

# New domestic abuse protection notices and orders pilot

Published on 27 November 2024

We're supporting a Home Office and Ministry of Justice trial of new measures that aim to provide better protection to victims of domestic abuse

News 3 mins read

We've produced guidance for policing on Domestic Abuse Protection Notices (DAPNs) and Orders (DAPOs) which are undergoing a year-long pilot in three forces:

- Greater Manchester Police
- Metropolitan Police Service (boroughs of Bromley, Croydon, and Sutton)
- British Transport Police

The new DAPNs and DAPOs are legal tools designed to provide immediate and long-term protection for victims of domestic abuse, including physical abuse, psychological abuse, financial abuse, controlling and coercive behaviour.

They offer a quick and effective way for police to intervene in situations where there is a risk of harm. They also help to prevent further incidents, even when there is not enough evidence for a criminal charge.

- Go to [domestic abuse protection notices and orders](#)

## DAPNs

A DAPN is issued by the police following domestic abuse incidents. It places conditions on the perpetrator, such as:

- staying away from the victim for a period of time
- leaving the victim's home for a specified period
- stopping all contact with the victim

## DAPOs

A DAPO is a court order that can impose more extensive conditions on the perpetrator, including:

- banning the perpetrator from entering a specific address or area
- requiring the perpetrator to attend an appropriate rehabilitation programme
- putting restrictions on the perpetrator's contact with the victim

If the police believe a DAPO is necessary to provide ongoing protection, they can apply to the court for one.

## How DAPNs and DAPOs work

During the trial, only officers in the pilot forces will be able to apply for a DAPN or DAPO but they will be enforceable anywhere in England and Wales. For example, if the recipient of a DAPO breaches a condition not to contact the victim while they are in a different part of the country, they may be arrested by the local force, even if not a pilot force.

*The new legal tools being piloted by the Home Office will help the police to protect victims and break the cycle of domestic abuse. More wide-ranging than Domestic Violence Protection Orders, Domestic Abuse Protection Notices and Orders offer an effective way of protecting victims and can provide a series of robust conditions that perpetrators must follow, or face the prospect of arrest."*

**Assistant Chief Constable Tom Harding, Director of Operational Standards at the College of Policing**

## Intended outcomes

If successful, DAPNs and DAPOs will replace Domestic Violence Protection Orders, and become the go-to protective order for domestic abuse cases. This will give police a tool that is more effective and provides longer-term protection to victims of domestic abuse and their children.

[Go to DAPN/DAPO guidance](#)

# Tags

Domestic abuse