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Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance

Safe at Home: a whole housing approach for responding to domestic violence

**Rebecca Vagi, DAHA Manager**



# Domestic abuse and housing

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- Biggest barrier for survivors is safe and long term housing
- 76% of domestic homicides take place inside the home (Femicide Census, 2018)
- Approx. 270 specialist domestic abuse refuges in England
- Types of housing tenure in England:
  - 63% owner occupied
  - 20% private rented
  - 17% social housing (local government & housing associations)



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# Attitudes

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Tenant recorded what he thought was noise nuisance and was actually the murder of his next door neighbour Natasha Bradbury.

*Timothy Down says he thought it felt 'better to stay away'*



<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/neighbour-record-sounds-woman-being-beaten-death-instead-calling-police-timothy-down-natasha-a7222406.html>



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# Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA)



Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance



- **Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA)** is a partnership between three agencies; Standing Together Against Domestic Violence (STADV), Peabody and Gentoo.
- DAHA's mission is to improve the housing sector's response to domestic abuse through the introduction and adoption of an established set of standards and an accreditation process for social housing providers.
- Standards include 8 priority areas; policy & procedure, case management, risk management, inclusivity, perpetrator management, partnership working, staff training and publicity and awareness.
- Free online toolkit with templates and guidance for implementing the 8 standards and a self assessment site for organisations to submit evidence towards accreditation

[www.dahalliance.org.uk](http://www.dahalliance.org.uk) #DAHousing @DAHAlliance

# Policy & Practice

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- National Housing and Domestic Abuse Policy and Practice Group
- DA Bill - UK Government committed to introducing new law on domestic abuse
- Submitted response including 'Whole Housing Approach'



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# National VAWG & Housing Group

**RESPECT**

**St Mungo's** Ending homelessness  
Rebuilding lives



**NATIONAL  
HOUSING  
FEDERATION**



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**Chartered  
Institute of  
Housing**



Ending  
domestic  
abuse



stonewall  
housing



homeless link



**agenda**  
Alliance for Women & Girls at Risk

**Shelter**

**RESOLVE**  
Antisocial Behaviour

**women's aid**  
until women & children are safe

**SURVIVING  
ECONOMIC  
ABUSE**

National Federation of **ALMOs**  
championing better homes and communities

**gentoo**

**STANDING  
together**  
against domestic violence

 **Peabody**



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# Whole Housing Approach



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# Benefits of Whole Housing Approach

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- Early identification ☾ Early intervention
- Reduce length of time in abusive relationships
- Support for Housing Provider Staff
- Financial benefits for housing providers
- Prevent homelessness
- Reduce costs to public purse



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[www.dahalliance.org.uk](http://www.dahalliance.org.uk)

#DAHousing

DAHA toolkit

<http://accreditation.dahalliance.org.uk/>



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