

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET30 May 2024Report by Director of EnvironmentDOMESTIC ABUSE COUNCIL HOUSING POLICY**PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval for a new Domestic Abuse Housing Policy to ensure a sensitive, consistent and equitable approach to finding suitable housing solutions for Council tenants that are victims of domestic abuse.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that Cabinet consider and approve for adoption of the Domestic Abuse Housing Policy.

BACKGROUND

3. Police Scotland's definition of domestic abuse is:

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

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/domestic-abuse/what-is-domestic-abuse>

4. The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 came into force 1 April 2019. This Act created a new statutory offence of engaging in a course of behaviour which is abusive of a partner or ex-partner.

5. East Renfrewshire Council have always supported those fleeing domestic abuse by using the duties set out in the Housing Scotland Act 1987. However, with the introduction of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, it is appropriate to introduce a policy to complement this legislation, and ensure the council has robust measures to support those affected.

6. This policy reflects the guidance contained in the document entitled "Domestic Abuse: A Good Practice Guide for Social Landlords", which was published in August 2019, jointly by the Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers (ALACHO), the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH), the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA), Shelter Scotland, Scottish Woman's Aid, and COSLA.

7. The fundamental principle that underpins this guidance is that the victims of domestic abuse have the right to have control of their life outcomes including whether to remain in the home or move out. The wishes of the victim will remain at the centre of the council's approach.

REPORT

8. In the past those fleeing domestic abuse were encouraged to present to the local authority as homeless. This can be a traumatic and daunting experience, especially for those with children, as this often involves moving away from their home, schools, support networks and putting themselves in a position of uncertainty. This can result in many victims remaining with the perpetrator, and therefore in danger. However many victims of domestic abuse wish to remain at home.

9. In 2020/21, 65 (17%) of 372 households cited 'Dispute within Household: Violent or Abusive' as their reason for homelessness in East Renfrewshire. However in 2022/23 we saw an increase to 21.1% with 94 of 446 applicants citing this as their reason for homelessness.

10. This policy sets out how to offer victims of domestic abuse choice in how their housing situation is progressed. With support from Housing Services, tenants that are victims of domestic abuse will be assisted to make informed choices in respect of their housing situation. This includes safety measures to allow them to remain in their own home, and accessing all housing options, such as social housing, the private rented sector and access to refuge or temporary accommodation.

11. The policy also outlines the need for a consistent systematic approach to dealing with domestic abuse, commitment to domestic abuse training for all relevant housing staff and regular oversight of the policy with monitoring and evaluation.

12. In implementing the policy, the following outcomes are anticipated:

- Increased use of a range of housing options to ensure informed choice and the best outcomes for victims of domestic abuse; and
- A more sensitive and consistent approach to victims of domestic abuse with regard to housing.

Next Steps

13. An implementation plan will be developed to ensure that the policy is embedded across Housing Services and the Violence Against Women Partnership (VAW). East Renfrewshire's VAW Partnership is the multi-agency mechanism to deliver on Equally Safe: Scotland's strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls at a local strategic level.

14. A review of staff training will be undertaken to ensure housing staff are prepared to support tenants seeking support. Any future training needs will be identified where required and as highlighted by the Violence Against Women's Partnership.

15. Regular reports will be submitted to the Violence Against Women Partnership and the policy reviewed when required.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

16. Housing staff will need to participate in regular training, with external subject experts in order to ensure victims are appropriately supported, the cost at the time are unknown but not expected to exceed £2000.

17. There will be a financial impact for the procurement and installation of security measures to a tenant's home. The costs and scale of works at this time are unknown, it is not anticipated to exceed £3000.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

18. The draft policy has been developed with key partners via the Violence Against Women Partnership.

19. Multiagency partners provided feedback on the initial draft policy and these included ERC Housing Services, Legal Services, Health & Social Care Partnership, including Addiction Services & Health Visitors. In addition, feedback was provided by Women's Aid South Lanarkshire & East Renfrewshire (WASLER), ER Violence Against Women Partnership (VAW) and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

20. Housing Services also met with a group of service users who have lived experience of domestic violence and had previously approached Housing Services for assistance. The purpose of this work was to gain feedback, identify ways improve this service area and inform this policy.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

21. This report has been subject to an assessment of any impacts on Equality & Diversity, Fairness & Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk.

