

# DASH RIC, MARAC, and MATAC

Sam - Lead for Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls  
Community Safety Team



# Housekeeping

**Please keep microphones muted** – there will be space for questions, please raise your hand or put these in the chat. Please try to keep your camera on however as the session is being recorded ensure that you keep yourself safe.

**Please look after your emotional wellbeing** and take breaks as needed. If you require ongoing personal support, please use your organisations wellbeing offer or reach out to Paragon Swindon as the commissioned domestic abuse service.

**There are two breaks scheduled for today.** Approx 10:25 and 11:30

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# Objectives

- An overview of domestic abuse stalking and harassment risk indicator checklist (DASH RIC)
- An overview of the function of MARAC
- How to refer into MARAC and when to do so
- An overview of the function of MATAC

# What is domestic abuse?

**Domestic abuse** is an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence.

This is not limited to intimate relationships since 2021, once a person who is 16 years old they can be a victim or perpetrator of domestic abuse within the family - this includes parents, siblings, extended family.

# Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harrassment Risk Indicator Checklist

- What is a DASH risk assessment?
- When would you use the DASH?
- What do you do once you've completed a DASH?

# Domestic Abuse Risk Indicator Checklist

<p>Please explain that the purpose of asking these questions is for the safety and protection of the individual concerned.</p> <p>Tick the box if the factor is present. Please use the comment box at the end of the form to expand on any answer.</p> <p>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</p>				YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	State source of info if not the victim (eg police officer)
1. Has the current incident resulted in injury?  Please state what and whether this is the first injury.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
2. Are you very frightened?  Comment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
3. 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.  Comment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
4. Do you feel isolated from family/friends?  Ie, does [name of abuser(s)] try to stop you from seeing friends/family/doctor or others?  Comment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
5. Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

# Domestic Abuse Risk Indicator Checklist

<p>22. Has [name of abuser(s)] ever threatened or attempted suicide?</p> <p>23. Has [name of abuser(s)] 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.</p> <p>Bail conditions <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Non Molestation/Occupation Order <input type="checkbox"/> Child contact arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Forced Marriage</p> <p>Protection Order <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>			
<p>24. Do you know if [name of abuser(s)] has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history? If yes, please specify: Domestic abuse <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sexual violence <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other violence <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total 'yes' responses			

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# Domestic Abuse Risk Indicator Checklist

22. Has [name of abuser(s)] ever threatened or attempted suicide?				
23. Has [name of abuser(s)] 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 <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"/>				
24. Do you know if [name of abuser(s)] has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history? If yes, please specify: Domestic abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Total 'yes' responses				

# Domestic Abuse Risk Indicator Checklist

## For consideration by professional

<p>Is there any other relevant information (from victim or professional) which may increase risk levels? Consider victim's situation in relation to disability, substance misuse, mental health issues, cultural / language barriers, 'honour'- based systems, geographic isolation and minimisation.</p> <p>Are they willing to engage with your service? Describe.</p>	
<p>Consider abuser's occupation / interests. Could this give them unique access to weapons? Describe.</p>	
<p>What are the victim's greatest priorities to address their safety?</p>	

# Domestic Abuse Risk Indicator Checklist

Do you believe that there are reasonable grounds for referring this case to Marac?		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, have you made a referral?		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signed	Date		
Do you believe that there are risks facing the children in the family?		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, please confirm if you have made a referral to safeguard the children?	Yes No	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Date referral made
Signed	Date		
Name			

# High risk cluster questions

## Automatic MARAC referral:

- HBA
- Non fatal strangulation
- Threats to kill

## Risk escalation points

- Point of exit/ending of the relationship
- New baby or pregnancy
- New partner or non abusive parent/person

## High risk clusters

- Access to weapons
- Substance misuse
- Harm to animals
- Harm to others
- Mental health of perpetrator
- Stalking

# Questions upon disclosure – getting the best from a DASH

- **Open questions**
  - What does a standard day look like
  - How would you like your life to look
  - What help/support do you think you need at the moment
- **Direct questions**
  - Do you want to report this? (remember anyone can report to a support agency without reporting to police)

# DASH RECAP

It is very important to ask ALL of the questions on the checklist at EVERY incident. You will need to consider:

- WHO is at risk;
- The CONTEXT of the BEHAVIOUR;
- HOW the risk factors interact with each other;
- The victim's perception of risk.
- Seek consent to refer to Paragon for specialist DA support.

Refer into MARAC - if 14 or more 'Yes' answers on the DASH risk assessment. However, if you believe a case to be high risk and there are less than 14, please rely upon professional judgement and mark it as high risk. Copying in Paragon Swindon [paragonswindon@theyoutrust.org.uk](mailto:paragonswindon@theyoutrust.org.uk) to every MARAC referral.

