

Empower Safer Homes undertakes target hardening on behalf of North East Lincolnshire Council to support vulnerable individuals of Domestic Abuse who need improved or enhanced security carried out at their home address. The service is funded to support Domestic Abuse victims where a crime has been reported and in these circumstances may be free of charge.

What is Target Hardening?

Target Hardening is a term which means strengthening the security of a building in the event of attack or to reduce the risk of crime. The scheme aims to improve security by replacing locks, installing window locks and alarms and putting in measures to reduce the risk of crime.

Target hardening can provide the following essential services:

- Door lock replacement
- Sash jammers for windows and doors
- Sash jammers for letterboxes (arson risk)
- Vibration alarms for windows and doors

In cases where victims do not meet the required criteria, there is the opportunity to offer a reduced rate chargeable service at a cost of £30 per hour plus the cost of equipment.

For an additional cost of labour and equipment, these items can also be supplied:

- Personal panic alarms
- Dummy CCTV cameras
- Dummy food tins for protecting valuables
- Spy-holes and door chains
- PIR alarms

Other chargeable services

Empower Safer Homes can also provide:

- Key cutting
- Window restrictors
- Ground anchors for bikes
- Spike strips for walls and fences
- Key safes and file safes
- Gate/door bolts and padlocks
- Replacement of window handles

Guidance on referrals

We accept referrals from partner agencies for vulnerable individuals who are:

- Victims of domestic abuse

Referrals must meet the following mandatory criteria:

1. Incident reported to police and subject of a crime investigation number
2. Individual must live and reside in North East Lincolnshire
3. Referral must relate to the victim's home address
4. Incidents must have occurred in the last 14 days
5. Individuals consents to the Target Hardening service being provided
6. Perpetrator does not live with the victim

Victims of domestic abuse alone only need to meet the mandatory criteria. However we also request that additional vulnerability needs are record, so that our staff are aware of the situation they may be going into and what to expect:

- Known perpetrator is at large
- Individual is subject to harassment, stalking, being followed or malicious or unwanted contact (texts, phone calls)
- Incident has resulted in a physical injury
- High risk of further abuse from a known perpetrator
- Lack of family and friend network
- Elderly and frail
- Has a long-term physical health condition
- Struggling with mental health
- Has other disability (physical or learning)

Referrals are accepted by partner agencies where we have a data sharing agreement in place. To make a referral, please complete the ESH-001 referral which is a PDF document and email to the address below. The form can be found on our website which is: www.empowersocialenterprise.co.uk

Once received, we will assess the referral. If we have any queries, we will contact the referrer by phone or email; otherwise we will contact the client and arrange for a technician to undertake target hardening. When this has been completed, we will email the referrer to notify the completed outcome.