

Our Ref: 001509/13



Freedom of Information Section
Nottinghamshire Police HQ
Sherwood Lodge, Arnold
Nottingham NG5 8PP

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
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25 March 2013

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

I write in connection with your request for information, which was received by Nottinghamshire Police on 25/02/2013.

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Nottinghamshire Police to locate the information you require.

Please find below answers to your questions:-

RESPONSE

Under S 1 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), I can confirm that Nottinghamshire Police does hold the information you have requested.

All policies and procedures employed by Nottinghamshire Police regarding the Male Victim Screening Tool referred to on P5 (Section 2.0) of Domestic Abuse Procedure 5.4.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Screening Tool and Interview Template used by Nottinghamshire Police.

Complaints Rights

Your attention is drawn to the enclosed review procedure, which details your right of complaint.

Copyright

Nottinghamshire Police in complying with their statutory duty under Sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) to release the enclosed information will not breach the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. However, the rights of the copyright owner of the enclosed information will continue to be protected by law. Applications for the copyright owner's written permission to reproduce any part of the attached information should be addressed to the Force Solicitor, Nottinghamshire Police, Force Headquarters, Sherwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottinghamshire, NG5 8PP.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Nottinghamshire Police.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact the Freedom of Information Officer on telephone number 0115 9672507 or e-mail freedomofinformation@Nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Disclosure Officer

Are you dissatisfied with your response?

If so, prior to lodging a formal complaint, you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision reconsidered is to telephone the case officer that is identified at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Formal Independent Review

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision made by Nottinghamshire Police under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you can request an Independent Review.

Upon receipt for a review of the initial request response, an independent audit officer from Information Management will review the request and assess whether it has been satisfactorily processed in accordance with policy and procedure.

Requests for Independent Reviews requests should be made in writing to-

Force Information Manager
Nottinghamshire Police
Force Headquarters
Sherwood Lodge
Arnold
Nottingham
NG5 8PP

The Audit officer will record and communicate his/her decision to the information requester within 20 working days.

Appeals

If the findings of the formal independent review do not meet your approval, you can register an appeal against the decision.

An investigation will then take place by the Freedom of Information officer, which will be reported and presented to the Internal Appeal Board. This will include a full account of the reasoning for or against disclosure and the application of any relevant exemptions.

The Internal Appeal Board will consist of at least a member of the Chief Officer Team, a member of the Legal Team and the Force Information Manager.

Appeals should be registered in writing to:

Freedom of Information Officer
Nottinghamshire Police
Force Headquarters
Sherwood Lodge
Arnold
Nottingham
NG5 8PP

Alternatively E-mail: Freedomofinformation@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

Or call: 01159672507

Applications to the Information Commissioner

If you then remain dissatisfied, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner, please visit their website at www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Alternatively, Write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Or call: 01625 545700.

Appendix C: Screening Tool & Interview Template to help you with disclosures form men about experiencing domestic violence

The screening tool table shows different characteristics that can help you assess whether the man is a genuine survivor of abuse, equally abusive or the predominant abuser.

A man is likely to be the survivor if the points in the left hand column apply. A man is likely to be the perpetrator if the right hand column applies. Where you have identified points in both columns this may suggest that there is a level of dual abuse or that further discussions may be necessary to establish what support is required.

Violence as a self-defence is of course different to violence as an act of power and control. There is also a difference between defending oneself from the predominant abuser and the predominant abuser claiming self-defence when the survivor is fighting back. It is essential to try and draw out the controlling nature within the relationship. Often you can do this by exploring the attitudes and expectations of the man as well as how the abuse is affecting him.

This screening tool is key to ensuring that genuine male survivors receive an excellent service and it will also help agencies identify the level of need for services to male survivors in Nottinghamshire.

Once you have identified that a male service users is a male victim it would be helpful to refer to the CAADA risk assessment form to enable you to identify the level of the risk that the service user is exposed to. Identification of the risk level to Very High, High, Medium or Standard will enable you to refer them to the MARAC (Very High Risk) or to the local Police for referral to a Vulnerable Persons Panel or support from an appropriate agency.

You will also be able to refer to the Service Directory (Appendix B) in the Supporting Men Experiencing Domestic Violence - Good Practice Resource.

If you identify that the service user is a male perpetrator or is equally violent in the relationship you should try and refer his partner if a woman to Women's Aid, or if a man to MALE or Broken Rainbow.

Genuine Survivor of abuse	Yes? No?	Predominant Abuser	Yes? No?	Comments / detail
Fearful of his partner		Does not express or demonstrate fear of his partner		
Fearful of the abuse		Does not express or demonstrate fear of the abuse		
Confused about what is happening		Presents himself confidently		
Has tried to leave (unsuccessfully) or tried to repair the relationship		His partner has recently left him or is in the process of leaving him		
Feels empathy for his partner's current problems or childhood experiences		Little or no empathy with his partner and focussing solely on himself		
Minimises the severity of the abuse, but is able to provide details in a chronological order, given time		Is good at focussing on one incident but is vague about incidents or events when you enquire further		
Feels ashamed of the abuse, and of being a victim		Assertively claims the victim status and does not find fault in himself		
Feels remorse or guilt for having retaliated		Feels aggrieved and in the right		
Excuses the actions or expectations of his partner and carries the responsibility for the problems in the relationship		Blames his partner for the abuse, presenting his partner for example as an unreasonable or unstable character		
Worries about how it is affecting the children		Does not consider the children's experiences or feelings		
Feels a sense of obligation to protect the abusive partner		Negative or unreasonable attitudes and statements about his partner		