



SHROPSHIRE MARAC - PLEASE E-MAIL VIA SECURE E-MAIL TO:
MARACShrop@westmercia.police.uk

MULTI AGENCY MARAC ASSESSMENT & REFERRAL FORM

MARAC does not absolve professionals from undertaking their duties to reduce the risk to victims or sharing information with statutory and support networks. There are local responsibilities to support Domestic Abuse victims and perpetrators and appropriate referrals to these services can and should be made prior to the MARAC meetings.

The referring agency is **required** to attend the MARAC to present the case, if this is not possible please provide details of the agency representative who will attend and present the case on your behalf (they must be fully informed of up to date information at the date of the meeting).

Referring agency:			
Referrers name(s):			
Telephone/email:			
Date:			
Victim name:		Victim DOB:	
Address:			
Telephone number:			
Is this number safe to call?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		
Please provide any relevant information regarding contact:			
Victim Equality Information (as identified by victim.)			
Gender	Click or tap here to enter text.	Nationality	Click or tap here to enter text.
Ethnicity	Click or tap here to enter text.	Sexual Orientation	Click or tap here to enter text.
Disability	Click or tap here to enter text.	Religion	Click or tap here to enter text.

Perpetrator name:		Perpetrator DOB:		
Perpetrator address:		Relationship to victim:		
Perpetrator Equality Information (where known, state source)				
Gender	Click or tap here to enter text.	Nationality	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Ethnicity	Click or tap here to enter text.	Sexual Orientation	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Disability	Click or tap here to enter text.	Religion	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Dependents (Children/Adults) (please add extra rows if necessary)				
Name	DOB	Relationship to victim	Relationship to perpetrator	Address (if different to victim)

RISK ASSESSMENT FACTORS (MUST BE COMPLETED)

Professional Judgement:	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Visible High Risk (14 ticks or more on the Safelives DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking & Harassment) RIC (Risk Indicator Checklist))	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Potential Escalation:	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
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REASON FOR REFERRAL/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (MUST BE COMPLETED)

Reason for Referral:	
Has the Domestic Abuse stalking and harassment (dash) – Risk indicator checklist (ric) been completed with the victim?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the victim aware of MARAC referral?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Has the victim agreed to the MARAC referral and for information given to be shared?	Verbal <input type="checkbox"/> Signed <input type="checkbox"/> No consent <input type="checkbox"/>
If no consent: Information Sharing Without Notifying the Victim Form must be completed	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>

Explain what the MARAC process is. Use the SafeLives [What is a MARAC?](#) Video to help .

Ask the victim to read the consent statement below (or ensure that you explain the statement to them in a way which supports them to make their own decision where possible). Then ask them to sign below or indicate if verbal consent has been obtained.

Please explain that regardless of agreement being refused, if there are life threatening or child protection issues this information will be shared under the conditions of data protection legislation of compliance with legal obligations, protection of vital interests, and/or performance of a task carried out in the public interest.

Victim Consent Statement

It has been explained to me that this form is being completed to help understand whether I am at risk from domestic abuse and whether to refer me to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process.

This form has/has not *[delete as appropriate]* been completed with my involvement and consent.

I agree/do not agree *[delete as appropriate]* with information in this form being shared with partner agencies for the purposes of MARAC and to help secure my safety and that of my family.

I understand that if I do not agree that the person who is completing this form may need to share relevant and essential information with others anyway because the laws says they must, to protect my safety or the safety of others or because of another legal reason.

Date:.....

Signature:.....

If No Consent given, and/or the victim has not been informed of the referral, consider sharing information under GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018, Human Rights, and Common Law and in the interests of public safety. A practitioner can share information lawfully if it is to keep a child or individual at risk safe from neglect or physical, emotional, or mental harm, or if it is protecting their physical, mental, or emotional well-being. (GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018)

Data Protection and Caldecott guidelines should be considered jointly when sharing information.

CRITERIA FOR REFERRING A CASE TO MARAC

There are four criteria for a referral to Marac:

1. Visible High Risk

This is an assessment based on actuarial data, involving the use of risk indicators to assess the probability of serious harm or homicide. For domestic abuse cases, the number of 'yes' answers on the DASH usually determines the level of risk.

SafeLives recommends that 14 'yes' answers on the Dash should result in a referral to MARAC. However, completing the DASH is not a simple 'tick box' exercise and, even where there is a lower number of ticks, professional judgement should be used to inform the overall assessment of risk. In addition, professional judgement should not be used to 'downgrade' an actuarial risk assessment.

2. Professional Judgement

Professional judgement involves an assessment of dangerousness based on an individual practitioner's consideration of a situation but will naturally use the information from the DASH checklist to inform this judgement. However, in addition to using the DASH it is crucial that professionals use their full range of knowledge to make an assessment; this knowledge will usually be gained through experience, reflection, and deliberation. This form of assessment relies heavily on the skill and experience of the practitioner in order to make an informed decision of likely risk.

In domestic abuse settings, professional judgement will be informed by the practitioner's knowledge of domestic abuse and its manifestations.

Referrals to MARAC can be made based solely on professional judgement. However, it is the practitioner's responsibility to articulate what their concerns are and the reasons for the referral.

3. Potential Escalation

The potential for escalation can be assessed by looking at the frequency and/or severity of abuse.

It is common practice for services to determine there is a potential for serious harm or homicide when three domestic abuse events have been identified in a 12-month period. For example, three attendances at A&E, three police call outs or three calls to make housing repairs. This should alert professionals to the need to consider a referral to MARAC.

4. Repeat Referral

SafeLives defines a 'repeat' as ANY instance of abuse between the same victim and perpetrator, within 12 months of the last referral to MARAC.

