Dundee and Angus Forced Marriage Checklist

An aide memoire for workers

Warning Signs for Forced Marriages

EDUCATION

- Truancv
- Decliné in performance or punctuality
- Low motivation at school
- Poor exam results
- · Being withdrawn from school by those with parental responsibility
- Not allowed to attend extracurricular activities

HEALTH

- Self-harm
- Attempting suicide
- Eating disorders
- Depression
- Isolation
- Substance abuse

EMPLOYMENT

- Poor performance
- Poor attendance
- Limited career choices
- Not allowed to work
- Unable to attend business trips
- Unreasonable financial control e.g. confiscation of wages/income

VICTIM OF FORCED MARRIAGE

POLICE INVOLVEMENT

- Other young people within the family reported missing
- Reports of domestic abuse or breaches of the peace at the family home
- Female genital mutilation
- The victim reported for offences e.g. shoplifting or substance misuse

FAMILY HISTORY

- Siblings forced to
- marry
- Early marriage of siblings
- Family disputes
- Running away from home
- Unreasonable restrictions e.g. "house arrest"

(There is more detailed information within the forced marriage protocol)

YOU CAN CONTACT YOU CAN CONTACT THIRD SECTOR Responding to THE POLICE AT SUPPORT AGENCIES **Forced Marriage** ANYTIME AT ANYTIME THROUGHOUT ANY THROUGHOUT ANY OF THE PROCESS OF THE PROCESS Adult Is the person an adult Child or child? Offer reassurance and support. Offer reassurance and support. Ensure Ensure it is safe to speak to the child that it is safe to speak to the person. and if not establish how that can be achieved. Gather information from the person. There may be only one chance to do so. Gather information from the Assess immediate risk to the person's individual. There may be only one safety using the Risk Assessment Tool chance to do so. Assess if there is immediate risk to the child's safety (use Risk Assessment Is the person in immediate danger? Tool as guide) Is the child in immediate danger? Yes No Take immediate Discuss a safety plan with Yes No protective action. the person and complete Involve Police and/ referrals to local support or Social Work who agencies. See Contacts Follow Local Child Take immediate will need to consider page. Protection Procedures. protective action. IRD. Contact Child Protection Involve police and Team/ Out of Hours Social Work (Child Team. Protection Team or Follow current Adult Out of Hours Team Complete Risk Support and Protection who will need to Assessment and along Procedures. consider IRD) with any other relevant documents pass to Child Complete Risk Protection/Out of Hours Assessment using Team. Risk Assessment Tool and provide a copy to Police and Social Complete risk assessment Work. tool. Child Protection Team and/or Out of Hours Team further will further assess and liaise with people and Arrange a other agencies as needed. Professionals Follow all relevant Operational Meeting. Follow Multi Agency IRD/Case Instructions for Child Protection and Adult Protection Conference, if required specifically for Forced Marriage. Procedures and (Emergency MARAC) consider referral for Case Conference.

ONE CHANCE CHECKLIST

You may only have one chance to speak to a potential victim of Forced Marriage and, therefore, only one chance to save a life.

- See the victim on his/her own even if they are accompanied by others;
- See the victim immediately in a secure and private place where you will not be overheard;
- Reassure the victim about confidentiality and explain that you will not give information to family, friends or the community.
- Accept what is said;
- Explain all the options to the victim and possible outcomes;
- Recognise and respect his/her wishes;
- Assess the risk faced by conducting an appropriate and thorough risk assessment.
- Contact, as soon as possible, the lead worker responsible for honour based violence (if the potential victim is under 16, refer to child protection inter-agency guidance; if an adult at risk, discuss with your adult support and protection lead and refer to inter-agency guidance);
- Agree a way to make contact safely (for example agree a code word);
- Obtain full details to pass on to the lead worker and record these safely;
- Provide contact details or help the victim to memorise your contact details and/or those of a support agency such as Women's Aid.
- Consider the need for immediate police involvement, protection and placement away from the family and arrange this is necessary; this includes any action to stop the victim from being removed from the UK;
- · Do everything possible you can to keep the victim safe; and
- Get immediate advice if you are not sure what to do.

Victims can be male or female, but are most likely to be the latter.

If FGM, Forced Marriage and/or Honour Based Violence is suspected DO NOT MAKE ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT THE FAMILY, COMMUNITY MEMBERS – THIS INCREASES RISK AS THEY MAY BE COLLUDING WITH THE ABUSE.

CONTACTS

Foreign & Commonwealth Office Forced Marriage Unit

The Forced Marriage Unit is a single point of confidential advice and assistance for those at risk of being forced into marriage overseas.

Telephone: 020 7008 0151

From overseas: +44 (0)20 7008 0151

Email: fmu@fco.gov.uk

Website: www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage

Open 9am to 5pm Mon - Fri

Out of hours: 020 7008 1500 (ask for the Global Response Centre)

National Domestic Abuse Help Line

Tel 0800 0271234

Support is available 24/7

Shakti Women's Aid

Shakti offers support and information to all black minority ethnic women, children and young people who are experiencing or fleeing domestic abuse, forced marriage and other honour based violence issues. They also have refuge accommodation.

Tel: 0131 475 2399

Website: www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

Open 10am-5pm Mon - Fri

Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid (Glasgow based)

Hemat Gryffe provides support, advice and temporary accommodation to women and children from the BME community who experience domestic abuse or forced marriage.

Tel: 0141 353 0859

Email: hemat.gryffe@ntlbusiness.com

Open 9am - 5pm Mon - Fri

To access the full Forced Marriage protocol visit: www.avawp.org.uk or www.dvawp.co.uk