Honour Based Violence

Safeguarding

Version Control Sheet

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V1	19th December 2019	Initial draft
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Change Control

Any requested changes to this document should be emailed to:

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1. Purpose and Aim

This policy has been developed to provide information and detail practice requirements regarding the management of Service Users who are accommodated with Serco who are victims of honour based violence. The purpose of this advice is to:

- Provide a clear process to follow when a Service User is identified as being victims of honour based violence;
- Outline the reporting requirements;
- Reduce the level of uncertainty and stress for staff in managing service users who is identified as being a victim of honour based violence.

2. Summary

Definition of **honour based**:

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.

Honour based violence cuts across all cultures and communities, and cases encountered in the UK have involved families from Turkish, Kurdish, Afghani, South Asian, African, Middle Eastern, South and Eastern European communities. This is not an exhaustive list.

The perceived immoral behaviour which could precipitate a murder include:

- Inappropriate make-up or dress;
- The existence of a boyfriend;
- Kissing or intimacy in a public place;
- Rejecting a forced marriage;
- Pregnancy outside of marriage;
- Being a victim of rape;
- Inter-faith relationships;
- Leaving a spouse or seeking divorce.

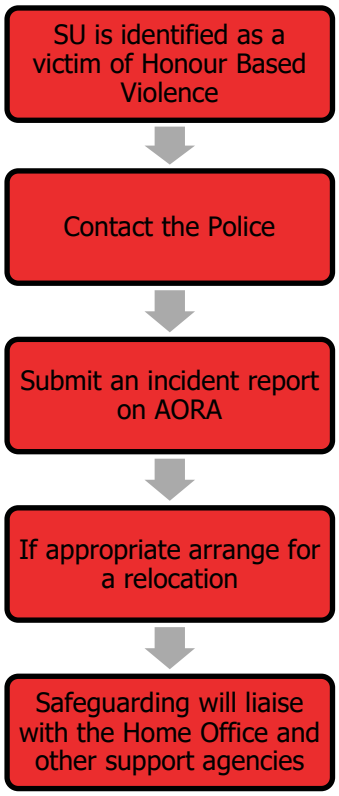
Incidents may precede a murder include:

- Physical abuse;
- Emotional abuse, including:
    - House arrest and excessive restrictions;
    - Denial of access to the telephone, internet, passport and friends;
    - Threats to kill.
- Pressure to go abroad. Victims are sometimes persuaded to return to their country of origin under false pretences, when in fact the intention could be to kill them.

Sings of honour based violence include:

- Extended absence from school/college, truancy, drop in performance, low motivation, excessive parental restriction and control of movements and history of siblings leaving education to marry early.
- Parental control.
- Evidence of self-harm, treatment for depression, attempted suicide, social isolation, eating disorders or substance abuse.
- Evidence of family disputes/conflict, domestic violence/abuse or running away from home.

3. Process



If someone is concerned about a SU's welfare they should tell the Safeguarding Manager, Housing Officer and Field Operations Manager. For further guidance around Safeguarding please see the Safeguarding Policy.

4. What information to record

We need to record:

- Name
- NASS/Port Ref
- Address
- Details of the honour based violence
- Crime reference number
- Details of referrals already made
- Details of any contacts for other stakeholders involved.

5. Contact Details

The following people must always be made aware:

- Housing Officer of the property
- Field Operations Manager
- Safeguarding Team –

- Home Office -
- Home Office Safeguarding Hub
  - NW –
  - MEE –
- Police – 999 or 101

In the appendix you will find national and regional agencies that you can sign post or refer Service Users to.

6. Confidentiality

Information should only be shared with people who need to know. This includes the above contacts and any relevant external stakeholders i.e. social services. If there is a request for information regarding a case that they have not previously been in contact about or we have not referred to them you must advise that they contact. Refer to

7. Appendix

National
Police: 101/999
Galop (for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people): 0800 999 5428
Men's Advice Line: 0808 801 0327
The National Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247
Live Fear Free: 0808 80 10 800
The Mankind Initiative: 01823 334244
Respect Phoneline: 0808 802 4040
Victim Support: 0808 16 89 111
Childline: 0800 1111
Samaritans: 0845 790 9090
Southall Black Sisters: 0208 571 9595
Newham Asian Women's Project: 0208 472 0528
Karma Nirvana: 0800 5999 247
Iranian & Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO): 0207 920 6460
Forward (for African women): 0208 960 4000
Freedom Charity: 0845 607 0133
Imaan (LGBT Muslim community): 0203 393 5188
Asian Family Counselling Service: 020 8571 3933
Careline: 020 8514 1177

Regional

Local Authority	Contact
Birmingham	
Blackburn with Darwen	
Bolton	
Bury	
Cheshire East	
Cheshire West	
Coventry	
Derby	

Dudley	
Halton	
Knowsley	
Lancashire	
Leicester	
Liverpool	
Manchester	
Norfolk	
Nottingham	
Oldham	
Peterborough	
Rochdale	
Salford	
Sandwell	
Sefton	
St Helens	
Stockport	
Stoke	
Suffolk	
Tameside	
Trafford	
Walsall	
Warrington	
Wigan	
Wirral	
Wolverhampton	