



Ask for ANI

Force champion action list

Thank you for volunteering to be your force's Ask for ANI champion. We recognise that these are difficult times and that everyone is under additional pressure, so we're particularly grateful to you for taking on this role.

We are aiming to launch Ask for ANI to the public in January 2021. Between now and January we will be working with pharmacies and local partners to prepare for launch. We would really welcome your help with this work so that in January we are able to offer vulnerable victims of domestic abuse a new, additional way of accessing emergency help in the community.

Below is a list of key actions we would like force champions to take to help the Ask for ANI scheme work well in your force area:

☐ **Share information about Ask for ANI across the force**

It is important that officers and staff are aware of the codeword – in particular, call handlers and responding officers should know about the scheme so that they can respond appropriately if a victim or pharmacy uses the scheme to contact the police. Alongside this action list, you will receive a one-pager which explains what Ask for ANI is and what action call handlers and responding officers should take if they receive an ANI call. You can help by ensuring this document is shared with staff and displayed where staff can see it.

☐ **Make sure your local Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership are aware of the codeword scheme**

We are providing an Ask for ANI partners briefing for them, which you can share.

☐ **Talk to pharmacies**

We will send you a list of participating pharmacies in your area. Talking to participating pharmacies about the scheme will help them to understand what they can expect from the police response and help them to feel confident about contacting the police if someone uses the codeword. You may also wish to talk to non-participating pharmacies to make sure that they are aware of the codeword and know what action they should take if someone uses the codeword in their pharmacy. We are providing a briefing for non-participating pharmacies which is being distributed via the national pharmacy bodies – a copy is provided alongside this document for your information. Some non-participating pharmacies may decide they would like to adopt Ask for ANI. Please signpost them to the [online](#)

[form](#) where they can register for the scheme or ask them to email AskforANI@homeoffice.gov.uk

☐ **Link up with local support domestic abuse support services**

Where a victim doesn't want a call to the police, but wants help from a specialist domestic abuse service, pharmacies can signpost to national helplines or local support services. You could help pharmacies by providing them with information about local support services so they have the information on hand when they need to signpost victims.

☐ **Share data with the Home Office about use of Ask for ANI**

We recognise that not all victims or pharmacies who call the police will tell the call handler that this is 'an Ask for ANI call'. However, where it is clear that the codeword has been used, we would be grateful if the following data could be collected about the victim and shared with the Home Office on a monthly basis (this data request will be reviewed in June 2021)

- The number of Ask for ANI calls received per month;
- Date and time of the call;
- The outcome of the call received (e.g. response outcome, response time);
- Key characteristics data: gender, ethnicity and age of victim.

This information will help to inform the external evaluation of the scheme which is being conducted by Ipsos MORI. We will contact you to put in place a data-sharing agreement.

Information on Ask for ANI

- Training resources and posters for pharmacies just using Ask for ANI <https://www.gov.uk/homeoffice/pharmacy-codeword-scheme>
- Training resources and posters for pharmacies using Ask for ANI and Safe Spaces <https://www.gov.uk/homeoffice/pharmacy-codeword-safespaces-scheme>
- Form pharmacies can use to sign up to the scheme [online form](#)
- The following documents are provided alongside this action list – if you haven't received them, please email AskforANI@homeoffice.gov.uk
 - One-pager for call handlers
 - Briefing for non-participating pharmacies
 - Briefing for local partners

Any questions or comments, please email AskforANI@homeoffice.gov.uk

