



daha

Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance

gentoo

**STANDING
TOGETHER**
against domestic abuse

 **Peabody**

DAHA
membership
pack

About DAHA

We're the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance

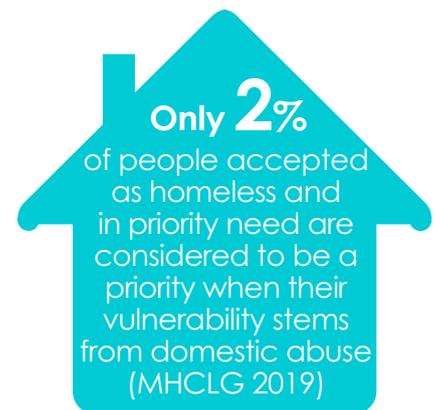
We are a national alliance between three agencies: housing associations Peabody (London) and Gentoo (Sunderland), and London-based charity, Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse.

The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance's (DAHA) mission is to improve the housing sector's response to domestic abuse through the introduction and adoption of an established set of standards and an accreditation process.

Launched in September of 2014, DAHA embeds the best practice learned and implemented by its three founding partners and has established the first accreditation for housing providers. We want every housing provider and local authority across the UK to achieve DAHA Accreditation so that all families living with domestic abuse are safer.

Housing is the primary barrier for women attempting to leave abusive situations. We've also seen that domestic abuse is one of the highest causes of homelessness amongst women. Housing providers are ideally placed to spot and respond to domestic abuse as a first point of contact and we continue to work with them to remedy some of the following statistics.

The link between housing and DA



More than 400 housing providers across the UK pledged to Make A Stand against Domestic Abuse – an initiative we created in partnership with Women's Aid and the Chartered Institute of Housing in 2018. We are proud to be working with over 150 Housing providers and local authorities to adopt and embed our award-winning accreditation mark, indicating their commitment to delivering safe and effective responses that is based on what people who are experiencing domestic abuse tell us they need.

Six Principles of DAHA

As Members of DAHA you share our mission to improve the housing sector's response to domestic abuse and vision that the housing sector gives the right response to domestic abuse every time. You accept our principles that are the foundation of all that we do:

- **Non-judgement:** DAHA Members create an enabling environment where survivors know they will be listened to, wanting people and families to thrive. This is achieved by creating an enabling environment where survivors can disclose abuse without judgement, knowing they will be believed, listened to, and heard.
- **Being person-centred:** How you do the work is as important as what you do. DAHA Members aim to work with empathy, integrity, and transparency, committing to empower staff to build their knowledge, skills, and confidence to identify and respond to domestic abuse in the most appropriate way that puts the survivor at the heart of the intervention and support.
- **Amplifying survivor voices:** Valuing feedback from people with lived experience of domestic abuse DAHA Members seek to learn from survivors, both staff and tenants and work to amplify their voices to inform development and improvement of practice.
- **Intersectionality:** Domestic abuse is different for everyone and will never be all of one person's experience. Domestic abuse is rarely the whole of a person's experience and DAHA Members recognise that people may be disadvantaged by multiple oppressions such as race, gender, sexuality, abilities. Members promise to take an intersectional approach recognising a person's unique experience based on the intersection of all relevant grounds.
- **Safety:** Creating safe homes and communities where perpetrators are held to account for their behaviour. DAHA Members recognise that the safety of those who are experiencing domestic abuse is paramount and that safe intervention starts by talking to them and asking them what they need and want to happen. Perpetrators will be held to account for their behaviour with the safety of those who have experienced domestic abuse from them a priority consideration in any intervention.
- **Working towards a Coordinated Community Response (CCR):** Committing to working together to end domestic abuse. DAHA Members will be part of a coordinated community response to domestic abuse by working collaboratively with local agencies to share information and to meet the needs of the individuals and families experiencing domestic abuse. DAHA Members will communicate and build meaningful relationships with tenants, with colleagues and with those who have specialist knowledge, experience, and powers to assist them in keeping families safe and well.

What is DAHA Membership?

Our membership model offers a range of benefits to support you to deliver safe and effective responses to domestic abuse. As members of DAHA you will join a national network of housing providers coming together to transform how we tackle domestic abuse. Sign up for our...

