

PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE

Unified Policy



Berwickshire Housing Association



Eildon Housing Association



Scottish Borders Council



Scottish Borders Housing Association



Waverley Housing

POLICY REGISTER SECTION:	Housing Management Section 20
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SCOTTISH SOCIAL HOUSING CHARTER	1,6,7,8,9,10,11,12

SCOTTISH SOCIAL HOUSING CHARTER

This Policy will contribute to meeting the following Outcomes and Standards in relation to the Scottish Social Housing Charter.

STANDARD	OUTCOME
<p>The Customer / Landlord Relationship</p> <p>1 Equalities</p> <p>Social landlords perform all aspects of their housing services so that :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Every tenant and other customer has their individual needs recognised, is treated fairly and with respect, and receives fair access to housing and housing services.</i> 	<p>This outcome describes what social landlords, by complying with equalities legislation, should achieve for all tenants and other customers regardless of age, disability gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. It includes landlords' responsibility for finding ways of understanding the rights and needs of different customers and delivering services that recognise and meet these.</p>
<p>Neighbourhood and community</p> <p>6 Estate management, anti-social behaviour, neighbour nuisance and tenancy disputes</p> <p>Social landlords, working in partnership with other agencies, help to ensure as far as reasonably possible that :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tenants and other customers live in well-maintained neighbourhoods where they feel safe.</i> 	<p>This outcome covers a range of actions that social landlords can take on their own and in partnership with others. It covers action to enforce tenancy conditions on estate management and neighbour nuisance, to resolve neighbour disputes, and to arrange or provide tenancy support where this is needed. It also covers the role of landlords in working with others to tackle anti-social behaviour.</p>
<p>Access to housing and support</p> <p>7 8 & 9 Housing Options</p> <p>Social landlords work together to ensure that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>People looking for housing get information that helps them make informed choices and decisions about the range of housing options available to them</i> • <i>Tenants and people on housing lists can review their housing options.</i> <p>Social landlords ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>People at risk of losing their homes get advice on preventing homelessness.</i> 	<p>These outcomes cover landlords' duties to provide information to people looking for housing and advice for those at risk of becoming homeless. This could include providing housing 'health checks' for tenants and people on housing lists to help them review their options to move within the social housing sector or to another sector.</p>
<p>Access to housing and support</p> <p>10 Access to social housing</p> <p>Social landlords ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>People looking for housing find it easy to apply for the widest choice of social housing available and get the information they need on how the landlord allocates homes and their prospects of being housed.</i> 	<p>This outcome covers what social landlords can do to make it easy for people to apply for the widest choice of social housing that is available and suitable and that meets their needs. It includes actions that social landlords can take on their own and in partnership with others, for example through Common Housing Registers or mutual exchange schemes, or through local information and advice schemes.</p>
<p>Access to housing and support</p> <p>11 Tenancy sustainment</p> <p>Social landlords ensure that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tenants get the information they need on how to obtain support to remain in their home; and ensure suitable support is available, including services provided directly by the landlord and by other organisations.</i> 	<p>This outcome covers how landlords on their own, or in partnership with others, can help tenants who may need support to maintain their tenancy. This includes tenants who may be at risk of falling into arrears with their rent, and tenants who may need their home adapted to cope with age, disability, or caring responsibilities.</p>
<p>Access to housing and support</p> <p>12 Homeless people</p> <p>Local councils perform their duties on homelessness so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Homeless people get prompt and easy access to help and advice; are provided with suitable, good-quality temporary or emergency accommodation when this is needed; and are offered continuing support to help them get and keep the home they are entitled to.</i> 	<p>This outcome describes what councils should achieve by meeting their statutory duties to homeless people.</p>
<p>This Policy will also align with objectives of Scottish Borders Council Homelessness Strategy and the Single Outcome Agreement as well as the overall aims of prevention of homelessness and of community safety initiatives.</p>	

PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE UNIFIED POLICY

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1 Background

This policy supports the Scottish Borders strategic commitment to addressing gender based domestic abuse.

The four local Registered Social Landlords, Berwickshire Housing Association, Eildon Housing Association, Scottish Borders Housing Association and Waverley Housing in conjunction with Scottish Borders Council are committed to a unified approach to domestic abuse – prevention and response – as reflected in this shared policy which is accompanied by a suite of shared procedures.

