



Leicestershire Police

Domestic Abuse Policy

Procedure Owner: Det Supt, Serious Crime

Department Responsible: Crime and Intelligence Directorate

Chief Officer Approval: Assistant Chief Constable

Protective Marking: Official – Sensitive

Date of Next Review: October 2024

This document has been reviewed against APP.

Moved to APP:

Mainly moved to APP

Rationale:

Some local information is still required

This document has been produced in conjunction with the Leicestershire Police Legislative Compliance Pack

Review log

Date	Minor / Major / No change	Section	Author
April 2009	Live	All	DI Pete Williams
April 2010	Minor	6, Appendix K	DI Pete Williams
April 2011	Minor	Appendix E	DS Pete Williams
April 2011	Minor	5, Appendix A	DS Pete Williams
Oct 2011	Minor	Appendix J	DI Pete Williams
March 2012	Minor	All – minor updates	DI Mark Parish
Oct 2013	Major	All	DI Mark Parish/PS Gail Simpson
Feb 2015		Front page	
Feb 2015	Check APP	No change	PC1562 Kev Love
Feb 2015	Minor	Appendix H	PC1562 Kev Love
June 2015	Minor	All – minor updates	DI Mark Parish
Dec 2015	Major	Move to APP	DI Mark Parish/PS 4320 Gail Simpson
Oct 2016	Minor	All –minor updates	DI 517 Tim Lindley/PS 4320 Gail Simpson
Sept 2017	Minor		DI Ringrose/ DS 4070 Greenhill
Oct 2017	Minor	Ref to Domestic Violence changed to Domestic Abuse. Add refs to c&c	A/DI 958 Wright/DI 1385 Ringrose
Feb 2018	Minor	Minor update 6.2.2	DI 1385 Ringrose
July 2018	Minor	Changes to 6.2, App B and added App I	DI 1385 Ringrose
Oct 2018	Minor	Changes to definition of DA to match national guidance	DI 1385 Ringrose
August 2019	Minor	Change to Appendix G	DI 1385 Ringrose
February 2020	Major	All	DCI 4577 Batchelor
June 2020	Minor	Change to Sec 4 and 6.2.3	DCI 4577 Batchelor
July 2020	Minor	Change to App B Sec. 5	T/DI 226 Lester/ DCI 4577 Batchelor

August 2020	Minor	Combining Policy and Procedure	Lynsey Waters 8739
Dec 2020	Minor	Change to App B Sec. 5	DCI Batchelor
Jan 2021	Minor	Change to 6.2.6	DCI 4577 Batchelor
March 2021	Minor	Change to App E	DCI 4577 Batchelor
April 2022	Minor	Replace UAVA with Freeva, change to 6.2.5 and 6.2.6, removal of Appendix A flow chart	DCI 4577 Batchelor
Sept 2022	Minor	Addition of DART responsibilities and changes to DAIU remit	DCI 4577 Batchelor
July 2023	Minor	Changes to use of BWV in DA investigations	DCI 4577 Batchelor
August 2023	No Change	Document Reviewed	DCI 4577 Batchelor

Domestic Abuse Policy

Statement

The purpose of this document is to outline the way in which domestic abuse investigations are conducted within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The Policy provides the detailed processes underpinning such investigations ensuring that they conform to nationally approved standards.

The intention of the Policy will be to maintain high standards of investigation, enhance the reputation of Leicestershire Police and deliver a **professional, effective, and efficient** service that:

- **protects the community from harm**
- **promotes and increases community confidence in the criminal justice system and the police service**
- **brings offenders to justice appropriately**

Leicestershire Police officers and staff will respond to investigating Domestic Abuse by following the national guidance contained within Authorised Professional Practice (APP):

[APP – Investigating Domestic Abuse](#)

Aims

- To improve the outcomes for victims of domestic abuse
- To Improve the standard of investigation and prosecution of domestic abuse offences
- To take effective action against offenders so that they can be held accountable through the criminal justice system
- To increase confidence in the criminal justice system and encourage more victims to report domestic abuse to the police
- To increase the proportion of cases which result in charge, court case and conviction
- To adopt a proactive multi-agency approach in the provision of services to victims.

The legal obligations that are the foundation of these priorities include a duty under the Human Right Act 1998, which incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights 1950 (ECHR) to protect individuals, without discrimination, from inhuman and degrading treatment.

Both the Convention and other legislation, such as Equalities Legislation, place a clear responsibility on public authorities to fulfil these obligations without discrimination on any grounds. All victims of domestic abuse offences should receive the appropriate quality of service according to their individual needs. All

allegations should be properly investigated and offenders held accountable through the criminal justice system, without discrimination.

Chief Officers should establish and implement policies that ensure the police response to domestic abuse offences fully support and achieve these priorities. Police staff should maintain and enhance public confidence by delivering these priorities to a high professional standard.

To provide improved victim care throughout the investigation process and to fulfil the above priorities and obligations, partnership working with criminal justice agencies and other statutory and voluntary sector services is essential.

The Procedure provides officers and staff within Leicestershire Police with clear information about the investigation processes for domestic abuse offences.

Scope

This policy and associated procedure focus on the domestic abuse offences as documented. The definition of which can be found on page...

Legal Basis

This policy and supporting procedure take account of requirements under ECHR 1951, The Human Rights Act 1998, Equality and Diversity legislation, The Health and Safety Act 1974 and Data Protection Act 1998.

Monitoring

This policy and associated procedure will be monitored through the Force Compliance Unit and will be reviewed on an annual basis.