



HM Government

# TACKLING DOMESTIC ABUSE PLAN

**This is everyone's responsibility.  
Let's stop domestic abuse now.**

March 2022

Easy read version





Domestic abuse is the most common form of violence against women and girls.



During Covid people were at home much more. So more time was often spent with abusive partners.



From 2010, the government has done many new things to stop domestic abuse.



It has made schools teach about healthy relationships.



It has made the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 a law. This gives more protection to victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

It says that domestic abuse can include emotional, physical, sexual or financial abuse, such as taking all the victim's money.

The Act also says that children can be victims of domestic abuse.



It has given lots of money to organisations who help victims and survivors.

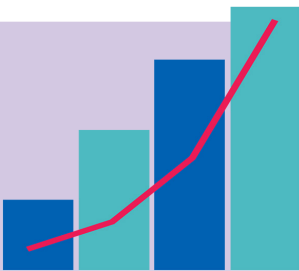


**This Plan** explains what the government will do next to tackle domestic abuse.

**The 4 main problems:**



1. The numbers of victims and survivors of domestic abuse are still too high.



2. There have been too many deaths from domestic abuse.  
In 2020–2021 there were 114 deaths.



3. Domestic abuse affects victims and survivors for a long time in many ways. They need more help including emotional support, with housing and money, going to court and from the police.



4. More cases of domestic abuse need to be spotted. There needs to be better information about domestic abuse and organisations who support victims need to work better together.



The Government will spend more than £230 million to tackle domestic abuse.

## Stopping domestic abuse from happening.



Reduce domestic abuse, and deaths and suicides linked to it. Stop people from doing it to begin with.



There will be more help for teachers who teach about healthy relationships.



Find out the best ways to support children and young people who are victims and survivors of domestic abuse.



Work with the police to stop domestic abuse happening.

## Supporting Victims.



Help all people who have escaped from domestic abuse get back to life as normal. And get support for their health, emotional and money needs.



Look at how victims can rebuild their lives, including having more support from the places they work.



There will be £48 million given to organisations to pay for support services in local areas.



The police will have £3 million of funding to do training that will help them support victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

## Finding and stopping people who commit domestic abuse.



Reduce the number of people who keep doing it.  
Make sure that those who do domestic abuse get the punishment they deserve.



The people who do it need to change their behaviour and stop.



The Government will think about extra things to manage people who do domestic abuse. They may make a register of offenders.



The Ministry of Justice will increase tagging for people leaving prison, including 3,500 people who are at risk of doing domestic abuse.



Help the police work out the dangers from individual domestic abusers with new technology.



Get the people who do domestic abuse to change their behaviour and stop re-offending.  
The Home Office will spend £75 million over three years on tackling domestic abusers.



## A Stronger System.



### Improve the ways of working to stop domestic abuse.



Make it easier for people to ask for help.

The Home Office will work with the Department for Work and Pensions.

They will test the Ask for ANI codeword scheme at Jobcentre Plus offices.

If it works well, they may do it across the country. Ask for ANI means Action Needed Immediately.

It is a simple and private way for domestic abuse victims and survivors to ask for help by using the ANI codeword in pharmacies which are part of the scheme.



Help doctors, nurses and midwives improve their skills to identify and refer domestic abuse victims and survivors.

This will help everyone work together to support victims and survivors.



The Department of Health and Social Care will publish their Women's Health Strategy in Spring 2022.

It will include the barriers that victims and survivors of domestic abuse have in using health services.

It will make sure healthcare professionals know how to support people suffering trauma from abuse.



Collect better information on deaths and suicides due to domestic abuse. The way these deaths are reviewed will be improved.



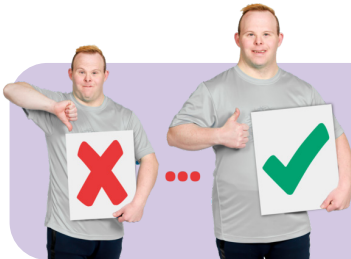
The Government will make it easier to report if they have been a victim of domestic abuse.

## Measuring progress with the Plan.

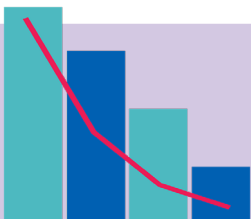


To find out if the goals in the plan have been carried out, the government will look for these changes:

Is there more money spent on support services for domestic abuse victims and survivors?



Is there a reduction in the number of victims of domestic abuse?



Is there a reduction in the number of people killed by domestic abuse?



Is there an increase in victims and survivors reporting domestic abuse to the police?



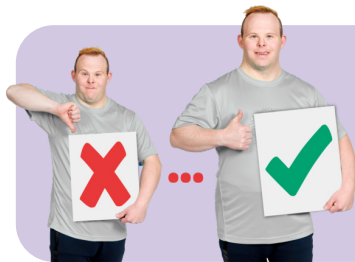
Is there an increase in victims and survivors saying they are satisfied with their support from the police?



Is there an increase in the number of criminal charges for domestic abuse?



**Support services** – Getting safe accommodation. Is there a drop in the numbers of victims and survivors turned away from safe accommodation in England?



**Support services** – Is there an increase in the numbers of victims and survivors being supported in safe accommodation in England?



**Support with finances and housing** – Instead of victims and survivors of domestic abuse becoming homeless, are more now offered safe houses?



**Support through the police** – Is there an increase in victims and survivors saying they are satisfied with their support?



Are fewer victims and survivors pulling out of court cases? For example, talking to the police or going to court to give evidence.



If you need more support for domestic abuse and information of organisations who can help you, please see:

<https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help>