The five organisations are committed to preventing and alleviating domestic abuse, its impact and cost, in the broadest sense through working with other organisations and by collaborative and individual practice to ensure that individuals and any family members including children, experiencing domestic abuse, receive timely and consistent assistance, information and advice on housing options.

The organisations will ensure that this policy links with other key policies including Allocations, Anti-Social Behaviour, local and national strategies on homelessness etc to ensure best practice is demonstrated in the prevention, management and promotion of access to specialist services by appropriate signposting.

The five organisations reaffirm their commitment to treating domestic abuse seriously, to providing a supportive and enabling environment which encourages people to seek support for their experience of domestic abuse, including reporting to the police; to taking a multi-agency approach in holding perpetrators accountable for their actions; to working co-operatively to enable households experiencing domestic abuse to access a range of housing options, advice and information and support options in line with their needs; to being sensitive to the diverse needs of victims, (including children), considering their age, disability, gender, race or ethnicity, religion or belief sexual orientation .

2 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clearly describe the principles on which we base our actions as landlords and local authority, to respond to individuals and where applicable their families, applicants, tenants, and members of their household experiencing domestic abuse.

The Policy aims:

- To provide a framework which supports timeous and appropriate responses to those experiencing domestic abuse.
- To acknowledge and recognise that domestic abuse is not perpetrated exclusively by men within heterosexual relationships but that woman can also be perpetrators and it can occur in same sex relationships.
- To ensure that through a unified approach, appropriate, sustainable housing solutions are, as far as practically possible provided, contributing to ensuring that violence and abuse are not tolerated and that the Scottish Borders is a safe place for all in which to live.

- To enable effective signposting to specialist support services for all victims of domestic abuse and their children.
- To provide clarity on the housing and related options available to those experiencing domestic abuse and to those who have perpetrated it.
- To work in partnership with other organisations to create a supportive environment which encourages people to report domestic abuse and to assist in ensuring a joined up holistic response when this happens.
- To support and enable staff to effectively respond to victims of domestic abuse.
- To deliver on the key commitments contained in the Pathway Project Memorandum of Understanding. ([Appendix 1](#)). Key Commitments of Pathway Project Memorandum of Understanding as signed by Borders Housing Network September 2012).

3 Definition

The Scottish Government's definition of domestic abuse is:

Domestic Abuse, as gendered based violence, 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 and friends).

Source: National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland, Scottish Partnership on Domestic Abuse, Edinburgh, November 2000

4 Context

In 2012 there was a significant increase in the funding invested in specialist domestic abuse services. Three new services were developed – Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) Domestic Abuse Community Support (DACS) and Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse Recovery (CEDAR) group work programme, and collectively they are referred to as the Pathway Project. In 2014 funding was secured for the STEPS project, this was for two additional specialist domestic abuse support services, Domestic Abuse Advocacy Outreach (DAAO) and a Safer Housing Options Worker (SHOW). Pathway and STEPS allow a coordinated, community response to addressing domestic abuse in the Scottish Borders.

Adopting this partnership approach both projects has a number of key outcomes for women, men, and children in relation to domestic abuse and its impact. The key Partners responsible for the effective delivery of the projects are Scottish Borders Council, Lothian and Borders Police, NHS Borders and Borders Housing Network comprising of Berwickshire Housing Association, Eildon Housing Association, Scottish Borders Housing Association and Waverley Housing. The Memorandum of Understanding, signed by Partners reflects the following commitments:

- To work collaboratively with partner agencies to improve the safety of victims and their children.
- Proactively communicate information about the relevant projects and about best practice in supporting victims and their children
- Help build capacity of key statutory and voluntary agencies in the Scottish Borders to embed and deliver consistent good practice in relation to those experiencing domestic abuse.
- Develop effective links and dialogue with a range of agencies to address service generated risks.
- Encourage the integration of domestic abuse services into service planning development and delivery of all services
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation data systems and guide the development of information sharing protocols in relation to domestic abuse
- Invite appropriate services and survivors to become partners in the development and growth of the Pathway Project

This unified policy will assist all five organisations to work in partnership with the relevant agencies on the commitment of the Memorandum of Understanding for the delivery of outcomes.

Domestic abuse continues to be a significant contributing factor/risk factor for homelessness. In the Scottish Borders, domestic abuse remains the one of the main reasons for presentation to homelessness on average accounting for 13% of all homelessness presentations. It is recognised that adopting a partnership approach and using alternative “safe housing options” are part of strategic commitment to preventing homelessness.

