

North Lanarkshire Council Report

Housing Committee

Does this report require to be approved?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Ref SL/MK

Date

06/11/24

Housing Domestic Abuse Policy Progress and Development of the Housing Digital Domestic Abuse Directory

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Executive Summary

This report highlights some of the progress achieved since the approval and implementation of the Housing Domestic Abuse Policy in August 2022, with particular emphasis on partnership working with the wider housing sector in North Lanarkshire to achieve far reaching positive impact in the creation of domestic abuse informed systems and practice across the wider collective housing sector in North Lanarkshire.

Specific attention is drawn to the creation of the innovative digital domestic abuse housing directory, a one stop place for all domestic abuse information and resources for the wider sector in North Lanarkshire, updated in real time, ensuring current and accurate information for housing staff to promote a consistent, trauma informed and proactive response for all victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

Reference is also made to the trauma informed practice work being progressed within housing and aligned to the council's Resilient People Programme of Work, alongside recent national legislative and policy developments of relevance in terms of housing and domestic abuse.

The report illustrates the excellent and pioneering progress made so far while caveating that despite the positive work achieved domestic abuse remains a significant challenge and key priority for the housing service, continuing to account for the leading cause of homelessness amongst women, both nationally and locally.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Housing Committee:

- (1) Acknowledge the significant work undertaken across housing services to embed domestic abuse informed practice and systems across housing teams and all aspects of housing business since the implementation of the council's Housing Domestic Abuse Policy.
- (2) Acknowledge the role the council's housing service has taken in relation to improving awareness and knowledge of domestic abuse amongst the wider housing sector in North Lanarkshire, acting as a strategic enabler of change to improve outcomes for survivors and victims of domestic abuse.
- (3) Consider the new digital housing domestic abuse resource, designed in partnership with Registered Social Landlords and specialist domestic abuse

support organisations in North Lanarkshire and its application in improving awareness of services, supports and signposting across housing organisations, and beyond this, potential wider application.

- (4) Recognise that despite the positive progress made, domestic abuse remains a significant challenge for the council and wider partners and will continue to be a key priority area of focus for the housing service to further implement effective systems and supports to tackle domestic abuse and other forms of gender based Violence.

The Plan for North Lanarkshire

Priority	Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities
Ambition statement	(14) Ensure the highest standards of public protection
Programme of Work	Statutory / corporate / service requirement

1. Background

- 1.1 North Lanarkshire has strong partnership working arrangements in relation to tackling domestic abuse, in which housing services are a key partner. This includes strategic and operational planning undertaken through the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) partnership structure, participation in Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC), the process of managing the highest risk cases of domestic abuse and Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC), the process of identifying and tackling serial perpetrators of domestic abuse.
- 1.2 The partnership response to domestic abuse in North Lanarkshire is framed within the context of that set out in the nationally Equally Safe Strategy, in the recognition of the deep-rooted structural gender inequalities which underpin domestic abuse and other forms of gender based violence, whilst also recognising the wider harms created by domestic abuse in families and communities and that while anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse, women and girls are disproportionately and significantly so, more affected.
- 1.3 In August 2022 Housing Committee approved the Housing Domestic Abuse Policy. This policy built on the commitment that housing services set out to tackle domestic abuse, through signing the 'Make a Stand' pledge developed by the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) in partnership with Women's Aid and the Domestic Abuse Alliance, designed to encourage the housing sector to make a clear commitment to support people experiencing domestic abuse.

2. Report

Housing Domestic Abuse Policy Summary

- 2.1 The Housing Domestic Abuse Policy sets out housing's approach to providing a coordinated response to eradicating and preventing domestic abuse. Equality and human rights, and a focus on early intervention and prevention are embedded throughout the policy.
- 2.2 The policy sets out the service's approach to preventing homelessness wherever possible recognising the distress and trauma associated with homelessness, while also

recognising the importance of understanding different needs and circumstances, acknowledging that for some survivors/victims of domestic abuse, continuing to stay in their current accommodation may not be an option for them due to the trauma they have experienced or potential risk posed.

