Tower Hamlets

Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

Professionals Pack



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Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse MARAC

# Operational Protocol

**Aims:**

1. Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse MARAC aims to review and co-ordinate service provision in high-risk domestic abuse cases. The MARAC will facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase public safety.

The Operating Protocol has been established to outline agency accountability, responsibility and reporting structures for the MARAC and to outline the process of the MARAC.

The Operating Protocol is designed to enhance existing arrangements like the MARAC Steering Group Terms of Reference and the MARAC Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) rather and replace them.

1. The MARAC will:
* Share information to increase the safety, health and well being of adult and child victims of domestic abuse
* Review cases and ensure that all possible strategies for increasing the safety of victims and imposing sanctions to deter repeat offending are fully explored and implemented in a co-ordinated way
* Monitor the implementation of local policies in relation to specific cases
* Contribute to the development of best practice and training initiatives
* Ensure that agreed courses of action are carried out in an expedited manner
* Provide clear professional advice from the relevant agencies involved
* Identify policy issues arising from casework and raise these through the appropriate channels.

 **MARAC Members responsibilities:**

The MARAC Steering Group meets on a quarterly basis and are responsible for taking the strategic lead by addressing the practical and resource implications of MARAC; develop and maintain internal protocols and procedures in relation to public protection.

It is the responsibility of the Steering Group to report quarterly to the VAWG & Domestic Abuse Steering Group and the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

 MARAC members are responsible for:

* Ensuring staff within their service are aware of the work of MARAC and actively consider making referrals in domestic abuse cases that present high risks to adults or children.
* Recommend/ensure their own agency procedure includes routine enquiries about domestic abuse
* Providing information on their own agency or department’s involvement in new referrals brought to MARAC, including any action taken or casework in progress and updates on existing cases being discussed at MARAC.
* Ensure appropriate actions are undertaken prior to the meeting to reduce the risk i.e. safety planning / place a ‘flag’ or marker on individual records to show that the individual is a high risk victim of domestic abuse
* Ensure a system is in place to monitor all cases referred to the panel, which have a repeat incident within 12 months of it originally being referred.
* Continually provide information on any further repeat incidents (including non crime domestics) for all existing cases that are being discussed by MARAC and provide updated risk assessment information.
* Undertake agreed follow-up work and adhere to the set timescales
* Communicating MARAC recommendations and actions to the relevant staff within their service
* Notify the MARAC Coordinator should you identify that a victim discussed at the MARAC is leaving the area
1. Core MARAC members are required to attend and stay throughout the meeting.
2. MARAC members may be called for an emergency meeting at times to discuss urgent cases.
3. If it is not possible for members to attend a MARAC meeting, they must appoint a suitable substitute from their agency who is briefed on their role and come prepared with any updates and actions as required.
4. Members are responsible for informing the MARAC Coordinator who will be deputising for them 3 days in advance of the meeting whenever possible.

**Attendance by other agencies/professionals:**

1. Other agencies or professionals may be invited to attend the MARAC meeting if they are involved in a specific case due for discussion. Any such invitations must be agreed by the Chair in advance of the meeting. Invitations will be to participate in discussion of a specific case, not to attend the whole meeting.

**Frequency of Meetings:**

1. MARAC meetings will be held fortnightly.

**Chairing and Minutes:**

1. The Central East Borough Command Unit (BCU) Detective Inspector will chair meetings.
2. It will be the responsibility of the chair to agree specific timed actions at the meeting.
3. The chair will agree and allocate the person responsible for updating the victim on the outcome of the MARAC meeting.
4. The LBTH MARAC Coordinator will be responsible for taking minutes of meetings and ensuring that all papers and information are sent out to all members of the MARAC. She will chase up any matters that the MARAC may deem necessary and to invite external agencies and/or directorates as agreed by the Chair e.g. other key workers working on the case.
5. Minutes and actions will be sent out by the MARAC Coordinator (by email) within 5 working days of the meeting.
6. The MARAC Coordinator will complete the minutes detailing agreed actions to be taken by each agency as a record of the meeting.
7. All information in relation to the MARAC is strictly confidential. No documents relating to the MARAC are to be circulated or shared with non-MARAC members without agreement of the Chair. Documents must be treated as strictly confidential.

