their abuser may also be their carer, or their personal assistant (P.A.) and they may be reliant on him/her for personal care or mobility.

A person with a disability can be subject to physical, psychological, sexual or financial violence in any or all of the ways that non-disabled person can, but in addition they may experience the following forms of abusive behaviour:

- The abuser may withhold care or undertake it neglectfully or abusively.
- The abuser may remove mobility or sensory devices that are needed for independence.
- The abuser may be claiming state benefits in order to care for the client - enabling them to control their finances more effectively.
- The abuser may use the disability to taunt or degrade the client.
- If the client is experiencing domestic abuse and is disabled, they may find it harder to protect themselves or to access sources of help.
- They may be more physically vulnerable than a non-disabled person.
- They may be less able to remove themselves from an abusive situation.
- They may be socially isolated both because of their disability and as a result of their abuser's control of their social relationships.
- They may find it harder to disclose abuse because they have no opportunity to see health or social care professionals without their abuser being present.
- They may have particular concerns about moving out of their home: it may have been specially adapted for them, or perhaps a care package has been organised and they are worried that they will lose their current level of independence if they are forced to move elsewhere.
- They may be reluctant to report domestic abuse from a partner whose care they depend on, and which they believe enables them to stay out of institutional care.

The Forced Marriage Unit is also seeing a significant increase in the number of people with learning disabilities who are being forced into marriage for the purposes of securing visas etc.

If you have concerns that someone with a disability is a victim of domestic abuse you should follow the Derby City and Derbyshire County safeguarding adults policy and procedures.

**Copies of policy and procedures can be found on the following websites:**

**Derby City:** <http://www.derbysab.org.uk/>

**Derbyshire:**

[http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what\\_we\\_do/safeguarding\\_adults/default.asp](http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what_we_do/safeguarding_adults/default.asp)



## Section 30 – Disability & Sexual Violence

People with disabilities can experience abuse just like anyone else. The extent of abuse amongst people with disabilities is not really known because, although some research is available, abuse often remains unreported for a variety of reasons. However, from what is known, it seems that people with disabilities are at increased risk of abuse.

Research undertaken by Women's Aid in 2008 suggested that sexual violence "appeared to be more proportionately common in disabled women than in non-disabled women."

Disabled people may be at increased risk of sexual violence for the following reasons (some of these are specific to people with a learning disability):

- They may lack the capacity to consent to sexual relations.
- They may be unable to recognise that abuse has taken place.
- They may be afraid to or unable to challenge the abuse.
- They may have been dependent upon care staff etc. for a long period of time.
- They may feel that no-one will believe them.

The effect of sexual violence can leave victims experiencing physical, psychological and emotional effects including depression, guilt, self-blame and low self-esteem.

In many cases sexual violence is committed by someone known to the victim, which can result in their trust in carers, family and friends also being affected.

If you are concerned that a disabled person is experiencing / has experienced sexual violence you should follow Derby City and Derbyshire County safeguarding adults policy and procedures.

**Copies of policy and procedures can be found on the following websites:**

**Derby City:** <http://www.derbysab.org.uk/>

**Derbyshire County:**

[http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what\\_we\\_do/safeguarding\\_adults/default.asp](http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what_we_do/safeguarding_adults/default.asp)

## Section 31 – Volunteer domestic abuse perpetrator programme

Domestic Abuse perpetrator programmes are behaviour change programmes that aim to:

- help men stop being violent and abusive
- help them learn how to relate to their partners in a respectful and equal way
- show them non-abusive ways of dealing with difficulties in their relationships and cope with their anger
- keep their partner safer

North Derbyshire Women's Aid has been successful in obtaining lottery funding to develop a voluntary perpetrator programme for Derbyshire. The programme consists of three elements:

- Assessment – to assess if the male is suitable for the programme
- Group work – divided into three stages:
  - pre group lasting for 2 weeks
  - Main group – rolling programme of 25 weeks
  - Maintenance lasting 6 weeks
- Women's safety work – proactive engagement with the partner

### **Criteria for acceptance on the programme**

- He is able in some way to acknowledge his use of violence and abuse
- He can see that his use of violence is a problem in and of itself
- He is able to accept responsibility for ending his use of violence and abuse
- He understands the conditions that apply to his attendance on the programme
- He is not involved in on-going criminal justice proceeding for domestic abuse

For more information about the programme in Derbyshire please contact North Derbyshire Women's Aid on 01246 551889.