# Tea Break – 10 mins



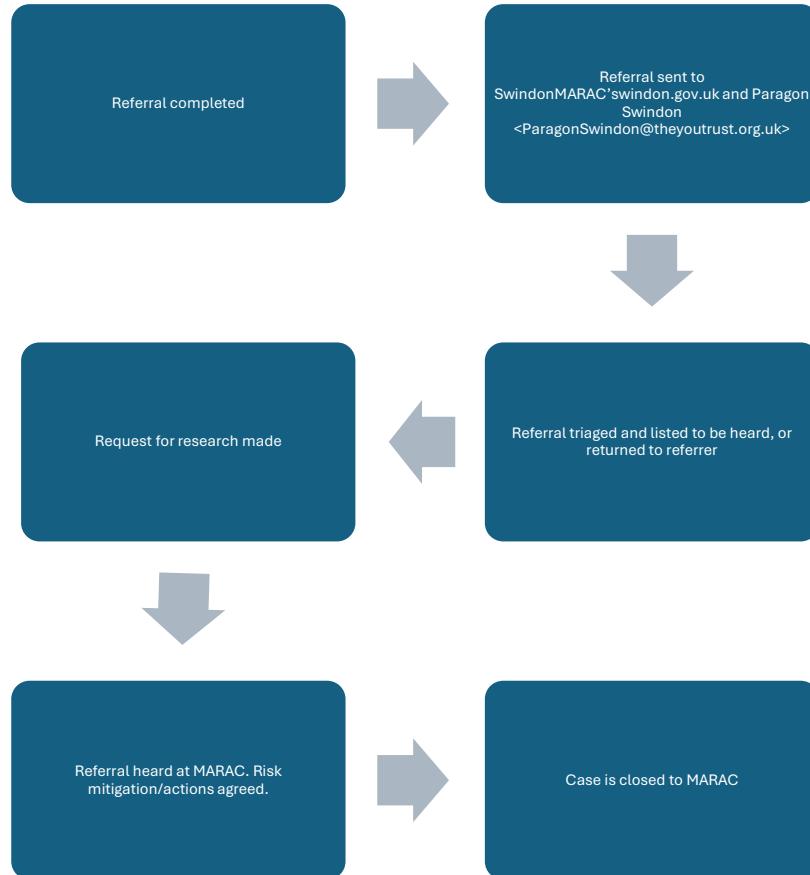
# Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

The four aims of Marac are to:

- safeguard victims of domestic abuse
- manage perpetrators' behaviour
- safeguard professionals
- make links with all other safeguarding processes.

A Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (Marac) is a local meeting where representatives from statutory and non-statutory agencies meet to discuss individuals at high risk of serious harm or murder because of domestic abuse. The meeting provides a safe environment for agencies to share relevant and proportionate information about current risks, after which the Chair will summarise and ask agencies to volunteer actions to reduce risk and increase safety through the development of a tailor-made action plan.

# How does MARAC work?



# MARAC referral form

**Please send a copy of the completed MARAC Referral Form and DASH Risk Assessment by secure email to the below email addresses: [ParagonSwindon@theyoutrust.org.uk](mailto:ParagonSwindon@theyoutrust.org.uk)**

**Good practice denotes that alleged victims should be made aware of the referral to MARAC unless it is unsafe to do so. Please ensure that you complete the consent boxes on this form.**

**Please indicate that you have discussed this referral with the alleged victim: YES/NO**

**Does the alleged victim give consent for Paragon to contact them if this case is not heard at MARAC: YES/NO**

**If you are uncertain about if you should complete this referral form, please contact either your MARAC DMR/SG lead,**

**In this form you will complete the following:**

- About You
- About the Alleged Victim
- About the Alleged Perpetrator
- About the Children
- Brief Case Summary
- Additional Considerations

Fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are **MANDATORY** if information is unknown, please explain why. Missing information may prevent effective MARAC referral and a further request for information delaying any discussion and action in MARAC.

# MARAC referral form

\*Does the incident meet the statutory definition of domestic abuse in accordance with Part 1 (Section 1 and Section 2) of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 - [Part 1 Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#)

Yes   
No

\*Does the incident meet the statutory definition of domestic abuse in relation to children in accordance with Part 1 (Section 3) of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 - [Part 1 Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#)

Yes   
No

If No to both above questions then this matter is not suitable for referral to MARAC - consider alternative safeguarding options/seek guidance from your safeguarding lead.

## \*About You (referrer)

Contact Name(s):	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Referring Agency:	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Date of Referral:	Click or tap to enter a date.	
Telephone(s):	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Email Address:		
Referral Rational:	Choose an item.	