Affiliated Membership: Ideal for any type of organisation who would like to show their support for our principles, work and development

Accreditation Membership: Designed for social housing providers going for DAHA accreditation.

Accredited Membership: Created for social housing providers who have already achieved DAHA accreditation and want to show their continued commitment and support for us.

Why become a member?

To make a stand: Reduce the human cost of domestic abuse by supporting our work to enable the housing sector to deliver safe and effective interventions in domestic abuse.

To be inspired: Access a wealth of best practice resources and expert advice through our Toolkits and newsletters, and member only webinars and events.

To be rewarded: Get discounts on our training and become accredited (if you choose to do so).

To get connected: Join us as we influence national policy and share best practice at our DAHA regional groups and Members forums, to ensure that every home provides "safety, security and dignity"

" What DAHA has done is provide us with some excellent critique and some assessment to help us to improve things even further...we've got some better policies, some more sort of developed policies and procedures, more sophisticated approaches."

Benefits in Year One	Affiliated Membership	Accreditation Membership	Accredited Membership
Access to our Essential toolkit with information on DAHA's accreditation standards	✓	✓	✓
Discounted training fees (5% for affiliated members and 10% for accreditation members)	✓	✓	✓
Access to the DAHA Regional Group meetings and the opportunity to influence national policy	✓	✓	✓
Invites to member only events and webinars	✓	✓	✓
Regular updates through our quarterly newsletter, which has the latest developments in policy and practice	✓	✓	✓
A logo demonstrating affiliation to DAHA's Principles of Practice	✓	✓	✓
Access to our Enhanced Toolkit with guidance on implementing DAHA's accreditation standards		✓	✓
'Getting Started' pack including the DAHA Accreditation Assessment Spreadsheet, which offers an action plan for implementing the 8 priority areas of DAHA's standards including updates		✓	✓
Support from a DAHA Accreditation Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory support and consultancy time throughout the process • Meeting attendance, such as initial set up meetings and steering groups • Advisory support with re-accreditation and making continuous improvements 		✓	✓
Access to our Accreditation Implementation and Re-accreditation Webinars (please note that these workshops will be available to providers in regions where we have grant funding, such as Cambridgeshire and London)		✓	✓
A logo demonstrating 'Commitment to Achieve DAHA Accreditation' while working towards accreditation and 'DAHA Accredited' upon passing the assessment		✓	✓
Coverage on our website in accordance with your associated membership		✓	✓
A logo and certificate that celebrates your accreditation achievement demonstrates your excellence in practice around domestic abuse			✓

Your investment in Year 1 will enable us to make the continuous improvements to our membership offer. We are planning to offer the following benefits in Year 2:

Benefits in Year Two	Affiliated Membership	Accreditation Membership	Accredited Membership
Access to our online Members Forum, connecting housing practitioners and sharing information and resources	✓	✓	✓
Opportunities to work with us on press coverage to promote the role of housing in responding to domestic abuse	✓	✓	✓
DAHA merchandise including bags, pens and badges	✓	✓	✓
Annual celebration event showcasing exemplary practices. This will include materials and guidance for organisations to host their own events	✓	✓	✓
We will make ongoing improvements to our online toolkits. We will add new resources and update existing ones. We will co-produce these with accredited members and an <i>Expert by Experience</i> survivor group that we are setting up in Year 1	✓	✓	✓

We will continue to develop resources for accredited providers to support ongoing continuous development, which will strengthen their responses when it comes to reaccreditation.

“I thought I knew an awful lot but in reality, once I started working with DAHA, I realised that actually I didn’t, and I’ve been working with it for fourteen years.”

“So, I think, like I say, that framework, that structure, that guidance, that expertise, which we didn’t have in the same fashion prior to DAHA.”

Why now?

A national narrative of 'no postcode lottery' led by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, and a domestic abuse landscape that is rapidly changing as a result of the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Bill creates a perfect environment for DAHA to evolve.

The DA Bill will receive royal assent and be passed into law in April 2021. This introduces new duties on Local Authorities to meet the needs of families living with domestic abuse. In November 2020 the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) published the Social Housing White Paper² which sets out what social housing tenants can expect from their landlord, including a dedicated section on supporting tenants facing domestic abuse.

