

MULTI-AGENCY RISK ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE

The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is held on a fortnightly basis on a Tuesday in South Tyneside where professionals meet to share information on high risk cases of domestic abuse. Information about the risks faced by those victims (16+) the actions needed to ensure safety, and the resources available locally, are discussed and used to create a risk management plan involving all agencies. The MARAC is part of a coordinated community response to domestic abuse, incorporating representatives from statutory, community and voluntary agencies working with victims, children and alleged perpetrators.

Aims of the MARAC

The MARAC aims to:

- Share information to increase the safety, health and well-being of victims/survivors - adults and their children
- Determine whether the alleged perpetrator poses a significant risk to any particular individual or to the general community;
- Jointly construct and implement a risk management plan that provides professional support to all those at risk and that reduces the risk of harm;
- Reduce repeat victimisation;
- Improve agency accountability; and
- Improve support for staff involved in high-risk domestic abuse cases.

The MARAC Coordinator maintains a list of the nominated representatives for each agency represented at the MARAC, including a telephone number and secure email address.

How do Practitioners determine if a case is high risk?

Practitioners are required to complete a DASH Risk Indicator Checklist (RIC) with any victim that has disclosed domestic abuse. The checklist should be completed with the victim as soon as possible to determine the level of risk posed to them. If the risk assessment score is 14 + (or less in some cases for Young People) the MARAC threshold for high risk, has been met, and a referral to the conference should be made.

There is additional guidance on completing the DASH RIC's for adults and young people (16+) where professional judgement will be considered in addition to score. There will be occasions where the particular context of a case gives rise to serious concerns even if the victim has been unable to disclose the information that might highlight their risk more clearly. See guidance attached to the DASH RIC.

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How do Practitioners refer to the MARAC?

Once a high risk case has been identified (DASH RIC), the practitioner will need to complete a MARAC referral form. The DASH RIC and referral should be submitted securely (via secure email) to South Tyneside MASH mailbox (southtynesidemashmailbox@northumbria.police.uk). Guidance can be sought from MASH support officers .

How does the MARAC operate?

The MARAC is chaired by the MASH Supervisor in charge of the Northumbria Public Protection Unit.

Who to Contact for further enquiries?

Email your enquiry to: southtynesidemashmailbox@northumbria.police.uk