

A Case Study: signs of vulnerability

Review the case study below and identify the factors that could suggest the victim of the ASB is at risk or vulnerable:

Laura is a social housing tenant. She is in the fixed term period of her assured short-hold tenancy. She lives with her 2 children, Bonny (7 years of age) and James (12 years of age). Her partner, Carl, does not live with her but he regularly visits the address.

Asha lives next door to Laura. The properties are in a block of flats; 2 properties on the ground floor and two properties on the first floor. Asha and Laura live in the 2 properties on the first floor. She contacts you to report the following issues:

- James playing loud music from inside the property. She does not think that Laura is at home when this is happening
- Bonny throwing stones at her car
- Laura and Carl arguing when he comes to visit. Asha can hear it from inside of her home and there is lots of smashing and banging sounds
- On one occasion, Asha approached Carl about the arguing and he shouted at her, "keep your nose out of it, you fucking paki". He now draws his fingers across his throat whenever he sees her, which she takes as a threat of violence.
- She has seen Police Officers attending the property but doesn't know why.

Asha tells you that something is happening nearly every day. she is really scared. She has panic attacks when she sees Carl and is on medication from the Doctor. She has no friends or family in the area and is considering leaving her home to move in with her mother. She states that she cannot cope with the situation any longer and is feeling hopeless.