

TÚSLA

An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE COMMITTEE
COISTÍ NA SEIRBHÍSÍ DO LEANAÍ & DO DHAOINE ÓGA
Dublin City South
Cathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas

Dublin City South

Ballyfermot

Islandbridge

South West
Inner City

South East
Inner City

Crumlin, Drimnagh
& Walkinstown

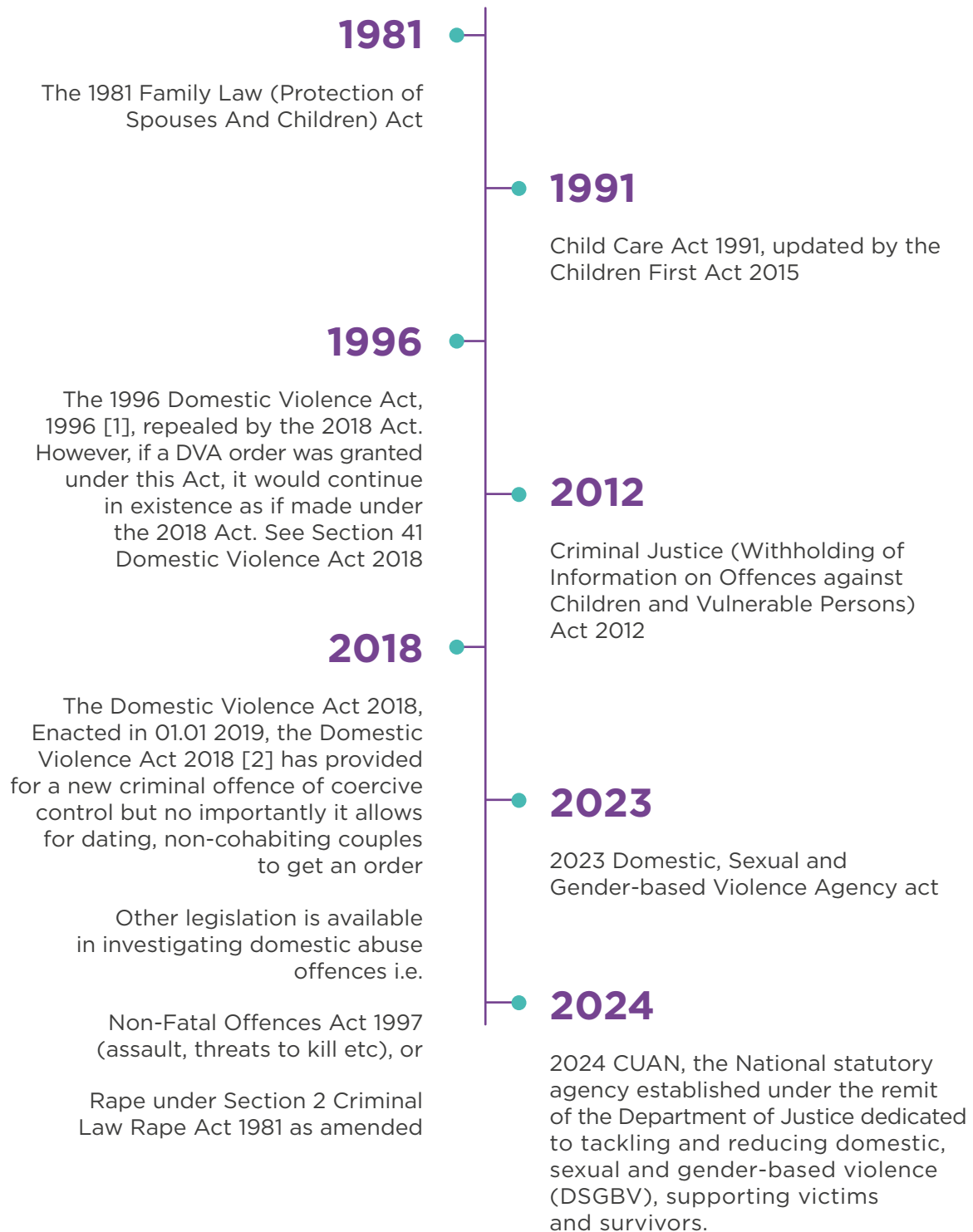
Pembroke Rathmines

Dublin City South CYPSC

Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence and Coercive Control

Professionals Intervention and Support Services Guide

Legislative Timeline



Background

Children and Young People's Services Committees are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people in every country in Ireland. Their age remit spans all children and young people aged from 0 to 24 years. The purpose of the CYPSC is to ensure effective interagency co-ordination and collaboration to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people in their area.

The Dublin City South is the Local Authority area, south of the River Liffey.

DCS CYPSC Safe and Protected from harm subgroup

The purpose of this guide is to provide a resource to support professionals who work with children and families to understand and recognise the signs of Domestic abuse, and to support appropriate referrals or recovery as appropriate.

I wish to thank all those who contributed to this document and acknowledge the ongoing work of our colleagues and organisations in supporting the needs of children and families in the community.

*Maria Hayes
Subgroup Chairperson
Principal Social Worker
TUSLA Dublin South Central
2025*



Contents

Legislative Timeline	02
Background	03
DSC CYPSC Safe and Secure Subgroup	03
Overview	06
What is Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence?	07
Why Support Victims	09
Guiding Principles for Best Practice Responses	10
Types of Domestic Abuse	11
Refer What Happens After a Referral/Concern?	15
An Garda Síochána	15
Legal Protection for Victims of Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control	16
Tusla Social Worker	20
How Can Professionals Help?	21
Recognise Signs and Signals	21
Accommodation Support	23
National Support and Information	25
Dublin South City Local Support Services	28
Domestic Abuse Support Services	28
Sexual Violence Support Services	30
Child Protection and Welfare Concerns	31
Community Resources	31
Online Resources	32
Digital Safety for Victims	33
Internet	34
Social Media	36
Appendices	38
Tusla The Child and Family Agency – Child Abuse Recognise and Report	38
Tusla Emergency Family Plan	39
Am I an Abusive Person?	40
Support Videos/Media Messages	42
Underpinning Policy And Legislation	43

Overview

Domestic abuse or domestic violence can happen to anyone. It permeates across socio-economic status, age, sexuality, ethnicity, religion and gender.

While women tend to experience higher rates of domestic violence than men, men are more likely to under-report. This under-reporting of domestic violence by both men and women compounds the experience to undermine self-confidence, self-worth and independence. It also has a double impact to our lack of statistics on the number of children impacted by domestic violence.

The impact of domestic abuse is felt by individuals and families with sometimes severe consequences for their emotional, financial, physical, and social wellbeing.

Children living in abusive environments impacted both directly and indirectly with an increased risk of emotional trauma and behavioural problems later in life¹.

The nature of domestic abuse dictates a cycle through which a victim may be subject to a range of abusive behaviours so the perpetrator can gain and ensure power and control over the other person. Once abuse has begun, it not only continues, but over time tends to increase in both frequency and severity. As the abuse continues, the three-phase cycle begins to deteriorate. The tension-building phase becomes shorter and more intense, the incidents of abuse becomes more frequent and severe, and the reconciliation periods become shorter and less intense. This results in a victim becoming more vulnerable over time.



¹ Tusla Child and Family Agency (2017). Child Protection and Welfare Handbook.

What is Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence?

