



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
**POLICE**  
PROUD TO SERVE

PD 433 Management of Repeat Domestic Abuse Victims

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Management Plan for Repeat Victimisation

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**SECTION 1 VERSION CONTROL**

Version No.	Date	Post Holder/Author	Post	Reason for Issue
1.0	Jan 2014	T/DI Smith	Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit	New procedure

**SECTION 2 AIMS / OBJECTIVES**

This procedure is intended for Police officers and staff in relation to dealing with reports and cases of domestic abuse involving repeat victims. Nottinghamshire police will work with multi agency partners to reduce repeat victimisation.

The priorities for Nottinghamshire police in responding to domestic abuse are as follows:-

- To protect the lives of both adults and children who are at risk as a result of domestic abuse
- To investigate all reports of Domestic abuse
- To facilitate effective action against offenders so that they can be held accountable through the criminal Justice system
- To adopt proactive multi agency approach in preventing, reducing domestic abuse and repeat victimisation
- To reduce repeat victimisation

Nottinghamshire share the ACPO, CPS and government definition of Domestic Abuse:-

### **Definition of a Domestic Abuse incident**

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

*This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:*

- *Psychological*
- *Physical*
- *Sexual*
- *Financial*
- *Emotional*

### **Definition of Repeat Victimisation is**

*“More than three domestic incidents or crimes reported to the police within a twelve month period”*

## **SECTION 3 DETAILS**

### **METHODOLOGY**

A research plan was devised which entailed a review of the existing arrangements for repeat victimisation. The research also considered existing areas of linked work within the force and partner agencies, such as the medium risk IDVA workers, Aspley Firebreak project and the 2014 Medium Risk plus workers that will concentrate on the higher level of medium risk repeat victims.

The information gathered was analysed and the recommendations were devised which aim to provide a realistic approach towards the organisation's ability to deliver a strategy designed to reduce repeat victimisation by taking positive action and providing more support for those victims where a crime has taken place, and to make victims aware of the risks associated with repeat victimisation.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Domestic Abuse Investigation Team (DAIT) officers will use their knowledge of domestic abuse offending to investigate, manage risk and take particular responsibility in high risk domestic abuse cases where there is a repeat victim.

The officer will take responsibility in the high risk domestic abuse cases where the victim is a repeat victim of domestic abuse in line with the definition. They will provide more intensive support to those victims and ensure that any perpetrators are dealt with robustly through the judicial system.

## Management of High Risk Repeat Victims

- The high risk repeat victims will be identified by the DAIT Sgts from management information provided. It will be the responsibility of the nominated DAIT officer and their supervisor to regularly review the management of the repeat victim and ensure all appropriate interventions and risk management plans are in place.
- A DAIT officer will be personally assigned to a High risk repeat victim in line with the force definition and be a key manager for their overall well being, albeit not necessarily responsible for conducting all necessary interventions themselves.
- A second DAIT officer will also be identified in a buddy type system to ensure continued support to the victim in the event of long term sickness or leave.
- The DAIT Sgt will review each repeat victim monthly to ensure the ongoing management of them is current, and where appropriate remove that victim from the high risk list and assign a new repeat victim to the relevant officer.
- The DAIT officer will construct a risk assessment plan around identified risk factors for the victim and place the plan on CATS. They will then manage and monitor the implementation of safety measures identified for the victim. The victim's views will be incorporated into the assessment process.
- The DAIT officer will have monthly personal discussions with the agreement of victim and incorporate at least one personal visit. DAIT officer will complete an enhanced risk assessment with the victim on a regular basis recording the risk assessment and updating systems accordingly.
- The DAIT officer will be identified as the victims point of contact internally and will be responsible in monitoring and where possible actively investigate all high risk domestic reports.
- DAIT officer where possible will take full responsibility for the investigation of all high risk domestic offences relating to their nominated victim.
- The DAIT officer will also liaise with CPS lawyer Michelle Mannion at the earliest opportunity to ensure continuity through the judicial system in terms of prosecution.
- DAIT officer will utilise the tasking and coordination processes on BATS and SBAR briefing to highlight high risk repeat victims.
- All high risk victims will be flagged as such on MEMEX.
- DAIT officer will offer crime prevention solutions and other interventions and where appropriate make referrals to relevant agencies on the victim's behalf.
- DAIT officer will use the national decision model working sheet recording all actions and decision makings and will record all contact with the victim on CATS.
- DAIT officers to consider discussing safety interventions with other family members that share the family home if consent is given by victim.