The individual act of abuse does not need to be 'criminal', violent or threatening but should be viewed within the context of a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour. Some events that might be considered a 'repeat' incident may include, but are not limited to:

- Unwanted direct or indirect contact from the perpetrator and/or their friends or family
- A breach of police or court bail conditions
- A breach of any civil court order between the victim and perpetrator
- Any dispute between the victim and perpetrator including over child contact, property, divorce/ separation proceedings etc.

These events could be disclosed to any service or agency including, but not exclusive to, health care practitioners (including mental health), domestic abuse specialists, police, substance misuse services, housing providers etc.

Further incidents include any of the following types of behaviour, which, if reported to the police, would constitute criminal behaviour:

- violence or threats of violence to the victim (including threats against property); or
- a pattern of stalking or harassment; or
- rape or sexual abuse.

The MARAC will also consider repeat referrals where there has not been a further incident but where there has been a change in circumstances which may mean an increased risk and thus a need for MARAC agencies to reconsider the victim's safety e.g. where the perpetrator has been released from prison.

The following do not constitute a repeat case and should be treated as a new referral to the MARAC:

- Where a case is referred to the MARAC involving the same victim but a different perpetrator or group of perpetrators
- Where a case is referred to the MARAC involving the same perpetrator but a different victim
- Cases which were previously discussed at the MARAC more than 12 months previously

DOMESTIC ABUSE, STALKING AND HARRASSMENT (DASH) – RISK INDICATOR CHECKLIST (RIC) (MUST BE COMPLETED)

Please also refer to:

- [Shropshire Domestic Abuse Pathway](#)
- [SafeLives' Resources for identifying the risks victims face](#) includes:
 - Quick Start Guidance
 - Alternative DASH-RIC simplified for young people that can also be used for people who may benefit from clear and simple language
 - DASH-RIC in a variety of different languages.

Please submit alternatives with this form in place of the below.
 Please explain that the purpose of asking these questions is for the safety and protection of the individual concerned.
 Tick the boxes if a factor is present. If necessary, please use an additional sheet to expand on any answer.
 It is assumed that your main source of information is the victim. If this is not the case please indicate in the right hand column.
 If a referral is made into MARAC, wherever possible please ask the victim to agree and sign to information sharing (above).

Questions 1 - 24	Yes	No	Don't Know	Source of info if not from victim
1 Has the current incident resulted in injury? <i>(Please state what and whether this is the first injury)</i> Comment:				
2 Are you very frightened? Comment:				
3 What are you afraid of? Is it further injury or violence? <i>(Please give an indication of what you think might do and to whom, including the children)</i> Comment:				
4 Do you feel isolated from family/friends <i>(i.e. does try to stop you from seeing friends, family, doctor, or others)</i> Comment:				
5 Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts? Comment:				

Questions (continued)	Yes	No	Don't Know	Source of info if not from victim
<p>6 Have you separated or tried to separate from within the past year? Comment:</p>				
<p>7 Is there conflict over child contact? Comment:</p>				
<p>8 Does.....constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you? <i>(Please expand to identify what and whether you believe that this is done to deliberately intimidate you? Consider the context and behaviour of what is being done)</i> Comment:</p>				
<p>9 Are you pregnant or have you had a baby within the last 18 months? Comment:</p>				
<p>10 Is the abuse happening more often? Comment:</p>				
<p>11 Is the abuse getting worse? Comment:</p>				
<p>12 Does.....try to control everything you do and/or are they excessively jealous? <i>(In terms of relationships, who you see, being 'policed' at home, telling you what to wear for example. Consider 'honour'-based violence and specify behaviour)</i> Comment:</p>				

Questions (continued)	Yes	No	Don't Know	Source of info if not from victim
13 Has.....ever used objects or weapons to hurt you? Comment:				
14 Has.....ever threatened to kill you or someone else and you believed them? <i>(If yes, please specify whom and why. Consider extended family if Honour Based Violence.)</i> You <input type="checkbox"/> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comment:				
15 Has.....ever attempted to strangle, choke, suffocate or drown you? Comment:				
16 Does.....do or say things of a sexual nature that makes you feel bad or that physically hurt you or someone else? <i>(If someone else specify who.)</i> Comment:				
17 Is there any other person who has threatened you or you are afraid of? <i>(If yes, please specify whom and why. Consider extended family if Honour Based Violence.)</i> Comment:				
18 Do you know if.....has hurt anyone else? <i>(Please specify whom including the children, siblings, or elderly relatives. Consider Honour Based Violence.)</i> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Another family member <input type="checkbox"/> Someone from a previous relationship <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comment:				

Questions (continued)	Yes	No	Don't Know	Source of info if not
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				from victim
19	Has.....ever mistreated an animal or family pet? Comment:			
20	Are there any financial issues? For example are you dependent on for money or have they recently lost their job or are there other financial issues? Comment:			
21	Has.....had problems in the past year with drugs (prescription or other), alcohol or mental health leading to problems in leading a normal life. <i>(If yes please specify which and give relevant detail if known)</i> Drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health <input type="checkbox"/> Comment:			
22	Has.....ever threatened or attempted suicide? Comment:			
23	Has.....ever broken bail/an injunction and/or formal agreement for when they can see you and/or the children or other family members? <i>(You may wish to consider this in relation to another person with whom the perpetrator is personally connected if relevant.)</i> Bail Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Non Molestation/Occupation Order <input type="checkbox"/> Child Contact Arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Forced Marriage Protection Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Comment:			
24	Do you know if.....Has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history? <i>(If yes, please specify.)</i> DV <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other Violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Comment:			
Total 'YES' responses				

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