

Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation - Needs Assessment Form & Guidance

Authority Name:		Date:	
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1. Background

It is critical to provide life-saving safe accommodation and support for those victims and their children that need it following domestic abuse and as they rebuild their lives after the trauma of domestic abuse. As set out in the Domestic Abuse Bill, local authorities are required to assess (or make arrangements for the assessment of) the need for support in their area for all victims of domestic abuse (including their children) [who need to reside] in relevant accommodation [also referred to as safe accommodation in this document and the Statutory Guidance]. This includes those that require highly specialist support as well as cross-border support.

Not all domestic abuse victims will need support in safe accommodation, but this form will help to assess the needs of those who need to reside in such provision, such as refuge. For further information on the duty please see the Statutory Guidance document - Delivery of Support to Victims of Domestic Abuse and their Children in Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Services.

2. This Form

This standardised form has been created alongside the statutory guidance to support local authorities in undertaking local needs assessments. This form is intended to be a helpful tool to help capture relevant data to inform evidence-based strategies. Conducting local needs assessments in line with the guidance, and following this form with an analyst, will help create consistency across the country and better ensure authorities are considering the needs of all domestic abuse victims from within the area and from outside the area.

This form is not mandatory however, by collecting the data requested (as best you can), answering (or considering) the questions posed and exploring domestic abuse support within safe accommodation, you should be able to determine the met needs and unmet needs of your area, providing evidence for strategic planning. Please feel free to explore further sections deeper if you think relevant and helpful.

3. When

Needs assessments are an important precursor to developing local strategies. A full local needs assessments should be conducted at a minimum every 3 years, with a refresh being undertaken on an annual basis to ensure any change in demand or support requirements, following annual report figures and other data, are adequately captured.

For further information on strategies following the needs assessment, please refer to the Statutory Guidance document.

Prev. Needs Assessment Full Assessment Date:		Next Needs Assessment Full Assessment Date:	
Previous Refresh Date:		Next Refresh Date:	

4. Who

Tier One authorities, with support from their Local Partnership Boards, must conduct a local needs assessment to determine the level of need for domestic abuse support for victims/survivors in safe accommodation in their area. Tier two authorities must, so far as reasonably practicable, comply with a request to cooperate with Tier One authorities in exercising their functions. This may include, providing advice, guidance and knowledge on the local area to support in the completion of a local needs assessment and, contributing to the development of a local strategy based on the needs assessments.

In this section please note the name of the lead Tier One authority and the Tier Two authorities that sit within it, please add/delete spaces as necessary.

For further information on local authority responsibilities and the Local Partnership Board, please refer to the Statutory Guidance document.

Tier 1 Authority Name:			
Tier 2 Authority Name:	Contributed to this Assessment:	Tier 2 Authority Name:	Contributed to this Assessment:
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N
	Y / N		Y / N

5. Data Sources

To complete this needs assessment local authorities will need to gather data from a range of sources to gain a greater understanding of the people and domestic abuse victims/survivors requiring support within safe accommodation in the local authority area.

The sources listed here are sources that we would expect local authorities to have access to. However, we know that local authorities will be in the best position to understand what other local data sets there may be and would expect local authorities to use their judgement to add other relevant sources. We have made suggestions of data sources and made space for the exact source used to be added. Please use the below fields to note all data sources used including relevant links - eg. data from local Children's Services, Healthcare, Housing, Safeguarding, H-Click for Homelessness and Rough Sleeping.

Source 1:	Local Police and Crime Reports	Source 2:	Local MARAC Reports via Local MARAC Office
Source Used:		Source Used:	

Source 3:	Local IDVA Data	Source 4:	Statutory Homeless in England/H-CLIC Data
Source Used:		Source Used:	
Source 5:	Housing Data	Source 6:	Social Care Data - Adult/Child
Source Used:		Source Used:	
Source 7:	Local Service Provider and User Data	Source 8:	Local Helpline Data (if available)
Source Used:		Source Used:	
Source 9:	Other Local Data Set	Source 10:	Other Local Data Set
Source Used:		Source Used:	

6. Demographic Composition/Population Features of Victim/Survivors

What are the demographics or population features of victims/survivors identified in your local authority and accessing services the local authority?

To complete this section, you will need to access a range of local data sets such as crime data from local police force area reports and housing data from homeless reports such as H-Click. Please add further local data on demographics and socio-economics if helpful to you and further understanding DA in your area.

