

What is the Domestic Abuse/Violence (DA/DV) MARAC?

MARAC stands for Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference. A meeting specifically for Domestic Abuse/Violence cases is held weekly, for those victims who have been identified as being at high risk of serious harm or homicide.

In the most urgent cases, an emergency meeting can be initiated with evidence to support the request and approval by the MARAC's Chair. In some cases safety measures can be put in place until the next scheduled meeting. In these incidents the measures will need supporting evidence and be submitted to the Police.

Further Information

DA/DV MARAC Referral form can be accessed:

https://www.havering.gov.uk/info/20096/community/550/domestic_violence

For more information please contact:

DomesticViolenceMARAC@havering.gov.uk

A Havering IDVA Referral Form can be obtained via:

havering.IDVA@havering.gov.uk

What happens at the meeting?

Relevant and proportionate information is shared about the risks, to enable options to be identified to increase the safety of the victim and any other parties such as children.

The coordination or construction of an action plan is established to address the identified risks.

Outcomes can include but are not limited to: police safety measures, Clare's Law Disclosure, assistance with court orders and housing support.

The duty to take actions rests with agencies, and is not transferred to the DA/DV MARAC.

The aims of the DA/DV MARAC

The Domestic Abuse/Violence (DA/DV) MARAC is a meeting to facilitate effective information sharing and action planning to keep victims safe.

The key aims are:

1. To share information to increase the safety health and well-being of victims, adults and their children.
2. Make links with other public protection agencies in relation to children, perpetrators and vulnerable adults.
3. Determine whether the perpetrator poses a significant risk to any individual or the community.
4. Jointly construct and implement a risk management plan that provides support to those at risk and reduces harm.
5. Reduce repeat victimisation.
6. Improve agency accountability.
7. Improve support for and the safety of staff involved in high risk DA/DV cases.

Who attends the meeting?

Agencies that can have an impact in increasing a victim's safety attend the meeting. These include the Police, Child Protection, Housing, Health, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), Probation and many other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.

A victim of DA/DV does not attend the meeting, but can be represented by an IDVA.

All agencies have a DA/DV MARAC representative to commit to the actions for their agency and act as a **Single Point of Contact (SPOC)**.

How do I refer?

A referral should be made when the following thresholds are met:

1. Automatic High Risk i.e. individual has scored 14 or more on the Domestic Abuse/Violence, Stalking, 'Honour' Based Risk Indicator Checklist (DASH RIC) Tool.
2. If a victim has already presented at DA/DV MARAC but there is another incident within 12 months.
3. Evidence of 'Honour' based violence, or forced marriage and other harmful practices.
4. Potential escalation of abuse/violence i.e. 4 or more incidents within previous 12 months.
5. When a case has transferred into Havering from another area.
6. When a professional believes there is evidence to suggest high risk DA/DV based on information.

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If a referral lacks information it can be challenged with requests for more information made. When a case does not meet the threshold support should then be sought from local DA/DV services.

Do I need to seek consent?

It is always best to seek consent in line with GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. **However** it is important to note that when a person is assessed as being high risk of serious harm or violence and meets the DA/DV threshold then the information can be shared without consent.



7-minute briefing