



# Guidance on honour-based violence, forced marriage and Female Genital Mutilation

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## Honour based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation

The 4LSAB area has developed a multi-agency guidance document for agencies and organisations to use with cases or suspected cases of honour based violence in 4LSAB area. It explains how pan Hampshire agencies should respond to incidents, (crime and non-crime) where honour based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation may be a consideration. This is generic guidance designed to maximise agencies' responses to cases of honour based violence. The information outlines a range of possibilities and issues that need to be considered in all HBV cases. It should also be recognised that HBV occurs across a range of differing and diverse communities for a number of different reasons, and the information needs to be applied on a case by case basis.

### Forced marriage

Forced marriage has become a criminal offence under provisions brought in under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This legislation bans:

- Marrying someone who lacks the mental capacity to consent to the marriage, regardless of whether they are pressured to do it
- Taking someone overseas to force them to marry even if the marriage does not take place
- The use of violence, threats or coercion to cause someone else to marry, or behaviour that they should reasonably believe may cause the other person to marry without free and full consent.

The offences apply if either the perpetrator or victim is in England and Wales, habitually resident there or a UK national. Forcing someone to marry is now punishable by up to seven years in prison. The breaching of forced marriage protection orders will now become a criminal offence resulting in up to five years in prison. Anyone who has been forced to marry or threatened with it can apply for a protection order as can third parties such as the police, relatives and voluntary organisations.

### References:

[New Forced Marriage Offences](#)<sup>16</sup>

[A Right to Choose - Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance \(HM Government, 2010\)](#)<sup>17</sup>

[Guidance on Forced Marriage of People with a Learning Disability \(ADASS, 2011\)](#)<sup>18</sup>

[Guidance on Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation](#)<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-0102014-new-forced-marriage-offences/circular-0102014-new-forced-marriage-offences>

<sup>17</sup> [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/35532/fmu-right-to-choose.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/35532/fmu-right-to-choose.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.hampshiresab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011-ADASS-Guidance-on-Forced-Marriage-of-People-with-a-Learning-Disability.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.iwight.com/azservices/documents/2880-Honour-Based-Violence-Forced-Marriage-and-Female-Genital-Mutilation-Guidance.pdf>