

# “Honour” Based Violence and Forced Marriage

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# What is Domestic Abuse?

Any incident or pattern of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over and who have been or are intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality

# This definition includes

- Psychological Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Financial Abuse
- Emotional Abuse

*But* is not limited to these types of abusive behaviours and includes “honour” based violence and forced marriage

# What is Honour Based Violence?

Honour based violence is defined as:

“An incident or crime which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and or community”

Association of Chief Police Officers 2008

# What is Honour Based Violence? Slide 2

- Can be distinguished from other forms of abuse, as it is often committed with some degree of approval and/or collusion from family and/or community members
- Victims will have multiply perpetrators not only in UK but can be abroad, HBV can be trigger for a FM or “honour” killing

# What is a Forced Marriage?

## Arranged Marriage

A marriage in which families take a leading role, but the parties have the free will and choice to accept or decline the arrangement.

## Forced Marriage

A marriage where one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities cannot) consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used.

# What is a Forced Marriage?

Slide 2



# Forced Marriage/"Honour" Based Violence

- Requires a specialist response – confidentiality crucial
- Includes appropriate linguistic support
- Includes speaking to suspected victims away from family member/partner



# Legislative Framework

slide 1

The Right to Choose: Multi-agency statutory guidance for dealing with forced marriage

- First launched by Home Office in 2008/09, Refreshed in August 2014
- [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/322310/HMG\\_Statutory\\_Guidance\\_publication\\_180614\\_Final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/322310/HMG_Statutory_Guidance_publication_180614_Final.pdf)

# Legislative Framework

slide 2

## Forced Marriage Protection Orders (FMPOs) – effective November 2013

- FMPOS are civil orders with legally binding requirements to protect a person at risk
- Can be obtained by client, Local Authority or Police

# Legislative Framework

slide 3

Forced Marriage became a criminal offence on 6th June 2014

- Anti Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Carries maximum sentence of 7 years imprisonment
- Breach of a forced marriage protection order now carries maximum sentence 5 years imprisonment

# Legislative Framework

slide 4

- Force an individual to marry against their will.
- Lure a person to a territory of a state for the purpose of forcing them to enter into marriage
- Use deception with the intention of causing another person to leave the UK for the purpose of forcing that person to enter into marriage

# Legislative Framework

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- If a person lacks the capacity to consent, the offence is committed by any conduct carried out for the purpose of causing the victim to marry, whether or not it amounts to violence, threats or any other form of coercion

# National Picture

Forced Marriage Unit supported 1485 cases in 2012/13

- 60 different countries
- Youngest victim was aged 2, the oldest 71
- 82% were female and 18% were male
- Highest percentage (30%) was in 18 - 21 age bracket

# Meeting the Challenges

On behalf of SRP, DAPG have:

- December 2013 – All DA training refreshed to reference the specialist response required for these cases
- March 2014 – Adopted Young Person's Advocacy Programme
- March – June 2014 – undertook profiling exercise to map local responses and identify gaps in service provision

# Meeting the Challenges

- April 2014 – Held DA event with focus on migrant communities to encourage increased reporting
- June 2014 - Circulated briefing when offence created along with refreshed statutory guidance and update of local training available
- November 2014 - Finalised local FM/HBV Multi Agency Protocol on behalf of SRP