



Domestic Abuse Statement

MCFB is opposed to all forms of abuse and exploitation. We fully support the definition of domestic abuse in the '*National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland*' (Scottish Executive 2000)

"Domestic abuse (as gender-based abuse) can be perpetrated by partners or ex-partners and can include physical abuse (assault and physical attack involving a range of behaviour), sexual abuse (acts which degrade and humiliate women and are perpetrated against their will, including rape) and mental and emotional abuse (such as threat, verbal abuse, racial abuse, withholding money and other types of controlling behaviour such as isolation from family and friends).

The following principles underpin MCFB's approach:

- Domestic abuse is a fundamental breach of human rights
- Domestic abuse is not acceptable and will never be tolerated
- The perpetrator of domestic abuse should be held accountable
- The victim should never be blamed
- Domestic abuse is a form of child abuse
- MCFB will work to prevent domestic abuse and to protect women and children who experience domestic abuse
- Children affected by domestic abuse want adults to listen to their experiences
- MCFB will seek to develop flexible and innovative services for children and young people which reflect their expressed needs and wishes

Current as of 10/03/10