



Home Learning

Clare's Law Teacher

Reference Sheet

Clare's Law

Clare's Law is a National Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme.

It is named after Clare Wood, 36, who was brutally murdered in 2009 at her home in Salford Greater Manchester by her former partner George Appleton, who had a record of violence against women. Appleton went on to strangle Clare and set her body on fire.

Clare met Appleton on Facebook; as such she was completely unaware that he had a history of horrific violence against women. After killing Clare, he killed himself whilst on the run from Police.

What is the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme?

The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme gives members of the public a 'right to ask' Police where they have a concern that their partner may pose a risk to them; or where they are concerned that the partner of a member of their family or a friend may pose a risk to that individual.

If an application is made under the scheme, Police and partner agencies will carry out checks and if there is information that the partner has a record of abusive offences, or there is other information to indicate that there may be a risk from the partner, the Police will consider sharing this information.

It was rolled out nationally on Saturday 8th March 2014 by the Home Secretary to coincide with International Women's Day.

Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO)

A DVPO provides immediate protection to a victim where the perpetrator is over 18 years of age.

When the perpetrator has been arrested and is in Police custody in Hampshire, and where there is not enough evidence to charge him/her; a DVPN (Domestic Violence Protection Notice) can be issued, notifying them that a DVPO is being applied for by the force solicitor.

Once granted, a DVPO can last from 14 to 28 days, during which time the perpetrator can be prevented from having any form of contact with the victim; giving the victim the time and space they need to make decisions about their options and future safety with the help of a support agency.