**MARAC** **Referral Criteria:**

1. Any professional should refer a case to the MARAC using the following thresholds: assessed using the Domestic Abuse Stalking Honour Based Violence (DASH) Risk Assessment:
* **Visible High Risk'**: the number of ticks on the DASH Risk Assessment. If you have 14 or more 'yes' boxes identified out of the initial 24 questions
* **Escalation –** 3 domestic abuse incidents in the past 12 months (which have been reported to any agency / professional).
* **Professional judgement:** if a professional has serious concerns about a victim/s situation, they should refer the case to MARAC. There will be occasions where the 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. This could reflect extreme levels of fear and possible cultural barriers particularly in cases of ‘so-called’ honour-based abuse, FGM and Forced Marriage. This judgement would be based on the experience of the professional and/or victim’s perception of their risk even if they do not meet 1 and/or 2 above.

One or all these factors may apply for referring a case to the MARAC.

**Repeat Referral Criteria:**

1. A case should be referred as a repeat if any agency receives a notification of an incident (within 12 months of the case being heard) which involves:
* Abuse or threats of abuse
* Pattern of stalking or harassment
* Where rape or sexual abuse disclosed

A ***Repeat*** must be the same victim, perpetrator, and MARAC meeting.

If a repeat incident does not meet the repeat criteria, then it can be reviewed and referred but not discussed as a repeat.

**Identification of a repeat MARAC referral:**

1. To assist MARAC members identify a repeat MARAC referral, the MARAC Coordinator will email members a list of cases discussed the previous month. It is the responsibility of the MARAC representative to refer a case should there be a further incident reported.

**Identification of MARAC cases**

1. It is the responsibility of the originating referrer to refer the case to the correct MARAC.
2. If a referral is received where the victim resides out of Tower Hamlets the MARAC Coordinator will inform the referring agency that the case needs to be referred to the MARAC within the borough where the victim resides (whether temporary or permanently).
3. The MARAC Coordinator will provide details of the relevant MARAC Coordinator to the referring agency when required.
4. On receipt of a fully completed MARAC referral, the MARAC Coordinator will circulate the referral papers to the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) service within 24 hours.
5. If a case is already known to the IDVA service, it will be the responsibility of the IDVA manager to ensure that any MARAC cases are reassigned when the allocated IDVA is on annual leave*.*
6. The MARAC Coordinator will circulate a copy of the MARAC Agenda to all MARAC members within 5 working days of the next MARAC meeting.

**Privacy Notice**

1. The information you provide will be used by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets’ MARAC, to enable us to support and signpost effectively.
2. Your personal information may be shared with internal departments or with external partners and agencies involved in delivering services on our behalf. As stated above this will include statutory, non- statutory, public and private organisations [such as Police, Victim Support, Probation, Courts].
3. We will only hold your information for as long as is required by law and to provide you with the necessary services. This is likely to be for six years after the case is closed.
4. You can find full Privacy Notice and your rights on our Data Protection Page on the Tower Hamlets website ([www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/content\_pages/legal\_notices/legal\_notices.aspx](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/content_pages/legal_notices/legal_notices.aspx)). This includes details of your rights about automated decisions, such as the ranking of Housing Applications, and how to complain to the Information Commissioner.

**Communication with Victim**

1. If the victim has been notified that an IDVA will make contact, attempts will be made within 48 hours to ensure the current risks and needs of the victim are identified. If contact is not made the IDVA will attempt to contact the victim a further 2 times.

**Referral to the MARAC:**

1. MARAC members will email the MARAC Coordinator completed referral paperwork at least 5 working days before the meeting. The MARAC Coordinator will check the referral, liaise with the chairs if necessary and circulate details of cases for discussion at the meeting. MARAC members will check their own agency records and provide information as to their agency’s involvement in the case at the meeting.
2. If children are known to be involved, then the additional 6 questions on the risk assessment needs to be completed also.
3. If a case is being referred under the threshold of Professional Judgement, then you will be asked to provide further information asking you to highlight your concerns as the professional involved in this case.

