

## Onus Safe Church

Safe Place provides training and resources for churches to enable them to provide signposting to support services for anyone affected by domestic abuse. Safe Church offers progression training for churches in recognising and responding to domestic abuse.

**Activity** Churches train to become an accredited Safe Place where anyone can access information on the domestic abuse support services available to them. Churches can choose to progress and become an accredited Safe Church where they will take the lead in addressing domestic abuse both within their own congregations and in their local communities.



**Time Frame** To achieve a Safe Place (Tier 1) a church needs to attend a 1 hour online training session and complete a simple online registration form, Onus will send a supply of resources to the church following the training. The Safe Church Pathways requires attendance at three additional tiers of training each lasting 90 minutes

**Financial Costs/Contribution** Safe Place training can be delivered for £350 +VAT for up to 20 participants which includes training and Safe Place resources. Onus has partnered with some church denominations who may also provide Safe Place training in-house free of charge. Safe Church, including Safe Place Tier 1 and additional 3 tiers of training plus provision of Safe Place Resources can be delivered for £2,000 with a maximum of 20 participants.



### Community Support

Through the Safe Place and Safe Church training you will connect with your local community and provide a vital link to help anyone affected by domestic abuse access support



### Project Support

Onus provides training, resources and ongoing support to any churches joining up to the initiative. We have a dedicated Safe Place Coordinator who provides support to all of our Safe Places.

To become a Safe Church there are an additional 3 modules of training:  
Tier 2: Creating a Safe Place for everyone;  
Tier 3: Maintaining a Safe Church;  
Tier 4: Church Safe Place Advocate.

### Human Resources

Safe Place training is open to anyone to attend, we would encourage as many people as possible to take this training but can run with a minimum of one person. Safe Church is recommended for Clergy and those with a responsibility for safeguarding within the church. Onus recommend attendance of 3 participants per Church.



### Physical Resources

Churches will need to display the Safe Place logo and provide Safe Place business cards with details of helpline numbers, these will be provided by Onus when churches sign up to Safe Place.

*"The Safe Place and Safe Churches initiatives have provided the Methodist Church in Ireland with much needed and very relevant information and resources on Domestic Abuse. This awareness raising will be invaluable for people within the church, and the community, to know that support and help is available." Grace McGurk, Methodist Church in Ireland*

**Replications**  
Onus Safe Church  
has  
**1700 Safe Places**  
and **109 Safe Churches**  
across the UK

*"We're all aware of the devastating impact of domestic violence and abuse. For us as a church to participate in the Safe Place programme provides us with the opportunity to really contribute to our church community and to society at large. I would encourage any organisation to sign up to Safe Place." Susan Gordon, Safeguarding Office for the Diocese of Down & Connor*

To start a **Onus Safe Church** project in your church, visit [www.onustraining.co.uk](http://www.onustraining.co.uk)