Peterborough Police Service Board

Policy
Intimate Partner/Family Violence Occurrences
2026-LE-048

Contents

1.0 Authority
2.0 Definitions
3.0 Board Policy
4.0 Direction to the Chief
5.0 Report to the Board
6.0 Implementation

1.0 Authority

1.1 Subsection 37(1) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1,* ("CSPA") provides that a Board shall provide adequate and effective policing in the area for which it has policing responsibility as required by section 10 of the CSPA;

1.2 Subsection 38 (2) of the CSPA provides that a Police Service Board may establish policies respecting matters related to the police service or the provision of policing;

1.3 O. Reg. 392/23: Adequacy and Effective Policing (General) prescribes standards for adequacy and effectiveness of police services;

1.4 The Board deems it appropriate to require the Chief of Police to develop and maintain procedures on and processes for undertaking and managing investigations into intimate partner/family violence occurrences;

1.5 It is the purpose of this policy to ensure that the service has procedures in place which aim to reduce intimate partner/family violence by encouraging an effective and consistent response to intimate partner/family violence occurrences and by establishing a community protocol which takes a collaborative approach utilizing all available community resources.

NOW THEREFORE THE PETERBOROUGH POLICE SERVICE BOARD APPROVES AND ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING:

2.0 Definitions

In this Policy:

2.1 **"Act" or "CSPA"** means the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1*, as amended;

2.2 **"Board"** means the Peterborough Police Service Board;

2.3 **"Chief"** means the Chief of the Peterborough Police Service;

2.4 **"Intimate Partner Violence"** means any use of physical or sexual force, actual or threatened, in an intimate relationship, including emotional, physiological abuse or harassing behaviour, attempted, or caused, between two people who are, or have been, involved in a relationship;

2.5 **"Family Violence"** means the use of any physical or sexual force, emotional/psychological or verbal abuse or threatening/harassing behaviour attempted or caused to a family member by another family member;

2.6 **"Member"** means a member of the Peterborough Police Service;

2.7 **"Ministry"** means the Ministry of the Solicitor General;

2.8 **"Relationship"** means persons who are associated to each other through a family relationship, whether or not they are living together. These relationships vary in duration and legal formality, and include current and former dating. These relationships also include same sex relationships and persons who:

a) are legally married to one another;
b) were previously married to one another;
c) have a child in common, regardless of whether such persons have been married or have lived together at one time;
d) are not married but live together in a family-type relationship or have lived together in a family-type relationship; and
e) are not married but are currently or have been involved in a relationship with each other;

2.9 **"Service"** means the Peterborough Police Service.

3.0 Board Policy

3.1 The Board recognizes that matters of Intimate Partner and Family Violence are serious in nature, and it is therefore the policy of this Board that investigations into such matters be conducted professionally and thoroughly, and in accordance with procedures established by the Chief as directed in this Policy.

4.0 Direction to the Chief

4.1 Intimate Partner/Family Violence Coordinating Committee

4.1.1 The Chief or designate will participate in a Committee with agencies that may include the local Crown Attorney, probation and parole services, victim/witness assistance program, victim crisis and referral service, local municipalities, local Children's Aid Society and other local service providers and community representatives responsible for issues related to Intimate Partner/Family Violence, including women's shelters.

4.2 Ministry Model

4.2.1 The Chief shall implement one or more of the models set out in the Ministry guidelines for the investigation of Intimate Partner/Family Violence occurrences and ensure that the Service has access to trained Intimate Partner/Family Violence investigators.

4.3 Procedures

4.3.1 The Chief shall develop and maintain procedures for undertaking and managing investigations into Intimate Partner/Family Violence occurrences. These procedures shall address:

a) communications and dispatch;
b) initial response;
c) enhanced investigative procedures;
d) the mandatory laying of charges where there are reasonable grounds to do so, including in cases where there is a breach of a bail condition, probation, parole or a restraining order;
e) the use of a risk indicator's tool;
f) children at risk;
g) high risk cases and repeat offenders;
h) occurrences involving members of a police service;
i) post-arrest procedures; and
j) victim assistance and safety planning.

4.3.2 The Chief shall develop and implement a written procedure to monitor all responses to complaints of Intimate Partner/Family Violence to ensure compliance with the said procedures by Members.

4.4 **Monitoring**

4.4.1 The Chief shall ensure that the Service's response to Intimate Partner/Family Violence occurrences are monitored and evaluated.

4.5 **Training**

4.5.1 The Chief shall ensure that Members receive the appropriate Ministry accredited training in dealing with Intimate Partner/Family Violence occurrences.

5.0 Report to the Board

5.1 The Chief shall report to the Board on the Service's implementation of this Policy as follows:

5.1.1 In response to questions from the Board regarding Service procedures developed pursuant to the policy, either verbally at a meeting when the question is asked, or in writing at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, as directed by the Board; and

5.1.2 Within thirty days of the Chief becoming aware of a breach of Service procedures developed pursuant to this policy that the Chief in his sole discretion determines to be a significant breach that is likely to result in liability for or reputational damage to the Board or the Service, the Chief shall:

a) report to the Board verbally regarding the matter at its next regularly scheduled meeting;

b) provide periodic verbal updates as directed by the Board at subsequent meetings pending completion of internal and external proceedings regarding the matter; and

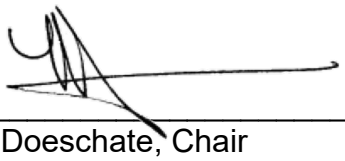
c) after the conclusion of all internal and external proceedings regarding the matter, provide a written report to the Board explaining:

i) the breach;
ii) the circumstances surrounding the breach;
iii) the Chief's liability or reputational concerns; and
iv) the corrective measures taken, including amendments to the procedure to guard against future breaches.

6.0 Implementation

6.1 That the Board approves and adopts this Policy #2026-LE-048 Intimate Partner/Family Violence Occurrences which shall come into force on October 21, 2026.

6.2 That Policy #LE-024 Domestic Violence Occurrences, enacted on October 20, 2014, is hereby repealed effective October 21, 2026.



Mary ten Doeschate, Chair
Peterborough Police Service Board

October 20, 2026
Date



Lisa Wilson, Executive Assistant
Peterborough Police Service Board

October 20, 2026
Date