2.3 Key components of the policy focus on:

- Housing options – setting out a range of housing options and supports available
- Prevention and early housing advice – outlining the service's approach to prevention and sustainability in the context of domestic abuse
- Partnership working – setting out the commitment to continue to work in partnership with women with lived experience, specialist support providers, other social landlords and the VAWG partnership to improve housing's response to tackling domestic abuse
- Risk assessment and safety planning – the use of Safe Lives DASH risk assessment tool, a key focus on safety planning with particular importance at times of heightened vulnerability and risk
- Action against perpetrators – intended to be progressed further through implementation of the new Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 which will bring into force new powers for social landlords
- Training – a commitment to train all housing staff on domestic abuse on an ongoing basis recognising evolving training needs to be able to respond to domestic abuse effectively and to embed training into practice
- Core business – supporting the position that no matter the service area, tackling domestic abuse is everyone's responsibility, to achieve wider change at a service, workforce and wider societal level

Key Areas of Progress

Establishment of North Lanarkshire Domestic Abuse Social Landlord Network

- 2.4 Progress has been made in several key areas since the policy was approved, with notable progress in enabling an improved collective wider housing response to eradicating and preventing domestic abuse in North Lanarkshire, through the creation of a North Lanarkshire wide Social Landlord Domestic Abuse Network – facilitated by the council's housing service, involving the wider Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) in North Lanarkshire.
- 2.5 Established in early 2023 this network involves 10 social landlords in North Lanarkshire as well as specialist support organisations. The network has proved effective as a conduit for sharing information, knowledge and resources, and has been instrumental in ensuring that housing organisations across North Lanarkshire are aware of the domestic abuse pathways to refer and signpost survivors and victims of domestic abuse to.

Development of the Housing Domestic Abuse Digital Directory

- 2.6 More recently as part of the work streams of the network, an innovative digital housing domestic abuse directory has been created and launched. This pioneering guide is thought to be the first of its kind for housing organisations in Scotland, bringing together all the resources and information relating to domestic abuse for housing organisations in North Lanarkshire in one expedient depository. Featuring real live time updates, ensuring information is never out of date, this online resource provides a one-stop place

for everything that any officer working within housing, regardless of the housing organisation in North Lanarkshire, needs to know about domestic abuse.

- 2.7 Developed in partnership with both the specialist support organisations in North Lanarkshire and RSLs, alongside the Council's Domestic Abuse Coordinator, the council's housing service have led on the development and launch of the new guide with the aim of creating much far reaching, broader impact in North Lanarkshire, improving the quality and consistency of support for survivors and victims of domestic abuse provided by housing organisations across North Lanarkshire. The key aim being to improve the wider collective housing sector response, recognising the pivotal role the wider housing sector has in effectively eradicating and preventing domestic abuse.
- 2.8 There is potential for wider application of this digital guide to provide a domestic abuse resource for all services and organisations as well as a resource for the general public and indeed wider application across other local authority areas.

Trauma Informed Practice

- 2.9 Aligned with the council's Resilient People Programme of Work, the housing service has been working towards creating a trauma informed and responsive workforce, so that officers in the housing service can recognise where people are affected by trauma and adversity, and respond in ways that prevent further harm, support recovery, address inequalities and improve life chances. The service has undertaken a training needs analysis, trained in-house housing trauma trainers and have progressed piloting 'Transforming Connections' bespoke trauma training for housing teams. Supported by the national Trauma Transformation Programme, this activity will pave the way for other council services and wider RSL partners to up-skill staff to the appropriate level of trauma-informed practice and critically to embed and sustain this model of working.

