



Tackling Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, women and men of all sexualities, so it's important that we know how to spot the signs and know how to report anything we see that's not right.

What is domestic abuse?

Domestic violence is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behavior, violence or abuse. This can be current or past partners, friend or family members. The abuse can be psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional.

Types of abuse

Domestic abuse can take different forms, including:

- Physical abuse: pushing, hitting, punching, kicking, choking and using weapons.
- Sexual abuse: forcing or pressuring someone to have sex (rape), unwanted sexual activity, touching, groping someone or making them watch pornography.
- Financial abuse: taking money, controlling finances, not letting someone work.
- Emotional abuse or coercive control: repeatedly making someone feel bad or scared, stalking, blackmailing, constantly checking up on someone, playing mind games. Coercive control is now a criminal offence under the Serious Crime Act 2015.
- Digital / online abuse: using technology to further isolate, humiliate or control someone.
- Honour-based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation

How can people get help?

People can contact Rotherham RISE on 0330 2020 571 or visit www.rotherhamrise.org.uk if they need support.

To discuss concerns with a social worker, contact the children's Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01709 336080. If you have concerns that an adult is being abused, you can call anonymously on 01709 822330

If someone is in **immediate danger**, they should call **999**. If someone is not in immediate danger but you or they believe a crime may have been committed, call the **Police** on **101**.

What support is available?

We can support anyone in Rotherham who is experiencing domestic abuse.

Often, people don't understand that it's happening to them or don't have the confidence to bring it up.

In Rotherham we have support services in place to help victims of abuse and support for abusers who want to change.

Inspire to Change

This service helps people to learn new skills and find ways to manage their abusive behaviour. It encourages people to think and behave more positively to prevent harm to their partner, children and family in the future. People can call 0114 2567270 or visit inspiretochange@sodexojustice.scc.gsi.gov.uk to find out more.

