

Can you help me?

66 I have been experiencing domestic abuse for a number of years from my boyfriend and he has now left my home. I don't want to leave as it's near my family and workplace, but I'm scared that he may use his keys to come into my home.

Can you help me increase my home security so that I can feel safe?

Yes we can – call us on 0800 915 1561

66 Can men get help if they are experiencing domestic abuse? My family are forcing me to marry a woman I don't know and don't choose.

Yes we can – call us on 0800 915 1561

66 I want help to leave my physically abusive relationship – I am a gay woman, can you help me?

Yes we can – call us on 0800 915 1561

66 My children and I are very frightened in our home, I think we need to get out before things get worse, can you help us?

Yes we can – call us on 0800 915 1561



Domestic abuse isn't sweet...



If you are experiencing domestic abuse or using abusive behaviours there is advice and support available. Please contact the Wakefield District Domestic Abuse Service.

#KeptSweet



Wakefield District Domestic Abuse Service

WDDAS is a partnership of different agencies who work together to offer people experiencing domestic abuse, or using abusive behaviours the opportunity to access help advice and support. Services are offered across the Wakefield district within our local communities.

These services include:

- Specialist Domestic Abuse Practitioners
- Housing advice and options
- Sanctuary scheme
- Emotional Support
- Freedom Programme
- Support to change abusive behaviours

The purpose of WDDAS is to offer advice and support to anyone affected by domestic abuse.

Our main aim is to ensure that both you and your family are **SAFE**.

We provide a single point of contact for all referrals and provide a telephone advice line available to members of the public and professionals.

This service is for anyone who may need help regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity or nationality. If English is not your first language, we will provide an interpreter or make arrangements to ensure the services can be provided.



What services are available at the Wakefield District Domestic Abuse Service?

There are many services available from Wakefield District Domestic Abuse Service (WDDAS). If you need a service that we are unable to provide, we will point you in the right direction.

Is this service for me?

WDDAS aims to work with all victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse who:

- Are aged 16 years and over.
- Live in the Wakefield district or are registered with a Wakefield district GP.
- Are experiencing any form of domestic abuse, including forced marriage and honour based abuse.
- Recognise they need help to change their abusive behaviours.

Listed are the services available:

Specialist Domestic Abuse Practitioners (SDAPs)

The SDAPs will be able to support you in a number of ways depending on your personal experiences. They are skilled at identifying and assessing risk and they will create a personal support plan and safety plan with you dependent on your circumstances and need. This may include practical help such as going with you to appointments, attending legal proceedings and offering one to one support sessions.



Housing advice and options

The SDAPs can also provide advice and information to help you with any housing issues that you have. If you feel you may need to find alternative accommodation in order to stay safe, the SDAPs can help you access refuge or temporary accommodation. As part of your safety plan all options will be discussed, as leaving your home is not the only route to safety.

The Sanctuary Scheme

The SDAPs offer advice on the Sanctuary Scheme. The scheme is specifically for those people who wish to remain living in their current homes. The SDAP will work with you to advise what can be done to make you feel as safe as possible.



Emotional support

For some people, domestic abuse can cause both emotional and psychological stress. In order to help you deal with this, WDDAS will work with partner organisations to offer the most appropriate support.

Freedom Programme

The Freedom Programme is a nationally recognised 12 week course. WDDAS work with colleagues across the district to deliver the programme in a number of community venues. The course helps people to recognise abusive relationships and the different behaviours a perpetrator may use to gain power and control.



Behaviour change (perpetrator support)

Support is available for both men and women who want help to change their abusive behaviours. WDDAS work with partner organisations to provide:

- Group work programmes
- 1:1 support

Support for children

Sometimes the biggest victims of domestic abuse are the smallest. You may feel that your children need some support if they have lived with or been witness to domestic abuse. You could speak to your GP about this and also get in touch with the Children First Hubs.



Telephone support

The telephone helpline is available to anyone who needs advice and information around domestic abuse. This could be a professional enquiry or you could be seeking assistance for you or someone you know.

Call 0800 915 1561

**Monday to Thursday
9am to 5 pm,
Friday 9am to 4.30 pm**

For more information about any of the services we provide:

Freephone: 0800 915 1561

Email: domesticabuse@wakefield.gov.uk

Website: www.wakefield.gov.uk/keepitsweet - website information is provided in a number of community languages