Safe and Together Model and Additional Training

- 2.10 A successful bid to the nationally Equally Safe fund has enabled roll out of Safe and Together training across housing services and wider RSL partners in North Lanarkshire. Safe and Together is a forward thinking model which focusses on keeping children safe and together with the non-offending parent, partnering with the non-offending parent as the default position and intervening with perpetrators to reduce risk and harm to children. The model provides a suite of tools and interventions to transform child protection in cases of domestic abuse and to support improved outcomes for victims and survivors of domestic abuse.
- 2.11 This training compliments a range of other training opportunities on domestic abuse and other forms of gender based violence available to both council and RSL housing teams, with the council housing service facilitating the promotion and coordination of new training opportunities as they arise in partnership with the VAWG partnership amongst the wider housing sector in North Lanarkshire.

Legislative Developments

- 2.12 The Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 will enable police and courts to ban suspected abusers from re-entering the home and from approaching or contacting the person at risk for a period of time to enable them to consider their longer-term options around safety and housing. The Act will also allow social landlords to end or transfer the tenancy of a perpetrator of domestic abuse to the victim/survivor. Together, these measures should reduce the risk that victims and survivors of domestic abuse end up having to become homeless in order to escape the perpetrator.

- 2.13 These measures are undoubtedly positive, and should make a significant difference, enabling choice for survivors and victims and upholding rights. However, legislation alone cannot improve housing outcomes for survivors and victims, associated guidance, including provisions on how to rehouse perpetrators will be crucial in supporting social landlords improve housing services. The Act received Royal Assent in May 2021 and was expected to come into force late in 2023. The main provisions of the 2021 Act are not yet in force, although the council's housing service is working closely with the Scottish Government, Scottish Housing Network and CIH to ensure when legislation does come into force the council is in a prepared position.
- 2.14 The new Housing Bill also contains measures aimed at improving the situation of victims and survivors of domestic abuse. Section 44 of the Bill will introduce a new pre-action requirement where a landlord is seeking to evict a tenant for rent arrears, where the social landlord considers that a tenant has experienced or is experiencing domestic abuse and this explains or partly explains the rent arrears.
- 2.15 Section 45 will require social landlords to develop and implement a domestic abuse policy setting out how they will support their tenants who are at risk of homelessness as a result of domestic abuse.
- 2.16 The Bill's provisions regarding how a joint private residential tenancy can be ended are also intended to help support victims of domestic abuse.
- 2.17 The council is in strong position in that we have a Housing Domestic Abuse Policy, in which implementation is well underway and progress is clearly evident. Contained within the policy are specific provisions in relation to the measures which have been subsequently contained in the new Housing Bill.

Future Actions and Focus

- 2.18 In recognition of the council's housing service being a leader in the field of domestic abuse, it has been shortlisted for the 2024 CIH awards for excellence in partnership working. However, despite the positive progress achieved, domestic abuse remains a significant challenge for the housing service and for the council. Domestic abuse is the leading cause of homelessness amongst women, accounting for 23% of all homeless applications in Scotland over the 2023/24 period from females. This compares to 5% of homeless applications from males. A high proportion of applications for domestic abuse reasons are from single females with children, accounting for 44.8% of female domestic abuse applications, compared to 9.0% for males¹.
- 2.19 It is widely recognised that women's experiences of housing are very different from those of men. This includes access to affordable housing and private sector housing options, interactions with housing services and pathways into and out of homelessness. Certain groups of women are more likely to experience housing instability, homelessness, poor housing or inadequate services. Wider forms of violence, abuse and exploitation pose significant threats. This includes commercial sexual exploitation (CSE), with clear correlation with housing issues. A focus on increasing awareness of CSE amongst the wider housing sector is planned, alongside further collaboration with partners to better understand experiences of housing services from those with lived experience to identify areas for action.
- 2.20 We know from local analysis that women in older age groups are less likely to seek support for domestic abuse and are under-represented proportionally in support

¹ Scottish Government Homelessness Data, 2023/24, published 24 September 2024

services. As a wider housing sector there exist potential opportunities to engage directly with older women given the provision of retirement and sheltered housing. Work is planned in partnership with the specialist domestic abuse advocacy providers to develop a targeted support approach across specialist older people's housing providers.

