



Kennett Community Land Trust

Domestic Abuse Policy

Kennett Community Land Trust is a Community Benefit Society registered with the FCA under number 7443, registered office 66 Station Road, Kennett, Newmarket CB8 7QF

1 Policy Statement

Kennett CLT does not tolerate domestic abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

This policy outlines our victim centred approach, which ensures that we create a culture when residents who have experienced or witnessed domestic abuse feel supported when making a report.

We recognise the importance of supporting residents whilst also ensuring that any action we take is done with their consent.

We will work collaboratively with external partners when managing cases of domestic abuse. This policy applies to all residents, all staff, board members and contractors, sub-contractors and agents working for KCLT.

2 Legislation and Regulation

The legislation listed in this policy is not intended to cover all legislation applicable to this policy. The legislation listed within this policy was considered at the time of the development of this policy, but subsequent primary and secondary legislation, case law and regulatory or other requirements will be considered and the policy reviewed and adopted in accordance with the requirements set out therein, even should such subsequent legislation not be explicitly listed within this policy.

The main legislation is as follows:

- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Family Law Act 1996
- Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003
- Human Rights Act 1998 • Data Protection Act 2018
- The Housing Act 1996 •
- The Equality Act 2010

3 Kennett CLT aims to:

- Work collaboratively with women and children with lived experience of domestic abuse to ensure their voices are heard and shape our housing policies and services
- Work collaboratively with key partners and wider stakeholders to identify ways in which we can take earlier, effective intervention and improve our responses and service offering to tackling domestic abuse
- Develop an improved understanding of domestic abuse amongst our staff to ensure effective, high quality housing support, advice and information
- Provide a policy framework which sets out clear messaging promoting equality and respect and rejecting all forms of domestic abuse.
- Support wellbeing amongst our housing workforce to ensure a supportive and trauma responsive environment to effectively address domestic abuse across all sectors of society

- To prevent and reduce adverse childhood experiences and provide safe and nurturing accommodation and support that can help children and families thrive
- Challenge gendered stereotypes across all aspects of our service delivery

4 How can Kennett CLT help?

Kennett CLT want to support women and children affected by domestic abuse. This includes sustaining current accommodation, where possible and where this is the preference, preventing the need to present as homeless. This avoids any potential distress and trauma associated with moving into temporary accommodation or moving to an unfamiliar area away from existing support networks. We also know that for some women, the trauma experienced in their accommodation may mean that it is not an option for them to remain there. In these circumstances we would help to find alternative suitable accommodation.

We recognise that women experiencing domestic abuse who approach us asking for help may have other issues such as disability, addiction or be financially dependent on their abuser. We ensure that we treat women sympathetically and we will work in partnership with specialist services to explore a range of housing options and support.

5 Partnership Working

We work with partners including the Police, Social Services support providers, and Community Mental Health Teams as well as local voluntary groups.

We work within the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 that allows customers to request a multi-agency audit of their case if they believe no progress is being made to resolve their problems.

This is a criminal offence, and you need to report this to the Police immediately, you must also let them know if you are concerned about your safety, or that of others. Domestic Abuse is the use of power for one person to control another in a family or intimate relationship.

The abuse can take many forms; for example, physical, psychological, emotional or sexual. It can also include frightening or abusing you or your children – or damaging your property. If you are faced with the immediate threat of violence: Call 999 and ask for the police (or ask someone to do it for you) If you're in danger and can't talk, listen to the questions and respond by whispering, coughing or tapping the phone if you can. You may be asked to press 55 so police can help you.

Go to a safe place (not the kitchen), stay near a door and if in doubt, leave the premises.

- Women can call the National Domestic Violence Helpline on 0808 2000 247
- Men can call the Men's Advice Line on 0808 801 0237 for further advice and assistance.

6 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

KCLT is committed to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion in all aspects of its work. We believe that embracing diversity strengthens our community, enhances our services, and reflects our core values of respect, fairness, and integrity.

We aim to create an environment where everyone feels valued, respected, an empowered—regardless of their background, identity, or circumstances.

We will apply this policy consistently and fairly and will not discriminate against anyone based on any protected characteristics, including those set out in the Equality Act 2010

7 Review and Monitoring

- Kennett CLT will review and monitor all incidents of domestic abuse on an ongoing basis as they occur to ensure the best outcome for those involved. Additionally, it will actively seek feedback from all parties involved in or tackling domestic abuse to ensure its response to events is the best it can be.
- All trustees, staff or agents working on behalf of Kennett CLT will be made aware of this policy at induction and undertake training as applicable to their role or responsibilities.
- This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required or following legislative changes

8 Related Policies and Documents

- Tenancy Agreement
- Safeguarding Policy
- Whistle Blowing Policy
- Vulnerability Risk Assessment
- Privacy Policy
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Customer Feedback and Complaints Policy

9 Policy Review Record

Version Number	Status	Revision Date	Summary of Changes
Version 01	Approved	September 2025	New Policy