**MARAC to MARAC transfer**

1. It is the responsibility of the MARAC Coordinator with the agreement of the chair to refer a case to another borough if information is shared that the victim no longer resides in the borough.
2. A MARAC to MARAC referral should be made when a victim moves between areas, either on a temporary (e.g. into refuge) or permanent basis.
3. If a victim moves out of borough, it is the responsibility of the MARAC Coordinator to complete the MARAC to MARAC referral form and send this with the MARAC referral form and any other documentation that is relevant the MARAC coordinator for that area. The MARAC Coordinator will then record on the MARAC2MARAC transfer data sheet the; case reference number; area to which the referral is being made; the date of referral; the date referral receipt acknowledged and the contact name of the local MARAC coordinator.
4. It is the responsibility of individual agencies to inform the MARAC Coordinator if they identify that a MARAC victim is leaving the area.
5. If a victim who has moved out of borough and is known to the IDVA service, it is their responsibility with the client’s consent to refer the victim to the IDVA service in the borough to which they are moving to.
6. On receipt of a MARAC referral from another borough, the case will automatically be discussed at the next MARAC.
7. MARAC to MARAC referrals are monitored and included within the quarterly monitoring report.

**Information shared at MARAC**

1. The Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) is up to date and has been agreed by all agencies. This will be reviewed on an annual basis.

**Follow-up action**

1. The Lead Officer from each agency will take agreed follow up action/s and email updates to the MARAC Coordinator, on action taken and the outcomes within the timescale set. If the MARAC recommends referral to another agency, which is not represented on the panel the MARAC Coordinator will inform the appropriate agency of their action.
2. If updates are not emailed to the MARAC Coordinator by the set timescale (which is 1 week after the meeting, unless stated otherwise) a record will be placed against the action *incomplete due to not being undertaken by (date agreed)*.
3. It is the responsibility of the professional to inform the MARAC Coordinator if an action could not be completed and the reason why. It will then be recorded as *incomplete due to change in circumstance (reason why to be stated)*.
4. All incomplete actions will be reviewed and addressed by the MARAC Steering Group at the quarterly meetings when necessary.

**Confidentiality**

1. The MARAC is not a public forum and attendance shall be limited to those agencies that are able to provide a contribution towards cases considered. Observers to the MARAC are to be agreed in advance by the co chairs.
2. All cases discussed at the MARAC are strictly confidential and the information discussed must not be passed on to any individual or agency without the agreement of the Chair.
3. Under the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1986 (CPIA), if/when an individual is charged with an offence the police are required to disclose the existence of all relevant material created as part of the investigation. As a result, the existence of the MARAC referral and risk assessment will be disclosed to the defence. However, this will be listed as ‘sensitive information’ and will only be fully disclosed if a Judge deems it absolutely necessary in the interests of justice. Even on the rare occasion when this may happen the defence will be issued with the following instructions:

*‘This material is disclosed to you in accordance with the provisions of the CPIA 1986, and you must not use or disclose it, or any information recorded in it, for any purpose other than in connection with these criminal proceedings. If you do so without the permission of the court, you may commit an offence.’*

1. All correspondence relating to the MARAC will be sent via secure email (gcsx, gsi, nhs.net, cjsm) or via Egress for those agencies who do not have access to secure email and clearly marked “STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL”. MARAC members will ensure that all papers are stored and disposed of securely, restricting unauthorised access.

**Attendance by Victims and/or family members:**

1. Due to the nature of the discussions at the MARAC, victims, family members or other interested parties will not be invited to attend. They may however make their concerns known to the MARAC via the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) or by writing to the Co Chairs. The IDVA or the Chair will communicate the outcome of the MARAC to the victim as soon as possible after the meeting.

