

APPENDIX 3

Results of consultation

Draft Domestic Abuse Policy

August 2018

	Comments	Response
1.	<p>The only thing I would suggest adding is another definition/strand. It may have been left out specifically however:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harassment and Stalking <p>This is a recognised Domestic Abuse strand. It often happens with people outside of the family unit but could be an ex-perpetrator and it is almost always related to the safety of the home (thinking Sanctuary Scheme) and stalking often leads to more serious offences.</p>	<p>We agree that awareness needs to be raised about this strand of domestic abuse, given that it recently became a specific criminal offence and may be under-reported. A definition has been included in the policy.</p>
2.	<p>Are you sure it should be restricted to victims and families? I can imagine scenarios where neighbours are affected!</p>	<p>This policy specifically concerns domestic abuse, which is abuse affecting people living in the same household, or formerly living in the same household, as intimate partners or family members. Any behaviour affecting neighbours would not fall within this definition and would be dealt with differently.</p>
3.	<p>You do not provide links to where the supporting documents can be found</p>	<p>We are in the process of publishing policies and any supporting documents following approval. All policies will be on the same web page.</p> <p>We intend to include links within these documents, to enable viewers to click through to the listed documents or resources. This may take some time to set up.</p>
4.	<p>The Domestic Abuse Policy document is well thought out and compassionate, with all points covered. Well done.</p>	
5.	<p>The content for the Domestic Abuse Policy is very well presented, easy to read and understand. The separate chapters are brilliant. The definitions of abuse are excellent too. However, I think more needs to be said about what psychological, emotional and financial abuse include as these are subtle forms of</p>	<p>Brief explanations of psychological/emotional and financial abuse have been included in the policy.</p> <p>The policy is intended as a statement of our approach to helping victims; a</p>

	<p>abuse and the victim may not know what is happening to them.</p> <p>A little more needs to be said about the law, explaining what the law is and what it means</p>	<p>more detailed explanation of the legal context belongs elsewhere.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>It's not clear the limits of the responsibility to help that CoL can offer various types of residents: leaseholders, privately renting, living in accommodation rented from CoL but without having name on the tenancy agreement</p>	<p>The policy does state that it applies to all residents "regardless of tenure", though the wording has been revised to make it clearer and more consistent.</p> <p>While we will provide whatever support and advice we can to all residents regardless of tenure, the support we can offer will vary according to whether they are a tenant, leaseholder, sub-tenant or household member.</p> <p>The important point to note is that anyone living in our properties can approach us for help and advice. If there is something we cannot do, we will ensure that the resident knows where they can get appropriate help and support. We will help them access that support where possible.</p>