



PCC
Office of the Police
and Crime Commissioner
Devon and Cornwall

Feedback from Domestic Abuse & Safeguarding deep-dive meeting

December 2014



What is 'Safeguarding'?

- The definition of safeguarding is widening to focus on greater understanding of victim need rather than being driven by the nature of the offence
- This is consistent with a wider shift in focus for the police from commodity to vulnerability
- There is an identified need to engage more effectively with the public as the definition of safeguarding develops



- Safeguarding Vulnerable People Pilot:

- *Single safeguarding process*

- *Vulnerability screening tool developed and well implemented – used to identify risk to victims and to support dynamic safeguarding activity by police and partners.*

- *Central safeguarding team assess and refer to police and partners*

- *Pilot results:*

- *50% of referrals direct to partners*

- *Improved identification of risk*

- *Increased Domestic Abuse risk assessment completion*



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- Additional points:

- *Quality of investigation plans subject to review*
- *Introduction of the use of incident closing categories to identify nature of referral and non-criminal justice outcomes*
- *Vulnerability screening tool to roll out more widely*
- *Future resourcing challenges to sustainability*



- Key strategic concerns:

- *Understanding the factors that influence victims to come forward and identifying those areas where further work may be of benefit*

- *Technical challenges to identifying and understanding repeat victimisation*

- *Action:*

- Police to provide a paper that describes what action has been undertaken by police and partners to increase reporting.*