



# **Housing Domestic Abuse Policy**

**2025-2028**

## **Equalities Statement**

Bolsover District Council is committed to equalities as an employer and when delivering the services it provides to all sections of the community.

The Council believes that no person should be treated unfairly and is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations between all groups in society.

### **Access for All statement**

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- **Phone:** [01246 242424](tel:01246 242424)
- **Email:** [enquiries@bolsover.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@bolsover.gov.uk)
- **BSL Video Call:** A three-way video call with us and a BSL interpreter. It is free to call Bolsover District Council with Sign Solutions, you just need WiFi or mobile data to make the video call, or call into one of our Contact Centres.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) - a free phone service provided by BT for anyone who has difficulty hearing or speaking. It's a way to have a real-time conversation with us by text.
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**CONTROL SHEET FOR HOUSING DOMESTIC ABUSE POLICY**

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## 1. Introduction

Domestic abuse is a complex crime which anyone can be affected by. The impact of it can last a lifetime, very often, across generations. Tragically, it sometimes leads to the loss of life.

Domestic abuse remains high on the national agenda with the Domestic Abuse Act becoming law in April 2021, extending the definition of Domestic Abuse to include children as victims and survivors. The Government is committed to raising awareness and understanding about the devastating and lasting impact of domestic abuse, further improving the effectiveness of the justice system in providing protection for victims of domestic abuse and bringing perpetrators to justice, as well as strengthening the support for victims and survivors of abuse by statutory agencies.

## 2. Policy Scope

This policy sets out how the Housing department will tackle domestic abuse, support victims and survivors of domestic abuse and hold perpetrators to account.

Dragonfly Management (Bolsover) Ltd, the Council's wholly owned company delivers the repairs and maintenance service on behalf of the Council. This policy applies to Dragonfly officers.

We understand the serious and enduring impact which can be caused by domestic abuse. Therefore, identifying domestic abuse early and providing support to victims and survivors is a key priority for Housing. This will support us to prevent homelessness and improve the safety and wellbeing of residents.

### 2.1 Defining domestic abuse

Bolsover District Council (BDC) Housing department adopts the Government's definition of domestic abuse in the [Domestic Abuse Act \(2021\)](#) and by the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA):

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

- *Psychological / emotional – e.g. victim-blaming, name-calling, belittling*
- *Physical – e.g. hurting or threatening to hurt physically*
- *Sexual – e.g. forced to take part in unwanted, unsafe or degrading activity*

- *Economic – e.g. restricting finances / access to work, getting a victim into debt*
- *Coercive control – e.g. isolating, monitoring, threats, humiliation*

*The Act also recognises the impact of domestic abuse on those who are 'personally connected' and defines what is meant by this as:  
"...intimate partners, ex-partners, family members or individuals who share parental responsibility for a child."*

There is no requirement for the victim and perpetrator to live in the same household.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 recognises that a child who sees or hears, or experiences the effects of, domestic abuse and is related to the person being abused or the perpetrator is also to be regarded as a victim of domestic abuse.

Children living in households where domestic abuse occurs are recognised as victims of that abuse in their own right and our approach reflects this. The safety of all survivors is our priority, and we will inform statutory services where we believe that a child is harmed or at risk due to domestic abuse.

We will also make appropriate safeguarding referrals in respect of any vulnerable adult who may also be impacted by the abuse.

### **3. Policy Principles**

#### **3.1 Our Vision**

The Council is committed to the shared vision for Derby and Derbyshire that everyone can live safe lives, without the threat or experience of domestic abuse because it is not tolerated by our residents or our organisations.

#### **3.2 Aims of Policy**

The aims of the policy are identified below:

- Protecting victims and survivors of domestic abuse and preventing homelessness by providing safe and secure accommodation to Bolsover District Council tenants and those who approach the district for housing assistance.
- Promote early intervention through staff training and raising awareness to tackle domestic abuse and prevent further abuse and facilitate the necessary help and support for victims and survivors and their children
- Working in partnership to hold perpetrators to account for their actions in a way that is prompt, decisive and proportionate, with a focus on

rehabilitation and maintaining the safety of the victim and survivor and their children;

- Support the delivery and embedment of DAHA's aims;

Our understanding of need and response to Domestic Abuse will be underpinned by:

