

**All forms of domestic abuse are wrong and must stop.**

**We are committed to promoting and supporting environments which:**

- Ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse;
- Protect those vulnerable to domestic abuse from actual or potential harm;
- Recognise equality amongst people and within relationships;
- Enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to appropriately and consistently.

**We recognise that:**

- All forms of domestic abuse cause damage to the survivor and express an imbalance of power in the relationship;
- All survivors (regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- Domestic abuse can occur in all communities;
- Domestic abuse may be a single incident, but is usually a systematic, repeated pattern which escalates in severity and frequency;
- Domestic abuse, if witnessed or overheard by a child, is a form of abuse by the perpetrator of the abusive behaviour;
- Working in partnership with children, adults and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of any child or adult suffering abuse.

**We will endeavour to respond to domestic abuse by:**

In all our activities –

- Valuing, listening to and respecting both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

In our publicity –

Raising awareness about other agencies, support services, resources and expertise, through providing information in public and women-only areas of relevance to survivors, children and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

When concerns are raised –

- Ensuring that those who have experienced abuse can find safety and informed help;
- Working with the appropriate statutory bodies during an investigation into domestic abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community.

In our care –

- Ensuring that informed and appropriate pastoral care is offered to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse;
- Identifying and outlining the appropriate relationship of those with pastoral care responsibilities with both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

**If you have any concerns or need to talk to any one please contact :**

**Cathy Rodgers, Parish Safeguarding Representative.**

**01757 704303**

**[safeguarding@stwilfridsparish.com](mailto:safeguarding@stwilfridsparish.com)**

Parish of St Wilfrid's, Brayton  
Policy for Responding to Domestic Abuse

**National Helpline Phone Numbers:**

England: Freephone 24 hour National Domestic Violence Helpline:

0808 2000 247 (run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge)

Male Advice & Enquiry: 0808 801 0327

**Local Helpline:**

IDAS: 03000 110 110

Signed

Incumbent: .....

Churchwardens.....

Date: