



***Forced Marriage and Honour Based
Violence***

Responding to those at risk

Multi-Agency Guidance

**Issued by Inverclyde Child Protection Committee
and Inverclyde Adult Protection Committee**

Version 0.2

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January 2016



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www.inverclydechildprotection.org

or

<https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-protection/adult-protection/adult-protection-professional-information>

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1. Introduction

Honour Based Violence (HBV)

HBV can encompass a number of crimes such as assaults, Forced Marriage and sexual abuse to name a few. These crimes can be committed against both males and females however most predominantly against females. These crimes are sometimes justified by families to restore or protect the “honour” of the family/community.

Many HBV victims are unaware that what they are encountering is illegal.

Forced Marriage

A Forced Marriage is a marriage in which one or both spouses do not (or, in the case of children/young people/adults at risk, cannot) consent to the marriage and duress is involved. Duress may be from parents, other family members and the wider community.

Forcing a person into marriage became a criminal offence in Scotland on 30th September 2014 under section 122 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

A Forced Marriage Protection Order (under the Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011) can be applied for to protect people who are threatened with or already in a forced marriage.

Forced Marriage is more common in some communities than in others with most reported cases in the UK so far involving South Asian families (Pakistani, Indian and Bangladeshi). However, there have also been cases involving East Asian, Middle Eastern, European and African communities.

2. Aim

The aim of this guidance is to assist staff from all agencies to respond appropriately to situations of honour based violence or forced marriage / risk of honour based violence or forced marriage by providing information and advice on good practice. Also included is a list of local agency leads who can support staff responding to situations of forced marriage or honour based violence and a list of resources and contacts who may be able to provide specialist advice and guidance.

This Guidance is based on the Scottish Government Guidance, Responding to Forced Marriage: Multiagency Practice Guidelines 2014

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Equality/violence-women/forcedmarriage/Guidance>

3. Reasons Given for Forced Marriage or HBV

Forced marriage or Honour Based Violence may not be the immediate presenting concern the following reasons given for forced marriage can indicate who is potentially at risk.

Reasons given include

- controlling unwanted behaviour, sexuality, sexual orientation or gender identity (including perceived promiscuity, or being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender) - particularly the behaviour and sexuality of women:
- controlling unwanted behaviour, for example, alcohol and drug use, socialising unchaperoned with, or simply speaking to, members of the opposite sex who are not family members, wearing make-up or behaving in what is perceived to be a 'westernised manner'
- preventing 'unsuitable' relationships, for example, outside the ethnic, cultural, religious or caste group
- protecting 'family honour' or 'izzat' (see [definitions](#)) (for example this might be related to a victim disclosing rape or sexual abuse)
- responding to peer group or family pressure about conforming to expectations
- attempting to strengthen family links
- financial gain or obtaining financial security for the person with a learning disability
- ensuring land, property and wealth remain within the family
- protecting perceived cultural ideals
- protecting perceived religious ideals
- ensuring care for someone with learning/physical disability when parents or existing carers are unable to fulfil that role or because of mistrust of external social care
- concerns that younger siblings may be seen as undesirable if older sons or daughters are not already married - this could include marrying off a young person with learning/physical disability because their unmarried status might be seen as a barrier to marriage for their siblings
- assisting claims for UK residence and citizenship, and
- obtaining physical assistance or personal care for ageing parents

4. Principles

The principles which underpin our response are;

- Workers from any agency should be mindful that they may have only one chance to speak to a potential victim and should always focus on the safety and protection of victims and avoid contributing to risk
- A referral to the police and social work must always be made if a child or young person up to 16 years old (or under 18 if subject to a supervision requirement) is thought to be at risk of forced marriage or HBV
- Adults who are at risk of forced marriage or HBV should be encouraged and supported to report this to the police and / or social work
- Any case reported to the Police or Social Work should be discussed jointly between both agencies at an early stage to ensure clarity of role and expectation.
- For Social Work, any case should start from the assumption that the investigation should be undertaken jointly between children and families and adult services. This is given both adults and children may be at risk.
- Many victims of forced marriage and HBV do not fit within adult support and protection or child protection criteria. A victim may be at risk as a result of forced marriage and domestic abuse but not meet the particular criteria defined by legislation.
- It is important to make sure that any victim, whatever their age or circumstances, who is in or at risk of a forced marriage and HBV, is supported through effective multi-agency working. We all have a responsibility to identify and respond effectively to these types of concerns.
- Police Scotland are fully committed to protecting individuals who have been the victim of Force Marriage or those who feel they are at risk of Forced Marriage or HBV. The Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit based at Renfrew Police Office encompasses the area of Renfrewshire and Inverclyde. Officers from this unit are well trained and have experience with Forced Marriage and HBV incidents including related crimes such as Female Genital Mutilation (for links to information on Female Genital Mutilation go to <http://www.inverclydechildprotection.org/professionals/policies-procedures/>).
- The primary focus for Police Scotland is keeping the victim and their family if they are also at risk, safe. All possible safety measures available will be used to protect the victim from Forced Marriage, HBV or other harm. If a criminal offence has been committed, Police Scotland will conduct a thorough investigation.

5. Information to gather (where possible in all cases)

If someone chooses to speak to you about forced marriage or HBV this may be the only chance the potential victim will have to speak to a worker who can take action to protect her/him.

You should see the victim on their own, even if they are accompanied by others and provide an independent interpreter if necessary (see Section 7.7). This should be a professional (never a family member, children or an apparent 'friend' who may be a family member masquerading as support).

Collect as much of the following information as possible:-

- Date of report.
- Name of person under threat.
- Nationality.
- Age.
- Date and place of birth.
- Legal status: marital, immigration.
- Passport details (check the number of passports held and details of all passports including passport number and issuing country).
- School details.
- Employment details.
- Full details of the allegation.
- Name and address of parents or those with parental responsibility.
- National Insurance number.
- Driving licence number.
- Names of friends and family who can be trusted and their contact details.
- Names and ages of the person's children, or any siblings who are children, and passport details (do they have their own or are they on their parents').
- Establish if there are any other family members at risk of forced marriage or HBV if there is a family history of forced marriage, HBV and abuse.
- Background information including schools attended (children), involvement with adult or child protection, GP or other health services.
- Names and addresses of fiancé, spouse, parents.
- Details of any threats, abuse or other hostile action against the person (including Honour Based Violence or Female Genital Mutilation).
- A recent photograph and any other identifying documents.
- Note of any distinguishing features such as birthmarks and tattoos.
- Establish the nature and level of risk to the safety (for example is she pregnant? Does the person have a secret boyfriend or girlfriend? Is the person already secretly married?).
- Any significant medical issues to be taken account of or additional needs.
- Social work services should check SWIFT and with other teams who do not use SWIFT as to whether any individual is known to social work services.

6. Process for Reporting and Responding

6.1 Reporting Concerns Regarding an Adult at Risk of Forced Marriage or HBV

If a worker from any agency or organisation is concerned that an adult (over 16 years) is at risk of Forced Marriage or HBV they should encourage and support the adult to report this to the police and / or social work

6.1.1 Reporting to the police

In the first instance of a report of Forced Marriage, HBV, or an individual who is concerned about Forced Marriage or HBV, the Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit (DAIU) for K division of Police Scotland should be contacted. If out with office hours or if no-one from the DAIU is available Greenock Police Office should be contacted.

6.1.2 Reporting to social work

Concerns about forced marriage or HBV should be reported to the duty team for Community Care during office hours. Outwith office hours, Glasgow and Partners Social Work Service should be contacted.

6.1.3 Where an adult does not wish to speak to the Police or Social Work

Where an adult is thought to be at risk of forced marriage or HBV but does not wish to report this to the police or social work they should be given options to contact agencies who could provide culturally sensitive support. However in circumstances where the worker believes there is risk of significant harm to the adult or another person they should consider the need to share information with the police for the protection of children and for the prevention and detection of crime.

Employees of Inverclyde Council are advised that they SHOULD notify social work or the police in the above circumstances for the reasons given above. They should record that this has been done or the reasons why it has not been done.

6.2 Reporting Concerns Regarding a Child at Risk of Forced Marriage or HBV

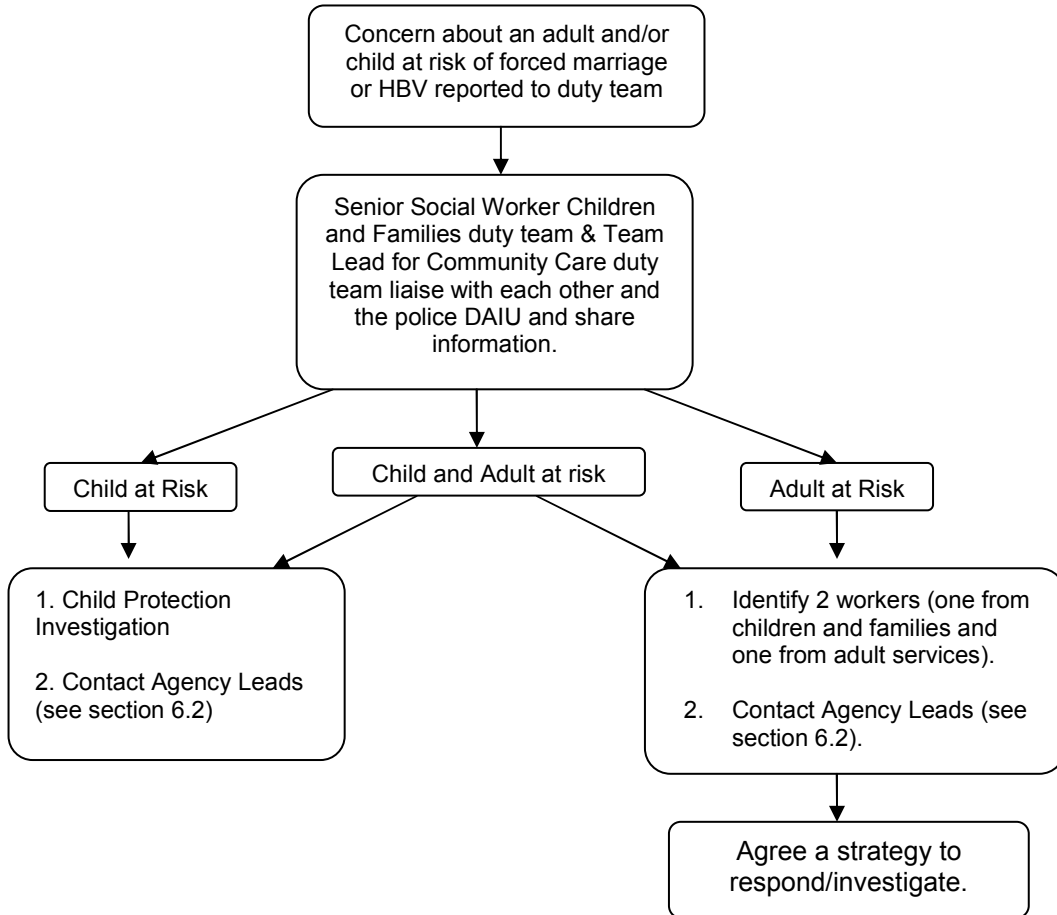
If a worker from any agency or organisation is concerned that a child under 16 years (or under 18 if subject to a supervision requirement) is at risk of Forced Marriage or HBV they **must** report this to the police or social work services (duty team for children and families or out of hours social work standby service) without delay as this is a child protection concern.

6.3 Contact details

PHONE NUMBERS FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE CAN BE FOUND IN SECTION 8.

6.4 Process to be followed by Social Work following identification of concerns

Any case should start from the assumption that the investigation should be undertaken jointly between children and families and adult services. This is given both adults and children may be at risk.



- Any case can only be responded to by staff authorised to undertake child protection and / or adult protection investigations. Only a Service Manager or above can sanction otherwise.
- For Adult Social Work Services, any case should be notified in the first instance to the Duty Community Care Team Leader. This is given adult care teams are based in different offices. It will be the Duty Team Leader's responsibility to directly pass on the referral to the Team Leader where the victim of forced marriage or HBV has an allocated social worker. Where the allocated Team Lead is not available or not authorised to lead on adult protection investigations then the Duty Team Leader will be responsible.
- If it becomes clear there are no children at risk associated with the case then, following agreement, the children and families worker should withdraw from the case.
- If it becomes clear that there are no adults at risk associated with the case then, following agreement, the adult services worker should withdraw from the case.

7. Acting on Concerns - Options available

7.1 For someone over the age of 16 years

Consider:

- The risk to them/any dependants.
- The risk to anyone (friends or family) who helps them.
- Whether they wish to involve the police.
- Money – can they open a bank account in their name (think about where paperwork would be kept or sent); can they leave cash with a trusted friend?
- Papers – where can they leave copies (or serial numbers) of important documents such as their own and children’s birth certificates, passport, information on their own/children’s medication, National Insurance Number (for example Women’s Aid/Police/trusted friend).
- Clothes and prescription medications.
- Helpline numbers (See back page of this document). Discuss how they might memorise or disguise numbers.
- Change their mobile phone – not to use one with GPS.
- Use of existing domestic safety measures such as mobile phone alarms.
- Emergency accommodation – be clear about legal options/alternative accommodation that might be available to them now or in an emergency and any additional support required for language/cultural needs. This may include:
 - Women’s Aid refuge place.
 - Homeless Accommodation.
- Consent and capacity issues. Where there are concerns regarding an adult who may lack the capacity to make decisions regarding their welfare or finances, including to consent to marriage, then assessment of their capacity and consideration of other legal options will be crucial.
- Whether the adult meets the criteria of an ‘adult at risk of harm’ under the auspices of that Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. If so, it will be necessary to involve adult support and protection procedures.
- Whether a Forced Marriage Protection Order would be appropriate

7.1.2 If a person over 16 is leaving or planning to leave the family home

- Consider the points in 5.1.
- Leave when the perpetrator is not around.
- Leave with all children they intend to take with them.
- How can they safely remove children from home/school or collect them.
- Get out of any taxi before final destination (in case the driver passes on any information).
- Contact Hemat Gryffe Women’s Aid for information and support before they leave.
- Arrange for a Social Worker and police officer to accompany them if they insist on returning to the family home to collect possessions.
- Ensure an accredited interpreter who speaks the same dialect as the family is also present in case the family makes threats (do not use family members etc. – see Section 7.2).

7.1.3 If the person over 16 decides to remain with the perpetrator

Discuss the following:

- Where in the house they might go if they see/sense trouble brewing. For example, avoiding rooms with no exits or rooms with potential weapons (kitchen). If they are able to barricade themselves into a room, would they have a phone to ring for help?
- Where the nearest phone is.
- Do they have or can they be given a mobile phone that they can safely conceal with pre-programmed relevant contacts?
- Who can offer immediate help? Can they memorise numbers? Is there a trusted friend who could keep phone numbers for them?
- Tell them about the 24-hour National Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline number: 0800 027 1234. Stress that she should phone 999 if they or any children are in imminent danger. They can phone 999 even if their mobile is out of credit. Detach and give them the final page of this guidance or assist them to memorise key numbers.
- If they have a language barrier, rehearse simple sentences or words that will alert the person on the receiving end to get help to them, for example: 'help', 'in danger' or (maybe) their address.
- Think about transport (nearest bus stop, which bus number, train) and having enough money put aside for fares, a taxi or petrol.
- Leaving some essential items with a trusted friend, if they can, such as a change of clothes, keys and emergency money.
- Leaving their passport or copy of this and other important documents with a trusted friend could also be useful – or even just the serial numbers.
- If they attend a GP or A&E for treatment as a result of abuse, encourage them to tell them what happened if it is safe to do so, and to make sure this is recorded.
- Establishing a 'code word' or 'code phrase' that they can use with friends or other supportive people that would let them know to call for help, and encouraging them to have thought about what they would like them to do in this event.

7.1.4 Young People 16 to 18 years.

Where a person is aged 16 to 18 years the information above applies. In addition however a young person aged 16 to 18 years may seek refuge from the local authority. Consideration should be given to accommodating a young person at risk of forced marriage or HBV and seeking refuge in a residential children's unit. Only if such a place is inappropriate or unavailable should a place be sought in a Women's Aid Refuge or Homeless Accommodation.

7.2 For a child under 16 years (under 18 if subject to a supervision requirement)

In situations involving a child or young person under 16 years, or under 18 years if subject to a supervision requirement¹, much of the above will not apply. Where there are concerns regarding risks to a child or young person it will be necessary to invoke child protection procedures as the safety of the child or young person comes first.

Any worker who is concerned that a child or young person is at risk of forced marriage or HBV must contact social work services (children and families duty team) and the police.

¹ For a situation involving a child aged 16-18 Social Work staff will be required to make enquiries as to whether or not a child is subject to a supervision requirement.

The Police and Social Work should consider emergency measures to secure the immediate safety of the child or young person including

- Use of Emergency Police Powers
- Application for a Child Protection Order
- Providing refuge for a child or young person who is seeking refuge

A child protection investigation should then be undertaken. This should involve discussion with adult services team leads to ensure that the safety of both children and adults is considered.

