

Separating those involved in Domestic Incidents overnight.

I was a police officer in the UK for ■ yrs and attended many reports of domestic violence.

The one thing that I did, without fail, when attending a DV incident was to separate the parties involved OVERNIGHT.

I would ask either one of them to stay elsewhere that evening (a relative or friend NOT close by).

If this was not practical I would arrest the main aggressor. He (it was generally a male) would be arrested in order to Prevent a Further Breach of the Peace. This is despite the person or persons perhaps being calm at the time and stating "they will be ok now".

This enables the victim to be separated from the aggressor overnight

It allows both parties to have time to calm down

It gives officers the opportunity to make further inquiries into the relationship and to establish whether there was a previous history of domestic violence.

By separating the people involved there is the reassurance for all concerned that the situation would not reignite later when police officers had left.

Many times it is the woman who begs police officers not to arrest the aggressor but they generally accept it when it is explained that it is police policy to do what they have to in order to prevent a further breach of the peace in situations such as these.

If there are no charges to be dealt with the arrestee would be released the next morning without charge.