



fonesfor**safety**[®]

Summary Guide

2006

Home Office



THE BODY SHOP.



women's aid
until women & children are safe



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Acknowledgments

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Foreword

Thank you for using this guide and being part of the solution to a problem which ruins lives.

Domestic violence accounts for 17–25% of all violent crime. Tragically 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men are victims of domestic violence and it costs the United Kingdom in excess of £23 billion a year. Recent research suggests that the annual cost to British businesses from related issues is circa £2.7 billion. We all need to take responsibility for bringing about change in our culture to eradicate this abhorrent crime.

The victims and perpetrators of domestic violence live in our communities. They are our neighbours, friends and members of our families. Therefore, it is our responsibility to keep our friends, colleagues, service users, customers and communities safe from a crime that devastates families and ruins lives.

Fonesforsafety works within a victim protection framework which demonstrates that domestic violence can only be tackled by working together in our public and private lives. The project highlights the added value of working in partnership across professional barriers, by offering greater safety to victims and an imaginative way to mobilise our communities.

Fonesforsafety encourages engagement with local businesses, police, the voluntary sector as well as individual residents, and has the capacity to generate its own income.

We urge you all to get involved.



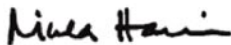
Rt. Hon. Baroness
Scotland of Asthal QC
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Offender Management



Dame Anita Roddick
Founder of
The Body Shop




Ken Livingstone
Mayor of London



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CEO Women's Aid
Federation of England



Richard Curtis
Comic Relief



DCC Brian Moore
ACPO Lead for
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and Harassment

1. Introduction to fonesforsafety

Fonesforsafety is a mobile phone recycling scheme which turns used mobile phones into reconfigured “999 emergency only” personal alarms for victims of domestic violence. These reprogrammed phones are issued by the police or local domestic violence support agencies to individuals most at risk, enabling them to contact the emergency services at a time of crisis.

The fonesforsafety scheme has a number of unique features:

- i) It combines environmental protection with social empowerment: (Donated mobile phones are used to generate emergency mobile phone alarms).
- ii) It has been developed with a long term sustainability plan: (By establishing a local partnership structure and incorporating income generation through mobile phone recycling).
- iii) It has national recognition, with support from The Home Office, Comic Relief, The Scottish Executive, The Body Shop, Women’s Aid and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

2. A brief history of fonesforsafety

Fonesforsafety was originally set up in the London borough of Southwark in 2002 by CRISP, a division of the not-for-profit sustainability charity, Elephant Jobs. From September 2004, with funding from The Home Office, Comic Relief, and The Scottish Executive and in partnership with The Body Shop and Women’s Aid, fonesforsafety has been tested in 5 different locations across the UK. The learning experience of these regional schemes has been used to compile this fonesforsafety Summary Guide and a more detailed Instruction Manual for practitioners.

3. Fonesforsafety partnerships

This Summary Guide is for organisations that may have a direct interest in setting up a local fonesforsafety scheme. It is designed for the key partner agencies, which are required to establish a local scheme:

- **Local Police:** DV officers
- **Voluntary Sector:** Specialist Domestic Violence Services e.g. Local Women's Aid organisations or other service providers
- **Local Authority (DV):** DV co-ordinator or CDRP¹ representative
- **Local Authority:** recycling co-ordinator or a representative from a department with responsibility for waste management or sustainable development.

If you do not fall into any of the above categories but would like to see a local scheme in your area, contact one of the above agencies to take the initiative forward.

4. The domestic violence framework

- Fonesforsafety is designed for use by local domestic violence multi agency forums and is a creative addition to risk management and safety planning and should only be used once a safety plan has been developed by the Police and the nominated domestic violence support agency.
- Fonesforsafety forms part of the co-ordinated community response to domestic violence which is being promoted by Central Government as part of local public protection strategies.
- Fonesforsafety should correlate with Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) / Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)² and child protection strategies targeting victims most at risk.
- Fonesforsafety represents an excellent income generating initiative which can galvanise involvement from the general public, the local Strategic Partnership, local businesses, and the local chamber of commerce to support the scheme's long term sustainability.

5. Nine point set up guide

1. Understand the parameters and capabilities of the scheme and the mobile phone alarms.
2. Discuss the scheme with your local domestic violence forum and request a group to be established to oversee the scheme in partnership with the police.
3. Establish the police and voluntary sector agency fonesforsafety protocols.
4. Establish the mobile phone alarm reconfiguration arrangements.
5. Use MAPPA / MARAC / child protection strategies to support risk assessment and safety planning processes which target victims most at risk.
6. Promote the scheme to domestic violence victims.
7. Monitor the scheme on a regular basis as part of an ongoing case management.
8. Set up the facilities for collecting used phones on a regular basis, and promote the scheme to mobile phone donors. This could involve the Local Authority, local business forums, police and domestic violence support agencies.
9. Establish a mechanism to manage income generation and funding initiatives, and to gather further support.

6. Sustainability

The fonesforsafety scheme is simple, and has been developed on the premise that it can become self-sustaining. This is through a number of combined factors:

- The scheme should be established within a co-ordinated DV support structure.
- Once established, the scheme is easy to administer and use by DV agencies and beneficiaries.

- The fonesforsafety mobile phone is a useful additional tool for DV agencies, which can be offered alongside other safety options. As such, it can be incorporated into existing service provision.
- The scheme requires a minimal amount of staff management outside of existing duties.
- Limited additional resources are required to set up and run the scheme. This can range from £5,000 to cover the cost of 100 reconfigured mobile phone alarms, up to £10,000 to include administration overheads.
- Fonesforsafety generates income through mobile phone recycling, which can help cover its on-going running costs.
- The scheme is attractive to statutory and corporate funders, and individual donors, because it involves elements of both social and environmental responsibility.

7. Fonesforsafety instruction manual

This Summary Guide gives an overview of the framework for setting up a local fonesforsafety scheme.

CRISP aims to work with all regional Government Offices and local police forces across England and Wales to promote the scheme to CDRPs or their equivalents and to identify and support new regions where fonesforsafety schemes could be established.

To this end, a fonesforsafety Instruction Manual which elaborates on this summary with more detailed practical guidance and examples of good practice is available for practitioners.

If, after reading this Summary Guide, you wish to be considered for establishing a new fonesforsafety scheme, please register your interest at www.fonesforsafety.org.uk or contact us at 020 7740 6533. New fonesforsafety regions will receive the Instruction Manual along with support from the fonesforsafety team.

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For further information about domestic violence please visit www.womensaid.org.uk