



HM Government



Easy  
Read

# Deaths because of domestic abuse

How we find out what has  
happened



**Survey**

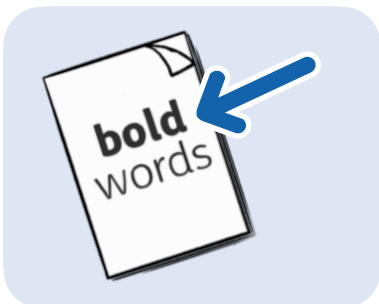
# Easy Read



This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but will tell you about the important parts.



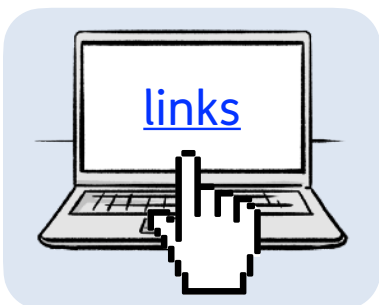
This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures than the original information. You may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker.



These are words that some people will find hard. When you see a bold word, we will explain it in the next sentence.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

# What is in this booklet

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# About this survey



The Government wants to stop people from dying because of **domestic abuse**.

**Domestic abuse** is when a person is harmed by someone they are close to.



When someone is killed by someone they are close to, we call it 'domestic homicide'.



When we think someone has died because of domestic homicide, we look at why it happened.

This is called a Domestic Homicide Review.



We want to know whether you think we should change when a Domestic Homicide Review should happen and the name of Domestic Homicide Reviews.



Please answer the questions in this survey to tell us what you think.

# Domestic Homicide Reviews



Domestic abuse is the most common type of violence against women and girls.



We want to understand it so that we can get better at stopping it.



In 2004, the Government created Domestic Homicide Reviews.

In a Domestic Homicide Review, different organisations work together to:



- Pay attention to each victim.



- Think about how their death could have been stopped.



Domestic Homicide Reviews are an important way to find out how to stop people from dying from domestic abuse.

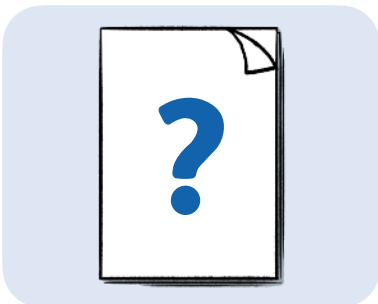


But we think we should make some changes so that they work better.

We think we should change:



- When a Domestic Homicide Review happens.

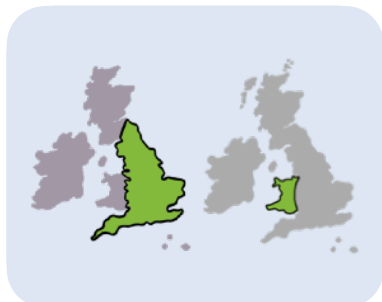


- The name of Domestic Homicide Reviews.



We will explain more about these changes later in this booklet.

# Who we are asking



We are asking people in England and Wales.

We would like to hear from:



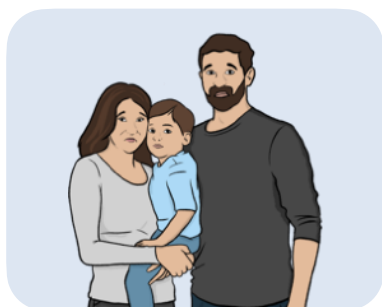
- Organisations that work to stop violence against women and girls.



- Services that support local people who have suffered from domestic abuse.



- Friends or family of someone who died because of domestic homicide.



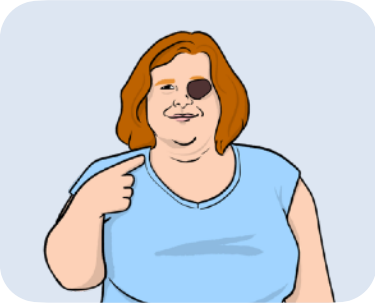
- Friends or family of someone who died because of domestic abuse, but whose death was not a domestic homicide.



**Question 1:** Are you answering for yourself, or for an organisation?

Myself

An organisation



**Question 2:** If you are answering for yourself, which one of these are you?

Friend or family of someone who died because of domestic homicide

Friend or family of someone who died because of domestic abuse, but whose death was not a domestic homicide



Student, or someone who works at a university

Other (please say)



**Question 3:** If you are answering for an organisation, please tell us what kind of organisation it is.

An organisation that makes sure people follow the law, like the police or courts

A health and care organisation

A local council

- A community safety partnership - these are local organisations that try to stop crime
- A university, college or group of students
- An organisation that works to stop violence against women and girls
- A different kind of organisation (please say)

# When a Domestic Homicide Review should happen



In 2021, we wrote a new law called the Domestic Abuse Act.



