

Important - This resource is aimed at advisers to discuss with clients, **not** as a potential handout

Clients have 'a family of a settled person' visa when they were originally staying with a family member or partner who's living in the UK permanently.

The client will need to be from outside the EU, and their partner/family will need to be:

- o A British citizen
- o Already settled in the UK
- o Receiving asylum/humanitarian protection by being in the UK

If the relationship with their partner/family breaks down due to gender-based violence and abuse, they will then need to apply for settlement (often called a 'right to remain'). This establishes the right for the client to remain in the UK without any time restriction.

This process is begun online, by clicking [here](#) at <https://www.gov.uk/settle-in-the-uk>

The client will need to start by asking for permission to remain in the UK for 3 months because of your circumstances (this is called the Victim of Domestic Violence Concession).

Even victims of domestic violence will have to pay the fee – which is £1500 – unless they can prove that they are destitute. To prove they are destitute, they have to:

- o Send in the form which is [here](#) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/application-to-settle-in-uk-form-setdv>)
- o Attach a letter saying that the client is totally reliant on a third party for essential living costs

- o Provide documents as evidence (bank statements or payslips normally)

A letter from the refuge is normally acceptable as evidence, but the full rules are found [here](#) at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/489203/Victims_of_domestic_violence_v13_0_EXT_clean.pdf

For further information, the Rights of Women website ([here](#) or <http://rightsofwomen.org.uk/>) has a lot of really useful legal information.