- Listening to the voice of victims and survivors,
- Believing victims and survivors and acting protectively
- Learning from local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews and serious incidents.
- Recognising and responding to the pernicious emotional harm on individuals and communities that can lead to homicide or self-harm
- Empowering victims to make informed choices
- Challenging abusive behaviours of those causing harm
- Collaborating between agencies and with victims and survivors
- Understanding the under representation of certain groups in domestic and sexual abuse
- Being transparent in our decision making
- Being accountable to our communities
- Analysing available data, evidence, service standards and intelligence to improve our response
- Providing leadership to improve our co-operation, processes, maximising our resources and securing investment

A further driver to ensure we have a clear local policy in place is the Regulator of Social Housing's Consumer Standards. Under the Neighbourhood and Community Standard, outcome 1.4 relates to Domestic abuse. Registered providers of social housing must have a policy for how they recognise and effectively respond to cases of domestic abuse. Registered providers must also co-operate with appropriate local authority departments to support the local authority in meeting its duty to develop a strategy and commission services for victims of domestic abuse and their children within safe accommodation.

### 3.3 Bolsover Ambition 2024-2028

The Council's vision is to maximise our influence and opportunities within the East Midlands Combined County Authority to drive the continued delivery of excellent services, maximise local aspirations and drive economic prosperity for Bolsover District.

This Policy supports three of the four Aims of the Council's Ambition:

- Our **Customers** by providing excellent and accessible services
- Our **Housing** by delivering social and private sector housing growth

- *Building more, good quality, affordable housing, and being a decent landlord.*
- *Preventing and responding to homelessness through early intervention and personalised solutions.*
- Our **Environment** by protecting the quality of life for residents and businesses, meeting environmental challenges, and enhancing biodiversity.
  - *Ensuring all areas, neighbourhoods, and streets in the district, irrespective of housing tenure or type, are places where people want to live, feel safe, and are proud to live.*

There remains a consistently high demand for services and support and an increasing number of repeat referrals. From April 2023 the Council is also recording the number of cases where there is an element of Stalking behaviour present. The Council employs a Specialist Domestic Abuse Officer to support cases identified by both Tenancy Management and Housing Options teams.

### 3.4 Chartered Institute of Housing 'Make a Stand'

This policy is integral to Bolsover District Council's pledge to the Chartered Institute of Housing 'Make a Stand' campaign with our commitment to:

- Put in place and embed a policy to support residents who are affected by domestic abuse.
- Make information about national and local domestic abuse support services available on our website and in other appropriate places so that they are easily accessible for all residents and staff.
- Put in place or amend a policy to support members of staff who may be experiencing domestic abuse.
- Appoint a Champion at a senior level at Bolsover District Council to own the activity we are doing to support people experiencing domestic abuse.

### 3.5 Derbyshire County Council (DCC)

DCC are the lead commissioner of services across the county and set the wider policy framework for the area within the Derby and Derbyshire Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy 2023 – 2026, and the Derby and Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Support in Accommodation Strategy 2021-2024.

Derbyshire currently has the following support services available within the county for victims of Domestic Abuse:

- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) - Dedicated support for high risk victims of domestic abuse.
- Outreach support – individual support for medium risk victims of domestic abuse e.g. Elm Foundation
- Victim Support –support to low risk victims of domestic abuse.



- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
- Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVC)
- Hadhari Nari – Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) specialist service
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) services
- Children's services – commissioned by Derbyshire County Council to provide support to children experiencing domestic abuse.
- Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Helpline – 24 hour helpline
- Emergency accommodation for those fleeing domestic abuse.

## **4. Policy Statement and Service objectives**

### **4.1 Identifying Cases of Domestic Abuse**

People living in our council homes should not live in fear of violence or abuse. We will take seriously all incidents of domestic abuse; be they single or multiple in nature. We will treat reports of domestic abuse sensitively and confidentially.

Domestic abuse may come to the attention of staff through direct disclosures and by way of potential indicators such as a higher-than-average number of repairs, presenting as homeless or at risk of homelessness due to domestic abuse, abandoned properties, anti-social behaviour complaints and noise nuisance.

Housing and Dragonfly Management staff are well placed to recognise domestic abuse as abuse often takes place in the home environment. Housing staff should therefore be alert to recognise the signs and respond appropriately if someone experiencing abuse asks for advice and support.