Please enter the number of victims/survivors for each category. Space has also been provided for the addition of key information for demographics and socio-economics for stand out information and any emerging patterns identified in data collection.

Local data sets should be available Local Authority level and Local Partnership Board representatives able to assist in accessing relevant data. We understand that some of the below may not be available in exactly the same breakdown as listed below but these categories are important to explore in data gathering when looking at domestic abuse and the local response. We suggest that authorities complete as much as possible with the support of members from Local Partnership Boards and where there are gaps, look to how this can be addressed for future years.

7. Age	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
0-5yrs:					
6-11yrs:					
12-15yrs					
16-18yrs:					
19-24yrs:					
25-34yrs:					
35-44yrs:					
45-54yrs:					
55-64yrs:					
65-74yrs:					
75yrs and Over:					

8. Gender Identity	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
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Male:					
Female:					
Non-Binary:					
Trans-Gender/Trans-Sexual:					
Other/Unknown:					

9. Marital Status	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
Married/Civil Partnered:					
Cohabiting:					
Single:					
Separated:					
Divorced/Legally Dissolved					
Widowed:					

10. Sexual Identity	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
Heterosexual/Straight:					
Gay/Lesbian:					
Bisexual:					
Other/Unknown:					

11. Disability	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
Disabled:					
Not Disabled:					
Unknown:					

12. National Identity/Ethnic Group	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
White:					
Asian or Asian British:					
Black or Black British:					
Mixed:					
Gypsy/Roma/Traveler:					
Other:					

Key Info:	Please note stand out data or points of interest/areas to explore after gathering the above data on demographics.
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Socio-economic Characteristics

13. Household Structure	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
Single Adult and Child(ren):					
Adults and Child(ren):					
Adult(s) and no Child(ren):					

14. Occupation	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
Employed - Full Time/Part Time::					
Unemployed:					
Student:					
Looking After Family/Home:					
Retired:					
Economically Inactive/Long or					

15. Household Income	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
Less than £10,400 p/a:					
£10,400 to less than £20,800 p/a:					
£20,800 to less than £31,200 p/a:					
£31,200 to less than £41,600 p/a:					
£41,600 to less than £52,000 p/a:					
£52,000 or more p/a:					
No income stated or not enough					

16. Education	Police & Crime Data	MARAC/IDVA Data	Health Data	Housing & Homeless Data	Social Care Data
Degree/Diploma:					

A/AS Levels/Apprenticeship:					
GCSEs/O Levels:					
Other:					
None:					

Key Info:	Please note stand out data or points of interest/areas to explore after gathering the above data on socioeconomics.

17. Domestic Abuse - Incidents & Homicides

Please use police and crime data to note the numbers for each of the categories below in the local area. You may have your own local data on the below or you may wish to use the ONS tool online, the "Domestic abuse in England and Wales - Data Tool". This is useful for data on incidents and areas comparable by size. We understand that, in some cases, data may not be available by specific LA boundaries. In these incidences, MHCLG recommends detailing information for the region your area fits within.

	Total England & Wales	Local Area	Comparable Area 1	Comparable Area 2
DA Incidents Reported:				
DA Incidents Homicides:				

Does this data fit with existing knowledge? How does the area compare to others?

18. Domestic Abuse Victims by Local Authority Area/Ward

Is there any data to suggest that domestic abuse is more or less prevalent in any particular parts/areas/wards of the local authority?

Please use the area below to note any point of interest e.g. is there more DA in an area of low employment, or an area of certain employment type? Is there anything notable about DA in certain parts of **the authority**? Are there hot spots/cold spots? Is there domestic abuse that is being hidden or not captured? Is there any local knowledge or **intelligence of local areas where domestic abuse is happening?**

19. Domestic Abuse - Out of Area

Many domestic abuse victims/survivors will move across the country - and therefore LA boundaries - to escape abuse. It is therefore extremely important to capture data on where victims/survivors are likely to come from and create an understanding of need across areas/ boundaries/boroughs/districts/counties so that the local authority can ensure it is fully meeting the needs of victims/survivors who flee their home area.

Please use referral data to complete this section, noting down at least the top 5 areas/boroughs/districts/counties where domestic abuse victims/survivors (including their children) are currently/likely to come in from outside the local authority area. Local safe accommodation providers and local domestic abuse helplines should be able to support in gathering this information.