- DAIT officer to notify beat teams of any new bail conditions of Offenders where there is a repeat victim. Recording all actions on MEMEX and CRMS.
- DAIT officer to attend multi agency safeguarding meeting in relation to the victim ensuring that all intelligence and information is shared and then acted upon where appropriate.
- To liaise with partner agencies about additional interventions and safety measures in relation to the victim recording all conversations on MEMEX, CATS etc.
- The allocated DAIT officer will be identified on CATS and MEMEX with notification sent to local beat teams for their information.
- The DAIT officer will be responsible for issuing TecSOS (currently being trialed on City Div) mobile phone to those repeat high risk victims that fall in the remit, to provide an enhanced police response.
- The DAIT officer will have overall responsibility for making sure Place of Interest markers are fully updated and reviewed regularly, evidencing all risk factors in the marker.
- The DAIT officer will liaise with IDVA services or Women's Aid workers regularly to get an updates and victim engagement where possible.
- DAIT officer to register an interest in any impending court cases with Witness care unit.
- DAIT officer to take any VPS statements / withdrawal statements.
- Victimless prosecutions to be sought as a matter of course where the evidence supports it and the victim is unwilling / unable to attend Court.
- DAIT officer will assist with the risk assessment and planning in respect of high risk domestic abuse related prison releases, being the point of contact for the victims and any MAPPA management of the perpetrator.
- The DAIT officer will be responsible for obtaining all relevant information from foreign forces where appropriate.
- All MARAC actions relating to Repeat Victims will be tasked to the Key DAIT officer to complete and action.
- If there is any information to be shared with the MARAC, IDAP, MAPPA or other agencies the DAIT officer is responsible for providing relevant reports for the meeting if they can not personally attend.
- DAIT officer to consider DVDS for their repeat victim in relation to new partners, and make RTK applications where appropriate.
- DAIT officers will have access to a shared drive where each repeat victim will have a designated folder. This is to be updated by DAIT with an MG16 and a brief

background history of the repeat victim. This drive will be accessed by all in the PPU and will be updated with any new incidents etc.

### **Management of Medium and Standard Repeat Victims**

Responsibility for the management of Medium and Standard Repeat victims will remain at a local level with advice and support where appropriate from the DAIT officers.

Medium Risk Repeat Victims:

The Neighbourhood Policing Teams will use their knowledge of domestic abuse offending to advise victims with regards to risk management and safety planning; taking particular responsibility in identifying relevant trigger factors in domestic abuse cases where there is a medium risk repeat victim.

On a general level the officers will ensure the appropriate interventions are put in place and recorded appropriately.

Rigorous bail conditions should be requested in all cases where the perpetrators are involved with medium risk repeat victims and these conditions should be policed robustly. The victims must be kept regularly updated, consulted and visited frequently to offer support and signposting to other appropriate agencies.

Each area on City Division has at least two nominated DA specialist PCSO's who will meet with the DAIT team on a regular basis to discuss the repeat medium risk repeat victims and agree relevant additional interventions in line with the victim's own personal circumstances. This training/work has already been undertaken by a DAIT Sergeant across City Division and it is proposed to be replicated across County Division in 2014, subject to the appropriate agreements.

As of January 2014 there will be nominated High Risk plus workers (IDVA's) allocated to concentrate on the top repeat medium risk victims.

The NPT's will link in with these dedicated workers who are providing additional intensive support to those victims.

Any perpetrators arrested for Domestic Abuse incidents involving any of the identified victims being managed by the Medium risk plus team of IDVA's will be dealt with by DAIT.

### **SECTION 4 LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE**

This document has been drafted to comply with the general and specific duties in the Equality Act 2010; Data Protection Act; Freedom of Information Act; European Convention on Human Rights; Employment Act 2002; Employment Relations Act 1999, and other legislation relevant to policing.