

E. AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

Local churches should be proactive in clearly identifying and communicating who bears primary responsibility for addressing issues pertaining to domestic abuse. It may be possible for this to be part of the responsibility of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), an Elder, or fall under the remit of someone specifically appointed to fill the role. In any event, responsibilities should be carried out in close liaison with the DSL where children and adults at risk are involved.

Responsibilities entail:

- a) encouraging the dissemination of and use of this policy and guidelines;
- b) developing a library of resource materials and information, using available resources such as those listed in the [Appendices](#).
- c) identify the best place to display relevant local phone numbers and support services;
- d) being a point of contact for ministers, lay leaders, and church members and being able to offer advice and information to them;
- e) advising and informing the district, and monitoring practice;
- f) enabling and encouraging workshops and other forms of training through networking with professionals within the church and local support services and agencies
- g) encouraging support for the annual Abuse Prevention Day