Appendix 1: A Charter for Churches and a Model Policy for a Local Church/Circuit

The Methodist Church

Domestic Abuse: A Charter for Churches

The Charter

Domestic abuse is extremely serious, and contrary to a Christian way of living. This church seeks to support those affected by domestic abuse, and their families.

This Church/Circuit:

- holds that domestic abuse, in all its forms, is unacceptable
- believes domestic abuse is inconsistent and incompatible with the Christian faith
- acknowledges that domestic abuse is a serious and widespread problem that occurs in church families as well as in wider society
- undertakes to listen to, support and care for those affected by domestic abuse
- prioritises the safety of survivors and children affected by domestic abuse
- works with specialist agencies, learning from and supporting them in appropriate ways, and publicising their work
- will play its part in teaching that domestic abuse is unacceptable and contrary to God's purposes and the teachings of the Bible.

Contact numbers:

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247
This is a freephone, 24-hour service.

Local number: (Please fill in the details of organisations in your local area.)