5 Prevention

The Prevention of domestic abuse, with its impact, on individuals, children, families and, communities and as a significant cause of homelessness is integral to this unified policy. Through effective multi agency working, shared awareness, training, and a joined up response by agencies the overall aim of prevention of domestic abuse and the damage which this causes is paramount to this Policy.

6 Multi-Agency Working

- a) The five organisations recognise the importance of working with other agencies to make sure a co-ordinated approach is taken for the benefit of those experiencing and affected by domestic abuse.
- b) Research suggests that a significant number of those experiencing domestic abuse do not report it to anyone. However, they may still, for other reasons, come into contact with a wide range of service providers, including teachers, the police, courts, health professionals and social services. It is vital to the success of local strategies that these agencies are open to the possibility of domestic abuse and be as approachable and accessible as possible so that victims can be given appropriate support.

We will take steps to enter into planned partnership working with the following organisations to co-operate in assisting victims of domestic abuse. Contact details [Appendix 2](#).

7 Confidentiality and Information Sharing

All partners are committed to maintaining the highest standards of confidentiality, information sharing and risk management to ensure the safety and wellbeing of both victims, children and staff.

It is essential that all agencies work together and communicate effectively when tackling domestic abuse. This promotes best practice and can ensure that victims are fully supported. If the relevant and proportionate information is shared responsibly, it can significantly enhance their overall safety. The intention is that a single joint approach to exchanging relevant information which protects and enhances safety is implemented as one of a range of mechanisms for reducing domestic abuse.

7.1 Sharing Information with Consent

It is the responsibility of each agency to seek the consent of the victim where it is needed to obtain personal information. All agencies must ensure that personal information relevant to domestic abuse held on computerised and manual systems within the service is secured to avoid improper use.

Any information disclosed should be treated in the strictest confidence. Integral to this, the health, safety and wellbeing of the victim will be paramount and staff must not pass on or share information, including tenancy related matters, with any third parties, irrespective of their stated relationship with the victim, except in circumstances where the victim has given written consent.

7.2 Sharing Information without Consent

In exceptional circumstances, where the health and safety of an individual is at risk, and it is not feasible to obtain the individual's consent, then information that would normally be considered confidential may be passed on to appropriate agencies. When there is a concern in relation to a child's wellbeing, information will be shared between relevant agencies which are appropriate, proportionate and timely to ensure that the child's needs are being met. **Consent is not required.**

It would be reasonable to disclose information if:

- The victim is considered at high risk of further harm e.g. MARAC
- An adult is considered at risk
- A child is considered at risk
- A member of staff is at high risk

Information can be shared for the use of statistical information (for example the number of cases) to inform both strategies and operations for the prevention and response to domestic abuse.

Your organisation is a core agency of the MARAC process and has signed the Scottish Borders MARAC Information Sharing Protocol (ISP). The ISP supports the information sharing of partner organisations involved in the MARAC process and the service users it

impacts upon. It details the specific purposes for sharing and the personal information being shared, the required operational procedures, consent processes and legal justification.

A MARAC is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local Police, Health, Child Protection, Adult Protection, housing providers, Education, Children and Families Social Work, specialist domestic abuse Advocates, Criminal Justice, and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.

After sharing all relevant information they have about a victim, the representatives discuss options for increasing the safety of the victim and turn these into a co-ordinated action plan. The primary focus of the MARAC is to safeguard the adult victim. The MARAC will also make links with other agencies to safeguard children and manage the behaviour of the perpetrator. At the heart of a MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim, but all may have insights that are crucial to their safety. The victim does not attend the meeting but is represented by an Advocate who speaks on their behalf.

All information shared between agencies must be done within your organisations data protection protocol and done so in a secure, safe and appropriate manner, ie exchange of information via a secure email address.

8 Risk Management

All five organisations are committed to ensuring that staff are confident and competent in responding to the potential, perceived or real risks associated with domestic abuse. All staff will be trained in the Referral Flowchart contained in Procedures, and supported to make effective, timely referrals where appropriate. Emergency situations will also be reflected in the Referral Flowchart [Appendix 3](#).

