

**RESTRICTED**

AVON AND SOMERSET CONSTABULARY

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT**

Name of Victim:	Initial DOM/1 ref:
Source:	Officer completing form:

RISK FACTOR	Y	N	EXPLANATION
<b>S</b> EPARATION Has there been/going to be? Any child contact issues?			
<b>P</b> REGNANCY or recent child birth?			
<b>E</b> SCALATION Is abuse worse or more frequent? Has injury been caused?			
<b>C</b> CULTURAL / DIVERSITY Is victim isolated by virtue of race / sexuality / location / disability?			
<b>C</b> ONTROLLING Perpetrator displayed such behaviour or jealousy? Is there denial / minimisation?			
<b>S</b> TALKING Current, previous or suspected?			
<b>S</b> UICIDE (Homicide) Has victim or perpetrator mentioned / threatened either?			
<b>S</b> EXUAL ASSAULT Any element of sexual abuse - threatened/actual?			
<b>P</b> REVIOUS CONVICTIONS for violence or drugs			
<b>L</b> ACK OF CHILD CARE Has suspect hurt or threatened to hurt one of the children?			
<b>U</b> SE OF WEAPON Did incident involve use of weapons?			
<b>S</b> UBSTANCE MISUSE Is alcohol, drug or mental health an issue?			
<b>Victim's and Officer's perception of risk to the victim and/or children</b>			

<b>RISK</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	Standard	Medium	High	Very High	<b>DV Unit</b>	Standard	Medium	High	Very High
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Signature:					Signature:				
	Date and details:					Date and details:				
Risk disclosed to victim by:					Date:					

**Please consider the following:**

**EVERY RISK FACTOR MUST BE CONSIDERED. WHERE THE 'Y' BOX IS TICKED, AN EXPLANATION MUST BE GIVEN. THE 'PERCEPTION' BOXES ARE MANDATORY.**

**Separation** – Details of victim's attempts to leave relationship, and perpetrators response. Is victim too scared to leave? Has the threat "If you ever leave me..." been made? Are there Child Contact issues? If already left, when and what contact since? (3 months after separation remains a dangerous time for a victim leaving a violent relationship.)

**Pregnancy** – At what stage is the pregnancy? Recent childbirth? Who is the GP/Midwife/Health Visitor? Did the violence start during? Previous assaults and pregnancies or miscarriages.

**Escalation** – Levels of assault/abuse and frequency of other instances and to whom previously reported. (Particularly consider use of weapons and strangulation/choking-style assaults.)

**Cultural Issues** – Location (i.e. isolated). Race/Religion (i.e. 'shame' and family support/belief). Disability (i.e. victim's illness or ability to gain help and advice outside the home or dependency upon perpetrator). Sexuality (i.e. lack of support and understanding of needs, sensitivities).

**Controlling and Jealousy** – Does perpetrator impose punishment or sanctions? Is victim allowed out/to talk freely to others/to work? Consider overt dominance or deliberate isolation by perpetrator.

**Stalking** – Details of frequency and behaviour, including multiple telephone calls/messages/texts.

**Suicide** – Do the Victim or Perpetrator consider this? Has either attempted this? Has the perpetrator revealed any homicidal thoughts/threats? (Remember Family 'wipe out' and consider the children appropriately.)

**Sexual Assaults** – Victim may be embarrassed to tell you and may never have been asked. Details of threats or behaviour. When? How long has this abuse been happening? Consider a Chaperone-trained officer.

**Victims frequently perceive the risk to them to be less than it actually is. If they think the perpetrator is capable of harm and likely to use it – the risk is likely to be high.**

**One risk factor may be enough to determine that the victim is at a high risk of serious harm. Your opinion as to why this is the case is a valuable part of the assessment.**

**One of the three antecedents to child homicide is domestic violence. Please detail your observations about the children here or on the DOM/1. Consideration should also be given to their ability to act as a witness.**

**Remember, thorough research using PNC/Intelligence/ASSIST may give you the answers to some of the questions where the victim can't/won't help you. A history of previous violence (to family member, partner or strangers and animals) is particularly relevant.**

*For Supervisors:*

**Very High Risk** *means that a victim (including children) is highly likely to suffer serious assault or death by perpetrator unless action is taken.*

**High Risk** *means that the victim (including children) is likely to suffer a repeat assault. The potential event could happen at any time and there is a strong possibility that the impact will be serious.*

**Medium Risk** *means that there are some indications of risk of harm. The offender has potential to cause harm but is unlikely to do so unless there is a change in circumstances (change of medication, drugs/alcohol misuse, anniversaries, financial pressure).*

**Standard Risk** *means there are no current indicators of harm. Minor crimes only. Intervention from police and other agencies likely to assist victim and perpetrator with current problems and difficulties.*