



Wyre Forest
District Council



Other useful numbers:

Adults / Childrens Services.: 01905 763763

National Domestic Violence helpline:

0808 200 0247

Victim Support: 01527 66462

West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse Support
centre:

01905 611655

Honour Network Helpline: 0800 599 9247



For further information please contact:

Housing Needs Team
Wyre Forest District Council
The Hub
Vicar Street
Kidderminster

Tel: 01562 732928

Out of Hours: 01562 850053

Email: housingservices@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Domestic Abuse

**Are you homeless or threatened
with homelessness due to domestic
abuse?**

**Do you want to move but need some
help?**

**Can you stay in your home if it as
made more secure?**



What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic Abuse includes any incident of threatening behavior, violence or abuse. The abuse can be psychological, physical, social, financial or emotional. Domestic Abuse can happen between two people who are or were intimate partners, family members, regardless of their gender or sexuality. If you are in fear of a partner, ex-partner or family member, you might be experiencing domestic abuse.

Get help now

You can contact the local Domestic Abuse helpline run by Womens Aid on 0800 9803331. There is also a Men's Advice Line on 0808 8010327.

These services can offer you a wide range of advice including on advocacy, support, emergency accommodation, safety measures in the home etc.

You can also approach the Housing Needs Team in the Hub for further advice and assistance. The Housing Needs Team will find out what help and support you need and help talk you through the various options. These might include remaining in your home, if we can help make it safe and secure, or exploring options around a move.

If you are at immediate risk?

Call the police on 999 if:

- Your personal safety (or that of your children) is threatened
- You are at risk of assault or injury
- In an emergency

If you need to leave your home immediately try to arrange a place to go that is safe and secure. This could mean staying with family or friends while you decide what to do next.

If you don't have anywhere to stay then contact the Housing Needs Team. The team may have a duty to help you find somewhere on an emergency basis and will assess your longer term housing and support needs. They may be able to help you with a refuge place or emergency accommodation. You will need to provide various information and supporting evidence if available.

If you do leave your home try to bring some essentials with you such as a change of clothes, toiletries, medication, proof of ID, bank or credit card and mobile phone.

If you can remain in your home?

If you are able to stay in your current home you can contact the Housing Needs Team to see if you are eligible for a "Sanctuary Scheme". This means undertaking some work to your home to make it more secure.

The Council will arrange for a specialist Police Officer to inspect your home and make recommendations on potential safety works that could be carried out.

If you need to move in the longer term?

If you are able to remain in your home but only for a short period of time, the Housing Needs Team will be able to explore other housing options with you including purchasing a property, renting in the private sector or applying for social housing.

Help for Male Victims of Domestic Abuse

If you have to leave your home due to Domestic Abuse, you can approach the Housing Needs Team for help and advice. Please also contact the Men's Advice Line or go onto the website www.mensadviceline.org.uk

Help for Children and Young People

If you or someone in your family is being hurt in the home please start by telling someone about it. You can tell a teacher, a neighbour, a friend or friend's parent.

You can call Childline on 0800 1111 for free and they can tell you about places where you can get help.