In accordance with the 2011 Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence Article 3, it is defined as:

- a) *“violence against women” is understood as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life;*
- b) *“domestic violence” shall mean all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim;*
- c) *“gender” shall mean the socially constructed roles, behaviours, activities and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for women and men;*
- d) *“gender-based violence against women” shall mean violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately;*
- e) *“victim” shall mean any natural person who is subject to the conduct specified in points a and b;*
- f) *“women” includes girls under the age of 18.*

Domestic violence and Domestic abuse are terms that are used interchangeably



Zero Tolerance the Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence² defines:

Domestic violence

Domestic violence (DV), often referred to as domestic abuse or intimate Partner violence (IPV), is a human rights abuse and a form of gender-based violence with its roots in gender inequality. The Istanbul convention defines domestic violence as ‘all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim’.³ The exertion of coercive control⁴ is a key component in this process.

Sexual violence

Sexual Violence (SV) is defined as any sexual act performed on the victim without consent. It consists of an array of sexual coercion assaults, penetrative and non-penetrative - sexual violence can take the form of rape or sexual assault which involves sexual penetration, whether vaginal, anal or oral, through the use of object or body parts, using force, coercion or by taking advantage of the vulnerability of the victim⁵.

Gender-based violence

Gender-based violence has been defined⁶ by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) as: Recognised forms of gender-based violence which are contained in the third Strategy include pervasive partner, home-based, post-separation, psychological/physical coercion, abuse and violence: prostitution, human trafficking for sexual exploitation⁷, sexual harassment, female genital mutilation (FGM) stalking and related acts, and cyber violence.

2 [Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration.](#)

3 The Council of Europe Convention Istanbul Convention on preventing and Combatting Violence against Women and Domestic Violence 2011 Article 11. 3b.

4 DV Act, 2019, Government of Ireland www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2018/act/6/section/39/enacted/en/html

5 European Institute for Gender equality (EIGE) (2017). Glossary of definitions of rape, femicide and intimate partner violence.

6 1992 General Recommendation of the United Nations (UN).

7 Yonkova, et al (2017), Protecting Victims: An Analysis of the Anti-trafficking Directive from the Perspective of a Victim of Gender-Based Violence (EIGE/2017/OPER/(02)p81.

WHY Support Victims

Rights based – Human rights, women and children, Domestic violence is a human rights issue affecting both men and women, however, the vast majority of survivors are women. The rights-based approach in the resource applies to women and children rights, examples of which are taken from SONAS, which provides services to women and children.

Safety, welfare and protection

The primary objective must be securing the safety of people experiencing domestic violence and ensuring that service providers are not put in a potentially violent and/or unsafe situation.

Empowerment

Supports should help survivors of domestic violence to determine their own needs by involving them in decision-making and choices affecting them, and supporting them to move from crisis to safety, independence and self-help.

Privacy and confidentiality

Those consulting and interacting with domestic violence survivors should be respectful of privacy and confidentiality and cognisant of the real dangers if these are breached. They must also be mindful of any legal requirements, especially with regard to child protection.

Accountability

An act of violence committed against any person is an offence punishable by law and must be treated as such. Perpetrators must be held accountable for their actions and bear the consequences.

Partnership and collaboration

A multi-agency and multidisciplinary approach is required to adequately address the complexity of the issue.

Skills base and awareness

Those responding to domestic violence must have appropriate sensitisation training and ongoing education to do so. Public awareness of the issue is another important consideration.

Respect

A supportive and compassionate ethos should underpin all service responses, thereby building a culture of empathy, kindness, consideration and trust amongst domestic-violence survivors and those providing intervention.

Evidence informed

The examples and resources referenced in this document are based on a variety of sources, which are referenced throughout the resource manual.

Early intervention and prevention

It is recognised that early intervention leads to better outcomes for clients and reduces the need for longer or acute services. This resource manual takes the approach of recognising and making an intervention (responding) as early as possible.

Cultural competence

Provision of culturally competent health services that are respectful of, and responsive to, the cultural and ethnic diversity of service users is intrinsic to quality, effective service delivery. The goal of culturally competent health-care services is to provide the highest quality of care to every patient, regardless of ethnicity, cultural background, English proficiency or literacy.

Guiding Principles for best practice responses

The **HSE National Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Training Resource Manual**⁸ makes reference to the 3 Rs to assist practitioners:



RECOGNISE
know the signs, indications and sequence of abuse



RESPOND
know how to deal with the issue of abuse



REFER
make a good, appropriate referral

World Health Organization (2014) **Health care for women** subjected to intimate partner violence or sexual violence: A clinical handbook⁹, Geneva: World Health Organization.

First-line support involves five simple tasks. It responds to both emotional and practical needs at the same time. The letters in the word **‘LIVES’** can remind you of these five tasks, which protect women’s lives:

Listen	Listen to the woman closely, with empathy, and without judging.
Inquire	Inquire about needs and concerns Assess and respond to her various needs and concerns – emotional, physical, social and practical (for example, childcare).
Validate	Validate Show her that you understand and believe her. Assure her that she is not to blame.
Enhance	Enhance safety Discuss a plan to protect herself from further harm if violence occurs again.
Support	Support her by helping her connect to information, services and social support.

8 <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/primarycare/socialinclusion/domestic-sexual-and-gender-based-violence/information-and-resources-for-healthcare-professionals/recognise-respond-refer-review-2023.pdf>
9 <https://iris.who.int/server/api/core/bitstreams/3e906b26-c609-4a2f-9cf6-c1c42f186809/content>

Types of Domestic Abuse



Physical:

Causing or potentially causing any harm to the body of the other person, including by engaging in any of the following behaviours: throwing of objects:

- shoving; hitting;
- slapping;
- punching;
- biting;
- burning;
- choking;
- mutilation;
- The use of a weapon aggravates the risk of harm.



Emotional or Psychological:

Causing or attempting to cause psychological harm to the other person by the use of:

- verbal aggression and threats;
- humiliation;
- undermining of self-esteem;
- name calling; continual “put downs”;
- psychological degradation;
- exploitation;
- threatening to hurt children/others;
- intimidation;
- bullying;
- Threatening/Fearful;
- Criticized;
- Embarrassed;
- Possessive;
- Being blamed;
- Gaslighting/manipulation.



Financial:

Controlling or attempting to control the other person by means of Withholding/ Isolation of finances:

- Stealing from or Defrauding a partner of money or assets;
- Being forced to take a loan out;
- Being stopped from getting a car and/or job;
- Denial of access to necessary funds;
 - Preventing the victim from working or having financial independence.



Sexual:

Sexual violence includes any form of sexual activity that takes place without the full and freely given consent of one of the people involved. It includes:

- Sexual degradation;
- Forcing unwanted sex;
- Revenge porn;
- Rape or sexual assault;
- Any form of non-consensual physical or emotional coercion or manipulation into any type of sexual activity that is against the wishes of one of the people involved;
- Any unwanted sexual activity from sexual touching to rape between spouses, cohabitants, partners or ex-partners is a form of sexual violence.



Social:

The systematic isolation of one person in the relationship from their family and friends or from social activities:

- Social media Monitoring;
- Limiting transport/access or use;
 - Forbidding or physically preventing the victim from going out, meeting people, or engaging in or attending for work or any other appointment.