The Housing department will raise awareness amongst staff and improve our ability to identify cases of abuse by:

- Providing training and briefings for all Housing and Dragonfly Management repairs staff on domestic abuse. This includes the mandatory domestic abuse training for all Bolsover District Council staff (via BDC Safeguarding training and DCC training on Domestic abuse);
- Ensuring all relevant housing staff will receive training on how to complete a 'DASH' Domestic Abuse Stalking and Honor based risk assessment and to make appropriate referrals following the assessment
- Ensuring all housing staff are familiar with the correct process for responding to victims and survivors who are at high risk of harm, including internal referrals to the Specialist Domestic Abuse Officer to make MARAC (Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference) referrals
- Attending multi agency meetings to discuss cases of domestic abuse and to agree appropriate actions;

- Ensuring all housing staff are familiar with the correct process for making safeguarding referrals for children and adults at risk where appropriate;
- Dragonfly Management repairs administrators reviewing repairs case notes to identify red flag cases (e.g. damage to doors / windows and frequent lock changes), which may be potential indicators of domestic abuse or criminal damage. Repairs will alert Housing Management to conduct welfare checks on red flag cases;
- Maintenance staff and managers in Dragonfly Management repairs to identify households with a higher-than-average number and cost of repairs and alerting Housing Management to conduct welfare checks;
- Anti-social behaviour team investigating anti-social behaviour or noise complaints that may indicate domestic abuse and alerting Housing Management;
- Creating opportunities to disclose abuse during home visits or assessments either by Tenancy Management or Homeless Prevention. Prompting disclosure will only take place where it is safe to do so (e.g., where the suspected victim and survivor is alone);
- Investigating – through interviewing and asking questions - areas of concern and potential indicators of abuse within cases of people presenting either as homeless or at risk of being homeless (as a result of self-referral or otherwise), to the Homeless Prevention service.

There are multiple and complex barriers that may prevent someone from disclosing their abuse. We will believe all victims and survivors who make a disclosure and therefore will not ask for proof to evidence

## **4.2 Our Support to Council Tenants**

The Council has a Specialist Domestic Abuse Officer, who has expertise in this area and whose role is to work with and support victims and survivors of domestic abuse. This post makes referrals to relevant organisations, signposts and supports.

Our support to those affected by domestic abuse will be sensitive to the needs of the individuals circumstances and be victim and survivor focused.

If a report of an incident of domestic abuse is received, staff should first and foremost find out if there is an immediate risk of harm to the individual. The police should be called on 999 if necessary.

Where there is no immediate risk of harm, we will contact the tenant within **48 hours** of receiving the report to discuss the options available to the tenant. The Specialist Domestic Abuse Officer, with consent, will follow the referral pathway determined (see appendices).

## OFFICIAL

If an individual discloses domestic abuse to any member of staff, or a member of staff recognise signs of abuse, we will work together with the victim/survivor to discuss the situation within 48 hours the initial discussion.

We will support survivors of domestic abuse to remain in their home where it is safe to do so but we recognise that there may be instances where alternative accommodation has to be found either on a temporary or a permanent basis.

We will use budgeted resources to provide enhanced security measures in the home. This can include Door Chain, Window Alarms, Window restraining straps, Secure broken windows, Install smoke alarms and/or check existing smoke alarms, and Fireproof letterbox if there is a threat/risk of arson.

We recognise that some survivors of domestic abuse are reluctant to engage us in discussions over their housing situation. This can be for a variety of reasons, including because of fear of (and even love of and loyalty towards) the abuser, lack of knowledge about their options, and distrust of organisations such as the police and the council and having feelings of shame or failure. We will support as far as is reasonably practicable survivors of domestic abuse in seeking a safe and acceptable outcome.

We will support and encourage a survivor of domestic abuse to obtain legal advice on their options in respect of their tenancy. This could include supporting a tenant to end a joint tenancy if the survivor has fled the property, leaving the perpetrator in occupation still.

We will keep consistent, accurate and relevant records. We will share these with permission from the victim/survivor so they do not need to repeat the same information to multiple agencies.

We will work with agencies in their support of tenants in applying for domestic abuse injunctions (including non-molestation orders, restraining orders and occupation orders) where it is appropriate to do so.