Staff are not expected to be able to risk assess in relation to domestic abuse, but in recognition of the “prevention, management and promotion of access to specialist services by appropriate signposting” (Section 1 (3)) it is vital that staff are able to refer to the Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) service and consider support for any children who may be experiencing domestic abuse in the same household through referral to Children1st, Scottish Borders.

This policy recognises that supporting victims of domestic abuse can be stressful and can impact on staff members. This policy fully supports the use of support and supervision for staff that may require to access additional support.

9 Support for Children and Young People

The impact of domestic abuse on children and young people is considerable - impacting psychologically, physically and emotionally and on present and future relationships. In recognising this it is essential that there are in place a range of professional accessible services which support children and young people.

In **all** circumstances, where a child is considered to be at risk, staff must comply with their relevant organisation’s Child Protection Policy and the Scottish Borders Child Protection Procedures.

For the purposes of the Unified Policy the definition of a child will be someone who has not attained the age of 18 years of age as detailed in The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

[\(http://www.online-procedures.co.uk/scottishborders/\)](http://www.online-procedures.co.uk/scottishborders/).

For further guidance please refer to Section 5.0 of the Unified Policy and Procedures.

10 Housing Options

There are a number of options that staff may wish to explore with domestic abuse victims:

- a) Remaining at Home, if it is safe to do so**
- b) Homelessness**
- c) Refuge Accommodation**
- d) Temporary Accommodation**
- e) Re-housing**
- f) Referral to Safer Housing Options**

All of the above should be considered. The aim of this policy is to ensure choice and options for victims of domestic abuse and their children.

a) Remaining at home, if it is safe to do so

In order to maximise the safety of an individual and their family and following a risk based approach, Safe Housing will work with partner agencies, including, housing providers, police and fire service to deliver a co-ordinated response, recommending any additional works to make the property more secure, to enable victims to remain at home.

b) Homelessness

Any person who is experiencing domestic abuse and who are either wishing to or having to leave their current accommodation may present to Scottish Borders Council, Homelessness Services in order to get advice and assistance. A range of emergency accommodation is available.

c) Refuge accommodation

Borders Womens Aid provides refuge accommodation for a maximum of 5 women and 12 children. Refuge accommodation may be accessed by women following an assessment process, this may prove to be a suitable or unsuitable option. The specialist domestic abuse services, along with Safe Housing can also access refuge accommodation across Scotland if appropriate.

d) Temporary accommodation

There is a range of temporary accommodation available across the Scottish Borders. The option of temporary accommodation will be explored as part of all the housing options which may be available to the victim.

e) Re-Housing

Applications for housing can be received by SBHA, Waverley Housing and Border Choice Homes from people who wish to be housed or who wish to be transferred to alternative accommodation. The individual circumstances of each applicant will be taken into consideration, along with any supporting evidence offered by partner agencies, including Scottish Borders Council, homelessness services and the specialist domestic abuse services.

f) Referral to Safer Housing

Any person who is experiencing domestic abuse and requires further advice in relation to safer housing can, with consent be referred to the Safer Housing Options worker who will undertake a full safer housing options assessment.

11 Legal Rights and Options

Victims of domestic abuse will frequently feel the only options are to endure or flee.

[Appendix 4](#) sets out the Legislation relating specifically to domestic abuse. The five organisations are committed to ensuring that staff have awareness about the options available, including interdict, exclusions orders, where in doubt seek advice from DAAS.

- Solicitors; Legal Aid may be available to assist and individuals should be directed to seek legal advice including advice on legal rights or apply for an exclusion order, interdict or non-harassment order
- Where someone feels unsafe in their home and would prefer their spouse/partner does not live in the property with them then they can apply to the court for an interdict and exclusion orders.
- An interdict can;
- Restrain or prohibit conduct by one spouse against the other or any of their children
- Prohibit one spouse from entering or remaining in the matrimonial home or in a specified area around the matrimonial home
- Stop a partner/ex-partner making other forms of unwelcome contact such as phoning, texting or emailing or doing other things, for example taking items from the victim's home, where evidence of such harassment is available.
- The court can also attach power of arrest provided an application has been made.
- For couples who are not married they can still apply to the court for an interdict with powers of arrest to prevent their partner from harassing them.