If you
need help dial
999
or
112



Coercive Control:

Coercive Control can span across a number of these types of abuse. Safe Ireland states that this form of domestic abuse is designed to “achieve obedience and create fear” and can include “coercion, threats, stalking, intimidation, isolation, degradation, isolation and control”. The abuser may restrict the person’s movement, control what they eat, who they see, isolate them from friends and family, and ultimately restricts independence and freedom.¹⁰

This can include:

- Love-bombing;
- Monitoring of time;
- Taking phone away;
- Destruction of possessions;
- Restricting daily activities.



Honour-based violence (HBV):

HBV is a term used to describe violence committed on a person by a member of their family or immediate community. It is motivated by a perceived need to restore that position of the family or community after the victim is perceived to have in some way dishonoured it. They may have refused to enter a forced marriage, had sexual relations outside of marriage or have expressed some form of autonomy. Predominately the victims of HBV are women or girls, but can also be males. HBV often results in serious physical injury, maiming or death.

Definitions of abuse sourced from: www.stillhere.ie; www.safeireland.ie; and www.tusla.ie



Harassment, including Social Media or Online:

Harassment is behaviour used to bully, pursue, stalk or intimidate the other person in the relationship. The intention of this type of abuse is usually to harm the victim emotionally or to cause damage to their image or reputation or how they are viewed by others. Online abuse involves:

- The use of technologies such as mobile phone texting, electronic communication or social networking to carry out these behaviours;
- It can include sending negative, insulting or even threatening emails, or messages on social media;
 - Online “put downs”;
- Threatening to distribute or actually distributing intimate or sexual images of a victim without their consent;
- Sending unrequested nude images.;
- Pressuring a victim to send sexually explicit images, emails, chats, or texts;
- Tracking online activity;
- Stealing or demanding passwords;
 - Checking of mobile phones for pictures, texts and calls;
- Harassed online;
- Checking search history;
- Demanding passwords;
- Sending threatening texts/ emails/pictures.



¹⁰ www.safeireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/Safe-Ireland-Coercive-Control-Leaflet.pdf

Recognising Abuse in Interpersonal Relationships

Everyone has arguments, and everyone disagrees with their partners, family members and others close to them, from time to time. Where this begins to form a consistent pattern and someone feels afraid of a partner or someone close to them, then this may be a sign of domestic abuse. Recognising the warning signs can help:

Warning Signs That Indicate a Potential Abusive Situation¹¹

- A person who has a sense of entitlement that their needs are more important than everyone else's;
- A person who needs to have power and control in the relationship;
- A person who blames their partner for any issues that occur in the relationship;
- A person who doesn't take any responsibility;
- A person who cannot be challenged;
- A person who is disrespectful in general;
- A person who lacks empathy;
- A person who is unavailable when their partner needs support.

What Can I Do?

- Remember you are not to blame;
- Contact a support service;
- Reach out to a trusted friend, relative or neighbour. They can help support you in a time of need;
- Make a safety plan - to keep you and others safe in an emergency;
- Talk to your GP;
- Report the abuse to a Garda Station;
- Obtain a Domestic Violence Court Order.

See section from page 24 for list of support services and contacts.

Am I in a Toxic Relationship?

- They constantly put you down and make you feel bad about yourself;
- You are arguing one day, and things are great the next;
- They often make you feel guilty;
- They are jealous of your other friends;
- You feel like it's your responsibility to fix things;
- You change yourself to please them;
- You worry about setting them off and feel like you have to watch what you say;
- You feel anxious or unwell when you know you're going to see them;
- They text and call you constantly;
- You have lost confidence in yourself;
- They break your trust.



**DIAL 999/112 IF YOU FEEL
YOU ARE OR YOUR CLIENT IS
IN IMMEDIATE DANGER.**

More information available at
www.whatwouldyoudo.ie
including information on
safety planning and key
services and supports.

¹¹ www.spunout.ie/sex-relationships/relationships/toxic-relationships

Refer What Happens After a Referral/Concern?

An Garda Síochána¹²:

**‘We are here to listen.
We are here to help’.**

An Garda Síochána, take domestic and sexual abuse very seriously and are here to help. Domestic abuse can take a variety of forms it can be physical, sexual, emotional, psychological and financial abuse. It can occur within a family between one family member against another. It can involve a current or ex-partner, regardless of gender or sexuality.

An Garda Síochána’s national roll-out of Divisional Protective Service Units (DPSUs), has ensured that when vulnerable victims of crimes such as domestic abuse and sexual violence present to Gardaí, they are met with a consistently high standard of specialist assistance. There is a DPSU in every Garda Division.

If you are not in immediate danger and you require advice and assistance, you can visit your local Garda Station. There you will be met by a uniformed Garda. You can ask to speak with the Garda in private. They may sit down with you and ask you a number of questions. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. We just need to find out as much information as possible to ensure that you are safe and that you stay safe.

Anyone who may wish to report or discuss an incident of Domestic or Sexual Violence can contact 112/999 or their [local Garda Station](#) or for child abuse incidents contact the 24hr dedicated phone line for the reporting of child sexual abuse.

The phone line number is 1800 555 222. This confidential free-phone line is manned on a 24-hour basis, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

An Garda Síochána encourages victims of to report any such incident at the earliest opportunity including those incidents of an historical nature.

¹² www.garda.ie/en/crime/domestic-abuse/domestic-abuse.html

Legal Protection for Victims of Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control

An tSéirbhis Chúirteanna Courts/ Service Ireland

Information about court orders if you are the victim of domestic abuse and violence

What are the orders a court can make?

A Safety order

This order prohibits the respondent from being violent or threatening to be violent to you and/or your children. This order can also forbid the respondent from coming to the place where you live if you do not live together. It can also forbid the respondent from following you or communicating with you (including by electronic means). The end date of the order is usually stated by the court.

A Barring order

This order prohibits the respondent from being violent or threatening to be violent to you and/or your children. This order means that the respondent must leave the place where you live together for a certain length of time. It can also forbid the respondent from following you, communicating with you (including by electronic means) or entering the place where you live. The end date of the order is usually stated by the court.

Urgent temporary orders for immediate protection

If you need protection immediately you should apply for an urgent temporary order. You do not have to tell the respondent that you are making this application at this time. This is called an “ex-parte” application.

A **Protection Order** is a **Temporary Safety Order** that the court can put in place until the full hearing for a Barring Order or Safety Order has been finalised by the court.

The two types of **temporary barring** orders are:

- 1. Interim Barring Order.** It remains in place for up to 8 working days until the court hears the full application for the barring order.
- 2. Emergency Barring Order.** It remains in place for up to 8 working days. There is no possibility of applying for a full barring order when this ends.

You will have to attend a court hearing and give a sworn statement. The court may issue an order at that hearing.

The respondent will then receive a copy of the court order and the information sworn by you.

If you have been granted an order and the respondent breaks the terms of the order you should immediately call the Gardaí. If the respondent breaks the court order they may be arrested and brought before the criminal courts.

Further information on domestic violence legal orders/fact sheets on Sonas website
www.domesticabuse.ie/legal/

Eligibility

There are different groups of people who can apply for an order under the [Domestic Violence Act, 2018](#). Each of those groups can apply for different categories of orders.

It is important that you are clear about your relationship with the respondent so that you apply to the court for the correct order.

You should let the court/court office know if you have any other current family law proceedings in place.

