



## Model Policy for North Bedfordshire Circuit

### Aims and intentions

This policy aims to ensure that domestic abuse is acknowledged and responded to appropriately within the Methodist Church. To do this we will:

- 1 raise awareness about domestic abuse and its impact on individuals, children, the wider family and community
- 2 ensure that the safety of individuals suffering abuse or seeking help is the first priority, and be aware of the need for confidentiality (unless there are safeguarding concerns)
- 3 consider how best to provide support and information for anyone seeking help, including working with specialist agencies
- 4 encourage discussion of how our church can be a safer space for victims and survivors of domestic abuse
- 5 regularly discuss the Domestic Abuse policy, procedures, theology and principles that underpin it
- 6 adopt the Domestic Abuse Charter and display this in our churches and on social media
- 7 discuss domestic abuse with church leaders, including at the Church Council and Circuit Meetings
- 8 review this policy annually and monitor it continually.

This policy was adopted by:

on: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. G. S.', written over a horizontal line.

Next review date is: February 2024