- An exclusion order can;
- Remove the person from the property

12 Staff Training and Development

- a) It is, essential that staff have the requisite training to recognise the difficulties facing those experiencing domestic abuse and to provide the necessary information and assistance. Domestic abuse is often hidden and unreported. Housing staff need to be alert to domestic abuse, when considering reports of neighbour nuisance and Anti social behaviour, repair requests, rent/arrears management, allocations and homelessness presentations in particular.
- b) Staff will be trained in:
- Unified Policy and Procedures in Preventing and Responding to Domestic Abuse
 - Relevant legislation
 - The services available from other agencies to support those experiencing domestic abuse to enable appropriate responses in event of disclosure
 - Understanding the “survivor” experience.
 - Personal safety measures
 - Staff will be encouraged to consider the opportunity, where appropriate, to train as co-facilitators for the Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse Recovery (CEDAR) group work programme.

This policy recognises that the prevalence of domestic abuse within the adult population will result in the potential that employees may be victims or perpetrators. It is vitally important that each organisation considers support for any staff member who discloses domestic abuse or who is identified as a perpetrator of abuse.

13 Monitoring and Evaluation

All five organisations are committed to monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of this unified policy using a range of measures and performance indicators, specific to each provider. This information will be shared with strategic partnerships to provide evidence, data, and feedback on the coordinated, community approach to addressing domestic abuse in the Scottish Borders.

Additionally, service user feedback will be gathered to inform a review of the changes to policy and practice.

Regular review meetings with key partner agencies will ensure robust partnerships are maintained, or fostered, to enable best practice to be disseminated. During any review, local and up-to-date trends, prevalence and evidence will be used to inform any amendments.

There are considerable links to National Outcomes, namely:

- a) Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective communicators and responsible citizens
- b) Our Children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
- c) We live longer healthier lives
- d) We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish Society
- e) We have improved life chances for young people and families at risk
- f) We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger
- g) We live in well designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.
- h) We have strong resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others

Scottish Borders Safer Communities Strategic Plan 2015-2018 has identified gender based violence as one of its business priorities.

Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls (2016-21)

“We aim to work together to ensure that women and girls in the Scottish Borders are equally safe at home, at work and in the community” and

“Collaborating with key partners in the public, private and third sectors to prevent and eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls”

14 Review of policy

- 1 The Partners will ensure that any changes in legislation relating to domestic abuse are reflected in the policy.
- 2 That staff are continually provided with the requisite training to reflect such changes.

That the policy is normally reviewed three yearly unless there are any changes in legislation or other substantive changes which require an earlier review. Reviews will be informed by feedback from staff, service users and relevant stakeholders specialising in supporting those experiencing domestic abuse.

15 Complaints and Arbitration

Please refer to your own Complaints and Arbitration policy and procedures.

16 Appendix 1 Pathway Project Memorandum of Understanding

(Extract) This Memorandum of Understanding relates to the Pathway Project which aims to address the specific needs of survivors of domestic abuse in the Scottish Borders. It will bring together existing and new service provision to support adults and children experiencing domestic abuse in the Scottish Borders, co-ordinating the efforts of statutory and voluntary sector agencies. This is based on the principles of a “coordinated, community response (CCR)” model.

The project will replicate three existing models of multi-agency good practice in dealing with domestic abuse:

- The Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) Service replicating the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) model of advocacy.
- The Domestic Abuse Community Support (DACS) Service which will provide long term support for survivors to recover from domestic abuse and will be delivered in line with current locality model of service provision in the Scottish Borders.
- Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse Recovery (CEDAR) element of the project will be developed by the establishment of a CEDAR Coordinator in line with recommendations made by Scottish Women’s Aid/The Big Lottery. This project will develop, coordinate and deliver concurrent group work for mothers and children.

This Memorandum of Understanding sets out the basis upon which the core Partners will act jointly to deliver the Pathway Project which is funded by the Big Lottery Fund’s ‘Becoming a Survivor’ programme. In particular it sets out the respective role and responsibilities of the Partners in relation to the funding, management and delivery of the project.

Namely:

Housing: Borders Housing Network, Scottish Borders Housing Strategy; Scottish Borders Homelessness Service will:

- Be an active member of the Joint Advisory Group and be represented at an appropriate level by an authorised appointee.
- Provide data, when requested, to inform future development of services.
- Provide data, when requested, to inform the assessment of “unmet need”.
- Ensure domestic abuse referrals where appropriate are made to the DAAS service.
- Ensuring mechanisms for dealing with and acting on service user feedback.
- Ensure all relevant staff are appraised of new service and are offered training on new risk assessment processes.
- Provide data, when requested, to inform future development of services.
- Provide data, when requested, to inform the assessment of “unmet need”.
- Track trends/prevalence and inform the Pathway Joint Advisory Board of any significant changes.
- Support the development and delivery of CEDAR groups in locality areas by positively encouraging staff to consider the role of co-facilitators in mothers and/or children’s group work programmes.