The table below is a guide that may help you decide what you want to apply to the court for.

Relationship to Respondent	Barring	Safety	Protection	Interim Barring	Emergency Barring
Wife Husband Civil partner Former Spouse	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
A person who lived with the respondent in an intimate relationship before making the application (co-habitant)	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y**
A person who was in an intimate relationship with the respondent but did not live with them before making the application	N	Y	Y	N	N
Parent of the respondent. Respondent has to be of full age and not a dependant	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y**
Parent of a child whose other parent is the respondent	N	Y	Y	N	N
A person of full age who lives with the respondent. The relationship cannot be a contractual one such as landlord/tenant	N	Y	Y	N	N
*Applicant must have same or greater legal or beneficial interest as the respondent in the property					
**Applicant has none or has less legal or beneficial interest than the respondent in the property					

Where can someone apply for a court order?

You can go to the court office for the area where you live

or

You can go to the court office for the area where you would live if the behaviour of the respondent did not require you to live in another area.

To find your local court office access the '[Find Us](#)' section on our Court Services website.

Lists of Court Offices by Jurisdiction, with links to contact details and map can be found [here](#).

Court Rules and Forms

Most applications under the domestic violence legislation are made in the District Court. Order 59 of Court Rules regulates the procedure you must follow to obtain orders from the court. This order also include the forms you must complete to make your application.

[Order 59](#) - District Court Rules

Other help and support

Staff of the Courts Service are unable to provide you with legal advice but you may be entitled to legal aid through the Legal Aid Board.

You can get information and support in relation to applying for a court order from your local domestic abuse support organisation.

Dolphin House Family Law Court Support and Referral Service

The Dolphin House Family Law Court Support and Referral Service run by [Women's Aid](#) is a free and confidential drop in service for women who are experiencing abuse in a relationship.

A meeting can be arranged in Dolphin House and provide support and information about your situation and explain how the courts work. This can include information on legal options, safety planning and, if you wish, we can also link you in with a service for on-going support.

The service can be found on are on the 4th floor in Dolphin House and there is someone there 9.30am - 16.30pm daily. You can drop in or you can ask the Court Clerk or reception about the service.

DUBLIN DISTRICT FAMILY LAW OFFICE (DOLPHIN HOUSE)

Telephone: 01 888 6349/6344/6347

Website: www.courts.ie/content/dublin-district-family-law-office

Email: districtfamilylaw@courts.ie

Opening Hours Monday to Friday: 9.30 - 12.30 and 14.00 - 16.30

This office deals with business for all the areas within the Dublin Metropolitan Court District.

The Dublin District Family Law Office is situated in Dolphin House. Business dealt with:

- Domestic violence;
 - Guardianship of children;
 - Maintenance of spouses and children;
 - Matters relating to passport applications;
 - Blood tests to determine parentage
- Emergency domestic violence applications;
- Emergency domestic violence applications must be made in the Interview Room before 3.00 p.m. each day;
 - If you need to bring an emergency application after hours, contact your local Garda station¹³. The Garda station will contact the court clerk on call to arrange a court;

- Outside of opening times: emergency family law applications can be made to the District Court in Chancery Street, Dublin 7. That court is located on the red Luas line and is next to the Bridewell Garda station;
- On Saturdays and public holidays, you may make an emergency application at the Criminal Courts Office, Criminal Courts of Justice, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8. The Support and Referral Service can be accessed by telephone every afternoon, from 2pm to 4.30pm, by calling 089 221 46.



Tusla Social Worker

Sometimes, when there are children and young people living in a home and there are concerns that Domestic Violence might be occurring, a referral is sent to the Tusla Duty Social Worker.

The role of the Duty Social Worker is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the child and young person living in the home. A lot of parents have a fear that if social workers become involved, the only result is that their children will be taken into care. This only happens in severe situations when it is absolutely necessary to ensure the physical and emotional safety of children. If children are received into care, reunification takes place when it is safe to do so. Social workers will work together with a family to come up with the best plan or plans to keep the child and young person safe. This will often involve family members or friends who can be contacted either by a parent or the children (if they are old enough) to talk about any worries they might have and to make arrangements for a place of safety if an incident happens. This will also involve working with the perpetrator to help them to identify what triggers the behaviour and what they can do to prevent them from engaging in abusive behaviours. Social workers also provide families with support in accessing necessary services, including counselling, domestic violence support services and legal services¹⁴.

Dublin South City

If you need to report a concern about a child or need to discuss a concern contact TUSLA Local Area Offices Tusla - Child and Family Agency

www.tusla.ie/get-in-touch/local-area-offices/#DML

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¹⁴ [Child Protection and Welfare Practice Handbook](#).

How Can Professionals Help?

All services and professionals/practitioners working with children and families need to be able to:



RECOGNISE
the signs of Domestic Abuse



RESPOND
accordingly, and



REFER
where necessary.



Remember that trusted professionals in a person's life may be the first person they reach out to. It is essential that we are able to respond in the best way as well as knowing local resources for referral. Professionals need to make themselves aware of their agencies policies and procedures regarding Domestic Abuse and avail of training.

Organisations can make their work environment a safe space for a victim of Domestic Abuse to talk about their experiences:

- Display posters, brochures and information on local, regional and national Domestic Abuse services;
- Put information into toilets so that victims can discreetly pick it up;
- Provide training to staff regarding Domestic Abuse service provision and training on how to respond to a disclosure of Domestic Abuse.

Recognise Signs and Signals¹⁵:

- Person might be afraid of their partner;
- There may be talk about the persons temper, anger or possessiveness;
- There may be bruising or injury with the excuse of an accident;
- The victim may have history of alcohol use or substance misuse;
- They may be accompanied by the partner;
- Have erratic attendance at work, college appointments;
- Seem controlled and stopped from seeing family and friends;
- Keep in mind the impact on children who may also be living in the situation.

¹⁵ www.safeireland.ie

RESPOND

Victims of Domestic Abuse may not disclose information about their experience unless directly asked. When a person discloses that he/she has experienced Domestic Abuse this indicates the trust and value placed in the professional/person for help and advice.

REMEMBER: when working with client

- Be Confident/Be Clear;
- Listen and be supportive but not judgemental;
- Assure the person that no-one deserves to be abused despite what the perpetrator says;
- Remind the person that being violent is against the law;
- Provide accurate local information on services available and how to access them;
- Respect their decisions and let them know you are there to support them;
- Document the conversation as part of your professional system;
- The most dangerous time for a victim of Domestic Abuse is when he/she is just about to leave;
- The victim is the best placed to assess their own risk.



Accommodation Support

The **Department of Social Protection** has made access to specific Rent Supplement available for victims of domestic violence.

A protocol to assist victims of domestic violence has been established between the Department of Social Protection and Tusla. Under this protocol, if you are a victim of domestic violence you will be able to apply for Rent Supplement on referral by Tusla or by Tusla-funded service providers.

Where an application is made, Rent Supplement will be provided for an initial three months and will not require a means test. You will only be required to pay a minimum contribution towards your rent, regardless of your means, for this period.

After the first three months have passed, you may be provided with a further three-month extension of Rent Supplement; however, this will be subject to the usual means assessment and eligibility criteria of the Scheme.