- 2.21 An increase in online violence, with exponential growth in sexual cyber-crimes is of concern, with one in six women in Scotland experiencing online violence.² With technology advancing at an extraordinary pace, it is crucial that our housing teams are equipped with the skills and knowledge to recognise and respond appropriately.
- 2.22 Further development and implementation of the service's Trauma Informed Practice plan although recognised as a longer-term piece of work to embed trauma informed and responsive systems and practice across all areas of housing and the wider housing sector, is a key priority.

3. Measures of success

- 3.1 Continued implementation of the Housing Domestic Abuse Policy.

4. Supporting documentation

Appendix – North Lanarkshire Council and Social Landlord Digital Domestic Abuse Directory

Weblink to the digital housing domestic abuse directory:
<https://northlanarkshire.pagetiger.com/gyspmq/1>



Stephen Llewellyn
Chief Officer (Housing)

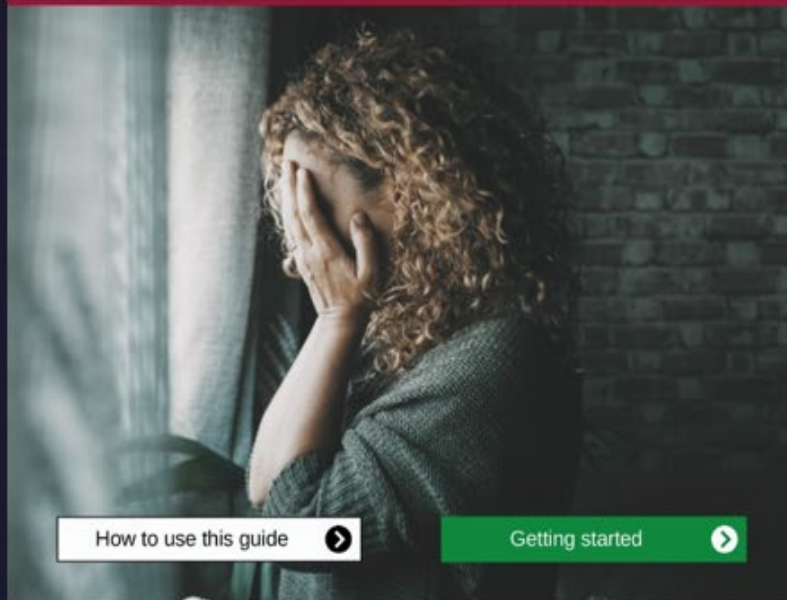
² Open University, Societal Attitudes and Experiences of Online Violence Against Women and Girls (OVAWG) Research Project, 2023.

5. Impacts

5.1 Public Sector Equality Duty and Fairer Scotland Duty Does the report contain information that has an impact as a result of the Public Sector Equality Duty and/or Fairer Scotland Duty? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact? If Yes, has an assessment been carried out and published on the council's website? https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/your-community/equalities/equality-and-fairer-scotland-duty-impact-assessments Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.2 Financial impact Does the report contain any financial impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant financial impacts been discussed and agreed with Finance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?
5.3 HR policy impact Does the report contain any HR policy or procedure impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant HR impacts been discussed and agreed with People Resources? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?
5.4 Legal impact Does the report contain any legal impacts (such as general legal matters, statutory considerations (including employment law considerations), or new legislation)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant legal impacts been discussed and agreed with Legal and Democratic? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?
5.5 Data protection impact Does the report / project / practice contain or involve the processing of personal data? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, is the processing of this personal data likely to result in a high risk to the data subject? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, has a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) been carried out and e-mailed to dataprotection@northlan.gov.uk Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.6 Technology / Digital impact Does the report contain information that has an impact on either technology, digital transformation, service redesign / business change processes, data management, or connectivity / broadband / Wi-Fi? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?