We will take a survivor-oriented approach in cases of damage to the property as a result of acts of physical domestic abuse and in respect of the tenant's repairing obligations under our tenancy agreement.

We will aim to ensure we protect someone's security of tenure by granting new, sole tenancies to those wishing to remain in their home were they to end a joint tenancy.

### **4.3 Support for victims and survivors who are not council tenants**

Non-council tenants approaching the council for housing assistance due to domestic abuse are referred into the Housing Options Team which will be able to assist where the applicant is:

- Eligible – eligibility for homelessness assistance depends on immigration and residence status
- Homeless or Threatened with Homelessness within 56 days

Following the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, if an applicant is assessed as Eligible and Homeless as a result of domestic abuse, they will have Priority Need and will be owed a duty to secure temporary accommodation. Offers of accommodation must be safe, suitable and affordable.

All applicants who are Eligible and Homeless/Threatened with homelessness will be provided with a Housing Options Officer who will draw up a Personalised Housing Plan and will take reasonable steps to prevent or relieve homelessness. Under the Homelessness legislation, applicants that are accepted as having a full Homelessness Duty are required to remain in temporary accommodation until the Council secures suitable private rented accommodation or a home is secured through the Housing Register.

As part of the Personalised Housing Plan, the victim and survivor may be referred into specialist domestic abuse agencies, supported to secure emergency accommodation, given advice on sanctuary schemes and/or be signposted to legal advice.

#### **4.4 Perpetrators of domestic abuse**

Our primary concern and duty are for the safety of the victim/survivor and that of their child/children. We will discuss and agree taking action against the perpetrator to minimise any harm or consequence to their personal safety or housing security.

Domestic Abuse is a clear breach of our Tenancy Agreement which states at Section 6 Nuisance and Anti-Social behaviour. At 6.3 (g) *“You must make sure that you, your family, any other people living at your home, friends or visitors to your home do not engage in any form of domestic abuse, including but not limited to coercive or controlling behaviour, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse. Such behaviour is unacceptable and will not be tolerated regardless of gender or sexuality.”*

We will take into account the wishes of a survivor of domestic abuse when considering possession action against a perpetrator but we will take possession action against a tenant who has been convicted of an offence relating to domestic abuse.

We will take appropriate legal action against a perpetrator of domestic abuse and will work and co-operate with other organisations such as the police and social services.

#### **4.5 Information sharing and confidentiality**

Staff must treat all domestic abuse cases as confidential and should reassure the victim or survivor of this. Information will only be shared with other agencies with the consent of the victim or survivor and in accordance with the Data Protection Act (2018). Housing has a service level agreement with both Children's Services and Adult Social Care that outlines the procedure for information sharing, and staff should refer to this for guidance. Information must never be shared either directly or indirectly with the perpetrator as this may increase risk to the victim or survivor.

Consent to share information is not needed where there is a safeguarding concern because a person is at risk. Housing staff should notify the relevant safeguarding team and MARAC for cases assessed at being high risk of serious harm and homicide. Safeguarding referrals will be managed sensitively and we will consider the implications of further risk, particularly if family are identified as perpetrators.

Detailed records should be kept on all domestic abuse cases, including information on the outcome (including outcome for housing assistance, safeguarding and any other referrals) and reason for closing each case for monitoring purposes. Housing may also be required to share information with partner agencies (in accordance with the data protection and confidentiality policies).

### **5. Responsibility for Implementation**

#### **5.1 Monitoring and Reviewing the Policy**

This policy will be reviewed at least every three years in line with the corporate policy framework. It may be reviewed more frequently as a result of changes in national legislation and local strategic direction.

#### **5.2 Awareness and communication of the Policy**

We will use our website to raise awareness about domestic abuse and make clear that we take all reports of domestic abuse seriously, and our officers will always treat victims/survivors with respect and dignity and empower them to make informed decisions.

A copy of this policy will be available on the Council's website, along with clear contact details of who to contact to access help and support, including how to contact the Housing team for tenants and the Housing Options team for anyone at risk of homelessness, as well as links to other relevant support services.

### 5.3 Governance of the Derby and Derbyshire Partnership approach

The Derby and Derbyshire Domestic and Sexual Abuse Partnership Board (DSA) will establish standing subgroups and structures to drive the work of the Board forward and will establish task and finish groups as required. This includes monitoring of the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy 2023-2026 and the Domestic Abuse Support in Accommodation Strategy 2021-2024. The Council will engage with this structure as required.

