



Ministry  
of Justice

Sir Robert Neill  
Chair of the Justice Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

The Right Honourable  
**Alex Chalk KC MP**  
Lord Chancellor & Secretary  
of State for Justice

**MoJ ref:** 108500

1 September 2023

Dear Sir Bob,

## **LAUNCH OF THE DOMESTIC ABUSE PERPETRATORS ON LICENCE ELECTRONIC MONITORING PROJECT**

I am writing to let you know that we have launched the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator on Licence (DAPOL) Project this week. You will be aware that, as part of the expansion of electronic monitoring, this is one of several projects planned to build the evidence base for the most effective use of electronic monitoring (EM) in our justice system, made possible by this Government's substantial investment in these technologies.

The DAPOL project will identify offenders who are to be released on licence and are considered to be at risk of perpetrating domestic abuse and impose electronic monitoring on them.

In this first phase of the project any prison leaver in East or West Midlands who is at risk of committing domestic abuse could have an electronic monitoring GPS or curfew tag imposed as a condition of their licence. This will allow probation to monitor any imposed restrictions on their movements, such as exclusion zones or curfews and/or track their whereabouts. These additional licence conditions are not restricted to any specific offence or any overall level of risk, meaning that Probation will be able to consider tagging for any offenders serving a standard determinate sentence where risk of perpetrating domestic abuse is identified. Where the tag identifies that an offender has breached their movement restrictions or behaviour indicating a risk unmanageable in the community, they may be returned to prison.

Tackling violence against women and girls is a priority for the Government and this new project will help to ensure survivors can feel safer in their homes and communities. This initial phase of the project could see up to 500 offenders being tagged in the East and West Midlands alone, providing extra safeguards and peace of mind for hundreds of domestic abuse survivors, and helping to prevent others from becoming victims in the future.

We will expand the project to further regions next year, so that approximately half of England and Wales is covered. A robust evaluation will be carried out to identify the impact of this initiative and will inform our next steps.

A copy of this letter will be placed in the library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alex Chalk". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

**RT HON ALEX CHALK KC MP**

**LORD CHANCELLOR AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR JUSTICE**