	<p>Where the impact identifies a requirement for significant technology change, has an assessment been carried out (or is scheduled to be carried out) by the Enterprise Architecture Governance Group (EAGG)?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5.7</p>	<p>Environmental / Carbon impact</p> <p>Does the report / project / practice contain information that has an impact on any environmental or carbon matters?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.8</p>	<p>Communications impact</p> <p>Does the report contain any information that has an impact on the council's communications activities?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.9</p>	<p>Risk impact</p> <p>Is there a risk impact?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the key risks and potential impacts, highlighting where the risk(s) are assessed and recorded (e.g. Corporate or Service or Project Risk Registers), and how they are managed?</p>
<p>5.10</p>	<p>Armed Forces Covenant Duty</p> <p>Does the report require to take due regard of the Armed Forces Covenant Duty (i.e. does it relate to healthcare, housing, or education services for in-Service or ex-Service personnel, or their families, or widow(er)s)?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the provision which has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the particular needs of the Armed Forces community to make sure that they do not face disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public services.</p>
<p>5.11</p>	<p>Children's rights and wellbeing impact</p> <p>Does the report contain any information regarding any council activity, service delivery, policy, or plan that has an impact on children and young people up to the age of 18, or on a specific group of these?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact and the provision that has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the relevant Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).</p> <p>If Yes, has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) been carried out?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

North Lanarkshire
Council and Partners:
Housing Domestic
Abuse Digital
Directory.



Appendix – North Lanarkshire Social Landlord Domestic Abuse Digital Directory

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REGISTERED SOCIAL LANDLORD PARTNERS	➤
HOUSING - DOMESTIC ABUSE AGENCIES	➤
TRAINING	➤
PUBLIC PROTECTION TEAM	➤
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Legislative Context

The Scottish Government definition of domestic abuse is:

“Domestic abuse (as Gender-Based abuse), 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 or friends)[1].”

The Make a Stand pledge, developed in 2018 by CIH, Women's Aid, and DAHA, aims to encourage social landlords to support victims of domestic abuse.

This commitment gave housing organisations the chance to sign up to make four specific pledges to help those who are victims of domestic abuse. They were able to openly pledge to help domestic violence victims in this way. Once they had done so, it was their responsibility to make sure they fulfilled their promises by September 2019.

The four commitments, and additional background information, are detailed below:

[The Four Commitments](#)

[Background Information](#)

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NLC Housing Domestic Abuse Policy

With the help of the Violence Against Women (VAW) Partnership and women who have personally experienced domestic violence, we have designed a new Housing Domestic Abuse Policy that puts victims and survivors at the centre of our service. [Click here to view this policy.](#)

Anyone who contacts our team for assistance with domestic abuse will receive support, since our housing service takes a proactive approach to combating it.

Additional Information



What Our
Policy Includes

NLC
Representatives

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RSL Housing Domestic Abuse Forum 25th January 2023

The first RSL Domestic Abuse Forum took place at the end of January 2023. We invited our partners to hear about our new Policy and meet our Domestic Abuse providers.

You can access minutes from the session, and information shared from the previous forum, by clicking each of the sections below:



MARGARET KELLY AND ALISON CLARKE PRESENT A SUMMARY OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL HOUSING DOMESTIC ABUSE POLICY .



SHARON AITCHISON AND SASHA BENNETT PRESENT AN OVERVIEW OF THE WOMEN'S AID SERVICES AVAILABLE IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE.



YVONNE WILSON PRESENTS AN OVERVIEW OF THE SERVICE PROVIDED BY AURA.



ELEANOR HILLCOAT PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE NLC PUBLIC PROTECTION TEAM, COVERING THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE TEAM.



AN OVERVIEW OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED AND POINTS RAISED DURING THE FORUM THAT TOOK PLACE ON 21ST JANUARY 2023.



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RSL Housing Domestic Abuse Forum 31st August 2023

The 2nd Housing Domestic Abuse Forum took place on 31st August 2023. This session focused on the Safe & Together Model and the introduction of our new RSL Housing Domestic Abuse Digital Directory.

