

# Honour-based abuse

Offences that may cover honour-based abuse, specifically female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and preventative strategies for each behaviour

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## Female genital mutilation

### Relevant offences that may cover the behaviour (dependent on the circumstances of the case)

- Offences under the [Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003](#).
- Under this Act, it is an offence for any person to perform female genital mutilation (FGM) or to assist a girl to carry out FGM on herself. It is also an offence to assist a non-UK national or resident to carry out FGM outside the UK on a UK national or permanent UK resident.
- It is also an offence to fail to protect a girl from FGM. If an offence of FGM is committed against a girl under the age of 16, each person who is responsible for the girl at the time FGM occurred will be liable.

### Preventative strategies

- [Pre-charge bail](#)
- [Female genital mutilation protection order](#)
- [College Learn: MOSOVO civil orders briefing sheet](#) (you will need to log in)

## Forced marriage

### Relevant offences that may cover the behaviour (dependent on the circumstances of the case)

- A person commits an offence if they use violence, threats or any other form of coercion for the purpose of causing another person to enter into a marriage, and believes, or ought reasonably to believe, that the conduct may cause the other person to enter into the marriage without free and

full consent.

- This might also constitute coercive and controlling behaviour depending on relationships and ages of those involved.

## Preventative strategies

- Pre-charge bail
- Forced marriage protection order

## Tags

Violence against women and girls    Forced marriage and honour based abuse