22. There are no implications with these proposals in terms of staffing, legal, property or sustainability.

CONCLUSIONS

23. The report outlines the rationale for a Domestic Abuse Housing Policy to ensure improved outcomes in terms of safety and well-being for victims of domestic abuse.

24. This policy is designed to ensure that tenants experiencing domestic abuse have better housing options and where appropriate can remain in their family home.

RECOMMENDATIONS

25. It is recommended that Cabinet consider and approve for adoption the Domestic Abuse Housing Policy.

Director of Environment

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May 2024

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**East Renfrewshire Council
Domestic Abuse Housing Policy
May 2024**

1. Purpose

This Policy sets out the details of East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services pro-active response in preventing and addressing domestic abuse safely and appropriately. This policy applies to East Renfrewshire Council tenants and all residents at risk of homelessness.

The policy has been developed in conjunction with service providers, women with lived experience of domestic abuse and based on recommendations from the Change, Justice, Fairness research (2017) in particular;

- 1) Domestic Abuse Guidance for Social Landlords developed by – The Association of Local Authority Chief Housing Officers (ALACHO),
- 2) the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH),
- 3) Shelter, Scotland
- 4) Scottish Women's Aid.

Domestic abuse is the second highest reason why people approach the council for housing assistance. We know that domestic abuse disproportionately affects women and children, and is the highest cause of homeless presentations in women in Scotland.

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services is committed to providing a proactive response to preventing and addressing domestic abuse by:

- Providing a sensitive and supportive response to victims of domestic abuse.
- Implementing an early intervention approach working collaboratively with key partners to allow victims to access a range of housing options, advice, information, and support.
- Ensuring all responses meet the needs of everyone irrespective of age, gender, race, class, culture, sexuality or disability complying with East Renfrewshire Council Equality & Diversity policy.

2. Definition

The Scottish Government's definition of domestic abuse is:

'Domestic Abuse (as gender-based abuse), can be perpetrated by partners or ex-partners and can include physical abuse (assault and physical attack involving a range of behaviour), sexual abuse (acts which degrade and humiliate women and are perpetrated against their will, including rape), and mental and emotional abuse (such as threats, verbal abuse, racial abuse, withholding money and other types of controlling behaviour such as isolation from family or friends).'

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2003/09/18185/26440>

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 - this act recognises not only spouses, civil partners and cohabitants but also people in intimate personal relationships who do not live together.

Examples of Abuse (but not limited to the below):

- Emotional/Verbal Abuse: name calling, refusal to trust, stopping contact with family and friends, threats to hurt you or those you care about, blaming you for how they behave and how they treat you, telling you, you can't do anything right, cause you to doubt your parenting skills, threatening to hurt themselves.
- Physical Abuse: hair pulling, punching, kicking, slapping, preventing you from sleeping, controlling what and when you eat, hurting you with objects, forcing you to use drugs and alcohol, harming children or pets.
- Financial Abuse: not allowing you access to money or giving you money and controlling how you spend it, building up debt in your name, not contributing to household bills or stopping you from working.
- Sexual Abuse & Coercion: calling you derogatory names, pressuring you to have sex or perform sex acts, making you feel guilty or ignoring you for not wanting to have sex, involving other, people in sexual activities with you without your consent, hurting you with objects during sex, withholding or controlling your access to contraception or protection, forcing you to participate in or watch pornography, threatening to share intimate images of you with your friends, family or online community.
- Digital Abuse: Accessing and monitoring your social media accounts, tracking your movements and activities using technology, persistent messaging, insisting that you share your passwords, sending negative/insulting messages, sending explicit pictures and demanding you send some in return.

3. Collaborative Working

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services are committed to delivering a collaborative approach to finding positive housing solutions for people affected by domestic abuse including, victims, survivors and perpetrators.

A multi-agency approach to housing and domestic abuse may include;

- East Renfrewshire Council –
 - Housing Services
 - Health and Social Care Partnership
 - Legal Services
 - Education
- Police Scotland
- Women's Aid South Lanarkshire and East Renfrewshire (WASLER)
- Third Sector Agencies
- NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

4. Equalities

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Service will ensure all responses meet the needs of everyone irrespective of age, gender, race, class, culture, sexuality or disability complying with East Renfrewshire Council Equality & Diversity policy.