Area 1	Name:		Estimated no. of Referrals:	
	Notable demographics and socioeconomics of victims coming from this area:			
Area 2	Name:		Estimated no. of Referrals:	
	Notable demographics and socioeconomics of victims coming from this area:			
Area 3	Name:		Estimated no. of Referrals:	
	Notable demographics and socioeconomics of victims coming from this area:			
Area 4	Name:		Estimated no. of Referrals:	
	Notable demographics and socioeconomics of victims coming from this area:			
Area 5	Name:		Estimated no. of Referrals:	
	Notable demographics and socioeconomics of victims coming from this area:			

Key Info:	Please note stand out data, themes and patterns noticed from capturing the data above on DA victims in areas that victims are currently being referred from.
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20. Service Mapping

In this section we will be looking at service mapping, noting the safe accommodation that currently exists in the local authority area. Local authorities may wish to liaise with local safe accommodation services in obtaining this data and information on the services they provide.

Exploring the services in the local authority area and understanding what they can provide is crucial to planning to meet unmet need. 5 boxes have been provided but we understand there may be many more than 5 services in the local authority area, please feel free to explore more and attach extra sheets or notes in your assessment. Notes boxes have been included for any further information on the services including, commissioning dates/cycles, funders/funding sources or consortium partner information.

For further information on types of safe accommodation and quality standards, please see the Statutory Guidance

Do you currently provide any domestic abuse safe accommodation services in your LA?	Yes / No
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21. Who Provides Safe Accommodation Services in Your Area

Service 1	Commissioned:	Yes	No
Name:			
Type of Safe Acc Service (eg. refuge/dispersed accommodation etc):			
Specialist Service Provided:	Yes / No	By and For Service:	Yes / No
Type of Specialism:			
Quality Standards Met	Yes	No	
Name of Quality Standards Met:			
Notes:			

Service 2	Commissioned:	Yes	No
Name:			
Type of Safe Acc Service (eg. refuge/dispersed accommodation etc):			
Specialist Service Provided:	Yes / No	By and For Service:	Yes / No
Type of Specialism:			
Quality Standards Met	Yes	No	
Name of Quality Standards Met:			
Notes:			

Service 3	Commissioned:	Yes	No
Name:			

Type of Safe Acc Service (eg. refuge/dispersed accommodation etc):			
Specialist Service Provided:	Yes / No	By and For Service:	Yes / No
Type of Specialism:			
Quality Standards Met	Yes	No	
Name of Quality Standards Met:			
Notes:			

Service 4		Commissioned:	Yes	No
Name:				
Type of Safe Acc Service (eg. refuge/dispersed accommodation etc):				
Specialist Service Provided:	Yes / No	By and For Service:	Yes / No	
Type of Specialism:				
Quality Standards Met	Yes	No		
Name of Quality Standards Met:				
Notes:				

Service 5		Commissioned:	Yes	No
Name:				
Type of Safe Acc Service (eg. refuge/dispersed accommodation etc):				
Specialist Service Provided:	Yes / No	By and For Service:	Yes / No	
Type of Specialism:				
Quality Standards Met	Yes	No		
Name of Quality Standards Met:				
Notes:				

Key Info:	Please use this space to describe the current safe accommodation services the local authority area has commissioned and not commissioned and notes on the reasons why. Also include any further information on funding and if services are solely reliant on any one type of funding.

22. Identification, Disclosures and Referrals
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The aim of the next section is to explore the types of referrals the local authority gets (from inside and outside your area) as well as the reasons referrals aren't currently successful. From this data you should be able to identify patterns or trends, and should be able to spot gaps in support and where more referrals could be successful if such support were in place.

It will require information from providers on the numbers of people referred to different types of safe accommodation and the numbers of people denied support at those types of accommodation.

23. Referral Sources

Do you know how domestic abuse victims/survivors are making contact with/requesting/accessing support within domestic abuse safe accommodation?

Where are referrals coming from and what directs victims/survivors to the help they need, please select "Yes" or "No" against each type of referral below. (Please circle).

Please also indicate, what level of risk they present as when seeking / being referred to domestic abuse safe accommodation services.