If you have a long-term housing need beyond this six -month period, you will need to apply to your local housing authority for social housing support as soon as possible. If eligible, you will be able to avail of a local authority sponsored housing solution, including Housing Assistance Payment Scheme. Rent support is provided under this Protocol allowing you to resolve your immediate housing difficulties, and where necessary providing you the time to engage with your local authority.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, published [A Policy and Procedural Guidance for Housing Authorities in Relation to Assisting Victims of Domestic Violence with Emergency and Long-term Accommodation Needs](#), to provide policy and procedural guidance to housing authorities with regard to the role they can play to assist victims of domestic violence.

If a person residing in the **Dublin City Council** area is experiencing domestic violence and there is a connected accommodation need they can contact-

1. Dublin City Council Housing and Allocations Section on 01-222 2213. They will provide accommodation advice (The person may be a DCC/RAS/HAP/Private rented tenant/subtenant or a general housing applicant or none of these, so the housing advice will be situation specific).
2. Dublin City Council Homeless Services to apply for emergency accommodation. (Also people can experience DV in homeless services - they should speak with a keyworker).
 - Central Placement Service for singles and couples; Tel: 01 - 222 6944. Monday to Friday: 10.00am - 4.00pm Email: homelesscps@dublincity.ie
 - Central Placement Service for families; Tel: 01 - 222 6977. Monday to Friday: 10.00am - 4.00pm. Email: family.support@dublincity.ie
 - Homeless FREEPHONE 1800 707 707; for access to emergency accommodation out of hours for the Dublin Region, extended hours - 10.00am to 10.00pm 7 days a week.



National Support and Information

CUAN

An Ghníomhaireacht um Fhoréigean Baile, Gnéasach agus Inscnebhunaithe, Cuan, is a statutory agency under the remit of the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration dedicated to tackling and reducing domestic, sexual and gender-based violence (DSGBV).

The 2023 founding legislation, the Domestic, Sexual, Gender-Based Violence agency act¹⁶ lead to the establishment of Cuan in 2024. Cuan's core output is Zero Tolerance - The Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (2022-2026).

Cuan coordinates and drives the implementation of the Zero Tolerance strategy, including through:

- Delivering excellent services to victims of DSGBV, including delivering on the number of safe and accessible accommodation spaces available, as well as ensuring that helpline and other supports are available to anyone requiring them;
- Putting in place a robust set of national service standards and governance arrangements to ensure adherence to the appropriate standards for such supports;
- Leading on consistent and ongoing research to inform DSGBV policy development, working with others such as the CSO who have data projects underway;
- Leading on awareness-raising campaigns designed to reduce the incidence of DSGBV in Irish society as well as ensuring that all victims know how to access the supports they require;

- Coordinating all government actions set out in the Third National Strategy and reporting on their delivery to the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration. Political oversight of the strategy will be provided by the Cabinet Committee on Social Affairs and Equality;
- Coordinating, overseeing and providing advice and support, as appropriate, in relation to the implementation by public service bodies of the strategies and plans in relation to domestic, sexual or gender-based violence.

Click here for more information on the [Zero Tolerance Strategy](#).



¹⁶ [Read Cuan's founding legislation, the Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Agency Act 2023.](#)

WOMEN'S AID

The Women's Aid 24hr National Freephone Helpline offers confidential information. The service also supports family members, friends, and professionals who have concerns about a person, they know or are working with, who might be experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

Website: www.womensaid.ie

Telephone: 1800 341 900

Email: info@womensaid.ie

SAFE IRELAND

Safe Ireland works to create confident, competent community-based responses to domestic, sex, gender and sexuality-based violence, wherever it occurs. They work strategically to create effective pathways out of coercive control for women, for young people, and children.

Telephone: (01) 5783001

Website: www.safeireland.ie

Email: info@safeireland.ie

AKIDWA

Akina Dada wa Africa, or AkiDwA for short, is a national network of migrant women living in Ireland.

Telephone: (0)1 8349851

Website: www.akidwa.ie

Email: info@akidwa.ie

PAVEE POINT TRAVELLER AND ROMA CENTRE - TRAVELLER DSGBV PROJECT

Website: www.paveepoint.ie

Telephone: 01 878 0255

E-mail: info@pavee.ie

MEN'S AID

Men's Aid Ireland formerly known as Amen, aims to Empower and support men and their families experiencing domestic violence, to be safe.

Telephone: 01 554 3811

Website: www.mensaid.ie

Email: hello@mensaid.ie

MOVE (MEN OVERCOMING VIOLENCE)

Move – Men Overcoming Violence works in the area of domestic violence, with a primary aim of supporting the safety and wellbeing of women and their children who are experiencing, or have experienced violence/abuse in an intimate relationship. MOVE does this by facilitating men in a weekly group process that involves them taking responsibility for their violence and changing their attitude and behaviour.

Telephone 065 684 8689

Website: www.moveireland.ie

Email: move@moveireland.ie

MALE ADVICE LINE MEN'S DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

The Male Advice Line was developed by the Men's Development Network. Counsellors provide an outlet for men, who are experiencing or have experienced domestic abuse in their relationship.

Telephone: 1800 816 588 051-844260/1

Email men@mensnetwork.ie

Website: www.mensnetwork.ie/mal/

AOIBHNEAS DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Offers refuge, outreach services, 24-hour helpline, court preparation and accompaniment.

Telephone; 01 867 0701
(Emergency help number)

Website: www.aoibhneas.ie

SAOIRSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE

Saoirse offer crisis refuge accommodation, a 24-hour helpline (1800 911 221), outreach and prevention service, a court accompaniment service and child and youth services.

Website: www.sdvs.ie

SONAS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CHARITY

Sonas Advice and Outreach, Visiting Support and Crisis Intervention, Supported Housing.

01 866 2015 Emergency number:
1800 222 223.

Website: www.domesticabuse.ie

For advice Outreach, Court Accompaniment
087 952 5217.

Other useful contacts and resources are available on
www.alwayshere.ie and www.safeireland.ie

For mental health and counselling services,
www.yourmentalhealth.ie

For Drugs and Alcohol Support Services and public information campaigns specific
www.drugs.ie and www.askaboutalcohol.ie

General information about the impact of and managing alcohol use for adults, young people and parents:

www2.hse.ie/alcohol/?gclid=EA1aIQobChMIzL3VqoG28wIV84BQBh3G3g2dEAAYASAAEgLpjPD_BwE

Information regarding screening and assessment of problem drug and alcohol use:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/primarycare/socialinclusion/addiction/policy-strategy-and-frameworks/saor-2017-.pdf>

Dublin South City Local Support Services

Safety, Protection and Enforcement

DUBLIN CITY SOUTH LOCAL GARDA STATIONS

Crumlin Road Garda Station: 01 666 6200

Sundrive Road Garda Station: 01 666 6600

Rathmines Garda Station: 01 666 6700

Terenure Garda Station: 01 666 6400

Donnybrook Garda Station: 01 666 9282

Irishtown Garda Station: 01 666 9600

Pearce Street Garda Station: 01 666 9082

Kilmainham Garda Station: 01 666 9700

Kevin's Street Garda Station: 01 666 9400



Domestic Abuse Support Services

AOIBHNEAS DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Telephone: Admin line - 01 867 0805

Emergency help number - 01 867 0701

For Community, Outreach and Court Accompaniment - 01 912 1670

Website: www.aoibhneas.ie

Email: helpline@aoibhneas.org

outreach@aoibhneas.org

admin@aoibhneas.org

SAOIRSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE

Saoirse offer crisis refuge accommodation, a 24-hour helpline (1800 911 221), outreach and prevention service, a court accompaniment service and child and youth services.