Standing subgroups and structures:

- Perpetrators
- DA Best Practice
- DHR Action Plan Group
- Sexual Abuse Operational Group
- Domestic Abuse and Rape Scrutiny Panels
- Victims and Survivors Voice
- Communications and Awareness Raising

## 6. Glossary of terms

### Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

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. This is a group of highly skilled professionals is coordinated by the police and consists of representatives from the local police, health, child protection, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sector. MARACs were established across Derbyshire in September 2008.

### DASH risk assessment

The domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honor based Violence (DASH) Risk Assessment has been used by the Police since 2009. This has been further developed and is used by all professional working with victims and survivors of domestic abuse. The risk assessment makes sure everyone asks the right questions and can accurately assess the level of risk. If the risk thresholds are met, cases are then referred to MARAC.

## 7. Appendices

### 7.1 National Legislative Framework

- Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's Law)
- Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulations
- Serious Crime Act 2015
- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2014
- Equality Act 2010
- Police and Justice Act 2006
- Child Safeguarding legislation including Children Act 2004
- The Children Act 2004
- Domestic Violence Crime and Victims Act 2004 (s9 implemented in 2011)
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Care Act 1996
- Housing Act 1988
- The Housing Act 1996
- The Family Law Act 1996
- Regulator of Social Housing Consumer Standards
  - Tenancy Standard
  - Neighbourhood and Community Standard

### 7.2 UK Legislation enabling prosecution and sanctions

Although domestic abuse now has a statutory definition, it is not a specific criminal offence. However, there are a number of offences that perpetrators can be prosecuted for depending on the specific acts, such as murder, rape, manslaughter, assault, criminal damage, harassment and threatening behaviour. There are also civil orders to protect people from harmful acts such as harassment, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

More recent developments in UK legislation include:

- [Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme \(Claire's Law\), 2014](#): A scheme allowing an individual to ask Police to check whether a new or existing partner has a violent past. A disclosure can be made by the Police if it is legal, proportionate, and necessary to do so.
- [Coercive Control Offence, 2015](#): Victims who experience coercive and controlling behaviour that stops short of serious physical violence, but amounts to extreme psychological and emotional abuse, can bring their perpetrators to justice.
- [Stalking Protections Orders, 2020](#): A civil order that protects victims from stalking, harassment and other unwanted contact.
- The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 introduced a new civil [Domestic Abuse Protection Notice \(DAPN\)](#) to provide immediate protection following a

domestic abuse incident, and a new civil [Domestic Abuse Protection Order \(DAPO\)](#) to provide flexible, longer-term protection for victims.

### 7.3 Local Policy Framework

- Bolsover District Council Domestic Abuse Policy
- [Bolsover District Council Rechargeable Repairs Policy](#)
- [Bolsover District Council Allocations Policy](#)
- Bolsover District Council Tenancy Agreement
- [Bolsover District Council Equalities Plan 2023-2027](#)
- [Bolsover District Council Anti-Social Behaviour Policy](#)
- [Bolsover District Council Safeguarding Policy and Procedures – Protecting Children and Adults at Risk, January 2024](#)
- [Bolsover Community Safety Partnership Plan 2023-2026](#)
- [Bolsover Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022-2027](#)
- [Derbyshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022-2027](#)
- [Derby and Derbyshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse Strategy 2023-2026](#)
- [Derby and Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Support in Accommodation Strategy 2021-2024](#)
- [Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board policy and procedures](#)
- [Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Boards Practice Guidance](#)
- [Derbyshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025](#)
- Derbyshire Children's Services Service Plan Update, 2020/21
- Derbyshire Community Safety Agreement, 2020 - 2023
- Adult Social Care and Health Service Plan Update, 2020-2021
- Derbyshire Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Strategic Framework
- Derbyshire Healthcare Trust Strategy Refresh, April 2021
- Joint Derby and Derbyshire Practice Guidance for responding to Adults and Child Victims of Modern Slavery

