[Your address]

[Date]

To the homeless team

My name is **[your name]**.

I asked the council for help on **[date].**

I am experiencing domestic abuse in my home and need to leave.

I need emergency housing for myself **[and for other members of my household. List their names and ages]**.

I was told you could not help because **[say what the council told you, for example, if they said that you are not homeless because you're staying with friends]**.

This is wrong. I am experiencing domestic abuse. You must give me emergency accommodation if I need it. You must also take a homeless application from me.

I am eligible for assistance because **[write your immigration status, for example, you are a British citizen, have EU settled status or indefinite leave to remain]**.

Section 177(1) of the Housing Act 1996 says it is not reasonable for someone to continue to occupy accommodation if it is probable that this will lead to violence or domestic abuse against them or a member of their household.

Section 189(1)(e) of the Act says that anyone who is homeless as a result of domestic abuse has a priority need for accommodation.

Section 188(1) of the Act says the housing authority must provide interim housing if you have reason to believe someone may be homeless, eligible for assistance and have a priority need.

Please see [Chapter 21 of the Homelessness code of guidance for local authorities](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homelessness-code-of-guidance-for-local-authorities/chapter-21-domestic-abuse) for more guidance on how you should treat my application.

Please contact me immediately on: **[phone number or email]**

**[Your name]**