**Equality**

1. It is important that the MARAC meets the needs of all high-risk victims of domestic abuse, including those from minority communities. To ensure we are discussing cases which reflect our local population and have agency representation who can offer specialist advice we produce quarterly monitoring reports outlining the ethnicity, age, faith, sexual orientation, disability and gender of victims discussed at the meeting.
2. If agency attendance at the meeting does not meet the needs of a particular case to address equality issues, the MARAC Coordinator will invite an appropriate representative from a particular service to attend for that case discussion only.
3. The membership of the MARAC will be regularly reviewed, to identify any additional representatives required to meet the needs of the local community (including diverse communities)

**Emergency MARAC Meetings**

1. With the agreement of the chair an emergency MARAC meeting can take place, should a professional have serious concern for a case which requires immediate intervention.
2. To refer a case for an emergency MARAC, the professional would need to complete and send the MARAC referral documents to the MARAC Coordinator, clearly outlining the reason and concerns why an emergency MARAC should take place.
3. On receipt of the fully completed referral and with the chair’s agreement, the MARAC Coordinator will identify and invite appropriate MARAC members to attend the meeting. The meeting will be held within 24 hours (working days) on receipt of referral. If on short notice a particular agency cannot attend, then information will be shared prior to the meeting.
4. Should an emergency MARAC meeting take place, the case will be added to the agenda of the next scheduled meeting for information share and further case discussion and strategic planning.

**Evaluation**

1. Quarterly reports are produced and shared with the MARAC Steering Group and VAWG & Domestic Abuse Steering Group members. This information is collected by the MARAC Coordinator, who also provides quarterly figures to SafeLives as and when requested.

**Complaints**

1. Any complaints against another signatory agency about their MARAC activities of processes should be emailed to the chair. This will then be raised at the next Steering Group meeting and dealt with accordingly or appropriate complaints section.

**Breaches**

1. By signing and agreeing to the MARAC Operating Protocol you are aware that should there be a breach of this protocol it would be extremely damaging for victim or all signatory agencies.

**MARAC Operating Protocol Review:**

1. The Operating Protocol will be reviewed every 12 months.

**Withdrawal**

1. It will be the responsibility of the individual signatory to this protocol to notify the chair should you leave your organisation and inform them of your replacement.
2. It is the responsibility of the MARAC Coordinator to ensure the replacement is aware of their responsibilities as a MARAC representative ensures they have read the relevant Protocols.

Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse MARAC

# Frequency Asked Questions

1. **What is the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)?**

The MARAC is the Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference. The MARAC aims to review and co-ordinate service provision in high-risk domestic abuse cases. The MARAC will facilitate, monitor, and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase public safety.

Key staff from the Police, Housing, Children’s Social Care, Barts Health NHS Trust, Probation, specialist DV support services, Drug/Alcohol services and East London Mental Health Trust meet bi-monthly to review and plan action in identified high risk cases. The MARAC has a priority focus on victim safety with links to child protection and multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) for violent and dangerous offenders.

1. **Who Chairs the MARAC meetings?**

The MARAC is chaired by the Police Central East Borough Command Unit (BCU) Detective Inspector.

1. **How often does the MARAC meet?**

Meetings take place fortnightly. The meetings are from 9:30am to 15:00pm and majority of the times are held at Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG.

1. **What are the referral criteria for the MARAC?**

Any professional may refer a case to the MARAC using the following thresholds: assessed using the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) Risk Assessment:

* **Visible High Risk:** the number of ticks on the DASH. If you have 14 or more ‘yes’ boxes the case would normally meet the MARAC referral criteria OR
* **Escalation:** 3 domestic violence incidents in the past 12 months (which have been reported to any agency / professional).
* **Professional Judgement:** if a professional has serious concerns about a victim/s situation, they should refer the case to MARAC. There will be occasions where the 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. This could reflect extreme levels of fear, cultural barriers particularly in cases of honour-based violence. This judgement would be based on the professional’s experience and/or victim’s perception of their risk even if they do not meet 1 and/or 2 above.

One or more of these factors may apply for referring a case to the MARAC.

