

Parish Statement On Domestic Abuse

Policy for Responding to Domestic Abuse



All forms of domestic abuse are wrong and must stop. We are committed to promoting and supporting environments which:

- Ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse;
- Protect those vulnerable to domestic abuse from actual or potential harm;
- Recognise equality amongst people and within relationships;
- Enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to appropriately and consistently.

We recognise that:

- All forms of domestic abuse cause damage to the survivor and express an imbalance of power in a relationship;
- All survivors (regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- Domestic abuse can occur in all communities;
- Domestic abuse may be a single incident, but is usually a systematic, repeated pattern which escalates in severity and frequency;
- Domestic abuse, if witnessed or overheard by a child, is a form of abuse by the perpetrator of the abusive behaviour;
- Working in partnership with children, adults and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of any child or adult suffering abuse.

We will endeavour to respond to domestic abuse by:

In all our activities -

- Valuing, listening and respecting both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

In our publicity -

- Raising awareness about other agencies, support services, resources and expertise, through providing information in public and women-only areas of relevance to survivors, children and alleged or known perpetrators or domestic abuse.

When concerns are raised -

- Ensuring that those who have experienced abuse can find safety and informed help;
- Working with the appropriate statutory bodies during an investigation into domestic abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community.

In our care -

- Ensuring that informed and appropriate pastoral care is offered to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse;
- Identify and outlining the appropriate relationship of those with pastoral care responsibilities with both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.



If you have any concerns or need to talk to anyone please contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Sine Ndlovu on 07448594859 or by emailing safe@stocktonparishchurch.org.uk.

If you require further help listed below are the contact details for a number of agencies:

**24-hour National Domestic Violence
Freephone Helpline 0808 2000 247**

Harbour Support Services

We offer a range of different services to assist those affected by domestic abuse. We work across the North East of England with services in Hartlepool, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland, County Durham, Darlington and North Tyneside.

T: 03000 20 25 25 (24 hours)

E: info@myharbour.org.uk

www.myharbour.org.uk

SARC Teesside - www.sarcteesside.co.uk

SARC stands for Sexual Assault Referral Centre and there are around 40 SARC's in the UK. The SARC for Teesside is located at North Ormesby Health Village, Middlesbrough but covers the whole of Teesside.

To contact the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) for Teesside at Helen Britton House, phone one of our Crisis Workers on 03333 44 8283. Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

My Sister's Place

My Sister's Place' is a specialist domestic violence service based in central Middlesbrough. We provide support services to women over 16 years of age who are or have suffered domestic abuse.

Tel: 01642 241864

Email: hello@mysistersplace.co.uk

www.mysistersplace.org.uk

Men's Advice Website

Confidential helpline for male victims of domestic violence (in heterosexual or same-sex relationships). Call freephone 0808 801 0327 Monday-Friday

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Call freephone 0808 801 0327 Monday-Friday 9am-5pm or email

info@mensadviceline.org.uk

www.mensadviceline.org.uk

Respect Phonenumber

Confidential helpline for domestic violence perpetrators (male or female) wishing to address their violence and abuse. Call freephone 0808 802 4040 Monday-Friday.

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Calls to 0808 80 numbers are free to call from landlines and mobile phones within the UK and do not appear on itemised bills. They are also free to call from BT payphones.

Opening hours

Monday – Friday 9am-5pm

Email: info@respectphonenumber.org.uk

ARCH

We are a specialist provider of free, confidential sexual violence services across Teesside, offering support to men and women aged 14 years and over who have suffered rape or sexual abuse at any time in their lives.

email: admin@archnortheast.org Tel: 01642 822331(Support) 01642 822335 (Business)
www.archnortheast.org or follow us on Twitter @ArchNorthEast

Tees Valley Women's Centre

Tees Valley women's Centre is the only "women only" space in the Tees Valley Area, providing a holistic approach to all women's issues. Any woman attending the centre can be assured of a no labelling, non judgemental approach with support from start to finish.

TEL: 01642 296166
www.teesvalleywomenscentre.org.uk

EVA Support Services

EVA supports women (and their families) who are, or have been, victims of domestic/sexual abuse and violence. We are the only agency in the area providing 'wrap-around' specialist domestic and sexual violence services.

Phone: 01642 490677
Fax: 01642507099
Email: info@eva.org.uk
evawomensaid.org.uk

Halo Project Charity - Break the silence

Are you being forced into marriage or are you already in a forced marriage? If the answer is yes call us now to seek help and discuss your options. Halo Charity provides support to anyone suffering honour based violence and anyone at risk of forced marriage. In an emergency call: 08081 788 424 (free phone) When it's not an emergency call and you need to speak to someone for some advice then call: 01642 683045

www.haloproject.org.uk