

# POLICE APPROACH TO FAMILY HARM



Police attend a **5F Family Harm Investigation**. Family Harm takes a comprehensive view of the issues occurring within families and aims to address the underlying harm in partnership with other relevant agencies.

With **5F** we keep an **Eyes Wide Open** focus at initial attendance to capture the wider context of Family Harm. We determine the Total Concern for Safety and create a Frontline Safety Plan to take appropriate action with the perpetrator and to improve the safety of people at risk and tamariki for at least 72 hours following initial attendance.

**Multi Agency partners** get faster access to better quality Family Harm Investigations to inform decision making. Frontline Safety Plans created by Police provide the foundations for Multi Agency Teams to build longer term safety plans for victims, tamariki and perpetrators.

## 5F FAMILY HARM INVESTIGATION

### 1 The Static Assessment of Family Violence Recidivism (SAFVR) risk measure is a predictive statistical measure which calculates the likelihood a person will commit a family violence offence in the next two years given Police are attending a family harm investigation today (at the time it is calculated):

the statistical model results in a high, moderate or low risk. This statistical model is made up of data Police has access to and includes variables such as: a Family Violence (FV) index offence / incident codes, age at time of Index offence / incident; offence as an aggressor; count of previous FV occurrences in the past year; a count of previous offences; Ministry of Justice conviction record; gender; sentences of more than 30 days

**2 Dynamic questions risk measure** – the questions asked as part of the Family Harm Investigation. The questions are well researched and strong indicators of family violence risk or lethality. When answered positively these questions indicate the likelihood of the person posing risk (usually suspect, predominant aggressor) harming the person at risk (usually victim, primary victim) and tamariki is heightened. There are 10 questions for all family harm episodes, two additional questions for intimate partner violence and four questions if children reside with the primary parties involved.

**3** The SAFVR measure is combined with the results of the dynamic assessment questions to give a **Total Concern for Safety**.

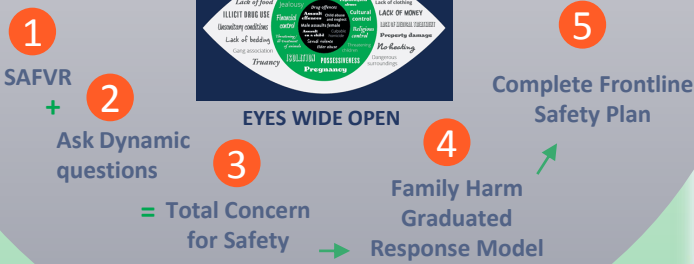
**4** The **Family Harm Graduated Response Model** indicates a range of safety actions to consider for the perpetrator, victim and tamariki based off the Total Concern for Safety.

**5** The selected safety actions from the Family Harm GRM, and any other safety actions you decide upon become the **Frontline Safety Plan**. The safety actions Police take will improve the safety of the person at risk and tamariki for at least 72 hours post initial attendance.

**How predictive is SAFVR?** Statisticians looked at a range of variables and determined, through regression analysis, which ones were the most predictive for people in New Zealand. Two years worth of real data was used to test the statistical model to ascertain its predictive values; this is why the measure holds true for two years. SAFVR was designed by New Zealand Police for the New Zealand environment.



## ACTION QUALITY FAMILY HARM INVESTIGATION



**SUPERVISOR**  
Review and Approve

6

CPP Referral  
ORANGA TAMARIKI (cc'd to the Child Protection Team)



**INTEGRATED SAFETY RESPONSE (ISR)**



**6** Multi agency partners review risk and needs and engage with the family to undertake any ongoing safety actions / support.

## IN SUMMARY