1. **How do I make a referral to MARAC?**

To make a referral to MARAC you will need to complete the MARAC referral form and DASH Risk Assessment. The forms should then be emailed to your agency MARAC representative for review who will then email them to the MARAC Coordinator. If you do not have a MARAC representative for your agency, please email the forms to the LBTH VAWG, DA & HCT – email: domestic.violence@towerhamlets.gov.uk

1. **What are the responsibilities of the professional who referred the case?**

With the Chairs agreement, the professional will be invited to attend the MARAC meeting to present and participate in discussion of their case, (this may be alongside your agency representative). We will try and list your case for discussion as early as possible so that you do not attend the whole meeting.

It is the professional’s responsibility to ensure completion of agreed actions and provide updates at the following meeting.

It is the responsibility of the professional attending to familiarise themselves with the MARAC Operating Protocol, Data Sharing Agreement and MARAC Checklist.

Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse MARAC

# MARAC Partnership

**Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse MARAC**

# MARAC Information Flowchart for Professionals

**HOW DOES THE Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) WORK?**

**Does the case meet MARAC referral criteria? *(One or all these criteria may apply for referring a case to the MARAC).***

Assessed as being high risk by ticking 14 ‘yes’ on the DASH Risk Assessment and/or victim has reported 3 DV incidents in the last 12 months to any agency / professional and/or victims that have experienced a repeat incident of DV within 12 months of their case being referred at the MARAC, which if reported to the police would be recorded as a crime and/or Profession Judgement.

Where possible discuss referral to MARAC with victim using the MARAC Information Pack. Ensure the Privacy Notice is read and explained to the victim.

Confirm whether victim has been notified an IDVA will contact?

If ‘yes’ an IDVA will contact victim to offer front line support where safe to do so.

If ‘no’ the IDVA will not contact the victim.

Complete the referral and DASH risk assessment form.

Discuss referral with your MARAC agency representative. If your agency does not have a representative contact Nicola Proud LBTH VAWG, DA & HC Team 0800 279 5434 or by email: domestic.violence@towerhamlets.gov.uk

MARAC Agendas are circulated to members 5 working days prior to the next meeting. All documents are treated as strictly confidential.

The MARAC meetings are held fortnightly (09:30am – 15:00pm) at Mulberry Place. You may be asked to attend the meeting to present your case. In some circumstances you may be asked to attend the meetings to give updates.

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# Domestic Abuse MARAC Referral Form

**CONFIDENTIAL – SENSITIVE**

**Central East MARAC Referral Form (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference)**

**All sections on this form must be completed**

## Referring Details

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Referrers details** | **Name, Organisation and Team details, contact number and email address)** | **Date referred** | **Is victim aware of the referral to MARAC?** |
| **First name(s)***(include any aliases)* |  | **Surname(s)***(include any aliases)* |  |
| **D.O.B**  |  | **Gender** *(Male/Female/Transgender)**Other please state* |  |
| **Ethnic identity***(please be specific)* |  | **Religious beliefs**  |  |
| **Victim permanent address** |  | **Victim temporary address****& date of move** |  |
| **Is language support required?**(If yes, please state preferred language/dialect) |  | **Sexuality?** Heterosexual/ Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual |  |
| **Does the victim have a disability?** If yes, specify |  | **Does the victim have recourse to public funds?** |  |
| **Victim housing status?** *(e.g.* sole/joint tenant, privately rented, owner occupier*)* |  | **Housing Association, Resident Social Landlord, Local Housing Office details** |  |
| **Victim vulnerabilities / risks**(long-term health condition, substance/alcohol misuse, literacy, older person, under 18, criminality / exploitation) |  | **Is the victim known to other services?**(e.g. Mental Health, Probation, Substance Misuse, Health Visitor, Midwifery Services) |  |
| **Is it safe to write to the victim?** | **Y/N** | **Has the victim been notified that an IDVA will contact them?** | **Y/N** |
| **Safe contact number:** | **Safe time to contact:** | **Is it safe to leave a message?** | **Y/N** |