You can access the presentations and the minutes from this session below:

★ AILEEN MURPHY, SAFE & TOGETHER COORDINATOR, INTRODUCED THE SAFE & TOGETHER MODEL, AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED APPROACH TO DOMESTIC ABUSE, PROMOTING A CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM, INVOLVING VICTIMS AND PERPETRATORS, AND ENHANCING ACCOUNTABILITY. >

★ SAFE AND TOGETHER PARTICIPANT GUIDE >

★ JULIE SMITH, BUSINESS STRATEGY OFFICER, INTRODUCED THE HOUSING DOMESTIC ABUSE DIRECTORY. THE DIRECTORY SERVES AS A KEY POINT OF CONTACT, MAKING IT EASIER TO DISCUSS ISSUES RELATED TO DOMESTIC ABUSE. IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY, SEND YOUR ORGANIZATION'S REPRESENTATIVE'S CONTACT INFORMATION. >

★ OVERVIEW OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED AND POINTS RAISED DURING THE FORUM THAT TOOK PLACE ON 31ST AUGUST 2023. >

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RSL Housing Domestic Abuse Forum 29th February 2024

The 3rd Housing Domestic Abuse Forum - our first virtual meeting - took place on 29th February 2024. This session introduced Clyde Valley Housing Association's new Housing Domestic Abuse Policy and featured the new Housing Domestic Abuse digital directory.

You can access the presentations and the minutes from this session below:

★ CAROLINE HOTCHKISS PRESENTED THE ASSOCIATION'S NEW DOMESTIC ABUSE POLICY, DEVELOPED WITH COLLABORATION FROM AURA AND WOMEN'S AID. >

★ JULIE SMITH GAVE A SHORT PRESENTATION TO HIGHLIGHT THE LAUNCH OF THE NEW DIGITAL DOMESTIC ABUSE DIRECTORY. >

★ OVERVIEW OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED AND POINTS RAISED DURING THE FORUM THAT TOOK PLACE ON 29TH FEBRUARY 2024. >

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NLC Contact Information

Along with contact details for our [Housing Domestic Abuse Champions](#), this section also contains the contact information for each office in case you have any questions.



Airdrie Housing Office



Bellshill/ Motherwell
Housing Office



Viewpark Housing Office



Coatbridge Housing Office



Housing Public
Protection Team



Kilsyth
Housing Office



Moodiesburn
Housing Office



Wishaw
Housing Office



Cumbernauld
Housing Office



Shotts
Housing Office

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Registered Social Landlord Partners

NLC has strong partnerships with a variety of local RSL agencies. This section contains more information on our partners.



Cairn HA



Abronhill



Caledonia



Bield



Clyde Valley



Forgewood



Garrion



Loretto



Hanover



Horizon



Sanctuary Scotland



West of Scotland



Wishaw & District

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Registered Social Landlord Partners (continued)



Link HA



Lanarkshire HA



Blackwood HA



Trust HA



Key HA



Melville Housing



Ancho

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Domestic Abuse Agencies



Aura



Lanarkshare Rape
Crisis Centre



North Lanarkshire
Women's Aid Services



Shakti Womens Aid

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Domestic Abuse Agencies (Continued...)



Amina



SAY Women



Barnardo's



Assist

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Training

Safe and Together

This page provides a more detailed breakdown of the Safe & Together Model. Please click each of the links for more information.



[Model Overview](#)

[Addressing Issues](#)

[Creating Informed Practice](#)

[Safe & Together Institute](#)



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Training

NLC Housing Domestic Abuse Policy Training

We regularly carry out mandatory training for all housing and property staff, with the aim of:

- Raising awareness of our Housing Domestic Abuse Policy
- Improving staff understanding of domestic abuse, and
- Emphasising the role housing and property staff play in supporting victims of domestic abuse.

Please click the button below if you would like to access details of the session given to staff.

Staff Training



Additional Training Opportunities

North Lanarkshire Council will be offering the opportunity to participate in training sessions with our partners around Domestic Abuse.

Safe & Together Overview

Coming soon

Coming soon

Coming soon

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Housing Public Protection Team

The primary role of the PP Team is to work with responsible authorities, with additional support from operational housing to support risk management planning arrangements of those who may pose harm to self or others within our communities.

