

Domestic Abuse Policy

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.

This policy was adopted by Trinity Methodist Church Council on:

signed:

Chair of Church Council