

Ms Liz Robillard,

By e-mail to request-25140-00d8cbd2@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference: 47017

8th February 2010

Dear Ms Robillard,

I am writing with reference to your request for information regarding rape in marriages, dated 27th December 2009, made under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act.

You asked for the following information:

How do you ensure that women whom have reported marital rape get help and support? Do you follow up on all rape allegations? Even historical claims? If someone has suffered rape or has alleged rape, in both instances they obviously need counselling, so how do you ensure this happens and is followed through? Do you refer people who allege rape to their GP for counselling? If not why not? How do you ensure a GP provides proper psychological counselling services?

Even if it's a false allegation of rape, to prevent further police time being wasted and the horrors of false allegations, you must prevent this crime somehow? What is your position on that? I'd appreciate information here, thanks

Any offence reported in the UK, would be investigated by the police force in which the offence took place. The NPIA is not an investigative body, so would not be in a position to respond to all of your questions, the police forces should be able to answer some of your questions for their area.

However, the NPIA in association with ACPO, do provide guidance to the police forces on investigation practices, as well as providing operational support to the forces (see links below). So, please find attached the relevant section on Victim and Witness Care from the Guidance on Investigating and Prosecuting Rape.

<http://www.npia.police.uk/en/5219.htm>

<http://www.npia.police.uk/en/5222.htm>

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22 Upper Ground, London, SE1 9QY

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F 020 8358 5700

NPIA (headquarters):
4th Floor,
10-18 Victoria Street,
London, SW1H 0NN

T 020 7147 8200
F 020 7147 8201
www.npia.police.uk

You may also be interested in a review by the Home Office, on the 'Rape: The Victims View', which has recently been published.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/vawq%2Drape%2Dreview/>

Your right to complain

We take our responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act seriously but, if you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to complain. We will investigate the matter and endeavour to reply within 3 – 6 weeks. You should write to:

David Horne
Director of Resources
National Policing Improvement Agency
10-18 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0NN

E-mail: david.horne@npia.pnn.police.uk

If you are still dissatisfied following our internal review, you have the right, under section 50 of the Act, to complain directly to the Information Commissioner. Before considering your complaint, the Information Commissioner would normally expect you to have exhausted the complaints procedures provided by the NPIA. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

FOI Compliance Team (complaints)
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Further information about the NPIA is routinely published on our website at www.npia.police.uk or through our publication scheme. If you require any further assistance in connection with this request please contact us at our address above.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Woodgate
IKS Advisor
National Policing Improvement Agency