It is now also possible for the Reporter to call a Children's Hearing to determine if a child requires compulsory supervision based on the specific grounds 67(p) of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

'The child is being, or is likely to be, subjected to physical, emotional or other pressure to enter into a marriage or civil partnership, or is, or is likely to become, a member of the same household as such a child.'

7.3 Forced Marriage Protection Order

The Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 22 March 2011 to provide a specific civil remedy for those threatened with forced marriage and those already in such a marriage. This Act introduced Forced Marriage Protection Orders.

Forced Marriage Protection Orders are used to prevent Forced Marriage from occurring or to offer protective measures where it has taken place. The court can specify special measures such as the handover of documents such as passports or birth certificates. Possible conditions that the victim is not allowed to be taken to or from a specific place in the UK or abroad. Third parties can also be named in the order who, although not directly involved, are however aiding, abetting or assisting the Forced Marriage. The order can be validated by a Sheriff for a specific time or no time limit.

The victim or a third party can apply for an order. Ordinarily the legal department of the Local Authority of where the victim normally resides will apply to the court. If the order is granted papers will be served on the perpetrator.

7.4 Offence of Forced Marriage: Scotland

As of September 2014 a person commits an offence under the law of Scotland if he or she

- (a) uses violence, threats or any other form of coercion for the purpose of causing another person to enter into a marriage, and
- (b) believes, or ought reasonably to believe, that the conduct may cause the other person to enter into the marriage without free and full consent.

The penalty for conviction of this offence is up to 7 years imprisonment or a fine or both.

Depending on the circumstances, other criminal offences may also be committed including rape and abduction.

7.5 Forced Marriage and Annulment

A forced marriage can be annulled. An annulment is a way of ending a marriage and unlike a divorce a marriage can be annulled at any time after the wedding. To annul a marriage there is a need to demonstrate that the marriage is 'voidable' or 'void' (Family Law (Scotland) Act 2006).

Voidable marriage can include the following:-

- One of the parties being incapable or wilfully refusing to consummate the marriage.
- Entered into without consent e.g. forced or by a party who lacks capacity.

Void marriage can include the following:-

- One of the parties is under 16.
- Parties are closely related.
- One of the parties is already married or in a civil partnership.

An adult subject to forced marriage should be advised of their right to an annulment and to seek legal advice. Social Work Services should automatically seek legal advice where the person subject to a forced marriage is under 16 or where it is known or believed that one of the parties lack capacity

8. Contacts

8.1 Reporting Concerns

If you have concerns that someone is at risk of forced marriage or HBV you can report these concerns to:-

| | |
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| Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit (DAIU) K division (Renfrewshire and Inverclyde) Police Scotland | Tel 101 and ask for Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit. |
| Greenock Police Office K division (Renfrewshire and Inverclyde) Police Scotland | Tel 101 (outwith office hours or if no-one is available at DAIU) |
| Inverclyde HSCP Duty Social Work Team (Community Care) | Tel 01475 715010 (office hours) for concerns that an adult is at risk |
| Inverclyde HSCP Duty Social Work Team (Children and Families) | Tel 01475 715365 (office hours) for concerns that a child is at risk |
| Glasgow and Partners Emergency Social Work Service | Tel 0300 343 1505 (outwith office hours) for concerns that an adult or a child is at risk |

8.2 Agency Leads

The following agencies in Inverclyde have nominated a lead person for forced marriage. If you make a referral to the police or social work duty team regarding forced marriage you should notify the lead person for your agency that this has been done. This person can also provide advice, guidance and support.

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| Inverclyde HSCP (Social Work – Children) & overall lead for HSCP | Jane Cantley (Service Manager, Children's Services) Tel 01475 715270 |
| Inverclyde HSCP (Social Work – Adults) | Margaret Burns (Adult Protection Coordinator, Adult Protection Support Unit) Tel 01475 715365 / 715370 Chris Goan (Service Manager, Mental Health and Wellbeing) Tel 01475 588000 |
| Inverclyde HSCP (Health) & NHSGGC | Maureen O'Neill Craig, (Health Improvement Lead CHCP/NHS GG&C) Port Glasgow Health Centre Tel 01475 497042 |
| Inverclyde Council (Education and Communities) | Elsa Hamilton (Quality Improvement Manager) Education HQ, Dalrymple Street Tel 01475 712819 Email elsa.hamilton@inverclyde.gov.uk |
| Inverclyde Council (all other directorates) | Jane Cantley (Service Manager, Children's Services) Tel 01475 715270 |
| Police Scotland | Sgt Suzanne McNulty / Inspector Louise Harvey (Police Scotland) DAIU / Public Protection Unit Renfrew Police Office Tel 0141 532 6158 or 0141 532 6118 |
| West College | Bob McAlister (Student Advisory Services Manager) Tel 0141 581 2331 Bob.mcallister@wcs.ac.uk |

