

THE PROPOSED CIVIL PROTECTION ORDERS AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE
(SCOTLAND) BILL – Rhoda grant MSP

Reply on behalf of the Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse

Summary of Consultation Questions

1. What advantages or problems might arise as a result of removing the course of conduct requirement?

Women can be protected sooner and it could free up court time. However could be open to malicious allegations.

2. What do you see as the main benefits of making it easier to obtain a non harassment order?

Women can be protected after one incident.

3. What advantages or problems might arise with the removal of means testing?

Justice /protection open to all women irrespective of financial means. However could lead to added burden on legal aid purse

4. What do you see as the main benefits of removing means testing?

More women will feel confident to seeking orders to protect themselves and wouldn't need to choose between protecting themselves and paying for every day living costs

5. What are the advantages and problems that might arise from making it a criminal offence to breach an interdict with a power of arrest?

Women more likely to report breaches and for Police to arrest, charge and detain perpetrator for court. However could place added pressure on Police/court resources

6. What do you see as the main benefits of making it a criminal offence to breach an interdict with a power of arrest?

Added protection for victim and reinforcement of society's view on unacceptability of perpetrator's behaviour

7. What costs would be associated with all of the proposals contained in the Bill?

Increase in Legal Aid billings and Police resources.