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## Church Self-Assessment Tool

**Domestic Abuse is a specialist area that requires referral to professionals.** However, as churches we can work to become a place of safety and support for those facing domestic abuse. Take the challenge and work through this SELF ASSESSMENT to develop momentum so that your responses are becoming increasingly safe and effective.

Level 1: AWARE	Minimum: Demonstrate their understanding regarding domestic abuse within the Church context. Evidence could include:	Priority? (1 = high, 10 = low)	Details:	Lead	Date By when
	Up to date literature on Domestic Abuse is displayed in the Church building.				
	A poster of 'The Charter for churches' & national DV helpline numbers are displayed in foyer & toilets.				
	A Restored Church pack is made available for staff and volunteers, the website and resources are signposted, social media signed up in order to receive updates.				
Level 2: ENGAGE	Demonstrate their commitment to tackling domestic abuse within the Church context/wider community. Evidence could include:				
	Violence Against Women (VAW)/Domestic abuse is challenged in sermons, talks, home groups, prayer groups (for instance –especially the nearest Sun to 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov (International End VAW day) or 8 <sup>th</sup> March (International women's day). (Minimum 1).				
	Clear signposting of local professional services within the Church building and in manuals (safety and appropriate support). Key pastoral leaders aware of appropriate support.				
	Appoint a 'Point person' that is responsible for keeping resources up to date, and researching local referral routes/professional services.				
	A link person that enables the resourcing of a local refuge from the Church (clothes, equipment, crisis packs) is established in order to resource the sector.				
	Domestic abuse is covered in Safeguarding policies; procedures are implemented and reviewed annually. Regular training opportunities are offered.				
Level 3: SUPPORT	Demonstrate a commitment to supporting Victim/Survivors and/or Perpetrators. Evidence could include:				
	Deals safely with disclosures (Recognise, Respond, Record, Refer), aware of personal and Church limitations.				
	Pastoral/Leaders are trained to offer meaningful and safe support to women and children and or perpetrators OR a 'Survivors group' is established and resourced.				
	Domestic Violence training day is regularly offered (issues of Gender and Power are explored).				
	Children's work, Young Peoples Work, Marriage preparation courses, Relationship courses and Divorce Recovery Courses all have appropriate information on domestic abuse, and clear support/signposting is offered.				