

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

8 January 2018

SUBJECT: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Report of the Chief Constable

<p>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</p> <p>1. This report outlines the Force's current position in relation to the policing of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in West Yorkshire.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>2. That the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) uses this report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of FGM.</p>
<p>POLICE AND CRIME PLAN</p> <p>3. Honour based abuse (HBA) can include forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM). Victims of "honour" based abuse can find themselves in conflict with people they care about the most. Isolated from family and friends, victims can feel like they have no one to turn to. For this reason it is crucial that victims can have the confidence in the police and criminal justice system that the perpetrators will be brought to justice. Awareness of these crimes is increasing, the PCC has said he will continue to work with all relevant organisations including community groups and charities to raise awareness and to provide support.</p>
<p>KEY INFORMATION</p> <p>4. The PCC has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Made HBA including FGM a key priority in the Police & Crime Plan 2016 – 2021.• Worked with the Chief Constable to take a victim led approach in delivering the legislation which will respect the views of victims and provide the necessary support.• Continued to work with the third sector to raise awareness, including speaking at events and supporting campaigns.• An OPCC colleague sits on the Honour Based Abuse/Forced Marriage Steering Group which includes issues of FGM. The group meets quarterly and includes representatives from Local Authority Leads, CPS and the third sector. The purpose of the meeting is to work collaboratively with partners to increase knowledge, increase the reporting, share best practice and ultimately to effectively safeguard victims.• Resources such as one minute guides have been produced by Safeguarding Central Government Unit and will be disseminated to districts as well as the helpdesks, District Control Room's (DCR) and Customer Contact Centre (CCC.)• Has awarded £56,222.20 to 11 projects tackling HBA (including FM) through the Safer Communities Fund since 2014.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

5. Supporting the Day of Memory for Victims of Honour Killings campaign in July 2016 and 2017 in partnership with Karma Nirvana. The PCC also chaired the afternoon session of the Coercive and Controlling Behaviour Conference held earlier this year.

In June 2017, the OPCC held a Domestic Abuse event which informed the implementation of the West Yorkshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy which includes FGM. The strategy can be accessed via the PCC [website](#).



Chief Officer Team Briefing for PCC

Title: Honour Based Abuse, Forced Marriage and FGM

CoT Sponsor: ACC Hankinson

Report Author: D/Supt Minton

Summary

‘Honour based abuse (HBA) is an incident or crime involving violence, threats of violence, intimidation, coercion or abuse (including psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse), which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of an individual, family and or community for alleged or perceived breaches of the family and / or community’s code of behaviour.’

A forced marriage (FM) is a marriage conducted without the valid consent of one or both parties, where duress is a factor. Duress includes emotional pressure as well as criminal actions such as assault and abduction.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is recognised as a severe form of violence against women and girls and a human rights violation that affects at least 200 million women and girls worldwide (UNICEF, 2016.) It is a practice that involves changing, altering or removing part of a girl or a woman’s external female genitalia without a medical or health reason. It is a form of child abuse and is a harmful and dangerous practice which can result in severe physical and mental health complications.

FGM is practiced in up to 29 African countries, and also in parts of the Middle East and Asia and is usually carried out on girls between infancy and age 15, with the majority of cases occurring between the ages of 5 and 8 years (HM Government, 2011).

REPORT DETAILS

This report is an update paper following from the previous meeting. It highlights ongoing work in relation to these areas of safeguarding and future developments.

ONGOING WORK AND DEVELOPMENTS

Action Plan

- Safeguarding Central Governance Unit (SCGU) continue to capture developments and ongoing work in their action plan. Following attending the first NPCC National Meeting (held in September 2017) SCGU are awaiting a revised NPCC delivery plan.

Collaboration

- West Yorkshire Safeguarding Week (9th – 13th October) involved inputs and awareness raising of HBA, Forced Marriage and FGM across the districts.
- SCGU attend the newly established National meetings for HBA, Forced Marriage and FGM. SCGU will then disseminate learning, best practice and any actions through their embedded partnership steering group and regional meeting.
- SCGU have held initial meetings with the Regional CPS Lead to review how best to fulfil the requirements of the Joint CPS and Police Protocol.
- SCGU also represent the force at the Multi-agency FGM meeting in Leeds. This is attended by a number of partners including Local Authority, Health, Education and 3rd sector support agencies. The purpose of the meeting is to:
 - Develop strategy and partnership
 - Develop communication and training
 - Improve experiences for those at risk of/undergone FGM.
- Referral pathways have been established with the police and the new Karma Nirvana Advocate. The new role provides face to face support to victims of HBA and FM across West Yorkshire.
- An internet portal for partners to submit intelligence online has now been developed. As a pilot, Karma Nirvana, Local Authority partners (through the steering group) and FGM charities have been given the opportunity to sign up to the portal. This will hopefully increase the volume of intelligence relating to these areas of safeguarding. An evaluation of the pilot will be completed before considering a case to roll out to other business areas.

Audits

- As part of the SCGU audit process, a reality check was conducted to monitor the implementation of previous recommendations for each district. Following this, an update on the previous audit recommendations was provided along with further recommendations.
- Following the OPCC audit, progress has been made in implementing the recommendations.

