



Enquiries to: Information Team  
Our Ref: FOI 9071945

28 January 2022

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sir/Madam

### Freedom of Information Request 9071945

Thank you for your request received 13 September 2021. We apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

Your request was actioned under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in which you requested the following information:-

*is a national charity supporting victims and survivors of Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage.*

#### Our Ask

*We are beginning to map the prevalence of honour-based-abuse and forced marriage in the UK over the last 3 years. Our aim is to identify trends in local responses to honour-based-abuse by comparing local authority data with the data Karma Nirvana's honour-based-abuse national helpline collates.*

*Does your organisation's Case Management and Recording system facilitate tagging case file's where,*

*\* Honour based abuse has been identified Yes/No*

*Please could send me:*

*1. The number of initial assessments carried out for children because they were identified as at risk of honour-based abuse?*

*2. The number of initial assessments carried out for vulnerable adults because they were identified as at risk of honour-based abuse?*

*3. How many MARAC referrals have been received for victims experiencing honour-based-abuse?*

4. The number of assessments of entitlement to housing for people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness identified as experiencing honour-based-abuse?

5. How many domestic homicide reviews were undertaken during the following years?

2017

2018

2019

2020

6. For each year outlined above, how many of the domestic homicide reviews related to victims impacted by Honour Based Abuse? Of these, how many victims were female? How many were male? How many were under the age of 18?

7. Honour Based Abuse Training and Awareness

8. Is training provided to staff about honour based abuse?

9. If training is delivered, which staff receive or are eligible to receive this training? Is training compulsory and how is attendance / completion measures?

10. What format does this training take place (i.e e-learning, face to face? How long does this training take to complete? How frequently is the training completed?

11. If training is provided, please provide a copy of the course objectives

12. Is honour-based abuse and forced marriage included within your safeguarding training framework?

13. Who delivers your honour-based abuse and forced marriage training? For example, external provider, in house/internally? If this is provided by an external provider, please state who this is.

14. How is the local authority assured that the honour-based abuse and forced marriage training provider is suitably qualified to deliver the training?

15. How many times has honour-based abuse and forced marriage training been provided between 01.04.2018 - 31.03.19, 01.04.19 - 31.03.20, & 01.04.2020 31.03.2021?

16. How many people have attended/completed training between 01.04.2018 - 31.03.19, 01.04.19 - 31.03.20, & 01.04.2020 31.03.2021?

17. Which types of professionals have attended honour-based abuse and forced marriage training between 01.04.2018 - 31.03.19, 01.04.19 - 31.03.20,

& 01.04.2020 31.03.2021? For example, social workers, police officers, voluntary sector.

18. Please provide a copy of the training material.

I would like the above information to be provided to me as paper or electronic copies.

If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URLs if necessary.

I understand that you are required to respond to my request within the 20 working days after you receive this email.

## Response

Liverpool City Council confirms that it holds information relevant to the terms of your request. Regarding points 2 and 4 we would advise that in order to identify and extract the requested information would require in excess of 18 hours and a Section 12 exemption has been applied. For point 18 we have applied a Section 43 (2) exemption.

1. This data has been supplied using factor 23 a) at assessment 'Abuse linked to faith or belief – concerns that services may be required or the child may be at risk due to abuse linked to faith or belief.'

Year	Children
2018	41
2019	54
2020	32
2021	43

2. "Initial Assessment" is an assessment form type in Adults, which has been phased out now, the last one being completed in September 2020. There are over 20,000 assessments a year done by Adults in total so over 3 years the total would be 60-70,000 assessments.

Information on whether assessments were carried out for vulnerable adults because they were identified as at risk of honour based abuse would only be held in free text fields and is not easily reportable.

There were over 60,000 assessments carried out during the whole time period being requested in your request. Allowing 10 minutes per record to look through case notes to determine whether assessment was carried out for a vulnerable adult at risk of honour based abuse would

necessitate a total of 10,000 hours of Officer time to identify and extract all information of relevance.

3. 110 since 18 April 2019  
+ 38 with no flag  
85 in archive  
+ 16 with no flag
4. There have been over 24,000 applications made for homelessness support over the last 3 calendar years. Identification of households experiencing honour based abuse would only be held in free text fields and not easily reportable. Allowing 10 minutes per record to look through case notes to determine whether assessment was carried out for a vulnerable adult at risk of honour based abuse would necessitate a total of 4,000 hours of Officer time to identify and extract all information of relevance.
5. 2017 - 2  
2018 - 1  
2019 - 0  
2020 - 2
6. None
7. Through the multi-agency training partnership.

