

7. Resources

Wakefield Community Safety Partnership
VAWG initiatives:

<https://shorturl.at/E2dBh>

Wakefield Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022

– 2027: <https://shorturl.at/bdGWs>

Wakefield Council is White Ribbon

accredited – find out more:

<https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/>

The Safety of Women and Girls Strategy
(West Yorkshire wide):

<https://shorturl.at/V3nvA>

National Strategy on VAWG:

<https://shorturl.at/5TUuw>

Domestic Abuse Act 2021:

<https://tinyurl.com/jffpw4xf>

1. What is VAWG?

VAWG refers to acts of violence and abuse that disproportionately affect women and girls because of their sex and gender. Men and boys can experience the same harms, but VAWG highlights the gendered nature of these crimes, rooted in inequality, misogyny and social norms.

2. What does VAWG include?

VAWG includes domestic abuse, stalking, sexual violence, sexual harassment, 'honour-based' abuse such as forced marriage and FGM, online abuse, fatal incidents linked to abuse, sexual exploitation including trafficking, and prostitution, spiking, as well as behaviours that cause harm across physical, emotional and digital contexts.

3. Prevalence

Women are 4 times more likely to experience sexual assault, twice as likely to experience stalking and 2.5 times more likely to experience sexual harassment than men.

1 in 3 women experience domestic abuse, compared with **1 in 5 men**.

People aged 16-24 are more likely to experience domestic abuse. Victims with disabilities are more likely to experience DA and sexual assault. BAME communities are 2.5 times as likely to be victims of domestic homicide.

Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)



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6. Who to contact?

24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Men can access support through the **Men's Advice Line:** 0808 801 0327 or info@adviceLine.org.uk

Wakefield Domestic Abuse Support Service:

<https://shorturl.at/ggDUI>, 01924 972715 or 0800 915 1561,

wakefielddass@cranstoun.org.uk

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASAC): 0300 303 4787 or

<https://www.rasac.co.uk>

Disclosure schemes:

Claire's Law:

<https://shorturl.at/nd9KY>

Sarah's Law:

<https://www.police.uk/request-sarahs-law>

5. Impacts

Individual: survivors can experience trauma, anxiety, depression, PTSD and long-term physical health conditions. Abuse undermines confidence, autonomy, and sense of safety. Victims face economic consequences such as disrupted employment, financial hardship, or homelessness.

Community: VAWG shapes how safe women and girls feel in public spaces, online environments, workplaces, and homes, reducing in social participation and contributing to inequality.

Societal/Economic: The costs of VAWG are huge to health services, policing, criminal justice, safeguarding, housing, specialist support services, and lost economic productivity. Beyond financial costs, VAWG erodes social cohesion and trust in institutions.

4. Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is behaviour by one person towards another aged 16 or over who are personally connected, including partners, ex-partners, relatives or those sharing a parental relationship. It may be a single incident or ongoing. Abuse can be physical, sexual, violent or threatening, controlling or coercive, economic, psychological or emotional. Children are victims in their own right when they see, hear or experience its effects. These behaviours cause significant harm and undermine victims' safety and wellbeing.