Day of Memory

- West Yorkshire Police supported the Karma Nirvana National Day of Memory, which was held in Leeds on 14th July 2017.
- As part of the build up to the Day of Memory, partners came together to plan 12 days of action, commencing on 3rd July 2017. WYP developed an action plan (attached in supporting information) for the 12 days of action, including launching their new poster campaign, additional training to the Customer Contact Centre, Facebook Live and Facebook advertising. Karma Nirvana acknowledged the work of WYP and requested that their action plan be circulated as best practice to other forces.
- The poster was displayed across West Yorkshire, including at Leeds Bradford Airport, as well as on social media. North Yorkshire, Humberside and South Yorkshire have all displayed the campaign poster in their forces. SYP also circulated this to Doncaster Sheffield airport.

- A video briefing was produced and circulated force wide as well as on the intranet.
- WYP signed the Pledge of Intention at the Day of Memory. This pledge was to work collaboratively with partners to protect young people and adults from forced marriage and honour based abuse. A steering group has been established to look at how the work streams identified can be delivered by all partners (Police, Local Authority, Health, Education etc...) An Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) session is scheduled for 9th November.

Training

- Training is scheduled for colleagues at Leeds Bradford Airport. This is being delivered by Karma Nirvana on 8th November.
- Further session on the Post Foundation course is scheduled for 9th November.

Further work to be developed

- A Safeguarding App on the handheld devices for officers is being developed and funding being sought to progress. Content has been provided by SCGU for the apps. The app will include HBA/FM/FGM giving officers quick and easy access to aide memoires, useful contacts, key information and standard operating procedures.
- Work is ongoing with academics from Manchester University to submit a bid through the N8 Policing Research in order to identify where HBA cases have been missed and to identify and develop practice to improve identification of such cases. Our regional policing partners are willing to support this bid, along with Karma Nirvana to disseminate findings both locally, regionally and nationally, as well as CPS for YaTH.
- SCGU have identified the need for further specialist training. Whilst it is important to raise awareness of such issues, it is vital that we ensure that WYP are prepared to respond and that officers and staff are adequately trained.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

As per national guidance, the force will maintain the confidentiality of the victim and under no circumstances will record information which may potentially compromise their safety on unrestricted systems. Information relating to honour based abuse and forced marriage is extremely sensitive and is restricted to safeguarding staff in order to prevent any leakage of information which could potentially put the victim at further risk.

HBA/FM are very much hidden crimes and West Yorkshire Police need to be pro-active in engaging with communities. The force must continue to drive the partnership intelligence portal to increase the intelligence coming from partners in the community.

A multi-agency response is vital in order to provide support and protect victims from Honour based abuse and forced marriage. West Yorkshire Police must continue to work with partners.

The force are ensuring that officers are aware of the 'One Chance Rule' and that failure to respond effectively and appropriately to disclosures of HBA/FM could result in victims being at risk of serious harm.

Districts report that demands within safeguarding teams show no sign of abating, with welfare issues regarding staff being of constant concern. There is always a risk that the force does not have appropriately trained staff to deal with and investigate highly complex investigations.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

Forced marriage and honour based abuse of any person, regardless of gender, age, disability, ethnic origin or sexual orientation, is unacceptable. FGM is child abuse and a severe form of violence against women and girls.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Action Plan for the 12 days of action.

Pledge of Intention

**West Yorkshire Police Corporate Communications Forced Marriage Action Plan
(12 Days of Action and National Day of Remembrance)
June / July 2017**

MARKETING TOOL	ACTION	SCHEDULE
Screensaver	Campaign graphics on all Force computers	3 rd July 17
Customer Contact Centre Training	Training re signs to look out for & how to deal with cases	TBC
Intranet headlines	Series of intranet headlines during 12 days of action	3 rd July 17
Video briefing	Video of DC Abby Fox to be shown at briefings and team meetings and on Force intranet	3 rd July 17
Radio Fever	Radio Fever broadcast with DCI Naughton and Jasvinder Sanghera	4 th July 17
Press release	WYP supporting quote for press release	14 th July (TBC)
Force website refresh	Dedicated page on Force website updated with new graphics	14 th July
Website spotlight	Campaign graphic on front page of Force website linking to dedicated page	14 th July
Social media messages	Regular social media messages published from Force Facebook & Twitter accounts, featuring artwork #WeRemember	13 th July & ongoing

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Video of Leeds Imam	Re-publicise existing video of Leeds Imam on You Tube and social media	14 th July
Facebook Live	DC Abby Fox & Jasvinder Sanghera broadcasting live from Karma Nirvana event	14 th July
Chief & PCC video	Short video of Chief Constable and PCC pledging support of national day & commitment to tackling FM	14 th July
Posters	Posters available to print if budget available, otherwise electronic versions available	14 th July
Facebook advertising	Targeted adverts on Facebook. Can target by location and age.	14 th July
Karma Nirvana Event photo opp	'Cake cutting' and 'pledge' including Ch Supt Paul Money. Photos published on social media	14 th July
Case study video	Re-enactment of existing unapproved victim case study, using actors	14 th July
Karma Nirvana Survivor videos	7 minute video and 1 minute version of three survivors' stories available after the event to use on WYP website & social media	14 th July & ongoing