The Government is placing an expectation on the Social Housing Regulator to 'review and amend its regulatory standards to make it clear that landlords should have a policy setting out how they should tackle domestic abuse'.

There is a growing national awareness of the importance of housing in the Coordinated Community Response (CCR)³ to domestic abuse. An increasing number of local areas are looking to adopt a Whole Housing Approach⁴ to domestic abuse, which offers a plethora of options and enables survivors to make their own choices about what is best for them.

DAHA is responsive to this rapidly changing environment. We don't stand still. In 2021, most of our grant funding comes to an end. Grant funding is often short-term and not renewable. There are also a finite number of sources of grant funding available for our work. We therefore need to generate self-sustaining sources of income in order to continue delivering this work.

“ The culture of the organisation has changed thanks to the wonderful work of the DAHA accreditation team. We have improved 100% and this is down to the DAHA accreditation framework. This improvement has been recognised by customers, residents, partner agencies and elected members of the council.”

DAHA Accredited London Borough

2 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-charter-for-social-housing-residents-social-housing-white-paper/the-charter-for-social-housing-residents-social-housing-white-paper>

3 <https://www.standingtogether.org.uk/ccr-network>

4 <https://www.dahalliance.org.uk/what-we-do/whole-housing-approach/>

How much does it cost?

The cost of membership depends on the number of homes owned and managed by your organisation (housing provider or local authority) and whether you choose Affiliated or Accreditation Membership.

Organisation Size	Affiliated Membership	Accreditation Membership	Accredited Membership
Under 5,000 Homes Includes local authority with or without stock	£500 per annum	£1,000 per annum + Assessment Fee	£500 per annum + Assessment Fee
Between 5,001 – 45,000 Homes (including local authority with stock)	£1000 per annum	£2,500 per annum + Assessment Fee	£1250 per annum + Assessment Fee
Over 45,001 Homes (including local authority with stock)	£1,500 per annum	£4,000 per annum + Assessment Fee	£2,000 per annum + Assessment Fee
Other Organisations	We encourage organisations connected to or outside of the Housing Sector to join us as Affiliated Members & demonstrate their support for DAHA, our mission and Principles. Fee's to be agreed on discussion. Email us at: daha_membership@standingtogether.org.uk		

- Membership fees are calculated per annum 1 April – 31 March annually but can be calculated pro rata by month from the beginning of the month you choose to join.
- Any requests for membership from 1st January in any year will require payment of the remaining 3 months plus commitment to full yearly fees for next financial year too.
- Our membership fees are shown exclusive of VAT
- Assessment fees are charged separately and are calculated on the basis of how many days it takes to complete an assessment/re-assessment

A closer look at our Accreditation & Accredited Memberships

We are the only project in the UK offering a domestic abuse accreditation for the housing sector. By offering a system and accreditation framework, we allow the housing sector to better coordinate their response to domestic abuse. A team of DAHA Development Managers works to engage and support housing providers and local authorities to adopt and embed accreditation standards for delivering safe and effective responses to domestic abuse. We offer a range of support for implementing standards including:

- **Tools and resources including access to our online toolkit**
- **Dissemination of national, regional, and local good practice**
- **Expert advice and guidance**
- **Webinars**
- **Facilitation and coordination of regional groups improving how providers and services connect across the country.**

Why become DAHA accredited?

Findings from an evaluation by York University¹ shows that our accreditation enables housing providers to deliver a more tailored response to meet individual needs. Domestic abuse is identified earlier, and an effective and safe response can be offered at the first opportunity. Accreditation also generates a sense of confidence at multiple levels, including for residents and staff living with domestic abuse and for organisations, both at a strategic level and for individual staff members.

The York report investigated the cost effectiveness of DAHA Accreditation for housing providers and indicates that our accreditation produces money saving potential in terms of direct costs to providers as well as societal costs and savings to the public purse. The costs of accreditation are rapidly offset as soon as evictions, repairs and rent arrears associated with domestic abuse are reduced.

DAHA Membership

together to make
home a safe
place to be

To find out more please contact us at:
daha_membership@standingtogether.org.uk

“We truly believe that completing the DAHA Accreditation last year is one of the best things we did as a Local Authority! We are fairly convinced that if we had not completed this accreditation we would not have been able to support victims in the way housing staff have during this current period”

DAHA Accredited City Council