



Alternatively you can contact your local Housing Advice Centre directly on:

East Devon District Council	01395 517469
Exeter City Council	01392 265726
Mid Devon District Council	01884 255255
North Devon District Council	01271 325757
Plymouth City Council	01752 305950
South Hams District Council	01803 861234
Teignbridge District Council	01626 361101
Torbay Council	01803 208723
Torrige District Council	01237 428849
West Devon Borough Council	01822 813600

## How do I apply?

The following agencies have been involved in the development of the Devon Sanctuary Scheme. All are able to make referrals to the scheme:

### Women's Aid Outreach Service

Exeter	01392 426483
East Devon	01392 435560
Mid Devon	01392 426521
North Devon & Torrige	01271 370079
South Devon	01364 643866
West Devon	01837 53321

### Plymouth Domestic Abuse Service

Plymouth	01752 252033
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## Help and Information

In an emergency always telephone	<b>999</b>
Police	08452 777 444
National Women's Aid	0808 2000 247
National freephone helpline for female victims of domestic abuse	
MALE	0808 8010 327
National freephone helpline for male victims of domestic abuse	
Broken Rainbow	0208 539 9507
National helpline service for lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender people experiencing domestic abuse	

Supported by



# Devon Sanctuary Scheme

Helping victims of domestic abuse to remain in their homes





# What is Sanctuary?

Many people, although they are under the threat of violence, do not wish to move home as they may live near to their children's schools, friends, family and other support networks.

The Devon Sanctuary Scheme aims to help victims of domestic violence and abuse to feel safe and secure where they choose to remain in their own homes, by improving the security with professionally installed security measures.

The scheme is not an immediate response to the problem, but it is a long-term solution to prevent homelessness and improve a victim's quality of life.

Every 'Sanctuary' is tailored to meet the needs and circumstances of the individuals involved. The security measures generally fall into two categories:

## Sanctuary

This includes a range of security options such as window locks, stronger doors, panic alarms and fire safety equipment including smoke detectors and break glass hammers.

## Sanctuary Plus

This involves the creation of a safe room where a door to one of the rooms, usually the main bedroom, is replaced with a solid core door and reversed to open outwards. Two mortice bolts are fitted to the inside of the door; one at the top and one at the bottom, along with three large steel hinges, hinge bolts and a 180 degree door viewer. This provides a safe room for victims to call for and await the arrival of the police.

## Who is eligible?

All victims of domestic abuse living in Devon who may become homeless due to domestic violence and abuse, hate crime, racial harassment or other violence will be considered for the scheme.

The scheme is available free of charge to Council, Housing Association and private tenants, as well as owner occupiers. You will need to have rights to occupy the property as either sole owner or tenant, or be able to exclude the perpetrator of the violence through legal means.

## How does the Devon Sanctuary Scheme Work?

The referral procedure varies slightly between local authorities, the key principles remain the same and are detailed below:

**Stage 1** All referrals are directed to the police who will check the referral against the required criteria.



**Stage 2** If the person is considered suitable for the sanctuary scheme a security survey is carried out to assess what security measures need to be installed.



**Stage 3** If appropriate the landlord of the property is contacted to gain approval for the proposed works to be carried out.



**Stage 4** When agreement is confirmed the work will be carried out by an approved contractor.



**Stage 5** Once the security measures are installed the emergency services are informed so they know how best to help if they are called in an emergency.