### 7.4 Partners of the Derby and Derbyshire Domestic and Sexual Abuse Partnership Board (DSA)

- Charities in the Voluntary Sector representing the interests of victims and survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, including children
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Derby and Derbyshire NHS Integrated Care Board (DDICB)
- Derby City Council
- Derbyshire Constabulary
- Derbyshire County Council
- Derbyshire District and Borough Councils Representatives
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Healthcare Representatives from Provider Services
- Housing Authorities



- National Probation Service
- NHS England
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

## 7.5 Supporting projects

### Respect

Respect is the UK charity stopping perpetrators of domestic abuse. Respect was established to focus on perpetrators of domestic abuse, and this, including their vital work with young people who cause harm, remains their key priority. Alongside this work, they deliver expert support to male victims of domestic abuse. Everything they do is shaped and driven by their values: we are pioneering, collaborative, accountable, and respectful.

### The Changes project

The Changes project is aimed at standard and medium risk offenders of domestic abuse. It is a voluntary intervention for perpetrators of domestic abuse.

The safety of victims and children are paramount to the project. Through practical interventions, the programme aims to reduce a perpetrator's abusive behaviour and manage risk. It fills the void between a judicial sentence, a high risk and serial offender programme and the abuser who walks away without support and continues to offend.

The Changes project is for those who want to stop their use of violence or abuse and is delivered in a group or one to one setting in conjunction with a safety worker who will work with victims offering support and safety planning.

We accept referrals from a variety of sources, including self-referrals. Our referring criteria is as follows:

- Person is aged over 18
- Who is using violent and abusive behaviour to their partners/ex-partners
- Who has some recognition of their abusive behaviour and show some willingness to change it
- Person cannot be on bail or be currently under investigation.

The Changes project, is delivered by a partnership of three organisations:

- The Elm Foundation
- Crossroads Derbyshire
- Derbyshire WISH Domestic Abuse Services

Changes is delivered across Derbyshire and Derby City.

Referrals can be made either by contacting the Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Helpline on 08000 198 668 or emailing at [info@letsmakechanges.co.uk](mailto:info@letsmakechanges.co.uk)

### The 180° Project

The 180° Project is a service tailored specifically for high-risk, high-harm perpetrators of domestic abuse.

The service aligns to Respect standards and is designed to keep victims safe, including children, by promoting changes in attitudes and behaviour of those who genuinely want to stop being abusive towards intimate partners.

The project offers a varied programme of support, tailored to the individual and based on their needs and suitability assessment.

Participants will be supported to recognise the difference between a healthy and unhealthy relationship, take accountability for their behaviours and learn to identify safer ways to deal with their emotions and actions.

180° is developed for perpetrators that are willing to complete work, but do not show the level of acceptance of their abusive behaviour needed for a long-term behaviour change programme. Our aim is to move them to a place where they are able to accept their abusive behaviour and increase their motivation to change.

We believe domestic abuse is not acceptable or inevitable. As specialists working with perpetrators, we use a multi-agency approach to engage them to work through the cycle of change.

To deliver the service safely we have a specialist integrated safety support team (ISS). They work with the partners or ex-partners of perpetrators engaged with the service.