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| **Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) (Clare’s Law Disclosure)**Clare's Law gives members of the public a right to ask police where they have a concern that their partner may pose a risk to them, or where they're concerned that the partner of a member of their family or a friend may pose a risk to that individual. It also gives police and partner agencies the right to know where an individual is at risk from a partner and there’s a need for them to know this where they may be unaware, they’re at risk. |

**Is Clare’s Law being requested? Y/N**

**If yes, please email the Police Risk Management Unit at** **CEMailboxSafeguardingRMU@met.police.uk** **with the reason why you feel this is required**

## PERPETRATOR OF ABUSE DETAILS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First name(s)** (include any aliases) |  | **Surname(s)**(include any aliases) |  |
| **D.O.B** |  | **Gender** (Male/Female/Transgender) |  |
| **Ethnic identity** |  | **Religious beliefs** |  |
| **Perpetrator permanent address** |  | **Perpetrators temporary address** |  |
| **Relationship to victim?** |  | **Is the perpetrator known to MAPPA?** | **YES /NO /UNKNOWN** |
| **Perpetrator vulnerabilities / risks**(mental health, physical disability, learning disability, long-term health condition, substance/alcohol misuse, NRPF, literacy, older person, under 18, criminality / exploitation) |  | **Is the perpetrator known to other services?** (e.g. Mental Health, Probation, Substance Misuse, Health Visitor, Midwifery Services) | **Y/N (If yes, please provide details)** |

## CHILDREN & UNBORN CHILD DETAILS

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Child’s name:**  | **D.O.B or expected date arrival:** | **Address:** | **Relationship to victim:** | **Relationship to perpetrator:** | **School:** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

## OTHER VICTIM DETAILS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **D.O.B** | **Address** | **Relationship to victim** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## REASON FOR REFERRAL

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Visible High Risk** (14 ticks or more identified on the DASH Risk Assessment)
 | **Y/N** |
| 1. **Potential escalation** (3 or more incidents in the past 12 months)
 | **Y/N** |
| 1. **Professional judgement** (*If none of the above apply, you can refer a case should you as a professional have concerns about a victim/s situation, this could be in relation to context given which raises serious concerns; extreme levels of fear, cultural barriers particularly in cases of honour base violence)*
 | **Y/N** |
| 1. **Is this a repeat referral?** *(A repeat is the same victim, perpetrator, and MARAC where a further incident has occurred in 12 months of this case last being discussed)*
 | **Y/N** |

## BASIS OF REFERRAL AND RELEVANT RISK FACTORS

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| --- |
| **Please state the date and brief details of the recent incident which led to a MARAC referral. If referring under Professional Judgement, please highlight your concerns as to why this is high risk?** |
|  |

## Privacy Notice

The information you provide will be used by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets’ MARAC, to enable us to support and signpost effectively.

Your personal information may be shared with internal departments or with external partners and agencies involved in delivering services on our behalf. As stated above this will include statutory, non- statutory, public, and private organisations [such as Police, Victim Support, Probation, Courts].

We will only hold your information for as long as is required by law and to provide you with the necessary services. This is likely to be for six years after the case is closed.

You can find full Privacy Notice and your rights on our Data Protection Page on the Tower Hamlets website ([www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/content\_pages/legal\_notices/legal\_notices.aspx](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/content_pages/legal_notices/legal_notices.aspx)). This includes details of your rights about automated decisions, such as the ranking of Housing Applications, and how to complain to the Information Commissioner.

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| Please return the completed MARAC referral form along with the DASH Risk Assessment to your MARAC representative or if you do not have a MARAC representative, please email the forms to: Email: domestic.violence@towerhamlets.gov.ukIf you have any questions regarding MARAC, please contact Nicola Proud (MARAC Coordinator) on 0800 279 5434/ 020 7364 4986 or email her directly on the email address above. |

**Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse MARAC**

# MARAC Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment (DASH) CONFIDENTIAL

This is the DASH Risk Assessment for cases of Domestic Abuse when referring to MARAC.

