Responding well to Domestic Abuse Flowchart

Diocese of Liverpool

Believe the victim

Do not ask for proof

Assure the victim it is not their fault

Reassure that confidentiality will be maintained but explain its boundaries

Is there an immediate risk of harm?

No

Are there children involved?

No

Further action requested?

No

Your time has been well spent. The victim will know that they can return to you for further help, that they have been believed and that they are not in the wrong.

You might be able to offer other opportunities to come and talk.

You cannot make the victim of domestic violence or abuse take any action. The most you might be able to do is listen and provide information.

Ensure you record what you have been told as a safeguarding concern; make a record of your actions and/or advice. Date the record and keep it confidentially.

Yes

Outline realistic options – police, Women's Aid, refuge, safe house

Supply appropriate information, leaflets and contact numbers.

Make a referral on the victim's behalf (with their permission) if this is wanted.

Ensure you make a record of what you have been told as a safeguarding concern; note your actions and who you have sought advice from. Date the record and keep it confidentially.

Yes

Discuss your concerns with the DSA

Refer to Children's Services

Yes

Call the police

Discuss your concerns with the DSA

For Further advice contact Catriona Richardson, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser 0151 705 2153/ 0787 510946
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