The new law talked about different types of domestic abuse, by different people.



Not all of these types of domestic abuse were included in older laws.



This meant that if someone died because of these types of domestic abuse, a Domestic Homicide Review wouldn't happen.



We want to change the law so that Domestic Homicide Reviews happen for all the types of abuse we talk about in the Domestic Abuse Act.

# Types of abuse



The law says that a Domestic Homicide Review should happen when someone dies because of violence, **abuse** or **neglect**.



**Abuse** is when someone hurts you or treats you badly.

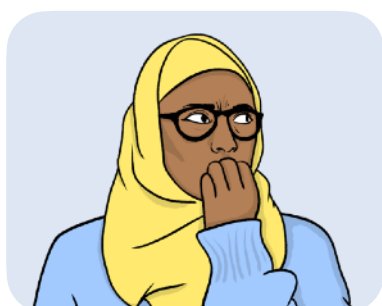


**Neglect** is when someone does not look after you properly.

But our new law says that domestic abuse can include:



- Controlling how someone behaves.



- Making someone feel bad.

Domestic abuse can also include:



- Controlling a person's money.



We think that Domestic Homicide Reviews should happen if the victim has suffered from these other types of domestic abuse.

## Who can be a domestic abuser

The old law says that a domestic abuser can be:



- A family member.



- Someone they are or were in a relationship with.

The old law also says that a domestic abuser can be:



- Someone they live with.

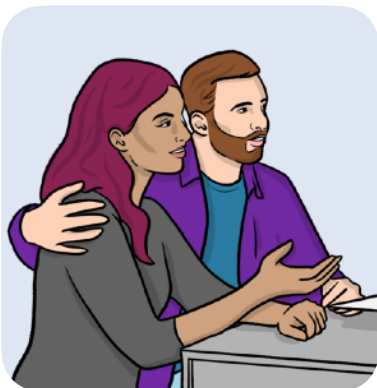


Our new law says that domestic abuse can be done by a person who is '**personally connected**' to the victim.

**'Personally connected'** can mean:



- They are, or were, married to them.



- They are, or were, in a **civil partnership**.

A **civil partnership** is a way of making your relationship legal without being married.

**‘Personally connected’** can also mean:



- They had agreed to get married or join a civil partnership.



- They are, or were, in a relationship.



- They had both been parents to a child or had been in charge of looking after that child.



- They were family members.



We think that Domestic Homicide Reviews should happen if domestic abuse was done by someone who was 'personally connected' to the victim.



**Question 4:** Do you think we should change the law so that Domestic Homicide Reviews happen for these kinds of domestic abuse?

Yes

No

Don't know

Please tell us why you think this:



# The name of Domestic Homicide Reviews



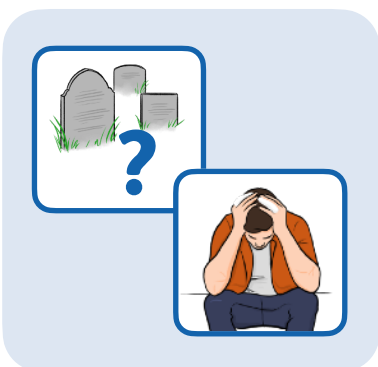
The name 'Domestic Homicide Review' can be confusing.



This is because 'Homicide' means murder.



But not every Domestic Homicide Review is for a murder.



Sometimes, people have:

- Died in ways that we cannot explain.
- Taken their own life.



**Question 5:** Do you think we should change the name of Domestic Homicide Reviews?

Yes

No

Don't know

Please tell us why you think this:

# What we could change the name to

We could change the name to 'Domestic Abuse **Fatality** Review', for people who:



- Died because of domestic abuse.



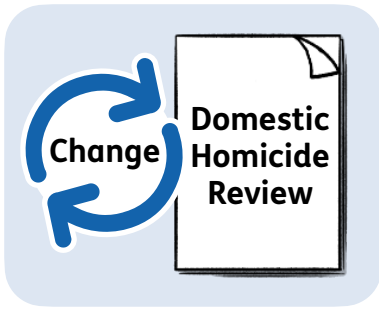
- Were not murdered.



'**Fatality**' means death.

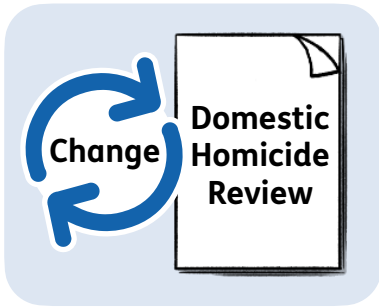


But still have Domestic Homicide Reviews for people who were murdered.



Or we change all Domestic Homicide Reviews.

We would call all of them Domestic Abuse Fatality Reviews.