About the Alleged Victim	
*Full Names:	Click or tap here to enter text.
*Date of Birth:	Click or tap to enter a date.
*Address:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Occupation (including employer):	Click or tap here to enter text.
*Telephone Number(s)	
Is this a safe contact?	Choose an item.
Please include any relevant contact information (safe times to call etc.):	Click or tap here to enter text.
*Is this person Pregnant or an Expectant Parent?	Choose an item.
*Is this person aware of the MARAC Referral and given consent?	Choose an item.
*If no, why not?	Click or tap here to enter text.
Has DVDS Right to Know been considered? (Have you made an application for DVDS/Claire's Law):	Choose an item.
GP Practice	

## Alleged Victim Diversity Data

Gender Identity:	Choose an item.	Disabled	Choose an item.
LGBTQ+:	Choose an item.	B&ME	Choose an item.
		Ethnicity	Choose an item.

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# MARAC referral form

About the Alleged Perpetrator					
*Full Names:	Click or tap here to enter text.				
*Date of Birth:	Click or tap to enter a date.				
Address:					
Occupation (including employer):	Click or tap here to enter text.				
*Is this person Pregnant or an Expectant Parent?	Choose an item.				
Relationship to victim					
GP Practice					
Alleged Perpetrator's Diversity Data					
Gender Identity:	Choose an item.	Disabled	Choose an item.		
LGBTQ+:	Choose an item.	B&ME	Choose an item.		
		Ethnicity	Choose an item.		

About the Child(ren) (Add extra rows as necessary)					
Full Names	Date of Birth	Relationship	Address	School	GP
	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Has a Children's MASH referral been made?  
[contactswindon@swindon.gov.uk:](mailto:contactswindon@swindon.gov.uk)

Click or tap to enter a date.

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# MARAC referral form

*Please select relevant criteria for MARAC referral		
Visible risk (DASH 14 + positive answers)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	NB DASH is <b>Mandatory</b> for all referrals with exception of Probation who do not typically see victims.
	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Escalation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	The potential for escalation can be assessed by looking at the frequency and/or severity of abuse.
	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Professional judgement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Provide full rationale for high risk assessment in circumstance below against below definitions and with reference to the Severity of Abuse Grid ( <a href="http://Severity of Abuse Grid.pdf (safelives.org.uk)">Severity of Abuse Grid.pdf (safelives.org.uk)</a> ):
	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>HIGH:</b> There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The potential event could happen at any time and the impact would be serious.</li> </ul>
Police Referral	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	To be used by Police Staff only.
<b>*Case Summary:</b> Please provide information for the case, your reasons for the referral and where relevant please provide a written rational for referring based on Professional Judgement. This will be used to inform the MARAC agencies of the concerns around the case. <b>NB DASH is MANDATORY</b> (with exception of Probation as they do not routinely have contact with the victim).		
Reason for referral:	Please include as many details to inform risk as possible:  Enter details here	
*Please indicate any safety measures/risk mitigation already completed by your agency		
Detail previous incidents if referral is based on escalation:	Enter details here	
Rationale for high risk If Professional judgement	Consider whether there are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm and why the potential event could happen at any time and the impact would be serious.  Enter details here	

# MARAC referral form

<b>Additional Considerations:</b>	
Has the abuser(s) ever attempted to strangle / choke / suffocate / drown the victim?	Choose an item.
<b>Has the alleged victim been referred to MARAC previously?</b>	Choose an item.
<b>If yes; where, and when (include multiple dates)?</b>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Is there a potential for escalation (3 or more incidents reported to Police within 12 months)?	Choose an item.
Are there concerns around HBV (Honour Based Violence)?	Choose an item.
Are there concerns around FGM (Female Genital Mutilation)?	Choose an item.
Are there concerns around Forced Marriage?	Choose an item.

<b>Closed MARAC:</b>	
Should a closed MARAC be considered? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes please add details below.	<b>Closed MARACS may be called where a case is sensitive, e.g., one in which either the victim or perpetrator is employed by one of the MARAC participating agencies.</b>

# Referral form sections for use at the meeting

Police	
Paragon	
SWA/ Open 2 Change	
SBC CSC	
Education	
SBC Community Health	
GWH	
ICB / GP Surgery	

Risks from previous MARACs				
New Risks	Actions/Risk Mitigation	Victim	Children	Perpetrator
Mitigations				
	Agency			
			Completed / Ongoing	

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# MARAC threshold recap

## Referral Criteria:

- **DASH - 14 or more ticks, consent isn't needed**
- **Professional judgement**
  - Provide full rationale for high risk assessment in circumstance below against below definitions and with reference to the Severity of Abuse Grid ([Severity of Abuse Grid.pdf \(safelives.org.uk\)](http://Severity of Abuse Grid.pdf (safelives.org.uk))):
  - **STANDARD:** Current evidence does not indicate likelihood of causing serious harm.
  - **MEDIUM:** There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The offender has the potential to cause serious harm but is unlikely to do so unless there is a change in circumstances, for example, failure to take medication, loss of accommodation, relationship breakdown, drug / alcohol misuse.
  - **HIGH:** There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The potential event could happen at any time and the impact would be serious.
- **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 five domestic abuse events have been identified in a 12-month period. For example, five attendances at A&E, five police call outs or five calls to make housing repairs. This should alert professionals to the need to consider a referral to MARAC