National Domestic Abuse Helpline:	Yes / No	Local Helpline:	Yes / No
Professional Referral - Medical	Yes / No	Professional Referral - Police/Criminal Justice:	Yes / No
Professional Referral - Local Authority	Yes / No	Professional Referral - Housing:	Yes / No
Professional Referral - MARAC	Yes / No	Professional Referral - 3rd Party:	Yes / No
Self-Referral:	Yes / No	Website:	Yes / No
Other (please state):			

Level of Risk (include avg. no. of victims of each option)	High	Medium	Standard
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Key Info:	<p>Please use this space to describe further the types of referrals made and how your domestic abuse victims/survivors (and their children) are contacting services.</p> <p>Consider if there is there any standout information in the data above. Where possible, please also include data on the number of referrals received for each of the routes identified.</p>
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24. Referral Numbers

Does the authority know how many referrals they are receiving, accepting and/or rejecting to different types of accommodation? How many referrals are being to successfully met and how many need some work before being successfully met? How many don't get met at all? Are referrals coming in far outweighing supply for different types of supported accommodation? Are you able to meet the demand of current referral levels? By exploring referral numbers, further insight should be gained into the demands on services and how the authority is responding to demand.

Refuge/Safe Accommodation (shared house/self-contained with shared elements etc.)	Specialist Safe Accommodation	Dispersed, Self-Contained Accommodation with Support	Sanctuary Schemes	Other (including temporary accommodation)
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Total Number of Referrals					
Number of Referrals from Inside Area					
Number of Referrals from Out of Area					
Number of Successful First Time Referrals					
Number of Successful Referrals Following Being Turned Away from Another Provision (referrals that were at first unsuccessful, but after trying different avenues, were then successful)					
Number of Unsuccessful Referrals/Access Denied. (Unable to be supported at all)					
Most common reasons for Being Denied Access to Services					
Average Number of Referral Attempts Made for Victim/Survivor to Gain Access to Relevant / safe Accommodation					
Average length of stay in days					

Key Info:	Please use this space to describe further the numbers of referrals made. Is there any standout information in the data above? Is the local authority able to meet the demand/needs currently? Are referrals coming in far outweighing supply for different types of accommodation? Is the local authority able to meet the demand of current referral levels? Do these numbers show you areas of demand and need that could be better met? Is there currently a large proportion of victims in your area being placed in temporary / accommodation not considered Relevant Accommodation under the duty?

25. Domestic Abuse - Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Victims/Survivors Seeking Support within Safe Accommodation and Demand on Safe Accommodation Services

This section will be focusing on domestic abuse victims/survivors, their characteristics and their needs, looking at the demands on your safe accommodation services (see description of safe accommodation in the statutory guidance for information on accommodation types included in DA safe accommodation).

Please explore the numbers of people for each category that access your safe accommodation services and also the number of people that are turned away by your services and why they were unsuccessful in gaining the support they need.

This section is the part that will help determine need. Gathering the data on refused referrals and reasons why these referrals could not be met, will show you the current unmet demand. It should demonstrate where levels of provision aren't adequate and support in ensuring future commissioning decisions put in place suitable support for the needs of victims in your area.

		Number Accessed Safe Accommodation Services	Number Supported through Alternative Accommodation (e.g. in temporary accommodation under the Homelessness Duty)	Number Completely Denied Access to Accommodation Services
26. Age	0-5yrs:			
	6-11yrs:			
	12-15yrs:			
	16-18yrs:			
	20-24yrs:			
	25-34yrs:			
	35-44yrs:			

	45-54yrs:			
	55-64yrs:			
	65-74yrs:			
	75yrs and Over:			
	Is age showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area? Do you have provisions for all ages, including young children and elderly?	Notes		
27. Gender Identity	Female:			
	Male:			
	Non-Binary:			
	Trans-Gender/Trans-Sexual:			
	Other/Unknown/Prefer Not to Say:			
	Is gender identity showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area? Do you have provisions suitable for different gender identities?	Notes		
28. Sexual Identity	Heterosexual/Straight:			
	Gay/Lesbian:			
	Bisexual:			
	Other/Prefer Not to Say:			
	Is sexual identity showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area? Do you have provisions for different sexual identities, not just heterosexual/straight?	Notes		
29. Housing (victim/survivor previously resided in)	Private/Owner Occupier:			
	Private Renter:			
	Social Housing:			
	Temporary Accommodation:			
	Other Supported Housing:			
	Is the victim/survivor's housing showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area?	Notes		
30. Family	0 Child Household:			
	Pregnant:			
	1 Child Household:			
	2 Children Household:			
	3+ Children Household:			
	Is the number of children or pregnancy showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area? Do you have provisions for people with babies, or multiple children? Do you have provisions for those with large families, as well as	Notes		
31. National Identity/Ethnic	White:			
	Asian or Asian British:			

