

**Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EqHRIA)
Summary of Results**

Policy / Practice	Threats to Life Warnings SOP
Owning Department	National Intelligence Bureau
Date EqHRIA Completed	16/11/2017

Purpose of Policy / Practice	<p>The right to life is enshrined in Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights, in the Human Rights Act 1998 and within established case law. This places a duty of care on the police to take necessary appropriate steps to prevent death or injury occurring. The principle underlying any police action in this area is transparency of purpose, decision making and accountability.</p> <p>The SOP provides guidance for all officers when faced with the provision of information in respect of a threat to life or risk of serious injury to another person which is deemed to be credible, and the appropriate actions to be taken in respect of this threat so as to mitigate the threat and protect the life of the person who is the subject of the threat.</p> <p>The main purpose of the SOP therefore, is to provide officers at all levels with instruction and guidance to ensure that, where possible, such threats are minimised by the safest possible means. Furthermore, the policy provides a range of tactical options to senior managers to allow the deployment of resources commensurate with any threat.</p> <p>Any adverse impacts are explained throughout the policy.</p> <p>Outcome is to provide guidance and advice for all police officers to effectively deal with any threat to life scenario so that any potential threat is mitigated and, where appropriate, a risk assessment is undertaken in respect of all actions so as to effectively manage the threat.</p>
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A. Summary of Analysis / Decisions - What the assessment found and actions already taken.

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The SOP is likely to have a high, positive impact on ECHR Article 2 as it intended to help prevent death and/or serious injury occurring and support this involved in associated decision making. The SOP gives generic guidance on how to deal with certain types of circumstances, which may lead to a Threat to Life warning being administered. The administering of this will not impact on individual due to their membership of any particular protected group only.

The SOP promotes Articles 2, 5 and 11 by ensuring there are appropriate procedures in place so Police Scotland can respond to Threats to Life and prevent injury and loss of life.

However in doing so it may also infringe on Articles 5 and 11 by taking away the right to 'Liberty and Security' and/or the right to 'Freedom of Assembly and Association' to prevent injury and loss of life.

B. Summary of Mitigation Actions - What else we plan to do and how we are going to check that it has been done.

It is recognised that any incident to which this SOP relates will have an impact on a person's Right/Freedoms. This SOP includes direction for this to be considered and is justified as being Proportionate, Necessary and Legitimate by Protecting a person's 'Right to Life' (Article 2).

The Owing Department will monitor changes in legislation/circumstances that may affect the SOP and assess how these changes may impact on protected groups.

In addition they will be responsible for the cyclical review of both SOP and EqHRIA.