Note: The Borders Housing Network represents the four Registered Social Landlords in the Scottish Borders i.e. Berwickshire Housing Association, Eildon Housing Association, Scottish Borders Housing Association and Waverley Housing

17 Appendix 2 Just Ask – Useful Contacts

AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC ABUSE?

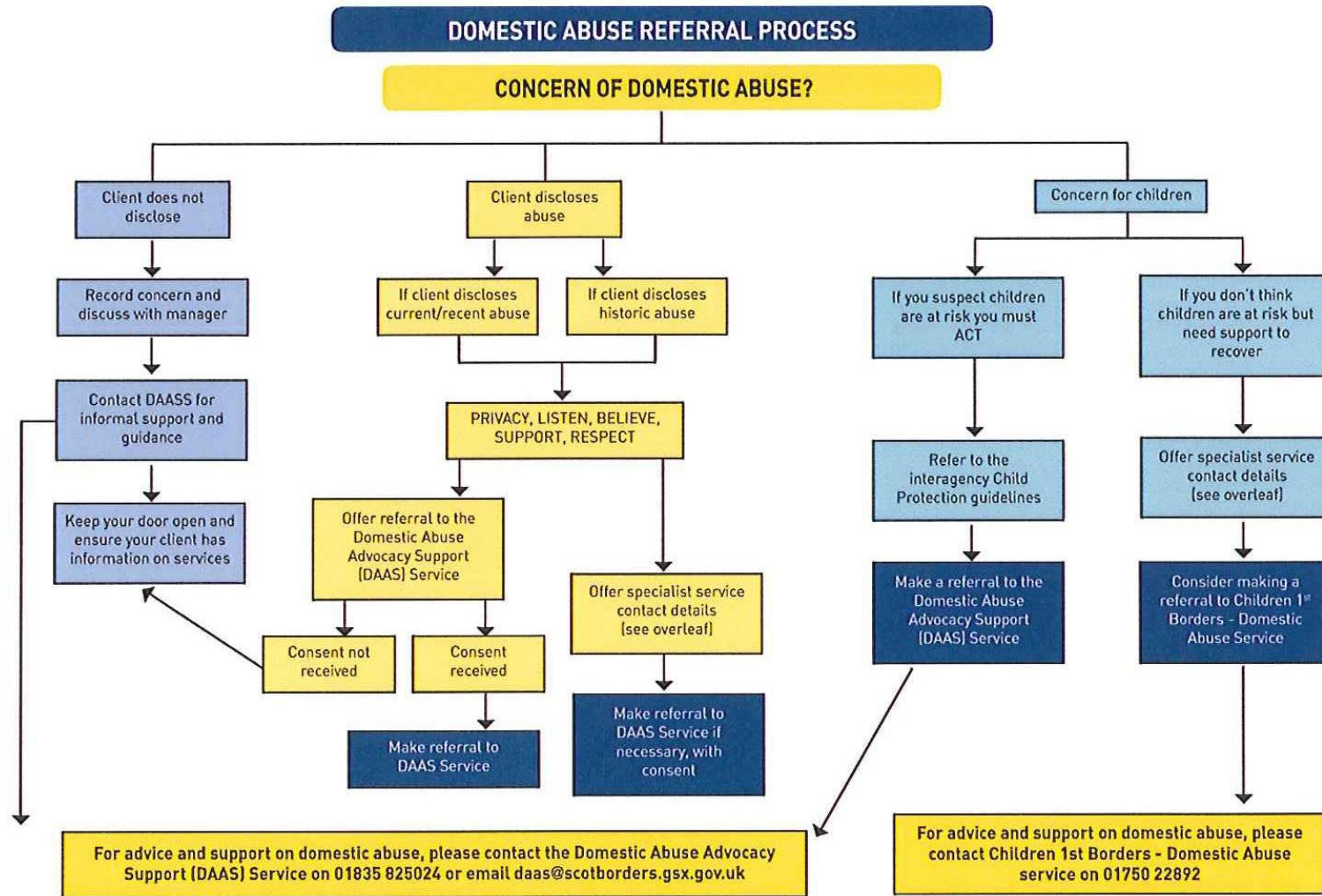
JUST ASK - SCOTTISH BORDERS SUPPORT AGENCIES

