# **Domestic abuse services available in Bracknell Forest**



The below service list highlights the current provision of domestic abuse support services (including safe accommodation) in Bracknell Forest. *For professionals use only* 

#### Victims of domestic abuse

Provider	The service	Who can it support?	Contact details
<u>Aurora New Dawn</u>	Specialist one to one advocacy, support and consultancy for anyone experiencing domestic abuse related stalking. Clients are not required to report to the police in order to access support.	All genders (female only groups)	www.aurorand.org.uk info@aurorand.org.uk
Bracknell Forest Council Children's Social Care FSM (Family Safeguarding Model)	One to one casework support which supports victims to make changes to protect their children and themselves. <b>Connected Group:</b> support group providing advice and/or emotional support around domestic abuse, offering coffee and a chat, signposting to DA groups, legal advice, housing/benefits advice etc. Runs every Friday morning (all year), children welcome.	All genders with children who are social care clients (not for Connected)	Emma Gavin – <u>emma.gavin@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> 07824 433119 Laura Harris – <u>laura.harris@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> 07788 724872
Bracknell Forest Council Early Help	<ul> <li>Freedom groupwork programme<sup>1</sup>: - 10-week group programme to help women understand the effects on themselves and their children.</li> <li>Recovery Toolkit groupwork programme: 10-week group programme following on from the above which supports participants with positive coping strategies for day-to-day living.</li> </ul>	Female victims who have experienced or are experiencing DA	Maria James – <u>maria.james@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> Emma Gavin – <u>emma.gavin@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> 07824 433119
Bracknell Forest Council Housing Service	Domestic Abuse Housing Support Officer – acting as a single point of contact and advocate for victims of domestic abuse to prevent their homelessness and ensure they are provided with appropriate emergency and safe accommodation. Referrals accepted from other council departments (usually Housing Options / Family Safeguarding Model)	All genders	Kelly Pyle – <u>Kelly.pyle@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> 01344 351988 <u>dahousingsupport@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u>

<sup>1</sup> Note: High risk victims are referred to BWA's Choices after doing a DASH risk assessment

Provider	The service	Who can it support?	Contact details
	<b>Sanctuary Scheme</b> : a multi-agency victim centred initiative which aims to make it possible for victims of domestic abuse to remain in their own homes, where it is safe to do so, where it is their choice, and where the perpetrator does not live in the accommodation. This is done by providing additional security to the victim's property, delivered in partnership with <u>Safe</u> <u>Partnership Limited</u> . The scheme is available to anyone at risk or threat of domestic abuse, in Bracknell Forest, regardless of tenure including housing association tenants, private rented sector tenants and oner occupiers. For further details, contact the Domestic Abuse Housing Support Officer.		
Browns Community Services	Providing a range of support and advice to adults aged 18 and over who have experienced any form of domestic abuse, sexual abuse or exploitation at any point in their lives. Counselling includes up to 18 free counselling sessions for adults in a safe, confidential space to explore experiences of abuse and any underlying issues. Self and agency referrals accepted.	All genders	www.brownscommunityservices.co.uk/services/counselling dacounselling@browns.co.uk
<u>BWA – Berkshire</u> <u>Women's Aid</u>	Refuge: safe accommodation for up to 11 women and their children in Bracknell Forest, offering holistic, key worker support, and support for children.Outreach/IDVA support: one to one domestic abuse support and advocacy providing a combination of practical and emotional support in the community.Choices Groupwork programme: that supports survivors to explore abusive relationships, recognise early warning signs and the impact of abuse on children (currently on hold).Peer Support Group: led by survivors with the support of a skilled BWA facilitator, providing a safe space to explore support available in the community. This group is open to those who have already been supported by one of BWA's existing services.	All genders (female only refuge and group)	www.berkshirewomensaid.org.uk 0808 801 0882 (24/7)
Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS)	The DVDS (also known as Clare's Law) enables the police to disclose information to a person at risk of domestic abuse about their current or new partner's previous abusive of violent offending. It has two elements: 'Right to Ask' and 'Right to Know'.	All genders	www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/advice-and- information/daa/domestic-abuse/alpha2/request-information- under-clares-law/