The Equality Act 2010 places statutory duties on the Council to ensure its functions and related services offer fair access and inclusion through:

- Elimination of unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation
- Advancement of equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not

- Fostering of good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

5. Policy Statement – Guiding Principles

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services will take a proactive housing response to support people experiencing or threatened with domestic abuse. The policy in the main is directed at women as in the large majority of cases they are the victims of abuse. It is important to emphasise that East Renfrewshire Council Housing Service will provide support to any victim of domestic abuse irrespective of gender or age.

In Scotland where gender information was recorded, around four in-five incidents of domestic abuse (81%) in 2021-22 had a female victim and a male suspected perpetrator

In Scotland in 2020-21, just under nine-in-ten (89%) of all domestic abuse incidents occurred in a home or dwelling.

Police Scotland recorded 64,807 incidents of domestic abuse in 2021-22

East Renfrewshire Context

- In 2022-23 94 applicants cited the reason '**Dispute within household: violent or abusive**' as their reason for presenting as homeless within our local authority. 85% of those who applied were women.
- In the last 12 months, 1086 women, children and young people in East Renfrewshire have been supported through Women's Aid's core services and duty helpline.
- Last year, Women's Aid was involved in 118 multi-agency assessments for women and family members at high-risk of serious harm or suicide as a result of domestic abuse.
- In 2022-23 there were 151 referrals to the Social Work Request for Assistance Team where domestic abuse was either the presenting issue, primary concern, or additional concern.
- In 2022-23 there were referrals made for 142 children to the Social Work Request for Assistance Team where domestic abuse was either the presenting issue, primary concern or additional concern.

The priority of this policy is to ensure that victims of domestic abuse are fully supported by East Renfrewshire Council staff, and have access to a range of housing options, advice and information to enable them to make a safe and informed choice.

Our proactive approach includes:

- Reviewing key documentation such as our tenancy agreement and our Anti-social Behaviour policy to ensure they align with this policy.
- Ensuring staff are informed of legislation including the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act, to establish if action can be taken against a perpetrator of domestic abuse.
- Ensuring staff are continuously trained and supported to deliver domestic abuse support, in relation to housing.
- Working collaboratively across all sectors to raise awareness of domestic abuse and to promote prevention.
- Raising awareness of our Domestic Abuse Housing policy, referencing rehousing, relationship breakdowns and where applicable the implications of joint tenancies to all new tenants/ prospective tenants should their relationship breakdown.

- Including information in tenancy handbooks, newsletters, East Renfrewshire Council's intranet and internet on action that will be taken against perpetrators of domestic abuse
- Raising awareness amongst residents and staff that we will take a trauma informed approach to respond safely and appropriately to incidences of domestic abuse
- Publicising our domestic abuse policy to both residents & employees.
- Providing access to information in all public offices and online.
- Treating all incidents of domestic abuse reported as 'high priority', working with victims, respecting their wishes and taking action where we have the power to do so (safeguarding concerns will be the exception to this).
- Providing improved security to a victim's home where the need is identified
- Ensuring all staff are equipped to take an 'eyes and ears' approach to identify domestic abuse, and that they are appropriately trained to do so
- Developing a domestic abuse housing pathway to provide a clear process for housing staff to follow when risk of domestic abuse is identified
- Developing positive relationships with those we support in order to build trust
- Establishing and maintaining good relationships with specialist local groups

5.1 Housing Options

The Housing management team will oversee the implementation of this policy on an ongoing basis. The main principles are outlined below.

Victims of domestic abuse will be offered a range of housing options and advice based on their individual assessed needs and circumstances. Options will include:

- Support for victims to remain in their own home
- Utilising our flexible Allocations Policy to prevent victims becoming homeless where at all possible
- Where applicable utilise measures provided in the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act to prevent the victim becoming homeless
- If required support victims to make a homeless application
- Support victims to transfer a tenancy into their own name if it is a joint tenancy
- Support victims with regard to obtaining permanent housing
- Support victims to access legal advice
- Enable victims to access specialist domestic abuse support
- Remove the perpetrator (where possible) with support to terminate tenancy and with rehousing

5.2 Remain in existing home:

Where possible if a victim of domestic abuse wishes to remain in their own home, we will provide support for them to do so:

- An assessment may be required on the property – we will request the support of Police Scotland to provide recommendations on how to improve safety at the property
- Housing Services will consider recommendations and provide equipment and fitting at no charge to the victim
- Support personal safety planning
- Support rehousing of perpetrator
- Work in partnership with specialist agencies to prioritise the victims safety

5.3 Homelessness

Where a victim of domestic abuse feels it is not safe for them or their family to remain in their existing home East Renfrewshire Council Housing Service will;

- Provide access to emergency temporary accommodation
- Provide suitable available emergency temporary accommodation based on assessed need and risk
- Support victims to access additional support services
- Continuously monitor the temporary accommodation provided in order to review if a move to more suitable temporary accommodation is appropriate
- Ensure our Allocations Policy is flexible enough to consider a range of housing options which suit both the needs of the tenant and landlord
- Offer a comprehensive housing options service to support people into new homes either with East Renfrewshire Council, local RSLs, or within the private rented sector
- Ensure our Allocations Policy is flexible enough to give the Housing Services Manager discretion to ensure victims are not allocated housing that will put them at any further risk
- Reduce financial consequences of homelessness as a result of domestic abuse
 - Offer support to facilitate removal and storage of belongings to enable victims to keep their possessions
 - Offer financial advice or refer for financial support to ensure a victim is not placed in further financial hardship due to becoming homeless
 - Housing Services Manager will use discretion in regards to imposing charges for damages to property that may have occurred due to domestic abuse

For anyone who leaves an abusive relationship (whether victim or perpetrator) we will ensure their transition to their new home is as seamless as possible, supporting customers with all aspects of the move.

5.4 Action Against Perpetrators

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services will follow all reasonable recommendations identified at Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) including, where possible, recommendations on the location of re-housing of the perpetrator. This however may be influenced by any duty owed to the perpetrator under other legislation and housing stock availability.

The overriding consideration in any intervention will be to reduce any potential risk to the victim and others. Legal action will not be pursued by the council where it is likely to increase risk to the victim. Any decision regarding council intervention will be taken in consultation with the victim, police, legal services and support services. Where there is sufficient evidence of a relevant ground for repossession we will consult with legal services and continue to work with the perpetrator throughout the process in regards to their housing options.

Perpetrators who vacate their tenancy following incidents of domestic abuse will be advised of their housing options, supported to terminate their tenancy and supported through our homeless service.

We will give regard to the victim and any children as to their housing need and informed choice. Any decision will be based on the risk posed to the victim and the suitability of the property for their housing needs.

Housing Services will adopt a joint coordinated approach in addressing domestic abuse, liaising with Police Scotland, HSCP, voluntary agencies and community groups to improve communication and promote any initiatives to protect and support victims of domestic abuse.

5.5 Confidentiality

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services recognise the importance of confidentiality to victims and the potential risks. It is essential that the Domestic Abuse Housing policy is underpinned by robust information sharing with appropriate partners.

All information sharing will be compliant with GDPR Adult and Child Protection Procedures/MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) information sharing protocol. The victim will be advised at the start of any meeting that if any information is shared to suggest a child or adult (including self) is at risk of significant harm then this information will be shared with police and social work. The victim will be made aware of any intention to do so and support will be provided during this process.

Sensitive information discussed at interview will be held in a secure file with limited access – only very generic information will be stored on the housing management system.

5.6 Support

To enable us to protect the most vulnerable people in our communities, all staff within Housing Services will be made aware of this policy, their responsibilities, and the benefits of delivering this policy.

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services recognise that separation is a time of increased risk and it is vital victims of domestic abuse are able to access appropriate levels of suitable specialist support ensuring the victim can achieve the best possible outcome. Support may be provided by Council services or in conjunction with specialist support services. Consideration of environment and victims' safety will be given before any discussion will take place. Any arranged interviews will be offered in a location and at a time of the victim's choice where it is safe for both parties.

A same sex advisor will be facilitated if preferred and a single point of contact from the Housing Options Team will be offered to support the victim throughout their housing journey if this can be facilitated. Housing Services recognise that support may also be required during periods of transition or once permanent housing is identified, and we will ensure appropriate support is available according to the needs of the victim.

No Recourse to Public Funds

Immigration status can be used as a tool to control or abuse in domestic abuse relationships and the fear of authorities may prevent a victim seeking help or reporting to the police. Many victims are forced to decide between staying with a perpetrator or facing poverty and street homelessness.

