

Equality Impact Assessment Record

Name of new/ revised Policy:	Older People Policy
Purpose of Policy:	To provide prosecution guidance on cases involving older persons who are victims and witnesses. To ensure that we treat each person according to their needs and don't make assumptions, based on our perception of need. To provide a robust prosecution policy in cases involving older people to provide confidence in prosecutors. To ensure prosecutors consider the appropriate response and take appropriate and effective action.
Lead EIA Officer:	
Team / Federation:	Policy Division
Email Address:	DiversityTeam@copfs.gsi.gov.uk
Others involved:	
Date Assessment Completed:	9 January 2014
Assessment Record Authorised by:	Cat Dalrymple

This new / revised policy was fully assessed for any equality impact based on the General Equality Duty of the Equality Act (2010).

Summary of research and consultation carried out:

Research for the policy included consideration of the CPS policy and its results contained in the Hate Crimes and Crimes Against Older People Report- 2010/11- showed a reducing proportion of cases in which prosecutions were unsuccessful.

Desk based Research

Consultation with Members of COPFS Equality Advisory Group.

Consulted with representatives of organisation supporting older people- Age Concern and Victim Support Scotland

Consultation with Police Scotland- through Adult Support and Protection working Group

Internal consultation with Victim Information and Advice

Key issues identified: -

(Note here if you conclude there are no equality issues relating to

the new / revised policy)

Definition of older person- should be by need and not strictly by any particular age. However need to make sure that the policy allows access to VIA.

Are there any particular issues in relation to crimes against older people that arise from LGBT communities and those from an ethnic background. EAG members will be consulted.

Need to consider how to link the policy with our other hate crime policies and domestic abuse. The strong presumptions apply in these policies so there is no inconsistency.

Changes made to new / revised Policy

The policy was created with support and guidance from various relevant stakeholders to ensure that the policy was fit for purpose. Consequently no changes to the policy were required.

Review Process for Policy

Monitoring of the policy to ensure that it is being complied with.

Update- work is ongoing with IT Department to ensure that older victims are flagged within the system so that they are automatically referred to VIA and this will allow us to obtain information on the cases. It is hoped this IT fix will be available in summer 2014 to allow monitoring to take place.

SEND THIS COMPLETED FORM TO DiversityTeam@copfs.gsi.gov.uk

For further information, please contact the above mentioned Lead EIA Officer.

Assessments can be made available in alternative formats or languages on request.