Group	Black or Black British:			
	Mixed:			
	Gypsy/Roma/Traveller:			
	Other Isolated/Marginalised community/Prefer Not to Say:			
	Is national identity or ethnic group showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area? Do you have provisions for people of different backgrounds and identities?	Notes		
32. Immigration Status	Family Visa (eg. partner or parent visa):			
	Work/Student/Visit Visa			
	Asylum Seeker (public funds not accessible but asylum support available)			
	Refugee (public funds accessible)			
	No Immigration Leave or Expired Leave			
	Other/Unknown/Prefer Not to Say:			
	Is immigration status showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area? Do you have provisions for people with insecure immigration status and/or those with NRPF?	Notes		
33. Language	Translator/Interpreter Needed:			
	Low Literacy:			
	Is language showing as a barrier to safe accommodation services in your area? Do you have provisions for those who don't speak English as a first language? Do you have provisions for those that may struggle to read and/or write?	Notes		
34. Culture/Faith	Unable to stay with male children aged 13-18:			
	Other religious reason			
	Is faith/religion/cultural difference showing as a barrier to services in your area? Do you have provisions for those of different religions and beliefs?	Notes		
35. Violence Against Women and Girls	Honour Based Violence:			
	Forced Marriage:			
	Female Genital Mutilation:			
	Other VAWG:			
	Is VAWG such as HBV, FM or FMG showing as a barrier to services in your area? Do you have provisions for those who have experienced VAWG?	Notes		

36. Employment	Employed (including self employed):			
	Unemployed:			
	Is employment showing as a barrier to services in your area? Do you have provisions for those employed and unemployed?	Notes		
37. Income	Receiving Benefits:			
	Not Receiving Benefits:			
	Less than £10,400 p/a:			
	£10,400 to less than £20,800 p/a:			
	£20,800 to less than £31,200 p/a:			
	£31,200 to less than £41,600 p/a:			
	£41,600 to less than £52,000 p/a:			
	£52,000 p/a or more:			
	No income stated or not enough information provided:			
	Is income showing as a barrier to services in your area?	Notes		
38. Disability/Health	Physical Disability/Mobility Impairment (inc. Wheelchair Access Required):			
	Sensory Impairment:			
	Deaf/Hearing Impairment (including Sign Language User or Interpretation Required):			
	Visual Impairment (including Braille or Other Visual Support Required):			
	Speech Impairment or Communication Difficulties			
	Learning Difficulty:			
	Mental Health Issues:			
	Austism, Asperger's or Other Neuro-Div			
	Personal Care Requirements:			
	Other Long-Term Health Condition:			
	Children with Health Condition/s:			
	Is disability/health showing as a barrier to services in your area? Do you have provisions for a range of disabilities/healthcare needs for victims/survivors and their children?	Notes		
39. Additional Support Needs	Care Leaver:			
	Service Personnel/Armed Forces:			
	Offending History:			
	Homeless:			
	Rough Sleeper:			
	Alcohol Misuse:			
	Drug Misuse:			
	Sex Work:			
	Legal Support:			
Financial Support:				

	Other:		
	Are additional support needs showing as a barrier to services in your area? Do you have provisions for those with complex/extra needs and those with multiple additional needs?	Notes	

Key Info:	Please use this space to analyse the data above. By recording the statistics for each category above, what have you noticed? What barriers have DA victims faced in your area? What has stopped them being able to access safe accommodation more easily?

40. Gaps in Safe Accommodation Provisions
Please use this space to note findings from referrals and barriers, alongside the demographic data under prevalence. From exploring the two sections, what gaps have you identified? Do you have enough support to accommodate the numbers of referrals now and in the future? Do you have the right types of services commissioned with the right types of support, to meet the types of referrals received? What could be commissioned to make referrals more successful and overcome barriers that have existed previously? What can you do to breakdown barriers so that more victims/survivors have access to the support they need? See the Statutory Guidance document.