SPECIALIST DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT	ADVICE AND SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN	HEALTH ADVICE	ADVICE ON SUBSTANCE MISUSE	HOUSING ADVICE	REPORTING A CRIME AND LEGAL ADVICE	GENERAL SUPPORT AND ADVICE
<p>Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) Service 01835 825024</p> <p>DAAO Domestic Abuse Adult Advocate Outreach Worker 01835 824000 ext: 5288</p> <p>Children 1st Borders – Domestic Abuse service (men, women and adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse) 01750 22892</p> <p>Border Women's Aid 01835 863514</p> <p>Scottish Borders Rape Crisis Centre 0800 054 2445 01896 661070 [office]</p> <p>Shakti Women's Aid 0131 475 2399</p>	<p>Children 1st Borders – Domestic Abuse service (children and young people including abuse, trauma and recovery) 01750 22892</p> <p>Children's Integrated Services teams:</p> <p>Duns 01361 886115</p> <p>Galashiels 01896 661880</p> <p>Hawick 01450 364777</p> <p>Innerleithen 01896 833489</p> <p>Kelso 01573 223501</p> <p>Childline 0800 11 11</p> <p>Penumbra Youth Project (16-25) 01896 751177</p>	<p>Bordertline 0800 027 4466</p> <p>Scottish Association of Mental Health (SAMH) 01896 759746</p> <p>Sexual health clinic 01896 663700</p> <p>NHS 24 111</p>	<p>Addaction Borders (Adults) 01896 757843</p> <p>Borders Addiction Service (Adults) 01896 664430</p> <p>Action for Children (Children & Families) 01896 755055</p>	<p>SHOW Safer Housing Options Worker for people experiencing domestic abuse 01835 824000 ext 5430</p> <p>SBC Homelessness Service 0800 376 1138 01896 661385</p> <p>SAY Women 0141 552 5803</p> <p>Berwickshire Housing 01361 884000</p> <p>Eildon Housing 01750 725900</p> <p>SBHA 01896 662870 01750 724444</p> <p>Waverley Housing 01450 364200</p>	<p>Victim Support Scottish Borders 01896 751212</p> <p>Citizens Advice Bureau 01896 753889 01450 374266 01721 721722</p> <p>Legal Aid 0845 122 8686</p> <p>Police Scotland 101</p>	<p>SBC Welfare Benefits Service 0300 100 1800 01896 661394</p> <p>Social Work out-of-hours 01896 752111</p> <p>Borders Independent Advocacy Service (BIAS) 01896 752200</p> <p>The Samaritans 01750 20000</p> <p>Child Protection Unit 01896 664159</p> <p>Adult Protection Unit 0300 100 1800 [option 4]</p> <p>Breathing Space 0800 83 85 87</p>

All contact numbers valid as at Aug 2015

NATIONAL DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE 0800 027 1234	ABUSED MEN IN SCOTLAND (AMIS) 0808 800 0024	RAPE CRISIS SCOTLAND HELPLINE 08088 01 03 02
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18 Appendix 3 Domestic Abuse Referral process



For further information on understanding and identifying domestic abuse please visit www.scotborders.gov.uk/domesticabuse

19 Appendix 4 Legislation relating specifically to Domestic Abuse

- a) Matrimonial Homes Act 1981**
- b) Transfer of tenancy under the Matrimonial Homes Act 1981**
- c) Family Law Act 1996 Part IV**
- d) Protection from Harassment Act 1997**
- e) Crime & Disorder Act 1998**
- f) Protection from Abuse [Scotland] Act 2001**
- g) Homelessness etc. (Scotland) Act 2003**
- h) Family Law (Scotland) Act 2006**
- i) Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011**
- j) Serious Crime Act 2015 (Section 76)**
- k) Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (October 1st 2015)**
- l) Homelessness prevention Guidance (2009)**
- m) Guidance on meeting the best interest of the child facing homelessness (2010)**
- n) Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 (Ground 15 Schedule 2)**
- o) The Equality Act 2010**