* In all cases scoring 14 or more on the risk assessment or where you as a professional judge any individual to be at significant risk of harm, a referral should be made to the Tower Hamlets Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). Please send the MARAC referral form and DASH Risk Assessment your MARAC representative. If you do not have a MARAC representative please forward the completed forms to the VAWG, Domestic Abuse & Hate Crime Team (domestic.violence@towerhamlets.gov.uk)
* Please send the IDVA referral and DASH Risk Assessment form to TH SASS (Solace Advice (**tower.hamlets.sass@solacewomensaid.cjsm.net**or **towerhamlets@solacewomensaid.org**
* Where there are children present in the household - In all cases scoring 14 or more on the risk assessment, where any of the shaded questions on the form are present, or where the professional has significant concerns about the safety of any children in the household, a referral should be made to the MASH / Integrated Pathways and Support Team.

**Name of Victim:**

**Name of Perpetrator:**

**Date RA completed:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Please explain that the purpose of asking these questions is for the safety and protection of the individual concerned.****Tick the box if the factor is present. Please use the correct box under the questions 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.** | **Yes (Y)** | **No****(N)** | **Don’t Know****(DK)** | **State source of info if not the victim e.g. police officer** |
| Has the current incident resulted in injury? (Please state what and whether this is the first injury).**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Are you very frightened? |  |  |  |  |
| What are you afraid of? Is it further injury or violence? (Please give an indication of what you think (name of abuser(s)…), might do and to whom, including children).**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Do you feel isolated from family/friends i.e. does (name of abuser(s)…) try to stop you from seeing friends/family/doctor or others?**Comments:**  |  |  |  |  |
| Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Have you separated or tried to separate from (name if abuser(s)…) within the past year?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Is there conflict over child contact?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Does (….) constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you? (Please expand to identify what and whether you believe that this is done deliberately to intimidate you? Consider the context and behaviour of what is being done.)**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Are you pregnant or have recently had a baby (within the last 18 months)?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Is the abuse happening more often?**Comments:**  |  |  |  |  |
| Is the abuse getting worse?**Comments:**  |  |  |  |  |
| Does (…) try to control everything you do and/or are they excessively jealous? (In terms of relationships, who you see, being ‘policed at home’, telling you want to wear for example. Consider ‘honour-based’ violence and specify behaviour.)**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Has (…) ever used weapons or objects to hurt you?**Comments:**  |  |  |  |  |
| Has (…) ever threatened to kill you or someone else and you believed them? (If yes, highlight who.)\* You \* Children \* Other (please state)**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Has (…) ever attempted to strangle/choke/suffocate/drown you?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Does (…) do or say things of sexual nature that make you feel bad or that physically hurt you or someone else? (If someone else, specify who.)**Comments:**  |  |  |  |  |
| Is there any other person who has threatened you or who you are afraid of? (if yes, please specify whom and why. Consider extended family if HBV).**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Do you know if (…) has hurt anyone else? (Please highlight whom including the children, siblings or elderly relatives. Consider HBV.)\* Children \* Another family member \* Someone from a previous relationship \* Other (please state)**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Has (…) ever mistreated an animal or the family pet?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Are there any financial issues? For example, are you dependent on (…) for money/have they recently lost their job/other financial issues?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Has (…) had problems in the past year with drugs (prescription or other), alcohol or mental health leading to problems in leading a normal life? (If yes, please specify which and give relevant details of known.)**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Has (…) ever threatened or attempted suicide?**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Has (…) ever broken bail/an injunction and/or formal agreement for when they can see you and/or the children? (you may wish to consider this in relation to an ex-partner of the perpetrator if relevant.)\* Bail conditions \* Non-Molestation/Occupation Order\* Child contact arrangements \* Forced Marriage Protection Order\* Other**Comments:** |  |  |  |  |
| Do you know if (…) has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history? (If yes, please highlight.)\* DV \* Sexual violence \* Other violence\* Other (please state): |  |  |  |  |
| **Total of ‘yes’ responses:** |  |  |  |  |