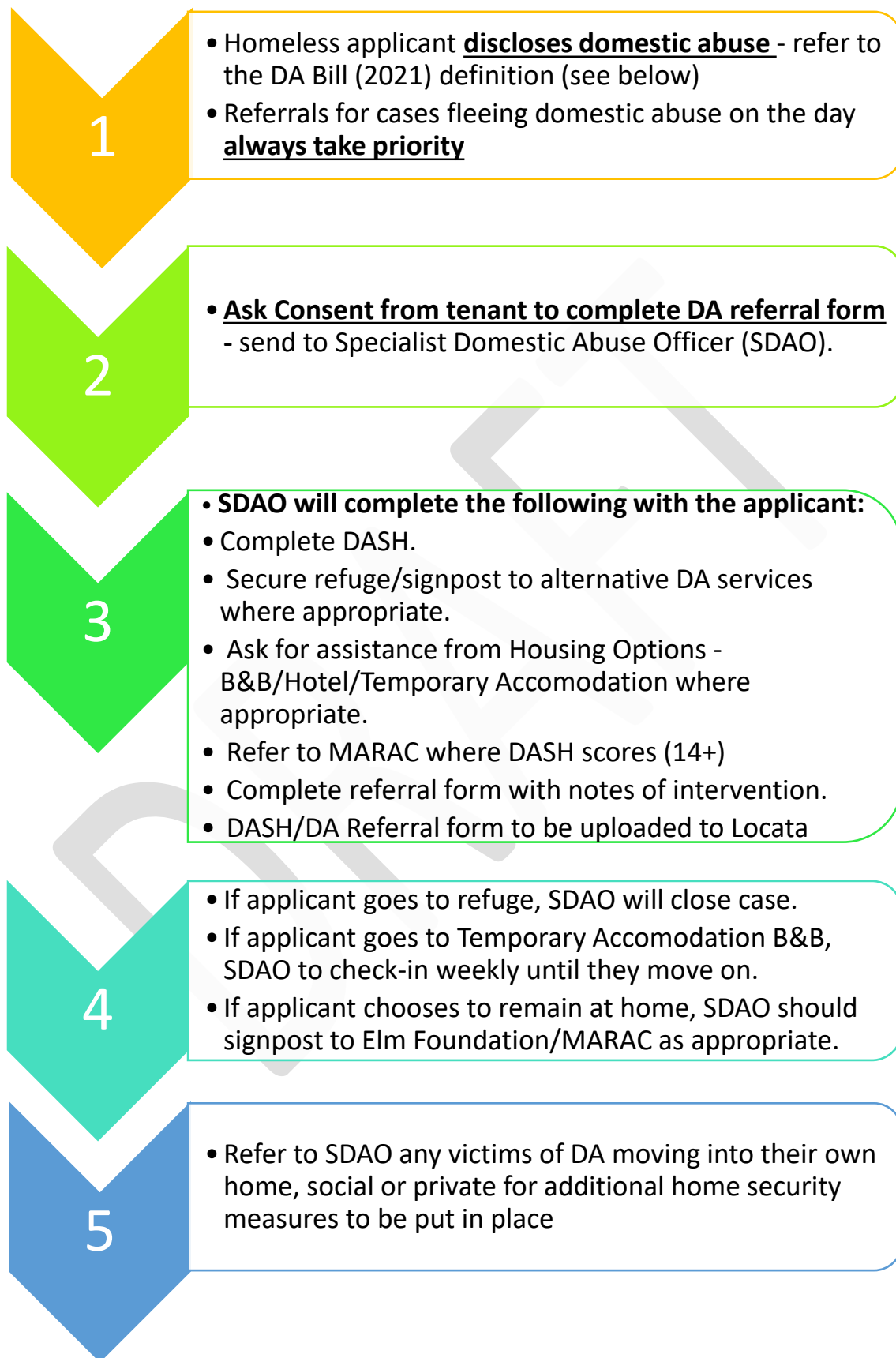
The ISS team complete regular check-ins and will offer a range of support which can include one-to-one contact, safety advice and information and signposting to other agencies. This is all in addition to helping them build a positive support network for themselves and their children.

If you need more information about the service or referral process, please contact the team:

