

What happens if the alleged perpetrator breaches a DVPO?

If the alleged perpetrator breaches a DVPO, he or she may be arrested, kept in custody and placed before a magistrates' court within 24 hours of arrest. The alleged perpetrator could be fined up to £5,000 and/or sent to prison for up to two months

What sort of help can I get?

You might now feel anxious or angry or worried about the consequences of a DVPN and DVPO, and are unsure what will happen now. Or you may feel relieved that a breathing space has been created. You might want to help to end the abuse and save your relationship, or maybe you want to break off the relationship and take steps towards this.

Domestic abuse can have different effects and there is often more than one side to a story. However, the abuse can be stopped and help is available to you. You can contact any of the support agencies on the back of this leaflet to help you.

Where can you find more information and help?

Alcoholics Anonymous

0800 9177 650
www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

Childline

Freephone: 0800 1111
www.childline.org.uk

Karma Nirvana

Supporting all victims of honour based abuse and forced marriage
0800 5999 247
www.karmanirvana.org.uk

Mens Advice Line

Advice and support for men in violent relationships
0808 801 0327
www.mensadvice.org.uk

National Centre for Domestic Violence

24 hour emergency service - free legal advice for help getting an injunction
0800 970 2070
www.ncdv.org.uk

National Domestic Violence Helpline (24 hour)

Freephone 24 hour helpline run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge
0808 2000 247
www.womensaid.org.uk
refuge.org.uk

National LGBT Domestic Abuse Helpline

0800 999 5428
help@galop.org.uk
www.galop.org.uk

West Mercia Womens Aid

Freephone 24 hour helpline
Worcestershire
0800 980 3331

Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin

0800 783 1359
www.westmerciawomensaid.org

National Drugs Helpline

0300 123 6600
SMS: 821111
www.talktofrank.com

Respect - Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327
www.respect.org.uk

Samaritans

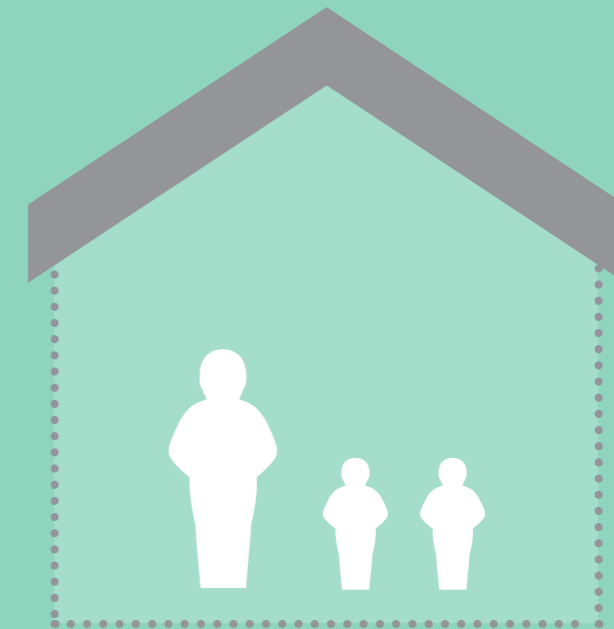
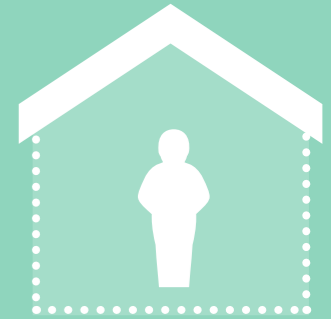
www.samaritans.org

Shelter (Housing Advice)

0808 800 4444
www.shelter.org.uk

Victim Support - National Helpline

0808 1689 111
www.victimsupport.org.uk



#spacetobreathe

Being protected by a
Domestic Violence Protection
Notice/Order (DVPO)

What is domestic abuse?

Domestic abuse includes physical, sexual and psychological violence and it is unlawful. The police and magistrates' courts have a responsibility to protect people from this and help to stop the abuse being used against them.

Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) are a way to help stop violence or fear of abuse and gives everyone involved time to consider the options with appropriate support.

What is a Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN)?

A Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN) is a notice served by the police against a person (an alleged perpetrator) where the police reasonably believe that the alleged perpetrator has been violent or has threatened violence against you within your home. It is likely that the alleged perpetrator will be your partner or other household member living in your home.

When considering whether to serve a DVPN, the police will have talked to all of those involved, including you, and made a decision to serve the DVPN based on the evidence of domestic violence at your home that the police have. The police will serve a DVPN if they believe that a threat of violence by the alleged perpetrator exists and that it is necessary to protect you in your home.

What does the Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN) do?

The DVPN lasts for up to 48 hours (excluding Sundays and bank holidays) after it is served and within that time-period:

- Will prohibit the alleged perpetrator from molesting (i.e. threatening or otherwise interfering with) you and, as necessary, other named individuals living at your home, or face arrest.

- May prohibit the alleged perpetrator from returning to, entering and being within a certain distance of your home, or face arrest;

The DVPN also tells the alleged perpetrator that, within 48 hours of being served with the DVPN, he or she must attend a court hearing so that the court can decide whether to make a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) against him or her. When the date and time of the court hearing becomes known within the 48 hour period, the police will serve a 'Notice of Hearing' on the alleged perpetrator.

What happens if the alleged perpetrator lives at my address?

If the alleged perpetrator lives with you at the address specified in the DVPN, then the DVPN requires him or her to leave this address with immediate effect.

What happens if the alleged perpetrator breaches the Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN)?

The alleged perpetrator may be arrested, kept in police custody and then brought before a magistrates' court. Within 24 hours of the arrest, the magistrates' court will hear an application for a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) and, if proceedings are adjourned, may remand the alleged perpetrator into custody.

What is a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO)?

A Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) is an order applied for by the police and made by the magistrates' court which imposes certain restrictions on the alleged perpetrator if the court is satisfied that:

- On the balance of probabilities, the alleged perpetrator has been violent or has threatened violence towards you in your home; and
- The court believes that you require the protection of a DVPO.

If the magistrates decide to serve the alleged perpetrator with a DVPO, then the Order will last for between a minimum of 14 days and a maximum of 28 days. The Order will:

- Prohibit the alleged perpetrator from returning to, entering and being within a certain distance of your home;
- Impose any other restriction which the magistrates feel are necessary to ensure that the alleged perpetrator does not molest you in your home.

The law allows magistrates to serve a DVPO against the alleged perpetrator even if you do not consent to it. In addition, the magistrates will take into account the welfare of any alleged perpetrator aged under 18 living at the specified address.

When will the magistrates' court hear an application for a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO)?

The magistrates' court will hear an application for a DVPO within 48 hours (excluding Sundays and bank holidays) of the alleged perpetrator being served with a DVPN by the police. The alleged perpetrator will be required to appear before the magistrates' court, and it is likely that the hearing and decision will be made on the same day. If the alleged perpetrator does not attend the magistrates' court, then a DVPO can be made in his or her absence.

If the hearing is adjourned, the DVPN served by the police will continue to be effective (provided that it has not been breached) until the application for the DVPO can be dealt with by the court.