



Department of
Justice
www.dojni.gov.uk

Steven McCourt
Community Safety Division
DOJ

5 February 2016

Dear Consultee,

DOMESTIC ABUSE OFFENCE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DISCLOSURE SCHEME

This letter is to advise that a document has been issued for public consultation on creating a specific offence to capture patterns of coercive and controlling behaviour in intimate relationships; and, whether current arrangements can be enhanced by the establishment of a Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme in Northern Ireland.

The document and response questionnaires are available at:
<https://www.dojni.gov.uk/consultations>.

Responses should be sent to:

E-mail: Community.SafetyUnitProj@dojni.x.gsi.gov.uk

Written: Community Safety Division, Room A4.24, Castle Buildings, Stormont Estate, Belfast, BT4 3SG

We want your help in shaping how we address Domestic Violence and Abuse going forward. We are keen to hear your comments and receive information which will help us. We recognise that you may require assistance in responding to the consultation and are happy to provide advice by phone or email, on request. In some instances it may be appropriate to meet to clarify issues and we are very happy to accommodate such requests. While we will consider all meeting requests we ask that you register your request no later than **1 March 2016**. Please contact Joanne McPadden, (028 90 523772 or joanne.mcpadden@dojni.x.gsi.gov.uk) if you have any queries or wish to request a meeting.

Consultation responses must be received no later than **29 April 2016**.

At the end of the consultation period all the responses will be collated and a response report will be published on our website.

Yours sincerely

STEVEN MCCOURT
Head of Community Safety Division