



Have you  
suffered  
**domestic  
violence?**

**Waltham Forest  
Sanctuary Scheme**  
may be able to help  
you stay in your home

# What is the Sanctuary Scheme?

This scheme has been developed for people in Waltham Forest who are affected by domestic violence.

It is aimed at people who feel vulnerable or threatened by partners or ex-partners but want to stay in their homes.

Many people, although they are under the threat of violence, don't want to move home as they live near to their children's schools, doctor, family and other support networks in the area.

The Sanctuary Scheme aims to make the home more secure by undertaking building works that make it difficult for unwanted visitors to gain access to the property. This may include new locks, stronger doors and window grilles.

# How does it work?

The Sanctuary Scheme is a multi-agency scheme involving the Council, the police, building contractors and Report It or Victim Support - voluntary anti-harassment agencies. It is jointly funded by Waltham Forest Housing Services and the Community Safety Unit.

If you have suffered domestic violence you will be referred to Report It/Victim Support who will offer a wide range of support and advice and assess if you are suitable for the scheme.

Once they are sure you want to stay in the property if it can be made safer, Report It/Victim Support will tell the Council who will pass the details to the police Domestic Violence Liaison Officer, contractor, and the fire service.

They will then inspect the property to identify what work can be done to make

it safer. Once this work is agreed with the client and the landlord, the Council will arrange for it to be done and paid for. If you are an owner occupier, you will be responsible for the cost of the works. If you are unable to pay, the Principal Housing Adviser will assess if the Council will pay. If you are claiming benefits, the cost will be met by the Council.

When the work is finished, the property will be inspected to ensure it is acceptable and meets health and safety regulations.



## Waltham Forest Sanctuary Scheme

For more information contact:

### Housing Advice Unit

Housing Services, Cedar Wood House, 2d Fulbourne Road, Walthamstow E17 4GG

Tel: 020 8496 3000 E-mail: [housing.advice@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:housing.advice@walthamforest.gov.uk)

### Report It

702 High Road,  
Leyton E10 6JP

Tel: 020 8558 6928

E-mail: [info@reportit-hate.com](mailto:info@reportit-hate.com)

### Victim Support

Community Place, 806 High Road,  
Leyton E10 6AE

Tel: 020 8556 6006

E-mail: [vs.walthamforest@vslondon.org](mailto:vs.walthamforest@vslondon.org)

