## 7 MINUTE BRIEFING

## Forced Marriage and FGM Protection Orders

Legislation mirrors FMPO legislation - Where a girl is under 18, safeguarding procedures apply and the local authority would ordinarily take the lead - Ensure risk to siblings is

considered – they can be protected on the same order

Forms and advice: https://www.gov.uk/female-genitalmutilation-protection-order

You may only have one chance to speak to a potential victim and thus only have one chance to save a life. In an emergency always call 999

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Female Genital Mutilation Protection Order (FGMPO)

Civil order, issued by designated family court – includes Liverpool Family Court For the purposes of: - Protecting a child/adult against the commission of FGM - Protecting a girl against whom such an

offence has been committed Can contain such prohibitions or requirements, as appropriate.

Who can apply for a FMPO?

Any person at risk of forced marriage can make their own application
A 'relevant 3rd party' – specified as the local authority

- Any person who is given leave of the court e.g. police, solicitors, charities, family members, friends

The Court

https://www.gov.uk/apply-forced-marriageprotection-order A 'Forced Marriage ' is a marriage where one or both spouses do not consent to the marriage but are coerced into it.

Coercion (or duress) can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual or emotional pressure

Forced marriage is a criminal offence under Section 121 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

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FGM is a crime under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (amended by Serious Crime Act 2015)

'FGM' comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. (World Health Organisation definition)

Forced Marriage Protection Orders: FMPO's enable courts to prevent forced marriages from going ahead and to protect those who have already been forced into marriage. Only specified courts can issue FMPO's – including Liverpool Family Court.

Similar to Non-Molestation Order, but it can be made against a wide range of people. – it is not restricted to 'associated persons

Examples of FMPO Prohibitions/ Restrictions/ Requirements (not exhaustive):

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- Prohibit the arranging or forcing of a marriage

Prohibit travel or arranging flights
Require the location of the victim to

be disclosed to the court - Require passports to be

surrendered & prevent issue of travel documents

- Require child to attend school
- Prohibit harassment of victim

For more information regarding 7 minute briefings, please email <u>sarah.herron@knowsley.gov.uk</u> Knowsley Safeguarding Children Board, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Nutgrove Villa, Westmorland Road, Huyton L36 6GA Tel: 0151 443 3859 www.knowsleyscb.org.uk