

MAKE A STAND

THE PLEDGE

About the **Make a Stand** pledge

The **Make a Stand** supporters' pledge has been created by the Chartered Institute of Housing in partnership with Women's Aid and the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, as a development of our original Make a Stand pledge, which is aimed at housing providers.

The supporters' pledge has been created for organisations working in the housing sector that don't provide homes - such as contractors, suppliers, trade bodies and membership organisations. It aims to encourage these organisations to make a commitment to support people experiencing domestic abuse. Domestic abuse is one of the biggest issues in society today. The true scale of the problem is difficult to determine because a large proportion of domestic abuse goes unreported, but studies suggest many millions of people are affected every year. Tragically, two women are killed every week by their partner or ex-partner.

So where do you come in?

The answer is simple; everyone lives in a home and housing organisations provide and maintain homes for millions of people. A home should provide safety and security, but for many people home is anything but safe because they are experiencing domestic abuse.



In 2017, Chartered Institute of Housing president Alison Inman chose to raise awareness of domestic abuse and support Women's Aid. Her successor Jim Strang subsequently announced he would continue to support the same cause.

This pledge gives organisations involved in the housing sector the opportunity to sign up to three focused commitments to support people experiencing domestic abuse.

It is a way for you to publicly commit to take action. Once you have done so the onus is on you to ensure that you complete the commitments and we will supply information to support this.

We expect organisations to have completed these actions by September 2020.

If you have already delivered the commitments you can still sign the pledge.

The pledge

By signing up to the **Make a Stand** pledge you are committing to make sure your organisation does the following by September 2020:

1

Make information about national and local domestic abuse support services available on your website and in other appropriate places so that they are easily accessible for staff, your members, customers or clients.

2

Put in place an HR policy, or amend an existing policy, to support members of staff who may be experiencing domestic abuse

3

Appoint a champion at a senior level in your organisation to own the activity you are doing to support people experiencing domestic abuse and promote the campaign with your members, customers or clients.

How can I sign up?

You can sign up to the pledge by filling in our simple online form which is available at www.cih.org/makeastandsupporters

You will then receive a support pack to help you meet the pledge commitments.

You will also receive your pledge certificate and some other items to help you promote the fact you have signed the supporters' pledge and demonstrated your commitment to **Make a Stand** against domestic abuse.

What next?

Once you have signed the supporters' pledge the onus is on you to make sure that you take action which reflects the commitments you have made.

For more information about the **Make a Stand** supporters' pledge visit www.cih.org/makeastandsupporters or email policyandpractice@cih.org