

## Firearms guidance welcomed by Police Commissioner

8:00pm Monday 19th August 2013

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CHESHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner, John Dwyer, has welcomed new Government guidance on firearm and shotgun licences.

Home Office guidelines now state that 'individuals with a history of domestic violence should not be permitted to possess a firearm or shotgun'.

John Dwyer said: "In Cheshire we evaluate the person's suitability to hold a firearms or shotgun licence based on previous incidents and convictions including domestic violence.

"Domestic violence and abuse is a national issue, and any work the police can do to combat domestic violence and abuse is fantastic."

In Cheshire the Firearms Licensing Department works alongside the Public Protection Unit when an incident of domestic violence is reported and the perpetrator holds a firearms and shotgun licence.

Statistics show two people a week are murdered by their partner or ex-partner, and 18 per cent of violent crime is domestic abuse.

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