

Domestic Abuse: Charter and Model Policy

The Charter

Domestic abuse is extremely serious, and contrary to a Christian way of living. The North Kirklees & Morley Methodist Circuit seeks to support those affected by domestic abuse, and their families.

This Circuit

- holds that domestic abuse, in all its forms, is unacceptable
- believes domestic abuse is inconsistent and incompatible with the Christian faith
- acknowledges that domestic abuse is a serious and widespread problem that occurs in church families as well as in wider society
- undertakes to listen to, support and care for those affected by domestic abuse
- prioritises the safety of survivors and children affected by domestic abuse
- works with specialist agencies, learning from and supporting them in appropriate ways, and publicising their work
- will play its part in teaching that domestic abuse is unacceptable and contrary to God's purposes and the teachings of the Bible.

Policy – North Kirklees & Morley Methodist Circuit

Aims and intentions

This policy aims to ensure that domestic abuse is acknowledged and responded to appropriately within the Methodist Church. To do this we will:

- raise awareness about domestic abuse and its impact on individuals, children, the wider family and community
- ensure that the safety of individuals suffering abuse or seeking help is the first priority, and be aware of the need for confidentiality (unless there are safeguarding concerns)
- consider how best to provide support and information for anyone seeking help, including working with specialist agencies
- encourage discussion of how our church can be a safer space for victims and survivors of domestic abuse
- regularly discuss the Domestic Abuse policy, procedures, theology and principles that underpin it
- adopt the Domestic Abuse Charter and display this in our churches and on social media
- discuss domestic abuse with church leaders, including at the Church Council and Circuit Meetings
- review this policy annually and monitor it continually.

Last Date Modified: 13th November 2025

(a signed copy is kept in the Circuit Office)

(extracted from

https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/30038/domestic_abuse_policy_and_procedures_2021_final.pdf, appendix 1) *Link doesn't work*