

Social Justice and Social Security Committee

Jo Farrell Chief Constable Police Scotland

8 April 2025

Dear Chief Constable,

Financial considerations when leaving an abusive relationship

I am writing to you on behalf of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee to request information related to the Committee's inquiry into financial considerations when leaving an abusive relationship. Please find questions Members are looking for answers to below:

- To what extent are police officers trained to recognise financial and economic abuse, including coercive control?
- Are police officers trained in trauma-informed working practices?
- The Committee heard from people with experience of surviving domestic abuse that the evidence they provided to police officers to demonstrate that the person was also subjecting them to financial and economic abuse, was not taken as seriously as the investigation of the physical abuse. Could you therefore please confirm the processes that police officers follow when presented with evidence of financial and economic abuse?

It would be appreciated if you could please respond by **Tuesday 6 May**.

If you have any questions about this request, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Collette Stevenson MSP

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Convener

Social Justice and Social Security Committee

Contact: Social Justice and Social Security Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email <u>SJSS.committee@parliament.scot</u>. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.