Provider	The service	Who can it	Contact details
		support?	
	'Right to Ask' allows for a member of the public the right to ask the police if their partner may pose a risk to them (a third party such a friend, family member or professional can also ask). If records show a risk, the police will consider disclosing this information. 'Right to Know' enables police to pro-actively make a disclosure if they receive information about the violent or abusive behaviour of a person that may impact on someone's safety.		
Kaleidoscopic UK	Survivor-led, independent and confidential support network. Provides group work for adults and children.	Adults and children	www.kaleidoscopic.uk kaleidoscopicuk@gmail.com
MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference	Monthly multi-agency meeting for practitioners/agencies to discuss high risk domestic abuse cases. Any partner agency can refer a case to the MARAC via the agency's Designated MARAC Officer (DMO) and online system Modus.	High risk victims (all genders)	Speak to your agency's Designated MARAC Officer (DMO).
<u>Victims First Hub</u>	<ul> <li>Acting as a 'one front door' to all services in Thames Valley to ensure victims of crime can get the support they need to cope and recover from the impact of their crime. Providing free, confidential, non-discriminatory emotional and practical support to all victims and witnesses of crime as well as family members of victims, in accordance with their needs and the harm caused by the crime. Victims First may refer into one of their specialist core services including:         <ul> <li><u>Victims First Thames Valley Adults Specialist Service</u> (delivered by Victim Support)</li> <li><u>Victims First Thames Valley Children and Young People Support After Crime Service</u> (delivered by Safe!)</li> <li><u>Victims First Thames Valley Sexual Violence Service</u> (delivered by Hope After Harm)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	All genders. Adults, children and young people aged 5-18 years old living (or studying) in the Thames Valley	www.victims-first.org.uk 0300 1234 148
	Referrals into the specialist services are via the Victims First Hub.		

## Perpetrators of domestic abuse

Provider	The service	Who can it support?	Contact details
BFC Children's Social Care FSM (Family Safeguarding Model)	One full time 1:1 Perpetrator Caseworker (longer-term cases with Children In Need Plans, Child Protection Plans or issuing care proceedings).	All genders with children who are social care clients	Ollie Lamping – <u>oliver.lamping@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> 07500 992350

Provider	The service	Who can it support?	Contact details
BFC Community Safety	<b>Plain Talking</b> : 1:1 therapeutic intervention for perpetrators (male and female) who recognise their behaviour in their relationship is becoming or has become problematic and need support to make positive, healthy and long-term change.	All genders	Justin Whitlock – justin.whitlock@bracknell-forest.gov.uk 07826 951498
MATAC – Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination	Monthly multi-agency domestic abuse perpetrator focused process. It identifies the most harmful perpetrators, either by using police resources or by referral from external agencies and aims to: change offender behaviour; reduce reoffending of the most harmful and serial perpetrators; and safeguard victims and families.	All genders	BerkshireEastLCUHRU@thamesvalley.police.uk

### Children, young people and families affected by domestic abuse

Provider	What they offer	Who can it support?	Contact details
BFC Early Help	<b>DART (Domestic Abuse Recovering Together) groupwork:</b> For mothers and their children who have experienced domestic abuse. The aim is to talk to each other about the domestic abuse, learn to communicate and rebuild and strengthen their relationship in a creative and safe environment.	Children and young people 7 – 14 years old and their female non abusing parent	Emma Gavin – emma.gavin@bracknell-forest.gov.uk
BFC Youth Justice Team	"Who's in Charge" programme - Adolescent to Parent Violence and abuse. An 8-week child to parent (CPV) programme aimed at parents or carers of young people (from 10 years old) who are struggling to manage behaviours that seem beyond control.	All genders	Kirstie Richardson – <u>Kirstie.richardson@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> 07879 668642 Jill Hope-Jefferson – <u>jill.hope-jefferson@bracknell-forest.gov.uk</u> 07788 744955
<u>Safe!</u>	Building Respectful Families (BRF):         a service for families           affected by Child to Parent Violence (CPV) where young         people are aged 8 to 18 years old.           Also see information under 'Victims First Hub'.         People are aged 8 to 18 years old.	All genders - children and young people living in or studying in the Thames Valley BRF = 8 – 18 years old	www.safeproject.org.uk/routes-to-help.php 0800 133 7938