Signposting staff attending all LSCP training to the SaveraUK website as HBV is discussed in training – a common theme/thread

### Virtual

- Forced Marriage - an Awareness – e-learning on the LSCP (Liverpool Safeguarding Children Partnership) website
- A forced marriage of people with learning disabilities via a podcast

### Face to Face

LSCP commission Savera UK x 2 a year to deliver **HARMFUL PRACTICES INCLUDING (Forced Marriage, 'Honour' Based Violence) and Female Genital Mutilation)**

It is a one day FACE TO FACE CLASSROOM BASED training aimed at raising the knowledge and awareness of staff working in key services and agencies in Merseyside to enable them to respond sensitively and appropriately to situations involving harmful practices. Face to face has not happened during COVID, but it is currently in discussion to start again.

8. As per point 7 above.

9. Training is not compulsory but all front line partnership staff can book on. Always fully booked and very well attended .
10. Training is not compulsory but all front line partnership staff can book. Pre covid twice per year.  
Currently online 3-4 times per year. 1.5 hour virtual '*What is Culture, What is Harmful Practices*' sessions via Zoom
11. **Outcomes**  
Have understanding of culture and harmful practices culture  
Better understanding of harmful practices and safeguarding  
Understanding safeguarding and discrimination  
Access to support and information
12. Part of multi-agency competency training framework.
13. Part of multi-agency training framework SaverUK and Merseyside Police.
14. SaverUK and Merseyside Police – well known and respected providers of support for victims of HBV and HBA. Membership of MARAC  
<https://www.saveruk.co.uk/>
15. 2018 – 2019 = 2 sessions  
2019 – 2020 = 2 sessions  
2020 – 2021 = 2 virtual sessions  
Average of 24-28 on each of these sessions above
16. We are unable to provide detailed breakdown for older dates as change of booking system and we do not keep this information in line with our retention period.  
  
New booking system introduced in April 2021 ensures this detail can now be saved.
17. We are unable to provide detailed breakdown for older dates as change of booking system and we do not keep this information in line with our retention period.  
  
New booking system introduced in April 2021 ensures this detail can now be saved.
18. With regard your request for training materials the City Council has considered whether this information you have requested may be exempt from disclosure under section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.  
  
The reason we have considered this exemption is on the basis that the requested information is commercially sensitive and relates to the financial and business affairs of the City Council and third parties.

The use of Section 43 (2) of the FOIA requires the application of a public interest test. The City Council has considered the following public interest arguments in respect of releasing the information:

If full details of the training materials were to be disclosed this would substantially impair and prejudice the ability of the City Council to conduct negotiations with third parties for similar training. This would therefore place the City Council at a substantial disadvantage when negotiating or entering into other similar commercial arrangements. The basis is that this information when combined with information from other sources would identify the pricing methodology of the City Council and third party providers and result in substantial commercial prejudice for future similar services. This in turn will place the City Council at a disadvantage when undertaking the procurement of such training.

The effect of such disclosure would be potentially damaging to the City Council as the third party organisation(s) affected may well look to the City Council for compensation as a result of disclosure which could place the City Council under the threat of legal action.

As a counterpoint argument to these factors are that it is in the interest of the public to be clear what training and resources the City Council uses and their impact on the public purse. That this is of interest to the public is a matter of record, however the extent to which the level of detail request is of itself of public interest must then be weighed against the prejudice disclosure would have on current or future training.

With these considerations in mind it is considered that the public interest in the disclosure of the information you have requested is outweighed by the non-release of the information as the effect of substantially prejudicing the City Council's ability to develop, negotiate and enter into arrangements for similar commercial and public sector training and that disclosure would raise a significant risk of potential legal action for breach of confidence.

Accordingly the City Council believes the public interest arguments in favour of withholding the information outweigh those in favour of releasing it and therefore withholds information relating to the remaining elements of your request.

Although we are not able to release full training materials we have provided a link to Saveruk's website and training page:  
<https://www.saveruk.co.uk/what-can-you-do/get-involved/commission-training/>

We can confirm training was delivered to provide an overview of:

- Have understanding of culture and harmful practices culture
- Better understanding of harmful practices and safeguarding
- Understanding safeguarding and discrimination
- Access to support and information

This concludes our response.

For points 2 and 4 Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 permits public authorities such as Liverpool City Council to refuse a request for information in such circumstances where compliance would require in excess of a prescribed limit of 18 hours.

In accordance with the application of Section 12 and Section 43 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 we have not provided all of the information requested. As such this letter serves as a Section 17 Notice under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The City Council will consider appeals, referrals or complaints in respect of your Freedom of Information Act 2000 and you must submit these in writing to [Informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:Informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk) within 28 days of receiving your response.

The matter will be dealt with by an officer who was not previously involved with the response and we will look to provide a response within 40 days.

If you remain dissatisfied you may also apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision about whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Information Commissioner's website is [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk) and the postal address and telephone numbers are:-

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK95AF. DX 20819. Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Email: [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk) (they advise that their email is not secure)

We trust this information satisfies your enquiry.

Yours sincerely

*Information Team*