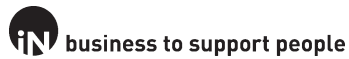


For more information or to apply please contact us on
01752 660321 or 07787 796320

Plymouth House
10-13 Lockyer Street
Plymouth
PL1 2QQ

Email: dv.referrals@westcountryha.org.uk
Website: www.westcountryha.org.uk

All enquiries are dealt with in the strictest confidence.



If you or someone you know would like this document in large print, on audio tape, in Braille, or translated into another language please contact our Communications Manager on 01803 200300.

WESTCOUNTRY Housing Association

**Is Domestic Abuse affecting
your family's lives?**

**Do you need somewhere to live
that is safe and supported?**



*Westcountry Housing Association
is here to help you.*

Westcountry Housing Association Ltd is an exempt charity, registered under Industrial & Provident Soc. Act 1965 No. 19141R. Housing Corporation No. LH0945
A member of the National Housing Federation.

Westcountry Housing recognises the government definition of domestic abuse: “as any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between people (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) who are or have been in a relationship together, or between family members, regardless of gender or sexuality”

Our Aim

Our aim is to provide a safe and secure living environment with support in temporary, furnished, good quality accommodation for families who have experienced or are experiencing domestic abuse.



Homelessness research has found that domestic abuse is “the single most quoted reason for becoming homeless”. This study found that 40% of all homeless women stated domestic abuse as contributor to their homelessness (Shelter 2002).

Comments from our service users

“I’ve settled in very well and I am very grateful for all the help and support I’ve received”

“I now have the confidence to get my life back on track”

Support

We offer support in the following areas:

- Finding specialised support around domestic abuse issues
- Help with claiming benefits
- Money management issues
- Providing information on local schools, amenities and services
- Training and employment
- Securing permanent accommodation or assistance in returning home
- Assessing, managing and reassessing risk frequently

Who can apply?

- Families in need of safe accommodation because they are escaping or have escaped domestic abuse or need respite.
- Parents of at least one child who is under 16.
- Families requiring support in addition to housing.
- Families with low support needs.

We will always:

- Uphold equal opportunities
- Involve our service users in all aspects of our support services
- Respect the privacy and dignity of each individual

Women’s Aid say that domestic abuse “is very common. Research shows that it can affect one in four women in their lifetimes, regardless of age, social class, race disability or lifestyle”