

Housing Services current Domestic Abuse Policy forms part of the Anti-social Behaviour Policy and we are now aiming to create and implement a 'stand alone' Domestic Abuse Policy.

This draft Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy sets out how North Tyneside Council's housing service will assist and support any person experiencing or threatened with domestic abuse. The policy aims to ensure that our customers should not live in fear of violence, abuse or harassment from a partner, former partner or any member of their family.

We welcome your comments and suggestions in relation to our draft policy with a view to making any necessary changes to ensure that it is fit for the purpose for which it is intended.

Supplementary Information

Domestic abuse is still a largely hidden crime and happens in all communities, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.

As a housing provider we are well placed to recognise the signs of domestic abuse. We take all reports of domestic abuse seriously and work positively and proactively with the victim to offer support. We will take action against perpetrators of domestic abuse and, in addition, we will assist perpetrators who wish to positively change their behaviour by helping them with support and assistance.

Housing Services current Domestic Abuse Policy forms part of the Anti-social Behaviour Policy. The Councils Housing Service is aiming to achieve accreditation from the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance in autumn 2019. - put in place and embed a policy to support residents who are affected by domestic abuse.

The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance's mission is to improve the housing sectors approach to domestic abuse through an established set of eight national domestic abuse service standards. These standards bring together best practice in responding to domestic abuse in the housing sector. One of the national service standards relates to policy and procedures and requires organisations to create and implement a 'stand alone' Domestic Abuse Policy.

Housing Services has also signed the **Make a Stand** pledge developed by the Chartered Institute of housing, Women's Aid and the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance. It was created to encourage housing organisations to make a commitment to support people experiencing domestic abuse. Number one, out of the four commitments under the pledge, is to put in place and embed a policy to support residents who are affected by domestic abuse.

Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy sets out how North Tyneside Council's housing service will assist and support any person experiencing or threatened with domestic abuse. The policy aims to ensure that our customers should not live in fear of violence, abuse or harassment from a partner, former partner or any member of their family.

We are looking for suggestions and comments in relation to our draft policy with a view to making any necessary changes to ensure that it is fit for the purpose for which it is intended.