Domestic Abuse

Those living with domestic abuse are supported to live within our communities and a range of multi-meetings are attended by the Housing Public Protection Team, where appropriate, proportionate information is shared in partnership to support the needs of potential victims and survivors.

Risk management planning is undertaken, and appropriate measures are put in place to work together to mitigate risk, to enable those affected to remain supported within our communities.

[Fundamental Aims](#)

[Contact Us](#)

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MARAC - Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

A Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a local meeting at which representatives from statutory and non-statutory agencies discuss individuals who are at high risk of serious harm or murder as a result of domestic abuse.

The meeting provides a safe environment for agencies to share relevant and proportionate information about current risk, after which the Chair will summarise the information and ask agencies to volunteer actions to reduce risk and increase safety.

From start to finish, each case should take between 12 and 15 minutes. The MARAC's primary goal is to protect the adult victim. However, the MARAC will also collaborate with other agencies to protect children and manage the perpetrator's behaviour.

The working assumption at the heart of the MARAC is that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of a victim's life, but all may have insights that are critical to their safety.

It is critical to manage risk, improve and maintain safety, and reduce repeat victimisation if the victim is supported throughout and their needs are represented at the MARAC.

[Coming soon](#)



[Coming soon](#)



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MATAC - Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination

MATAC (Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination), is a Police Scotland initiative which focuses on identifying and managing the most harmful domestic abuse perpetrators. The primary goal of the MATAC is to reduce re-offending among serial offenders and to safeguard victims and families.

The MATAC employs a range of interventions, including information sharing, victim support, managing behaviours, prevention, diversion, and enforcement, in order to reduce harm.

The principle aims of MATAC:

- **Prevention**
- **Improving victim safety**, including children
- **Changing offender behaviour**
- **Improving partnership engagement.**

The **North Lanarkshire Housing Public Protection team** represents the local authority in multi-agency meetings. Their collaborative efforts aim to manage risk and provide support to those in need, resulting in a positive impact on the lives of individuals facing domestic abuse in our communities.

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DASH-Ric Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment Risk Checklist

The Dash risk checklist is a tool designed for practitioners working with adult victims of domestic abuse to identify high-risk cases and refer them to a MARAC meeting for risk management.

It aims to help frontline practitioners identify high-risk cases, determine which cases should be referred to MARAC, and provide necessary support.

The form also serves as an active record for future case management, offering a common tool for agencies involved in the MARAC process and enabling defensible decisions based on extensive research on cases, including domestic homicides and near misses, which underpin most recognised risk assessment models.

For further information on MARAC and DASH-Risk [click here](#).

For Dash-Risk Frequently Asked Questions [click here](#).

View checklist



Guidance for Housing Staff



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Housing Domestic Abuse Resources



Companion Document



Violence Against Women
Strategy and Action Plan



National Trauma
Training Resources



Implementation - National Trauma
Transformation Programme

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Housing Domestic Abuse Resources (*continued...*)



Scottish Women's
Rights Centre



Scotland's Domestic
Abuse & Forced
Marriage Helpline



Rape Crisis Scotland



Disclosure Scheme for
Domestic Abuse -
Police Scotland



Domestic Abuse
Advocacy

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Further Information



Violence Against Women:
Responding to Coercive Control



Women's Aid Service
Provision in North Lanarkshire



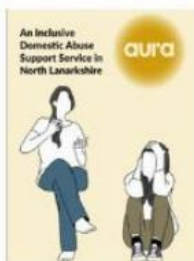
Support for Adult Victims of
Intimate Image Abuse



Additional
Contacts



Domestic Abuse
Housing Matters



Aura - An Inclusive
Domestic Abuse Support Service

Is NRPF a barrier to safety?

Francesca Sella, JustRight Scotland
Women with No Recourse to Public Funds Seminar - North Lanarkshire



"Is NRPF a Barrier to Safety?"
Presentation by Francesca Sella



Commercial
Sexual Exploitation



Contact us

We'd love to hear from you with any suggestions or improvements you may have.

Just click the link below to get in touch.

Email the team