## County wide

### **Derbyshire Domestic Abuse helpline**

County wide telephone helpline for anyone experiencing domestic abuse in Derbyshire. Service available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

08000 198 668

### **Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service**

Support for victims of domestic abuse who have been referred to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

01246 540444

idva.team@ndwa.cjsm.net

### **Derbyshire Support and Advice for Men**

Specialist helpline for male victims of domestic abuse. Service available Monday – Friday 10 - 4

08000 198668 (option 2).

[www.derbyshiresam.org.uk](http://www.derbyshiresam.org.uk)

### **Hadhari Nari**

Specialist support for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) victims of domestic abuse. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.30pm.

01332 270101

Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk

[www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/](http://www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/)

### **Victim Support**

Low risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse in Derbyshire. Service available Monday to Friday from 8am to 8pm.

0300 303 1947

Leics.vcu@victimsupport.gsm.net

[www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)

### **SV2**

Support for anyone who has been the victim of sexual violence in Derbyshire. Helpline available 24 hours per day. Email available weekdays 9am to 5pm.

01773 746115

help@sv2.org.uk

[www.sv2.org.uk](http://www.sv2.org.uk)

### **Sexual Assault Referral Centre & Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA)**

The SARC provides medical care and forensic examination following sexual assault or rape, counseling and sexual health services for anyone aged 14 years and over. Service available 24/7. The ISVA is a trained specialist offering practical and emotional support to anyone over the age of 16.

01773 746115

help@sv2.org.uk

[www.sv2.org.uk](http://www.sv2.org.uk)

### **Derbyshire Friend**

Specialist service for LGBT people living in Derbyshire.

01332 207704

info@gayderbyshire.org.uk

[www.gayderbyshire.org.uk](http://www.gayderbyshire.org.uk)

# Amber Valley

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## **North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

08000 198 668

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

## **Refuge – NCHA**

Supported housing project which provides emergency, short term refuge for women and children fleeing domestic abuse. Derbyshire WISH community properties are available to either women or men and their children.

01773 765 900

[wishsouth@ncha.org.uk](mailto:wishsouth@ncha.org.uk)

[www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341](http://www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341)

## **Children and Young People Service - Trident Reach**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse, including those living in refuge accommodation.

0800 0884 194

[www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org](http://www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org)

# Bolsover

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## **North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

08000 198 668

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

## **Bolsover District Council – Sharon Ryan, IDVA– North Bolsover.**

01246 593063

[sharon.ryan@bolsover.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.ryan@bolsover.gcsx.gov.uk)

[www.bolsover.gov.uk/domestic-violence.html](http://www.bolsover.gov.uk/domestic-violence.html)

## **Refuge – North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Supported housing - provides emergency, short term refuge for women and children.

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

## **Housing Related – Derbyshire WISH**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area.

01773 765 900

[wishsouth@ncha.org.uk](mailto:wishsouth@ncha.org.uk)

[www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=387](http://www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=387)

## **Children and Young People Service**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse, including those living in refuge accommodation.

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

<http://www.ndwa.org.uk>

# Chesterfield

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## **North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

08000 198 668

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

## **Refuge – North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Supported housing which provides emergency, short term refuge for women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

<http://www.ndwa.org.uk>

## **Housing Related Support –**

### **North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

<http://www.ndwa.org.uk>

## **Children and Young People Service - North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse, including those living in refuge accommodation.

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

<http://www.ndwa.org.uk>

# Derby City

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## **Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service**

Support for victims of domestic abuse who have been referred to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

07812 300927

[dsvu@derby.gov.uk](mailto:dsvu@derby.gov.uk)

## **Hadhari Nari**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse in Derby City. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.30pm.

01332 270101

[Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk](mailto:Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk)

[www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/](http://www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/)

## **Refuge – Hadhari Nari**

Provides accommodation for women and children affected by domestic abuse. Although it is targeted primarily at black and minority ethnic women, it is open to anyone in need of its services.

