

Dealing with domestic abuse

Family

Domestic abuse is often part of a series of problems involving children and finances and these issues need to be sensitively addressed in turn, adopting a child focused approach. We recognise that people requiring this type of advice are often extremely vulnerable and emotional.

We have a specialist team of individuals who are highly trained to advise and assist victims of this sort of behaviour, in complex and highly distressing circumstances.

We provide a safe, sympathetic environment within which we can identify the best way forward for you. We will help you gain access to the specialist help you require by referring you to specialist counselling and support services.

What is domestic abuse?

Domestic abuse is the term used to describe unacceptable and inappropriate verbal, physical, sexual, emotional and psychological behaviour from one person towards another. This abuse may involve an element of control, for example, of finances or of a person's time and actions. It may be threatened and will not necessarily involve a physical act. Harassment commonly includes offensive and unwelcome phone calls, emails/letters, verbal comments and messages posted on social networking sites.

Misconceptions about domestic abuse

Victims of domestic abuse and harassment commonly believe they deserve the treatment they are receiving. They often feel it is their fault they are being abused or harassed. Experience tells us, this is not the case.

Protecting your safety

Depending on your circumstances, we can help you by providing an individual or a group of individuals, with an appropriate written warning. If more drastic action is needed for your safety and protection one of the following orders can be obtained:

- **A Non Molestation Order**
This would prevent an abusive/violent person from molesting you and/or your children
- **An injunction under the Protection from Harassment Act**
This would prevent an individual from continuing to harass you
- **An Occupation Order**
This would exclude an individual from a property and state that you can live there for a specified period.

Our family team specialist will speak to you in complete confidence and without any obligation on 0800 923 2074.