Websit: www.sdvs.ie

Telephone: 1800 911 221

Email: Helpline@sdvs.ie and Outreach@sdvs.ie

SONAS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CHARITY

Website: www.domesticabuse.ie

Telephone: Emergency help number - 01 866 2015

For Advice, Outreach, Court Accompaniment - 087 952 5217

Email: info@domesticabuse.ie

INCHICORE OUTREACH

Website: www.facebook.com/inchicoreoutreach

Telephone: 01 453 39 38

WOMEN'S AID - DUBLIN BASED SERVICES

Website: www.womensaid.ie

Telephone: 1800 341 900

Email: info@womensaid.ie

Judicial separation or divorce Outreach and court accompaniment services can be accessed through the Freephone telephone number: 1800 341 900

DUBLIN SAFER FAMILIES SERVICE, DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY FAMILY SERVICES

Telephone: 01 862 7700

Website: <https://www.docchildandfamily.ie/post/here-we-are>

Email: Dsf.office@docharity.ie

Local drug and alcohol tasks forces**BALLYFERMOT**

Telephone: 0871486080

Email: info@ballyfermotldatf.ie

Website: www.ballyfermotldatf.ie

DUBLIN 12

Website: <https://www.dublin12ldatf.ie>

Email: contactd12ldatf@gmail.com

CANAL COMMUNITIES

Website: www.ccldatf.ie

Email: admin@ccldatf.ie

SOUTH INNER CITY

Telephone: 0860 080 680

Email: sicdatf@gmail.com

Website: www.sicdatf.com/





Sexual Violence Support Services

DUBLIN RAPE CRISIS CENTRE

Dublin Rape Crisis Centre is a national organisation offering a wide range of services to any person affected by rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment or childhood sexual abuse. RCC service is primarily for adults but a limited crisis counselling service is available to 16 to 18-year-olds with parental consent.

Website: www.drcc.ie/

Telephone: 01 6614911

Helpline: 1800 77 8888

Email: info@rcc.ie

SEXUAL ASSAULT TREATMENT UNIT (SATU)

SATU provides an easily accessible, holistic service for all genders and gender identities, aged 14 years and over. If you're under 14, you can get help at [Child and Adolescent Forensic Medical Assessment Services](#).

HSE SATU

www2.hse.ie/services/sexual-assault-treatment-units/sexual-assault-treatment-units.html

Dublin SATU

Rotunda Hospital Campus.

Telephone: 01 817 1736 weekdays from 8am to 5pm.

Telephone: 01 817 1700 after 5pm and weekends, ask for SATU.

Website: www.rotunda.ie/satu

Email: satu@rotunda.ie

If a victim is under 18

By law, healthcare professionals have to protect children from harm. If you have been raped or sexually assaulted and you're under 18, it has to be reported to Tusla and the Gardaí. This is to keep you safe and to provide you with support.

Child Protection and Welfare Concerns

TUSLA CHILD AND FAMILY AGENCY

TUSLA The Child and Family Agency,
Bridge House,
Cherry Orchard Hospital,
Ballyfermot,
Dublin 10
Tel 01 6400650

Information on how to make a report or referral please go to

www.tusla.ie/services/child-protection-welfare/concerns

For Child and Family Support Networks

[Child and Family Support Network Co-ordinators Tusla - Child and Family Agency](#)

Community Resources

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRES (FRC)

The aim of the FRC programme is to combat disadvantage and improve the functioning of the family unit.

- St Andrews Resource Centre – Pearse Street Dublin 2 - 01 677 1930
- School Street Dublin 8 - 01 454 7018
- Fatima Group United F2 Dublin 8 - 01 453 4722
- Ballyfermot Resource Centre -
- St Micheals Estate Resource Centre
- St Matthews, Ballyfermot Dublin 10 - 01 626 8370
- Cherry Orchard Dublin 10 - 01 623 1367

Citizens Information Centres (CIC) in Dublin City South

Website: www.citizensinformation.ie/en/

CITY CENTRE - SOUTH

Carmelite Community Centre, 56
Aungier Street, Dublin 2, D02 R598
Phone: 0818077180, 0818077070

DUBLIN 12 and 6W CIC

8 Sundrive Road, Kimmage, Dublin,
D12 TP82
Phone: 0818077020

LIBERTIES CIC (USHER STREET)

Unit 1, Mellowes Quay, Usher Street,
Dublin 8, D08 CY9N
Phone: 0818077180

BALLYFERMOT CIC

Ballyfermot Community Civic Centre,
Ballyfermot Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin
10, D10 T042
Phone: 0818 07 5000



Online Resources

BRIGHT SKY APP¹⁷

Bright Sky Ireland¹⁹, created in partnership with the UK-based domestic abuse charity Hestia, along with Women's Aid Ireland and An Garda Síochána, enables users to locate their nearest support centre by searching their area, Eircode or current location.

The app is also designed to be used by specialist and non-specialist practitioners and other employers, and for anyone looking for information about issues around domestic abuse such as online safety, stalking and harassment and sexual consent.

Bright Sky Ireland provides a questionnaire in order for users to assess the safety of their relationship, whilst also enabling them to search their area, Eircode or current location in order to locate their nearest support service.

The app's digital journal feature is designed to allow users to securely log incidents of domestic abuse using the text, audio, photo or video functions, without any of the content being saved on the device. This evidence can then be given to Gardaí and can be used to help secure prosecutions.

Other features of the app include information on different types of abuse, sexual violence, stalking and harassment, as well as insight on the types of support available, how to help a loved one if you think they might be in an abusive relationship and a section with guidance on things to consider if you are thinking about leaving an abusive relationship.

Bright Sky Ireland is available to download on the App Store for iOS and Google Play for Android.



TOO INTO YOU¹⁸

www.toointoyou.ie

Too Into You is a source of information for young women run by Women's Aid. The website allows users to take a relationship health check quiz to discover the signs of dating abuse, gives the reader a guide to safety orders in dating relationships and check out tips for keeping yourself and your friends safe. The website also features real-life stories, on how to protect yourself online and legal advice.

They have an online chat service that is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7pm – 10pm.

Or

call their 24hr Freephone Helpline
1800 41900.

¹⁷ www.hestia.org/news/bright-sky-ireland-launched-to-support-people-affected-by-domestic-abuse

¹⁸ www.womensaid.ie/

Digital Safety for Victims



Phones:

- Always remember to delete text messages you have sent or received – unless they are messages sent by an abuser;
- If you receive threatening or harassing text messages, do not reply to them and keep them as they are evidence. The Gardaí can have these messages downloaded and printed;
- If your phone stores delivery reports for text messages that you send, make sure to delete these also;
- When making calls please note that traditional landline phones are more private than mobile phones or cordless phones. However, it may not be appropriate to use a landline if the abuser has access to itemised bills;
- Always remember to check the call register on your mobile or cordless phone and delete any numbers that could raise suspicions.



