



Working in Partnership to End Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Wednesday 13th September 2017

10:15am – 4:30pm

Central London

Public Policy Exchange holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.

Working in Partnership to End Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence

Overview

Honour-based violence or abuse (HBV/A) can be characterised as practices used to control the behaviour of individuals to protect supposed cultural and religious beliefs, values and social norms in the name of 'honour'. In addition to forced marriage (FM) numerous offences can be committed in the context of HBV/A including; assault, harassment, kidnap, rape and threats. Honour crimes have risen by 40% in London over the past 5 years, whilst forced marriages have doubled in the capital over the same period (Halo Project, 2017). Nationwide, there are approximately 12-15 honour based killings every year, whilst the Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) recorded 1428 victims in 2016, up from 1220 in 2015. As the HMICs 2015 report *The Depths of Dishonour* testifies, Police forces have struggled to identify and record instances of HBV/A and appropriately manage and prosecute perpetrators. Indeed, only 3 of 43 forces were recognised as fully prepared for protecting the public from honour based harm.

In response, the Government, police and criminal justice authorities have formulated guidance and measures aiming to improve responses to FM & HBV/A and safeguard potential victims. In December last year the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) launched the HBV/A and FM Action Protocol outlining plans to increase the awareness and expertise of prosecutors. Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance was also updated (Sept, 2016) to provide teachers with further information on HBV and ensure staff are equipped to spot the signs of such crimes, whilst amendments to the Police and Crime Bill have granted life time anonymity to victims of forced marriage. The Government's flagship *Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-2020* moreover contains specific actions on HBV/A and FM including commitments to; work with local commissioners to guarantee a secure future for FMU, and challenge social norms which underpin HBV/A.

However, significant progress is still required to ensure effective first responses to HBV/A and address gaps in law enforcement. Less than half of teachers have been given training to recognise the indicators of forced marriage (ATL, 2017). Furthermore, despite the FMU providing advice and support on more cases than ever before, conviction rates have remained persistently low, with victims of FM often reticent to criminalise family members. Indeed, the *Review into Integration and Opportunity*, (Dec, 2016), argued more needs to be done to tackle "religious, cultural and social barriers" preventing victims of honour based crimes from "accessing even their basic rights".

In view of these challenges, this symposium will offer local authorities, police forces, criminal justice bodies, health professionals, schools, colleges and third sector organisations with a timely and invaluable opportunity to collectively strengthen our understanding and response to Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence. It will also provide all stakeholders with a chance to develop strategies for improving the identification and prosecution of these crimes..



There is absolutely no honour in so-called honour-based violence. It is violence and a criminal act, pure and simple.

The Rt Hon Theresa May MP, Prime Minister (2016)

Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit www.HotelMap.com/M5NUZ/



Why Attend?

- ✓ Engage with relevant actors to develop an understanding of the nature, aggravating elements and scale of HBV/A nationally
- ✓ Assess how to engage more effectively with communities, increasing the intelligence police and local authorities receive and promoting public confidence
- ✓ Analyse how the police can improve the recording and handling of incident and crime data and better liaise with external agencies within both the public and voluntary sectors
- ✓ Determine how to ensure effective first responses to instances of FM HBV/A ensuring consistent approaches to risk assessment and the protection of victims
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- ✓ Develop consistent approaches to partnership working between police, health, social care and education professionals
- ✓ Examine how to educate and empower young people at risk from FM or HBV/A
- ✓ Evaluate how to respond to the perpetration of FM and HBV/A online

Who Should Attend?

- Adult's and Children's Social Care Services
- Chief Constables and Senior Police Leadership Teams
- Community Outreach, Cohesion and Integration Teams
- Domestic Violence Teams and IDVAs
- Headteachers and Senior Leadership Teams
- Home Office, UKBA and Central Government Agencies
- Local Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adult Boards
- MASH, MAPPA and MARAC Teams
- Refugees, Housing Services and Advice

Enquiries: 020 3137 8630

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Programme

- 09:30** Registration and Morning Refreshments
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- 10:15** Chair's Welcome and Introduction
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- 10:30** **Session One:**
Policing Forced Marriage and Honour Based Crimes: Supporting Victims, Prosecuting Perpetrators
- Preventing Harm and Protecting Victims: Understanding the nature and scale of HBV/A and FM nationwide
 - Improving the First Response: Ensuring a consistent approach to risk assessment and the protection of victims
 - Managing Perpetrators: Building criminal cases against offenders in partnership with multiple agencies
 - Promoting Public Confidence: Engaging more effectively with communities to increase intelligence and trust
 - Strengthening the Criminal Justice Response: Assessing the practicalities of new legislation investigating honour killings of UK citizens abroad
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- 11:15** Morning Refreshments
-
- 11:30** **Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One**
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- 12:30** Networking Lunch
-
- 13:30** **Session Two:**
Strengthening Multi-Agency Working: Identifying, Safeguarding and Empowering those at Risk from Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence
- Developing a Consistent and Collaborative Approach: Improving partnership working between police, health, social care, education and third sector professionals
 - Driving Community Wide Engagement: Ensuring active participation and the secure exchange of necessary data
 - Defining Abuse and Coercion: Educating and emboldening young people at risk
 - Raising Risk Awareness: Equipping educators with the ability to recognise indicators
 - Ensuring the Continued Safety of Victims: Providing suitable and secure accommodation and support
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- 14:15** Afternoon Refreshments
-
- 14:30** **Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two**
-
- 15:30** Chair's Summary and Closing Comments
-
- 15:40** Networking Reception
-
- 16:30** Close
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Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact us on 020 3137 8630 or email info@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk

Event Details

Date: Wednesday 13th September 2017

Time: 10:15am – 4:30pm

Venue: Central London

Forthcoming Events

Ensuring a High Standard of Employee Care: Upholding Health and Safety and Promoting a Positive Working Environment
27th April 2017

The Role of Local Authorities in Safeguarding Wildlife on Local Highways: Protecting Wildlife



and Improving Road Safety
3rd May 2017

The Future of Renewable Energy in the UK: Identifying Priorities, Exploring Opportunities and Promoting the Use of Renewables
4th May 2017

Improving Attendance and Encouraging Good Behaviour in Schools: Creating a Child Centred and Co-ordinated Approach
9th May 2017

Overcoming the Challenges in Youth Services: Implementing A Holistic Approach to Tackling Funding Cuts and Increasing Availability of Services for Young People
10th May 2017

The Future of Gambling in the UK: Promoting Social Responsibility and Partnership Working to Address Issues and Challenges
11th May 2017

Reaching Sustainability in Housing Supply: Increasing the Availability of Homes Nationwide
16th May 2017

Raising Standards in Care Homes: Taking the Next Steps to Ensure Better Standards in Care Homes and Safeguard Adults from Abuse and Neglect
17th May 2017

A New Vision for the Future of Public Libraries: Progress, Strategy, Innovation and Collaboration
18th May 2017

Engaging with the National Cyber Security Strategy: Working in Partnership to Reduce Risk in the Digital Age

23rd May 2017

Improving Young People's Mental Health: Promoting a Coordinated Approach to Eating Disorders

24th May 2017

Embedding a Partnership Approach to Suicide Prevention: Early Intervention and Sustained Postvention

25th May 2017

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