01332 270101

[Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk](mailto:Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk)

[www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/](http://www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/)

## **Housing Related Support – Hadhari Nari**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area

01332 270101

[Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk](mailto:Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk)

[www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/](http://www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/)

# Derbyshire Dales

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## **Hadhari Nari**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.30pm

01332 270101

[Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk](mailto:Advice.centre@metropolitan.org.uk)

[www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/](http://www.metropolitan.org.uk/support-services/hadhari-nari-womens-refuge/)

## **Refuge - Derbyshire WISH**

Supported housing project which provides emergency, short term refuge for women and children fleeing domestic abuse. Properties are available to either women or men and their children.

01457 857714

[wishnorth@ncha.org.uk](mailto:wishnorth@ncha.org.uk)

[www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341](http://www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341)

## **Housing Related Support**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area

01457 857714

[wishnorth@ncha.org.uk](mailto:wishnorth@ncha.org.uk)

[www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=389](http://www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=389)

## **North Dales Children & Young People's Service - High Peak Women's Aid**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse in North Dales, including those living in refuge accommodation.

01457 855199

[cafs@gwa.f2s.com](mailto:cafs@gwa.f2s.com)

[www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk](http://www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk)

## **South Dales Children and Young People's Service – Trident Reach**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse in South Dales, including those living in refuge accommodation.

0800 0884 194

[www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org](http://www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org)

# Erewash

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## **Refuge - Derbyshire WISH**

Supported housing project which provides emergency, short term refuge for women & children fleeing domestic abuse. Properties are available to either women or men and their children.

01773 765 900

wishsouth@ncha.org.uk

[www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341](http://www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341)

## **Housing Related Support – Trident Reach**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area.

0800 0884 194

[www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org](http://www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org)

## **Children & Young People Service - Trident Reach**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse, including those living in refuge accommodation.

0800 0884 194

[www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org](http://www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org)

# High Peak

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## **High Peak Women's Aid**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse.

01457 856675

[gwa@f2s.com](mailto:gwa@f2s.com)

[www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk](http://www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk)

## **Refuge - Derbyshire WISH**

Supported housing project which provides emergency, short term refuge for women and children fleeing domestic abuse. Properties are available to either women or men and their children.

01457 857714

wishnorth@ncha.org.uk

[www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341](http://www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=341)

## **Housing Related Support – Derbyshire WISH**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area.

01457 857714

wishnorth@ncha.org.uk

[www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=389](http://www.personalisedsupport.co.uk/ui/content/content.aspx?ID=389)

## **Children and Young People's Service - High Peak Women's Aid**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse in High Peak, including those living in refuge accommodation.

01457 855199

[cafs@gwa.f2s.com](mailto:cafs@gwa.f2s.com)

[www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk](http://www.highpeakwomensaid.org.uk)



# North East Derbyshire

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## **North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

08000 198 668

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

## **Refuge - North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Supported housing which provides emergency, short term refuge for women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

## **Housing Related Support – North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

## **Children and Young People Service - North Derbyshire Women's Aid**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse in North East Derbyshire, including those living in refuge accommodation.

08000 198 668

[help@ndwa.org.uk](mailto:help@ndwa.org.uk)

[www.ndwa.org.uk](http://www.ndwa.org.uk)

# South Derbyshire

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## **Next Step (against domestic abuse)**

Medium risk outreach provision for females and males experiencing domestic abuse. Service available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

01283 229854

[nextstep2@btconnect.com](mailto:nextstep2@btconnect.com)

[www.next-step.org/](http://www.next-step.org/)

## **Refuge – Trident Reach**

Lemon Grove is a women's refuge providing safe emergency accommodation for women fleeing domestic abuse.

0800 0884 194

[www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org](http://www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org)

## **Housing Related Support – Trident Reach**

Provides support to males and females fleeing or living with domestic abuse. Help and support delivered in the person's home if it is safe to do so, or at any safe venue in the area

0800 0884 194

[www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org](http://www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org)

## **Children & Young People Service - Trident Reach**

Service for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse, including those living in refuge accommodation.

0800 0884 194

[www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org](http://www.reachdomesticabusesupport.org)