

WILTSHIRE POLICE



Via Email



Police Headquarters

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 09/07/2025

Our ref: 2025/612

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 25/06/2025 concerning training materials on handling reports of economic abuse as defined in Section 1(3)(d) of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to handle all requests in a manner that is blind as to the identity and motives of the requestor. Any information released as a response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

Please provide the police force's current operational guidance or internal training materials on handling reports of economic abuse as defined in Section 1(3)(d) of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

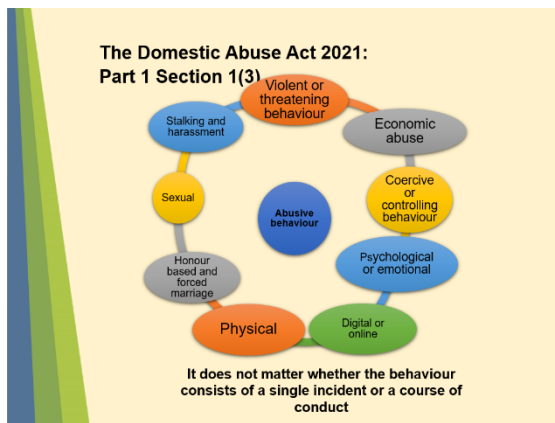
Response:

DA is taught generically to the response officers and economic abuse features in the slide below.

Officers are asked to consider what would constitute economic abuse and their answers should cover - controlling money, forcing someone to account for their spending – more than just money, control over property, preventing getting jobs, taking full control over financial matters / wills/ property/banking/vehicles. If they don't, then this information is provided to them.

In this lesson, the DA Abuse Act 2021 is broken down

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They are then provided with this scenario where it is drawn out that this could include being financially abused:

Scenario

X and their fiancé, Y, were on their first holiday. Y saw X talking to an elderly man, and afterwards, back in the hotel room, Y hit X for the first time, accusing X of spending too much time with the elderly man.

X was shocked, this had never happened before. They left the hotel in a taxi, when they tried to pay for the fare their credit card had been blocked.

What are your considerations? Is this domestic abuse?

Later they are shown this slide which shows how controlling finances is also a form of DA.

Examples of controlling or coercive behaviour

- Restricting access to communications
- Restricting a victims movements
- Jealous or possessive behaviour
- Preventing the victim from working or monitoring them at work
- Victim isolation
- Constant criticism or humiliation
- Controlling finances
- Manipulating the police
- Dictating what a victim wears or how they do their hair
- Dictating a victims routine or schedule

Later in the training week they are also provided with a presentation from Fear Free who cover the power and control wheel, which features economic abuse in DA.

For PIP2, officers are also provided with the 2021 definition of DA which shows that economic abuse forms part of.

Officers and staff also receive a further 1 day input on a product called DA Matters First Responders. It is a product produced by an organisation called Safe Lives and has been developed jointly with the College of Policing. Due to the licensing agreement, this cannot be shared, however in summary this includes the following regarding economic abuse:-

They are shown the power and control wheel again – which includes economic abuse

They are shown a video after which there is a general discussion where economic abuse is drawn out and they are asked to think about how the victim has been economically abused

They are shown information about how perpetrators use tactics to control victims and gives an example of controlling their finances

They are asked to consider how to gather evidence regarding economic abuse – such as requesting bank records/phone records

Following DA Matters, officers and staff can volunteer to receive further DA training, called DA Champions. This again produced by Safe Lives and College of Policing and cannot be shared due to licensing conditions but in summary the following areas are covered regarding economic abuse:-

One of the aims of this course is to :-**Demonstrate understanding of economic abuse within DA and how to actively look for signs and evidence of this**

They are provided with victim statements that cover economic abuse and we discuss the impact of economic abuse on the victims

Its discussed about when a victim loses their home because of DA, the implications for them, the legal costs of victims who apply for civil orders, the impact of how a criminal record relating to an economic crime can have a detrimental effect on the victims ability to gain or retain employment,

These questions are also discussed during DA Champions:-

- **Question:** What choices do you think victims of economic abuse may be making regarding items that we take for granted that we can always buy?
- **Question:** In your everyday life thinking about all the items/resources that you currently have and use from the moment you get up in the morning to the moment you go to bed which of those items/resources could you **not** live without?

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- **Question:** How many of these items/resources would inhibit or stop you being able to go to work every day?
- **Question:** And what might you consider doing in order to obtain these items/resources if you were desperate?
- **Question:** Where could you find evidence of economic abuse when you are in a victim's house, thinking about what we have just discussed?

I have also included the Domestic Abuse Policy And Procedure for reference – Please see attached document.

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and been considered in the light of your request within the time constraints applicable under the legislation.

Wiltshire Police would like to thank you for the interest that you have shown in the Force.

Yours sincerely

Force Disclosure Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2DN



Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Wiltshire Police, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, is entitled to complain and request an internal review, if they are dissatisfied with the response they received.

2. How to Request a Review

Requests for review of a Freedom of Information request must be made in writing to the:

Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police Headquarters,
London Road, Devizes,
Wiltshire,
SN10 2DN

Email at disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk.

The reference number, date of the request and details of why the review is being requested must be included. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Force Disclosure Unit within 20 working days of the Force's response to the original Fol request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing to include confirmation of the reasons for the review. The review will be conducted by another Decision Maker, who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Force Disclosure Unit will set a target date for a response. The response will be made as soon as is practicable with the intention to complete the review within twenty working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The Independent Decision Maker will conduct a review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Decision Maker will reply to the complainant with the result of the review. If the complainant is still dissatisfied following

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the review they should contact the Information Commissioner to make an appeal. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following details:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that the ICO's offices will be closed for the foreseeable future and are therefore unable to receive correspondence via post.

If you should wish you contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>