#### **Other/national services**

Provider	The service	Who is it for	Contact details
AAFDA – Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse	Advocates for families after the homicide or suicide of their family member or friend, following domestic abuse.	Adults and children affected by domestic homicide, or suicide, or unexplained death following domestic abuse	www.aafda.org.uk 07887 488464
Bracknell Forest Council	<b>Domestic Abuse</b> <u>webpages</u> – providing information on how to get help, keeping yourself and your children safe, how to help someone being abuse, effects of domestic abuse, getting help for abusive behaviour and information for professionals.	All – members of the public as well as professionals	www.itsneverok.co.uk 01344 3520000
Bright Sky App	A safe, easy to use app and website that provides practical support and information on how to respond to domestic abuse. The app is for anyone experiencing domestic abuse, or who is worried about someone else. Bright Sky helps someone to spot the signs of abuse, how to respond and help someone find a safe route to support.	All genders including friends/ family etc	www.hestia.org/brightsky
Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) – also known as 'Clare's Law'	The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) gives any member of the public the right to ask the police of their partner may pose a risk to them. Under the DVDS, a member of the public can also make enquiries into the partner of a close friend or family member.	All genders	Call 101 <u>Request information under Clare's Law: Make a Domestic</u> <u>Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) application</u>
Dogs Trust Freedom Project	Dog fostering service for people escaping domestic abuse.	All genders	www.dogstrust.org.uk/how-we-help/freedom-project
DV Assist	The UK's only registered charity specialising in arranging Non- Molestation Orders, Prohibited Steps Orders & Occupation Orders.	All genders	www.dvassist.org.uk 0800 195 8699
FLAG DV	Free Legal Advice Group for Domestic Abuse victims in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Hampshire. Offering a free legal advice appointment with a volunteer solicitor, legal executive or barrister who specialises in Family Law.	All genders	<u>www.flagdv.org.uk</u> 01635 015854 (Mon – Fri, 11am – 1pm)

Provider	The service	Who is it for	Contact details
Galop National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline	Supporting LGBT+ victims and survivors of domestic abuse and honour-based violence.	LGBT+	www.galop.org.uk 0800 999 5428
Hollie Guard Personal Safety App	Safeguarding app providing enhanced levels of protection – with a simple shake or tap it activates Hollie Guard, immediately notifying chosen contacts, pinpointing the users location and sending audio and video evidence directly to their mobile phones.	All genders	www.hollieguard.com
Karma Nirvana	Support for victims and survivors of forced marriage and honour-based abuse (HBA). Including running the national Honour Based Abuse Helpline.	All genders	www.karmanirvana.org.uk 0800 5999 247
Mankind Initiative	Confidential helpline available for male victims of domestic abuse and violence across the UK as well as friends, family, neighbours, work, colleagues and employers.	Male victims	www.mankind.org.uk 01823 334244
Men's Advice Line	National helpline for male victims of domestic abuse.	Male victims	www.mensadviceline.org.uk 0808 8010327
National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV)	A free, fast emergency injunction service for survivors of domestic abuse and violence, regardless of their financial circumstances, race, gender or sexual orientation. The service allows anyone who has suffered or been threatened with domestic abuse or violence to apply for an emergency court injunction.	All genders	www.ncdv.org.uk 0800 970 2070
National Domestic Abuse Helpline	Freephone, 24-hour national domestic abuse helpline.	Female victims	www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk 0880 2000 247
National Stalking Helpline	Operated by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, the National Stalking Helpline gives practical information, support, and advice on risk, safety planning and legislation to victims of stalking, their friends, family, and professionals working with victims.	All genders including friends/ family/ professionals	www.suzylamplugh.org 0808 802 0300
Respect Phoneline	Providing help for domestic violence perpetrators.	All genders	www.respectphoneline.org.uk 0808 8024040
<u>Samaritans</u>	Specially trained volunteers listen and help anyone that calls to talk through their concerns, worries and troubles. Phone or	All genders	www.samaritans.org/branches/bracknell 116 123 (free) 0330 094 5717 (local call charges)

Provider	The service	Who is it for	Contact details
	email. Also see the website for the self-help app and for tips on what to do if you are worried about someone.		

July 2025