If a victim is identified as having no recourse to public funds, we will work with partners particularly HSCP and Women's Aid to ensure appropriate support is offered. Where there is urgent need for an adult or family, we will consider offering interim accommodation where there is no alternative housing support available. This will be considered for the time required for HSCP to undertake relevant community care and/or GIRFEC (Getting It Right for Every Child) assessments.

Immigration law in the UK is very complex. Housing Services will provide information and contact details for JustRight Scotland to enable victims to access specialist legal advice to help them understand and assess their options.

<http://www.migrationscotland.org.uk/migrants-rights-entitlements>

5.7 Consistent Systematic Approach

In order to meet these objectives, it is important this policy is delivered in a consistent way across Housing Services. Housing managers will ensure effective operation of this policy and will be responsible for making decisions about all tenancy related matters as well as ensuring their staff are adequately trained and supported to be able to work with victims of domestic abuse providing a trauma informed approach to respond safely and appropriately.

5.8 Training

In support of the implementation of this policy Housing Services will ensure that domestic abuse training is mandatory for all staff who may come into contact with tenants, and residents of and applicants to East Renfrewshire Council. Ensuring our staff are adept at spotting the signs of domestic abuse is a key element of the training we require them to undertake, and we are committed to continuously updating and delivering training in this area.

We will also offer any additional training around guidance and legislation as required and will ensure that staff are provided with trauma informed training in order that victims feel comfortable sharing their stories with our staff. Domestic abuse and how we deal with it will be part of our core business and training will be ongoing and re-evaluated to ensure staff are continuously trained as domestic abuse guidance and legislation is published.

5.9 Collaborative/Partnership Working

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services acknowledges the importance of working collaboratively with other services who provide support to victims of domestic abuse, and who work with perpetrators of domestic abuse. It is important to Housing Services that we work effectively with partner agencies to ensure the safety of the victims and hold perpetrators to account.

We will share information where appropriate and in compliance with GDPR in order to provide suitable housing and support.

5.10 Information & Advice

It is understood that disclosing domestic abuse can be a very difficult decision and that it is important that all information and advice provided is clear and accessible to allow victims to make an informed choice in regards to their housing options.

To enable this, we will provide clear accessible information including:

- Information describing victims housing options, relevant sources of support, private interview rooms, and the right to request either a female or male member of staff to talk to
- Ensuring where we can that we offer consistency in terms of staff members to avoid a victim having to re-tell their story
- Ensuring staff are clear and understand that not every victim will want to tell their story but they can still expect the same level of support from Housing Services staff

- Being supported by staff who are fully trained and who use a trauma informed approach to respond safely and appropriately to victims and who are able to signpost and make referrals to appropriate specialised services as required
- Providing an interpreting and translation service in accordance with good practice guidelines and national standards
- Providing information about the law, victims' rights and access to legal advice and support

5.11 Risk Management

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services in support of the implementation of this policy are committed to ensuring all housing staff who come into contact with tenants/applicants will be proficient in identifying, assessing and managing risks of those who have experienced domestic abuse.

Housing Options Officers will use the SafeLives Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence Risk Identification Checklist (DASH) when assessing a victim's levels of risk. The purpose of the checklist is to give a consistent and simple tool for practitioners who work with victims of domestic abuse in order to help them identify those who are at high risk of harm and should be referred to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meeting in order to manage their risk and develop a safety plan.

A domestic abuse housing pathway will be developed to provide a clear process for housing staff to follow when risk is identified and in order that they know the most appropriate way to deal with the risk depending on the seriousness of the situation.

Staff will follow relevant child protection procedures if a child is at risk of domestic abuse.

5.12 Making a positive impact on our customers lives' and in our communities

We will know we are making a positive impact on our customers' lives and our communities when;

- Our communities are safer places for all, with our customers being confident in our response and feeling supported
- We are realising the values of East Renfrewshire Council of being ambitious with our Domestic Abuse Housing Policy, we are showing kindness to those affected by domestic abuse and are ensuring that our staff can be trusted to deal with all incidents of domestic abuse in a confidential and effective way.
- Our staff are confident in dealing with all aspects of domestic abuse, and being alert to signs of abuse
- We have appropriate pathways and referrals systems in place to ensure customers are getting the right support, at the right time
- Our customers affected by domestic abuse have real choice in the housing options available to them

5.13 Responsibilities

Service managers across East Renfrewshire Council Housing Service are responsible for the oversight and operation of this policy.