8.3 Additional Advice

Additional advice and services may be available from the following:-

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| <p>Violence Against Women Coordinator Inverclyde Council Safer Communities Service</p> <p>Telephone: 01475 715912 Email: sharon.sale@inverclyde.gov.uk</p> | <p>Child Protection Lead Officer</p> <p>Tel 01475 715365 Email susan.mitchell@inverclyde.gov.uk www.inverclydechildprotection.org</p> |
| <p>Adult Protection Co-ordinator</p> <p>Tel 01475 715365 Email Margaret.burns2@inverclyde.gov.uk</p> | <p>Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit K division (Renfrewshire and Inverclyde) Police Scotland Tel 101</p> |
| <p>Reporter to the Children’s Panel Inverclyde Team 1/3 Brisbane Street, Greenock Telephone: 0300 200 1680</p> | <p>Inverclyde Council Legal Services Greenock Municipal Buildings Tel 01475 712121</p> |
| <p>Inverclyde Women’s Aid www.scottishwomensaid.org.uk/advice-information/scottish-womens-aid-group/inverclyde-womens-aid?back=hp Telephone 01475 888505</p> | <p>Hemat Gryffe Women’s Aid www.hematgryffe.org.uk Helpline: 0141 353 0859</p> |
| <p>Forced Marriage Unit Joint Foreign & Commonwealth Office/Home Office service www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage Helpline: 020 7008 0151 (Mon-Fri: 9am–5pm) Email: fmu@fco.gov.uk For emergencies out of hours, phone 020 7008 1500 and ask for the Global Response Centre</p> | <p>Inverclyde Council Registrars (Births Marriages and Deaths) registrars@inverclyde.gov.uk Tel 01475 714250</p> |

9. Resources

9.1 Related Guidance and Procedures

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| Responding to Forced Marriage – Multiagency Practice Guidelines | Scottish Government 2014 http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/10/6721/0 |
| Female Genital Mutilation – Guidance on Best Practice | Inverclyde Child Protection Committee Updated 2013 http://www.inverclydechildprotection.org/professionals/policies-procedures/ |
| Factsheets on FGM | Scottish Government http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Equality/violence-women/MinorityEthnicIssuesPages/FemaleGenitalMutilation |
| Harmful Traditional Practices – What Health Workers need to Know about Gender Based Violence | NHS Scotland 2009 http://www.gbv.scot.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/GBV_Harmful-Traditional-Practices-A41.pdf |
| National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland | Scottish Government 2011 http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/12/09134441/21 |
| West of Scotland Child Protection Procedures | West of Scotland Child Protection Committee Chair's Consortium http://www.online-procedures.co.uk/westofscotland/ |
| Inverclyde Adult Protection Procedures | Inverclyde CHCP http://library.nhsggc.org.uk/mediaAssets/CHP%20Inverclyde/Adult%20Protection%20Policy,%20Practice%20Standards%20&%20Operational%20Procedures.pdf |

9.2 Government Departments

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| Forced Marriage Unit Joint Foreign & Commonwealth Office/Home Office service | www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage Helpline: 020 7008 0151 (Mon-Fri: 9am–5pm) Email: fm@fco.gov.uk For emergencies out of hours, phone 020 7008 1500 and ask for the Global Response Centre |
| Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Represents the UK Government overseas www.fco.gov.uk |
| British High Commissions and Embassies | For details of all British High Commissions and Embassies see online at www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/find-an-embassy |
| Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner | Responsible for regulating immigration advisers http://oisc.homeoffice.gov.uk |
| UK Border Agency | Enforces immigration and customs regulations and considers applications for permission to enter or stay in the UK, and for citizenship and asylum www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk |

9.3 Children specific

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| Child Line | Counselling service for children and young people www.childline.org.uk Helpline: 0800 1111 (24 hours) |
| Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People | Promotes the rights of children and young people www.sccyp.org.uk Young person's freephone: 0800 019 1179 |
| Scottish Child Law Centre | Free legal advice for and about children www.sclc.org.uk Helpline for under 18s: 0800 328 8970 Advice line: 0131 667 6333 |
| Scottish Children's Reporter Administration | National body responsible for facilitating the work of Children's Reporters www.scra.gov.uk/home/index.cfm |

9.4 Men specific

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| Men's Advice Line | Confidential helpline for men experiencing domestic abuse (including forced marriage) www.mensadviceline.org.uk Helpline: 0808 801 0327 See also: www.respect.uk.net/pages/male-victims-of-forced-marriage.html |
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9.5 Other support

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| LGBT Domestic Abuse Project | Scotland's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender domestic abuse project www.lgbtdomesticabuse.org.uk See also www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/forced-marriage-lgbt (sic) |
| Samaritans | Confidential emotional support service www.samaritans.org Helpline: 08457 90 90 90 (24 hours) If abroad see www.befrienders.org for nearest helpline |
| Scottish Refugee Council | Helps refugees and people seeking asylum in Scotland www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk |
| Victim Support Scotland | Provides emotional support, practical help and essential information to victims, witnesses and others affected by crime www.victimsupportsco.org.uk Helpline: 0845 603 9213 |
| Equal Access | Edinburgh-based services for black and minority ethnic men and women who are experiencing feelings of stress or isolation and are unable to access information about the services available. Tel 0131 225 8508 |
| Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage helpline | The Scottish Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline offers 24hour telephone information and support to anyone affected by Domestic abuse or Forced marriage. Tel 0800 0271234 |

9.6 Law and rights

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| Citizens Advice Scotland | www.cas.org.uk |
| Ethnic Minorities Law Centre | Provides legal services exclusively to black and ethnic minority communities www.emlc.org.uk |
| Family Law Association | Provides a point of reference for the public and for other organisations on family law issues www.familylawassociation.org |
| Law Society of Scotland | Professional governing body for Scottish solicitors www.lawscot.org.uk |
| Scottish Courts | Single access point for information relating to civil and criminal courts within Scotland www.scotcourts.gov.uk |
| Scottish Legal Aid Board | Responsible for managing legal aid in Scotland www.slab.org.uk |
| Shelterline | Free, national telephone advice line http://scotland.shelter.org.uk Helpline: 0808 800 4444 |

9.7 Interpreting

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| Cordia Linguistics | Tel 0141 276 6850 http://www.cordialinguistics.co.uk/ |
| Global Connects, Glasgow | Tel 0141 332 8889 http://www.globalconnects.com/ |
| Global Language Services Glasgow | Tel 0141 429 3429 http://www.globalglasgow.com/ |
| Language Line | www.languageline.co.uk |

10. Useful Contacts

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| Police Scotland , Renfrewshire and Inverclyde, Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit | Telephone 101 and ask for Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit In an Emergency Telephone 999 |
| Inverclyde Social Work Services | Telephone 01475 715365 (office hours) |
| Out of Hours Social Work Service | Telephone 0300 343 1505 (outside office hours) |
| Inverclyde Women's Aid Help for women affected by domestic abuse (including forced marriage) in Inverclyde | Telephone 01475 888505 |
| Inverclyde Homeless Centre | Telephone 01475 715880 |
| Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid Glasgow based support, advocacy, refuge and information for black minority ethnic women, children and young people experiencing and/or fleeing domestic abuse | www.hematgryffe.org.uk Helpline: 0141 353 0859 |
| Shakti Women's Aid Edinburgh based support, advocacy, refuge and information to all black minority ethnic women, children and young people experiencing and/or fleeing domestic abuse | www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk Helpline: 0131 475 2399 |
| Scottish Domestic Abuse helpline For anyone who has experienced domestic abuse (signposting for male victims) | Telephone 0800 027 1234 (24 hours). |
| Rape Crisis Scotland For anyone, male or female who has experienced sexual violence | www.rapecrisisscotland.org.uk 08088 01 03 02 (daily 6pm to midnight) Glasgow: 0141 552 3200 |
| Saheliya Supports the mental health and well-being of black and minority ethnic women in Edinburgh | www.saheliya.co.uk Tel: 0131 556 9302 |
| Scottish Women's Rights Centre Free and confidential legal information and advice | Tel: 08088 010 789 |