41. Housing Options
Please note here the housing options available in your area. These could be found via your Housing Officers/Providers and/or Move On providers and should include all move on and secondary housing options for victims/survivors who no longer need support within emergency safe accommodation and are ready for the next stage of rebuilding their lives following domestic abuse and freeing up refuge space for those that require emergency support in safe accommodation. This is important to help understand the barriers providers face when attempting to move victims/survivors on from safe accommodation.

42. Pathway Mapping - End to End Support Journey

Please carry out some pathway mapping, exploring the end to end journey taken by DA victims/survivors, and their children, in trying to access DA support within safe accommodation in the last 12 months. Use the data that you have to provide details of what a current pathway of support looks like, from victims/survivors needing support to accessing and receiving support and then to moving on from support.

We recommend you look at at least 5 differing case studies (or simulated scenarios if case studies aren't all available), walking through the process from seeking help to establishing safe independent living (crisis to recovery at various levels/entry points/needs). You should ensure a range of victim types are captured, including those from BAME backgrounds, male victims, those that identify as LGBTQ+, disabled [not limited to]. Please add extra case studies if useful. Please take care to not include personal information that could breach GDPR rules.

Case Study/Scenario 1	
Identification/Entry Point:	
Victim/Survivor Needs within Safe Acc.:	
Support Given:	
or Reason for Service Denial:	
Follow On Support:	
Outcome:	

Case Study/Scenario 2	
Identification/Entry Point:	
Victim/Survivor Needs within Safe Acc.:	
Support Given:	
or Reason for Service Denial:	
Follow On Support:	
Outcome:	

Case Study/Scenario 3	
Identification/Entry Point:	
Victim/Survivor Needs within Safe Acc.:	
Support Given:	
or Reason for Service Denial:	
Follow On Support:	
Outcome:	

Case Study/Scenario 4	
Identification/Entry Point:	
Victim/Survivor Needs within Safe Acc.:	
Support Given:	
or Reason for Service Denial:	
Follow On Support:	
Outcome:	

Case Study/Scenario 5	
Identification/Entry Point:	
Victim/Survivor Needs within Safe Acc.:	
Support Given:	
or Reason for Service Denial:	
Follow On Support:	
Outcome:	

43. Survivor Engagement - Personal Experiences of Support

In this section please detail information gained from direct consultations with victims/survivors of domestic abuse, or with service providers that can represent victims/survivors, and what their experience was in accessing support within safe accommodation. This is to understand what victims/survivors have been through during the process of gaining support.

Please add the type of support they received and detail their experiences and thoughts on those experiences, the strengths and weaknesses they noticed in the services they received. Please include experiences that haven't gone well as well as those that have and include information on lessons learned from those experiences. What was done well and what could've gone better and met the needs of that individual more? How accessible were the services? How culturally sensitive were they (eg. were they respectful of beliefs and cultural/religious practices)? Were victims/survivors treated with respect and were they satisfied with their experience; were their needs met? You may want to use this section to capture the experiences of those that were denied access to safe accommodation, by speaking to services that have refused safe accommodation and following the path back up from referral point to refusal and finding where they are now. Please do not include specific names or personal details.

Safe Accommodation Victim/Survivor 1

Services:	
Experience:	

Safe Accommodation Victim/Survivor 2

Services:	
Experience:	

Safe Accommodation Victim/Survivor 3

Services:	
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Experience:	
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Safe Accommodation Victim/Survivor 4	
Services:	
Experience:	

Safe Accommodation Victim/Survivor 5	
Services:	
Experience:	

<p>What have you learned from the experiences of domestic abuse victims/survivors experiences with safe accommodation?</p>

44. Summary

By following the sections suggested in this needs assessment form, you should now have a set of data that shows you the types of people in your area, their background, their needs and their experiences. You will also have learned about the services in your area and what has worked well in domestic abuse safe accommodation, and what hasn't worked so well. You should be able to see the barriers that victims/survivors can face in accessing safe accommodation support and the gaps where services need to be added or improved to meet needs better.

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45. Next Steps & Strategy

By completing this form and exploring the data in each section, you should have a good understanding of the characteristics of domestic abuse victims/survivors and their needs, existing services available, housing options available and case studies, and should be ready to create a strong evidence-based strategy to provide victims/survivors with support tailored to their needs. For further information on strategy and strategy publishing please see the Statutory Guidance.