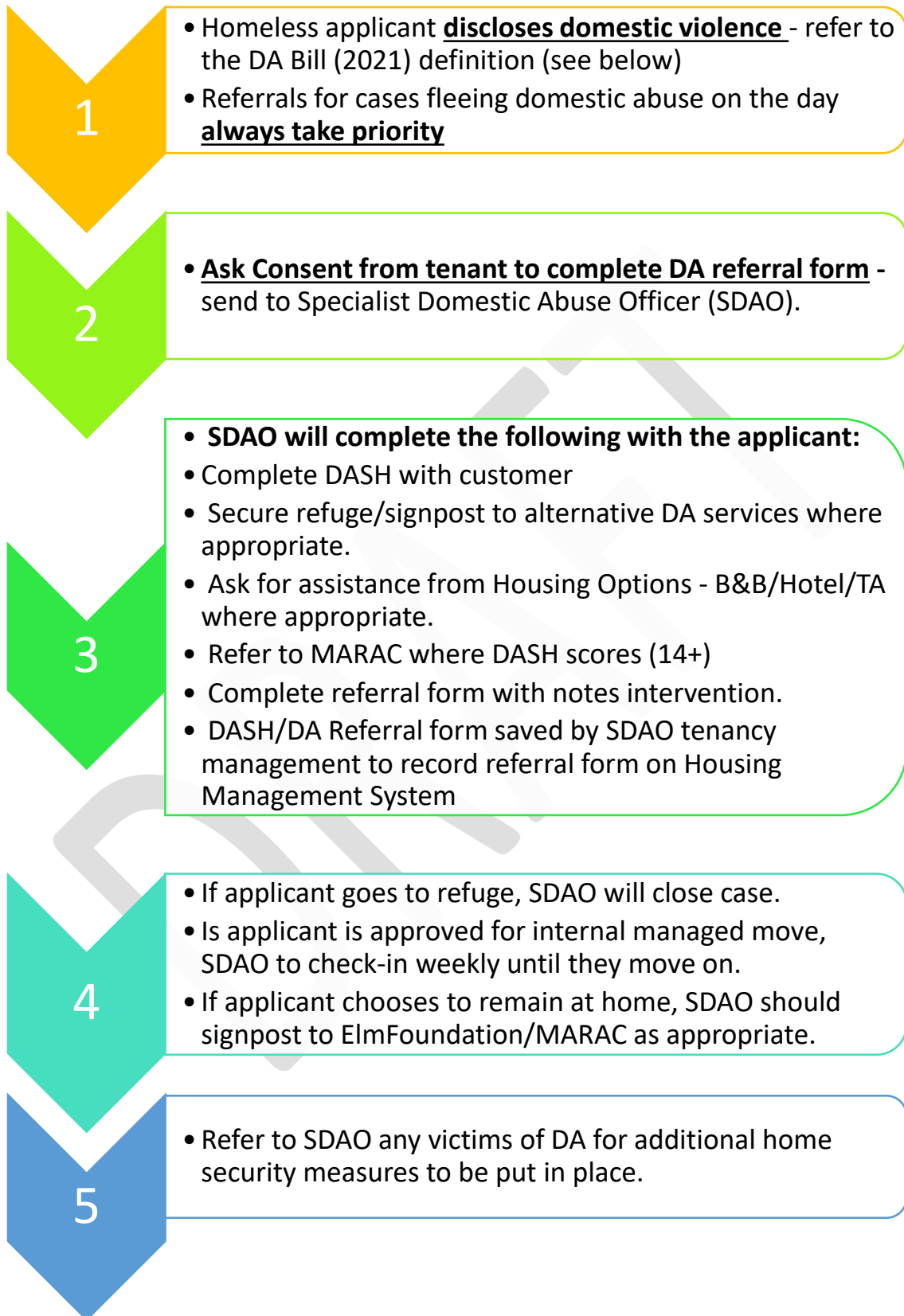
Email [180derbyshire@findtheglow.org.uk](mailto:180derbyshire@findtheglow.org.uk)

Call 07974 608015

## 7.6 Homeless applicant pathway referral



## 7.7 Tenant Pathway Referral



**Definition of Domestic Abuse, from The Domestic Abuse Act (2021) ([Domestic Abuse Act 2021 - GOV.UK](#))**

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 definition is set out below. For the purpose of the legal definition “A” is referred to as the perpetrator and “B” is referred to as the victim.

1. **21.7** Behaviour of a person “A” towards another person “B” is domestic abuse if “A” and “B” are each aged 16 years, or over, are “personally connected” to each other and the behaviour is abusive. A’s behaviour may be behaviour “towards” B despite the fact that it consists of conduct directed at another person (for example, B’s child). Behaviour is “abusive” if it consists of any of the following:

1. (a) **physical or sexual abuse**
2. (b) **violent or threatening behaviour**
3. (c) **controlling or coercive behaviour** – 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.
4. (d) **economic abuse** – economic abuse means any behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on B’s ability to - (a) acquire, use or maintain money or other property, or (b) obtain goods or services.
5. (e) **psychological, emotional or other abuse**

1. **21.9** In the context of defining domestic abuse, the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 states that two people are ‘personally connected’ to each other if any of the following applies:

1. (a) they are, or have been, married to each other;
2. (b) they are, or have been, civil partners of each other;
3. (c) they have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);
4. (d) they have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);
5. (e) they are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other;
6. (f) they each have, or there has been a time when they each have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child;
7. (g) they are relatives.

Please note that this guidance framework does not seek to be exhaustive and that housing authorities must use their judgement as to whether a behaviour constitutes domestic abuse.

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