



BFSWS

BRITISH FORCES SOCIAL WORK SERVICE OVERSEAS



VICTIM SAFETY WORK



Victim Safety Work's (VSW) ultimate aim is "to reduce the risk of harm to the victim by keeping their safety central to all of those who are working on the case".

The Victim Safety Worker will:

- Work within a strict framework of confidentiality and safeguarding
- Serve as the victim's primary point of contact, working with them from the point of crisis
- Provide safety planning and personal support to the victim
- Work directly with the victim alongside key agencies /chain of command in addressing the safety of the victim

BFSWS accepts referrals for Victim Safety Work services in line with the UK Government definition of abuse, essentially this being ; "any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional"*.

Level of risk

There is no absolute level of risk before which BFSWS will work with an individual to provide safety work, however the level or content of safety work provided is likely to be adapted to suit the assessed needs & risks or the wishes and feelings of the referred victim as necessary

* <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-violence-and-abuse>

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