# **Policy Document**



#### **STALKING**

Version 4

#### 1. Policy statement

Anyone can be a victim of stalking and it is important for victims to understand that they are not alone. Training and ongoing professional development of police officers is crucial to understanding and recognising the risks of this debilitating and very frightening crime. The Police Service, the Crown Prosecution Service and partner agencies including the third sector must continue their joined up work in dealing with this complex area.

# 2. Responsibility

The National Board is responsible for all policy formation.

### 3. Summary

PFEW believes that training and ongoing professional development of police officers is crucial to understanding and recognising the risks of this debilitating and very frightening crime.

PFEW believes that there must be adequate investment in the Police Service to maximise rapidly changing technology that offenders attempt to exploit such as social media. Policing must keep pace with the changes in offending behaviour and that requires investment in people, technology and training.

The criminal justice services must work together and make use of the appropriate legislation to combat stalking. The Police Service and the Probation Service/National Offender Management Service must manage offenders and support, care and protection must be provided to victims and their families.

# 4. Procedures/implementation

PFEW will lobby the Government to ensure that the criminal justice services work together and make use of the appropriate legislation to combat stalking and to manage offenders.

We will press the College of Policing and Chief Officers to provide adequate training and professional development to enable police officers to support and protect victims and their families.

We will raise awareness of the National Stalking Awareness Day and the work of the national Stalking Helpline.

Responsibility is delegated to the National Secretary and/or appropriate sub-committee.

	Author	Date	Review date	Change
Version I	EP-KP	March 2015	March 2016	
Version 2	KP-EP	March 2016	March 2017	No change
Version 3	KP-EP	March 2017	March 2018	Minor change
Version 4	KP	January 2019	March 2020	Minor changes

# Signed by:

National Chair

**National Secretary**