

WEAR VALLEY WOMEN'S AID

WARNINGS AND EVICTIONS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Wear Valley Women's Aid's primary function is to offer safe secure temporary accommodation to women and their children who are escaping Domestic Abuse. It is essential that residents comply with the terms and conditions of the Licence Agreement and the House Rules. Failure to do so can result in endangering the refuge and residents.

Wear Valley Women's Aid undertakes to inform all residents of their rights and restrictions. This information will be presented clearly and reviewed regularly.

Wear Valley Women's Aid will deal with each case on an individual basis taking into consideration personal circumstances.

In cases where violence or other criminal offences may have occurred, Wear Valley Women's Aid may choose to involve the Police and or Social Services.

The guidelines for action may be entered into at any stage depending on the severity of the misconduct.

- **WARNINGS**

In situations where residents break rules:

- The rules will be pointed out.
- A verbal warning will be given (recorded on residents file).
- A written warning will be given.

If warnings are ignored Wear Valley Women's Aid reserve the right to enter into the notice to quit procedure at whatever stage is appropriate, especially in cases where the refuge safety has been breached and/or other residents threatened.

Situations that could lead to this action include:

- Informing violent partner of whereabouts of the refuge.
- Theft from the refuge.
- Leaving children without organised supervision.
- Breaking the no man rule, by bringing unauthorised men into the premises.
- If a woman and/or her children are violent.

IMMEDIATE NOTICE TO QUIT TO BE EFFECTED WITHIN 24 HRS

- **INAPPROPRIATE REFERRALS**

If it becomes clear that a resident does not fall within our client user group policy they will be asked to leave the refuge.

- **ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORT**

In cases where a woman is asked to leave, the project workers will assist in the finding of alternative accommodation (it must be stressed that the project has no statutory responsibility to do this but will endeavour to help). In cases where violence has occurred access to other refuges will be extremely unlikely.

- **APPEALS PROCEDURE**

If a resident has been issued with a warning or notice to quit she has the right to appeal:

1st – Take the matter up with the workers

2nd – Contact the Management Committee in writing

Use refuge address for written contact.