E-mail:

- Always remember that computers record everything you do on the computer and on the Internet;
- Computers store information about what you look at on the Internet, the e-mails you send, and other activities. It is impossible to delete or clear all computer “footprints”. If you think you may be monitored on your home computer, it might be safer to use a computer in a public library, an Internet Café or at the home of a trusted friend;
- E-mail is not always a safe or confidential way to talk to someone about the danger or abuse in your life. Helplines and/or contacting An Garda Síochána are preferred ways of seeking help and support;
- Make sure you choose a password that someone will not be able to guess;
- Change your password regularly;
- Delete mails in your inbox, sent and trash folders;
- Some e-mail programmes can automatically save addresses of mails you have sent and received, so check your e-mail address book and delete any contact details you fear could raise suspicions. You may need to memorise or otherwise record essential e-mail contact details;
- If someone sends you threatening or harassing e-mails, make sure you print and save them. Although you may be tempted to delete them, especially if they are distressing, they are evidence and may help you prove that a criminal offence has been committed.



If someone has access to your e-mail account, they may be able to read your incoming and outgoing mail.



Internet

All modern internet browsers have an **'incognito' or 'private'** setting which should be utilised when looking for material online that is considered sensitive. Incognito or private browsing means that **there will be no record of the user's online activity** while using the incognito or private mode.

Here is how to turn on these settings in the most common browsers in use today:



Microsoft Edge

Select **Settings and more... > Settings > Privacy, search, and services**. To learn more about other ways to protect your privacy in Microsoft Edge, visit the [Privacy in Microsoft Edge support page](#).



Google Chrome

Click on the **Menu or Wrench icon** in the top right corner. Select **'New Incognito Window'**. To leave Incognito Mode, close the incognito window or re-open your Google Chrome browser.



Firefox

Click **Menu** in the upper right-hand corner of the browser window. Select **'New Private Window'**. To leave Private Mode, close the private window or re-open your Firefox browser.



Safari

Click on the **File** menu at the top of the browser window. Select **'New Private Window'**. To leave Private Mode select 'New Window' in the File menu or close the Private browser window and open a new Safari browser window.



Deleting past online activity

The simplest way to delete history on modern browsers such as Google Chrome, Firefox and Microsoft edge is by hitting **“Ctrl + Shift + Delete”**. This will automatically bring you into the clear browsing data option, where you just choose what to delete and click “clear”.



FOR A COMPREHENSIVE
GUIDE TO STAYING SAFE AND
TECHNOLOGY, GO TO

[www.nnedv.org/resources/
safetynetdocs.html](http://www.nnedv.org/resources/safetynetdocs.html)

Social Media



Staying Safe

- Facebook care about the safety of our global community, which is why we provide tools to help keep your [account secure](#) and your [privacy protected](#). If you see something that goes against our [Community Standards](#), please let us know. You can also [unfriend or block someone](#) if they're bothering you.

Reporting Abuse

- When something gets reported to Facebook, we review it and remove anything that goes against our [Community Standards](#). If you are reporting messages, the reported messages may be used to help us improve our systems for reviewing other reported content that may go against our Community Standards. We don't include any information about the person who filed the report when we reach out to the reported. Please keep in mind that reporting something to Facebook doesn't guarantee that it will be removed;
- If you see something you don't like on Facebook but you don't think it goes against our Community Standards, learn what you can do. If something isn't working on Facebook, let us know;
- If you've reported something, you may have the option to check the status of your report in your [Support Inbox](#). Learn more about how to use your [Support Inbox](#).

Popular Articles

- Report Content on Facebook;
- Support for substance abuse;
- Reporting a Privacy Violation.

Staying safe on Facebook: www.facebook.com/help/592679377575472/?helpref=uf_share



X Help Centre: www.help.x.com/en

X Report abusive behaviour:
www.help.x.com/en/search-results?limit=10&offset=0&q=Report%20abusive%20behavior&searchPath=%2Fcontent%2Fhelp-twitter%2Fen&sort=relevance



Instagram

Staying Safe

- If you are being harassed or bullied, you can [report the bullying](#) and may also want to [block the person](#) bullying you;
- Learn how to [report children under 13](#) or help your teen [report abusive behavior](#);
- Read about what you can do if someone is threatening to share something [you want to keep private](#);
- If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, contact local emergency services right away. If you're struggling with your mental health, you can also call a [suicide helpline](#) in your area. You can also learn more about how to talk to a friend who is [struggling with suicidal thoughts](#).

Popular Articles

- [Learn more about Singapore's Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act \(POFMA\)](#)
- [Abuse, Spam and Scams](#)
- [Government-backed or sophisticated attacker alerts](#)
- [Safety Tips](#)

Staying safe on Instagram:
www.about.instagram.com



TikTok

Report videos, sounds, hashtags, or other content

- If you see something that you think might violate Term of Service or Community Guidelines, please [report](#) to the moderation team to review and take appropriate action;
- You can report a specific video, livestream, user, direct message, or comment directly within the app itself. To report, simply long press the video. A pop-up will appear. Select Report and follow the outlined steps.



Appendices

TUSLA The Child and Family Agency – Child Abuse Recognise and Report

CHILD ABUSE: Recognise & Report



Social isolation due to **COVID-19 makes it harder for authorities to identify child abuse cases**. That's why it's important for essential workers with potential access to family homes to be able to recognise signs of abuse and know where to report their concerns.

Types of abuse:

Neglect • Lack of care or supervision • Child deprived of food, clothing, hygiene, safety, mental stimulation, etc.	Physical • Child is deliberately physically hurt or is at risk of being physically hurt • E.g.: Shaking child, using excessive force	Emotional • Child's need for affection, approval, security are not met • E.g.: Excessive punishment, exposure to domestic violence	Sexual • Child is used for someone else's sexual gratification/arousal
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Possible signs of abuse:

Neglect • Child says no one is at home to provide care • Is being cared for by an inappropriate adult • Is often dirty/has severe body odour • Lacks enough/appropriate clothing for weather • Lacks medical or dental care • Lacks enough food/water • Begs or steals food/money • Abuses alcohol/drugs	Physical • Child has unexplained injuries (burns, bites, bruises, black eyes, broken bones) • Reports injury by parent/caregiver • Is scared of parents/caregivers • Shrinks when approached by adults • Is scared/anxious, depressed, withdrawn, aggressive • Abuses animals/pets	Emotional • Child shows extreme behaviours (is too passive/aggressive or too submissive/demanding) • Acts too old or too young for their age (e.g. is parenting other children or often rocking/banging head) • Expresses depressive/suicidal thoughts	Sexual • Child has difficulty walking/sitting • Has bleeding, bruising, swelling around private parts • Attaches very quickly to strangers/new adults • Shows unusual, sophisticated sexual knowledge or behaviour • Reports nightmares/bedwetting • Observes/shares sexual images online • Parent/caregiver observes/shares sexual images online in presence of children
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WHEN to report:

You should report abuse when:

- You witness an incident/sign (outlined above) consistent with abuse
- A child says or indicates in some other way that they've been abused
- An adult or child admits that they've committed abuse
- Another person shares that they've witnessed or know about a child being abused

HOW to report:

- You can report your concerns in person, by phone, or by email to **the local Tusla Children and Family Services centre in the area where the child lives**.
- You can choose to keep your report **anonymous**.
- You should contact Tusla even if you're unsure about reporting; they will talk to you and decide what to do.
- If a child is in immediate danger, contact the Gardai at 112/999 or www.garda.ie

CONTACTS

www.tusla.ie

TUSLA

An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

If child is in immediate danger, contact the Gardai at 112/999 or www.garda.ie

You are legally protected:

The Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998 protects you when reporting suspected child abuse to Tusla or an Garda Síochána IF you believe your report is true and your report is not malicious.