East Renfrewshire Council Housing Service recognise the importance of consulting with frontline support services and in particular people with lived experience of domestic abuse and

will therefore continue to gather their views as to what is working well and where improvements could be made. We will also ensure that information on support that is available for victims of domestic abuse is shared within our local communities and council buildings.

6. Complaints

We are committed to providing high quality services, however we understand that sometimes things can go wrong. To submit a complaint and see how we handle complaints please go to the link below;

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/make-a-complaint>

7. Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years in consultation with partners and interested parties. This will include gathering and reviewing feedback from staff and management within East Renfrewshire Council Housing Services, tenants and residents, people with lived experience and partners including organisations supporting victims of domestic abuse.

Reviews will consider any changes to legislative, performance and good practice guidance.

8. Support Services

East Renfrewshire Council HSCP Social Work Request for Assistance (Children & Families)	0141 577 8300
East Renfrewshire Council HSCP Social Work Request for Assistance (Adults)	0141 800 7580
Social Work Standby Out of Hours (Children & Families & Adults)	0300 343 1505
Women's Aid South Lanarkshire & East Renfrewshire (WASLER)	0141 404 0015 info@wasler.org.uk
Scottish Domestic Abuse & Forced Marriage Helpline	0800 027 1234
Forced Marriage Unit (FMU)	020 7008 0151
Scottish Women's Rights Centre	0808 801 0789
Rape Crisis	0808 800 0014
Say Women	0141 552 5803
National LGBT Domestic Abuse Helpline	0800 999 5428
Strathclyde Gay & Lesbian Switchboard	0141 847 0447
Scotland's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender	

Domestic Abuse Project
www.lgbtdomesticabuse.org.uk

Broken Rainbow (LGBT)

0845 604460

Commercial Sexual Exploitation

The Encompass Network- Scottish network of agencies working with people at risk of becoming involved in, who are currently involved in, or who have exited selling or exchanging sexual activity/commercial sexual exploitation. The website provides a number of resources, including the safety planning guide and information about exiting.

www.encompassnetwork.info

enquiries@encompassnetwork.org.uk

Male Victims of Domestic Abuse

Survivors UK
 (confidential helpline for men who have experienced rape or sexual abuse) www.survivorsuk.org

0845 122 1201

Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327

BME Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse:

Hemat Gryffe Womens Aid

0141 353 0859

Amina (Muslim Women's Resource Centre)

0808 801 0301

Shakti Womens Aid

0131 475 2399

Children & Young People

Childline

0800 11 11

Womens Aid support for Children

0141 404 0015

<https://www.wasler.org.uk/children-young-people/>

Perpetrators

Respect

0808 802 4040
info@respect.org.uk

Specialist Legal Advice (NRPF)

JustRight Scotland
 Legal helpline
 Tuesday 1pm-4pm/Wednesday 10am-1pm

08088 010789

Ethnic Minorities Law Centre

0141 204 2888
admin@emlc.org.uk

Emergency accommodation for women with NRPF:

Ubuntu Women's Shelter - This shelter can provide 72 hours to 1 week emergency accommodation for women with NRPF. Website: www.ubuntu-glasgow.org.uk/

Telephone number 07570877817

Southhall Black Sisters – This fund is available to support organisations allowing them to cover women with no recourse to public funds housing and subsistence costs. The organisation would have to pay for the costs upfront and they can then apply to get reimbursed through the fund. Website: www.southhallblacksisters.org.uk

Local Scottish Women's Aid groups -Some women's aid groups may be able to provide refuge migrant women with NRPF who are fleeing abuse. However, it will depend on the women's specific situation and the funds available at the group. Check directly with your local women's aid group:

womensaid.scot/find-nearest-wa-group

Telephone number
Email

0800 027 1234
helpline@sdafmh.org.uk

9. Legislative Content

Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) 2021
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018
Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007
Children (Scotland) Act 1995
Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011
Protection from Abuse (Scotland) Act 2001
Housing (Scotland) Act 1987
Housing (Scotland Act) 2001
Housing (Scotland) Act 2006
Housing (Scotland) Act 2014
Homelessness etc. (Scotland) Act 2003

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