

WHAT CAN WE DO TO **HELP?**

We provide support to women and men who have experienced domestic abuse. This support can be provided over the phone, at home, or – where it is safe to do so – at a venue in the community agreed between the support worker and you.

We have staff who are trained to support you to live safely, free from abuse.

If it is not possible for you to stay in your own home, we will support you to access a 'place of safety'. You will be able to remain in a place of safety until you are able to return to your own home, or you are able to move to a new home.

If you do not want to leave your home, but are not feeling safe, we can support you to access the sanctuary scheme. This scheme allows you to apply for safety alterations to be installed in your home.

We can support you to increase your safety and put practical measures in place to do this.

WORKING WITH



Making a referral

Voluntary agencies and statutory services who meet people who are experiencing domestic abuse can make a referral to us. We particularly welcome self referrals directly from individuals. A referral form is available on our website, just complete the online forms and press submit. Referrals can also be made by phone through our helpdesk.

If you would like to have any part of this leaflet explained further or translated, or put into a different format, such as larger print, please contact us to discuss your needs.

Free and Confidential Service
0845 602 9035

support@gdass.org.uk
www.gdass.org.uk
[facebook.com/GDASSglos](https://www.facebook.com/GDASSglos)
twitter.com/GDASS_

Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) is delivered by GreenSquare Group and Splitz Support Service. Both organisations are experienced in delivering domestic abuse services in the region.



Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service

Supporting victims of domestic abuse



Support for those aged 60 and older who are experiencing domestic abuse

Free and Confidential Service
0845 602 9035

What is domestic abuse?

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can take the form of psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse. *(Home Office)*

Who we are and what we do

Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) offers support to anyone, over the aged of 16, who has experienced or is experiencing domestic abuse; this includes:

- physical abuse;
- emotional abuse;
- financial abuse;
- sexual abuse; and
- psychological abuse.

This also includes those going through, or who have experienced, 'honour' based violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation and dowry crime.

All our services are free and confidential.

Facts and figures

People aged 61 and over are more likely to:

- experience abuse from an adult family member than those 60 and under;
- experience abuse from current intimate partners;
- have a disability;
- remain in a relationship with an abusive partner; and
- experience financial abuse by a family member.

Abuse from family members

Those over 61 years old are more likely than those under 60 to experience abuse from family members (including adult children). This can include (but is not limited to):

- forcing you to give your money to them;
- physical abuse (hitting, pushing, kicking, grabbing etc);
- making you feel guilty;
- forcing you to change your will;
- forcing you to give them power of attorney; and
- not allowing you access to healthcare or medication.

Carers

“One third [of family carer participants] disclosed significant levels of abuse, and half reported some abusive behaviour.” *(SafeLives 2016)*

GDASS can offer support if you care for a family member who is abusive towards you, or if your carer is a family member who is abusive towards you.

We can help you to work with Adult Services to ensure that you are safe at home.

Financial abuse

Financial abuse can include, but is not limited to:

- controlling your bank account;
- running up debts in your name;
- making you hand over your wages, benefits or pension;
- making you ask your partner – or others – for money;
- stealing, taking or demanding money from you;
- not allowing you to spend money on yourself or your children; and
- making you account for every penny you spend – for example, by showing receipts.