**Question 6:** If we change the name of Domestic Homicide Reviews, should we:

Change the name of some of them to Domestic Abuse Fatality Reviews

Change the name of all of them to Domestic Abuse Fatality Reviews

Use another name (please say)

# About you

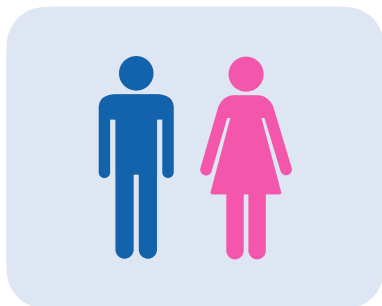


These questions will help us check we are listening to people from all different groups.

You do not have to answer them.



**Question 7:** How old are you?

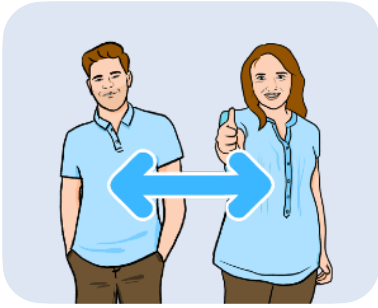


**Question 8:** What is your sex?

Male

Female

Prefer not to say



**Question 9:** Is your gender the same as the one you were given when you were born?

Yes

No

Other (Please tell us your gender)



### Question 10: What is your **ethnicity**?

Your **ethnicity** is your race, background or the country you come from.



#### **White**

- English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, British
- Irish
- Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- Other White background



#### **Asian or Asian British**

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Any other Asian background



## **Mixed, or more than 1 background**

- White and black Caribbean
- White and black African
- White and Asian
- Any other mixed background



## **Black or black British**

- Caribbean
- African
- Any other black background





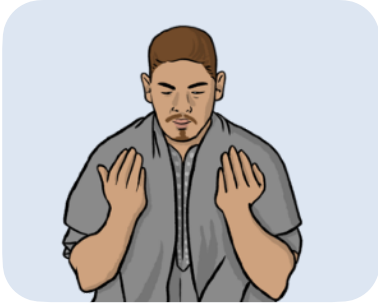
## Other ethnicity

Arab

Any other ethnicity

Prefer not to say

If you said 'any other background' or 'any other ethnicity', please tell us:



**Question 11: What is your religion?**



Buddhist



Christian



Hindu



Jewish



Muslim



Sikh

Other (please say)

No religion

Prefer not to say



### Question 12: Are you...?

- Straight - this means you are attracted to people of the other gender
- Gay - this means you are a man who is attracted to other men
- Lesbian - this means you are a woman who is attracted to other women
- Bisexual - this means you are attracted to men and women
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please say)



**Question 13:** Do you have a disability or an illness you have had for a long time?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say



**Question 14:** Where do you live?

North East

North West

Yorkshire and The Humber

West Midlands

- East Midlands
- East of England
- South West
- South East
- Greater London
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please say)

# More about you



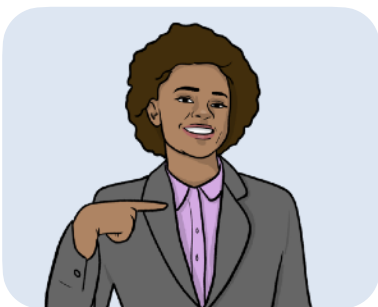
Please tell us more about yourself.



You do not need to answer these questions if you do not want to.



**Question 15:** What is your full name?

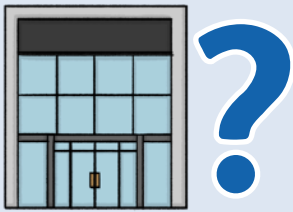


**Question 16:** If you are answering for an organisation, what is your job?

If you are answering for yourself, just write 'member of the public'.



**Question 17:** What is the date today?



**Question 18:** If you are answering for an organisation, what is its name?

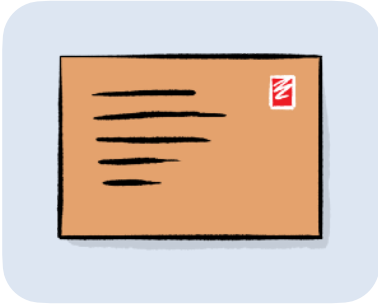


**Question 19:** What is your address and postcode?



**Question 20:** Please tick this box if you would like us to contact you to say we have your answers.

Please contact me



**Question 21:** Which address should we contact you at?

If it is the same as the address you gave us, you can leave this blank.



# Where to send your answers



Thank you for answering our questions.



Please send your answers to:  
[DHRReform@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:DHRReform@homeoffice.gov.uk)

## Find out more

To find out more, contact us by:



- Email:  
[DHRReform@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:DHRReform@homeoffice.gov.uk)



- Post:  
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