TUSLA Emergency Family Plan



Emergency Family Plan

IMPORTANT

This booklet is for parents/carers to think about who could offer support in the event the primary carer is unable to provide care during COVID 19

Family Name

.....

Developed by.....Parent/Carer

Eircode

Date.....

If a person is concerned about *their own behaviour* being abusive, here are some guidelines.

Am I an Abusive Person?¹⁹/ SPUNOUT.ie

Behaviours

- Have I scared someone with my behaviour?
- Have I taken advantage of or exploited the trust of another person?
- Have I repeatedly bullied or belittled someone either in private or in front of others?
- Have I attempted to control the behaviours or social interactions of another person?
- Have I repeatedly monitored the behaviour or whereabouts of another person?
- Have I repeatedly broken promises to change my behaviour?

Thoughts

- Do I think that I cannot control my own behaviour?
- Do I deny or minimize the seriousness of my behaviour?
- Do I think that an individual disrespect's me when they don't act the way that I want them to?
- Do I think other people or substances (drugs, alcohol, medication etc.) are to blame for my own behaviour?
- Do I think that hurting myself or others is the best/only course of action?
- Do I think that having personally experienced violence or abuse that I can do the same to others or that this excuses my behaviour?
- Do I have very strict views on how people should act or behave?

¹⁹ www.spunout.ie/life/abuse/am-i-an-abusive-person

Feelings

- Do I feel more relaxed or get a 'high' after I have been angry, abusive or violent?
- Do I feel unable to cope with unpleasant thoughts or feelings?
- Do I feel more in control after I have put someone down or physically hurt them?
- Do I feel disrespected when someone does not do what I ask?
- Do I feel excessively jealous when someone is speaking to or spending time with others?

WHAT CAN I DO?

If you are worried about your behaviour, thoughts or feelings, seek help.

- The first step is admitting to yourself that you have been abusive towards your partner, family or friends;
- Changing your behaviour will be a challenging process. Seek help from a counsellor to work through your feelings and learn how to change your behaviour. You cannot go through it alone;
- Know that it is never acceptable to be abusive towards another person. You must make the choice to end your behaviour;
- Remember that no one else is ever to blame for your own abusive behaviour;
- Understand the different types of abuse, such as physical, emotional, and sexual abuse.



Support Videos/ Media Messages

CUAN

One of Cuan's core functions is to lead on awareness-raising campaigns designed to reduce the incidence of DSGBV in Irish society as well as ensuring that all victims know how to access the supports they require.

Cuan's Communications, Campaigns and Education Team coordinate the planning and delivery of these campaigns. In addition to new campaigns currently in development, this includes the continued delivery of successful Department of Justice campaigns, including:

- **Serious Consequences** – a campaign to raise awareness of intimate image abuse YouTube - [Serious Consequences](#)
- **'Let's Have The Consent Conversation'**, a major national awareness raising campaign on the topic of sexual consent was launched in 2023. The aim of the campaign is to get people talking and thinking about consent, and to normalise it as a foundation for all sexual relationships. YouTube [Let's Have The Consent Conversation](#), / [Bíodh an Comhrá Faoi Thoiliú Againn](#)
- **The Always Here campaign** is a successor to the Still Here campaign which tackled the serious issue of domestic violence in the context of the Covid pandemic. www.alwayshere.ie

An Garda Síochána Domestic Abuse Awareness Videos

CHANGE THE CONVERSATION

1 in 5 Women are subject to Domestic Abuse/Violence in Ireland, this short film depicts the all too often tragic consequences of systematic, repetitive Domestic Violence. The film "Change the Conversation" is an uncomfortable reminder of the consequences of domestic violence, it should serve as a reminder to all of the importance of reporting all incidents of domestic violence to An Garda Síochána.

View on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0wb3FyXVh0

DID YOU HEAR ME CRYING

44% of boys revealed that their abuser was a woman: This short film shows the shocking life-long effects child sex abuse can have on a person.

View on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=medZ43uKVAE

Other Videos:

- [Coercive Control Film](#) (Produced with DVAS/Sligo)
- [Help Her To Tell Film](#) (Produced with DVAS/Sligo)
- [Man Up Films: Powerful Men](#)
- [What's Mine By Rights](#)
- [Clarity](#)
- [Children](#)
- [Talking Makes Us Stronger](#) ISPC
- [Childline here for every child and young person](#) ISPC
- [Still Here](#) NSPC

Underpinning Policy and Legislation

- **The 1981 Family Law (Protection of Spouses And Children) Act.**²⁰ makes further provision for the protection of a Spouse and Any Children whose safety or welfare requires it because of the conduct of the other spouse and to provide for other connected matters;
- **The 1996 Domestic Violence Act, 1996**²¹ makes provision for the protection of a spouse and any children OR other dependent persons, and of person in other domestic relationships, whose safety or welfare requires it because of the conduct of another person in the Domestic relationship concerned and for the purpose to repeal and re-enact with amendments the provisions of the FAMILY LAW (PROTECTION OF SPOUSES AND CHILDREN) Act 1981;
- **The Domestic Violence Act 2018**²², is an act to consolidate the law on domestic violence; to provide for emergency barring orders in certain circumstances; to provide for evidence to be given through television link in certain proceedings; to provide for the right of an applicant to be accompanied in certain proceedings; to provide for the obtaining of the views of a child in certain proceedings; to provide for the giving of information on support services to victims of domestic violence; to provide for the making of recommendations for engagement with certain services by respondents; to provide for restrictions on those present in court during certain proceedings; to prohibit publication or broadcast of certain matters; to provide for an offence of forced marriage; to repeal provisions for exemption, in certain cases, from minimum age requirements for marriage; for those and other purposes to repeal the Domestic Violence Act 1996 and the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Act 2002 and to provide for the consequential amendment of certain other enactments; and to provide for related matters;
- Enacted in 2019, the Domestic Violence Act 2018 has provided for a new criminal offence of coercive control. Coercive Control is: a persistent pattern of controlling, coercive and threatening behaviour including all or some forms of domestic abuse (emotional, physical, financial, sexual including threats) by a boyfriend/girlfriend, partner, husband/wife or ex-partner. This can result in fear of violence, or serious alarm or distress that has a substantial adverse impact on the victim's usual day-to-day activities;
- **DOMESTIC, SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AGENCY ACT 2023**
An Act to provide for the establishment of a body to be known as An Ghníomhaireacht um Fhoréigean Baile, Gnéasach agus Inscnebhunaithe and to provide for its functions; to provide for the transfer of certain functions, staff, rights and liabilities and records of the Child and Family Agency to the said body and for those purposes to amend the [Child and Family Agency Act 2013](#); to amend the [National Archives Act 1986](#); and to provide for related matters.

20 www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1981/act/21/enacted/en/html

21 www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1996/act/1/enacted/en/html

22 www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2018/act/6/enacted/en/html

Notes

Notes

TÚSLA

An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE COMMITTEE
COISTÍ NA SEIRBHÍ DÓ LEANAÍ & DO DHADINE ÓGA
Dublin City South
Cathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas

More information on Dublin City South CYPSC

www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/dublin-city-south.231.html