

Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme- Clare's law

On March 8th 2014, across England & Wales, all Police forces are expected to launch the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, also known as Claire's Law.

This scheme will enable members of the public to have a "Right to ask" police if their current partner poses a risk to them in terms of their history of domestic abuse.

The scheme also enables us as professionals to raise a "Right to know" request through the police where we feel a person may be at risk of domestic abuse by an individual whose criminal history is unknown to the partner, but where we have some reasonable concern/knowledge about the individuals past.

A right to ask can also be made by a third person-eg, a parent/relative/friend who is concerned.

In these cases if a disclosure is to be made, it will only be made to the person who needs to know i.e, the victim.

An application form is available on the Gloucestershire Constabulary website together with more details about this scheme.

Additional literature will also be made available on the website as soon as it is published.

GDASS (Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service): 0845 602 9035

GDVSAP (Gloucestershire Domestic Violence Support and Advocacy Project): 01452 500115

Hope House SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre): 01452 754390

Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre: 01452 526770

