



# Domestic Abuse Act 2021

## 2021 CHAPTER 17

### PART 7

#### MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

##### *Disclosure of information by police*

#### **77 Guidance about the disclosure of information by police forces**

- (1) The Secretary of State must issue guidance to chief officers of police about the disclosure of police information by police forces for the purposes of preventing domestic abuse.  
  
“Police information” means information held by a police force.
- (2) Each chief officer of police of a police force must have regard to any guidance issued under this section.
- (3) The Secretary of State may from time to time revise any guidance issued under this section.
- (4) Before issuing or revising guidance under this section, the Secretary of State must consult—
  - (a) the Domestic Abuse Commissioner,
  - (b) the National Police Chiefs' Council, and
  - (c) such other persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.
- (5) Subsection (4) does not apply in relation to any revisions of guidance issued under this section if the Secretary of State considers the proposed revisions of the guidance are insubstantial.
- (6) The Secretary of State must publish—
  - (a) any guidance issued under this section, and
  - (b) any revisions of that guidance.

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*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Domestic Abuse Act 2021. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

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(7) In this section—

“chief officer of police” means—

- (a) in relation to the British Transport Police Force, the Chief Constable of that Force;
- (b) in relation to any other police force, the chief officer of police of that force;

“police force” means—

- (a) a police force maintained by a local policing body, or
- (b) the British Transport Police Force.

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**Commencement Information**

**II** [S. 77](#) in force at 5.4.2023 by [S.I. 2023/406](#), [reg. 2\(b\)](#)

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 15(3)(r) inserted by [S.I. 2024/421 reg. 2](#)