# Expectation of referrers

- Attend on the day of MARAC – will receive an online link
- Update accordingly
- Take actions and accountability for these

# MARAC Plus:

This is chaired by the CSP and reviews are usually 6 weekly. This is for high-risk cases whereby panel expertise is required for a medium-term basis. MARAC plus has a smaller panel base and is attended by those that are named to work directly with the victim/children (named social worker, 3<sup>rd</sup> sector worker, IOM officer etc).

# Space for questions



# Comfort break – 5 mins



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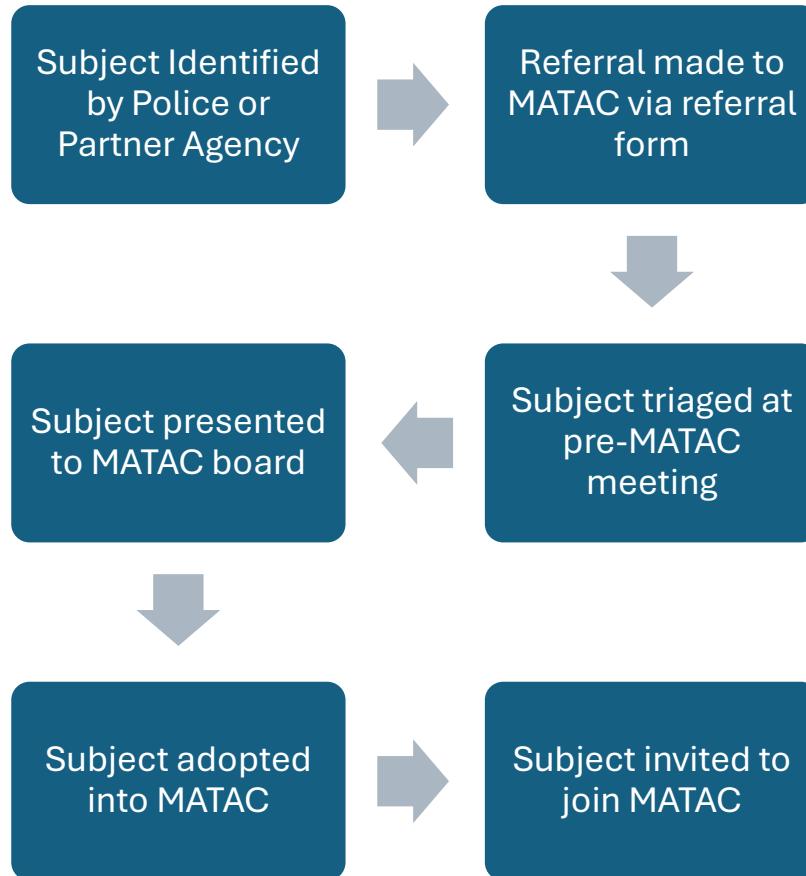


# MATAC

MATAC - Multi-agency Tasking and Coordination is a toolkit used to reduce or prevent offending. This is achieved via education, support services and by applying active disruption to subjects in the following areas:

- Domestic Abuse
- VAWG
- Cases of Concern

# How does MATAC work?



# MATAC Referrals

## Referral Criteria:

- Serial perpetrators of domestic abuse, with two or more incidents or two or more victims.
- Offending in the context of crimes within the remit of violence against women and girls, including clear demonstration of misogyny.
- Professional judgement referral from Police and partner agencies. Professional judgement for those whose offending indicates there is an emerging risk of harm. MATAC will seek to provide early intervention for those who are not/cannot be cautioned or convicted for their behaviour.

Referrals will not be considered for subjects who commit sexual offences and are managed by specialist RASSO/MOSOVO teams. The MATAC will not hear cases who are managed under a Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA).

# Voluntary adoption onto MATAC

Once adopted, subjects will have access and support with partner agencies who will offer:



COMMISSIONED  
DOMESTIC  
ABUSE  
SERVICES



DRUG AND  
ALCOHOL SUPPORT



BEHAVIORAL  
CHANGE COURSES



HOUSING OPTIONS



MENTAL HEALTH

# Where can you sign post to for ongoing support

- **Paragon Swindon (part of The You Trust)**

24hr helpline 01793 610 610 for all victims of DA, and female only refuge

- **Open2Change** – **01793 698001** for anyone wanting support with unhealthy behaviours. For couples who wish to remain together, and for children's only support on an outreach basis.
- **FearFree (SV)** – Email: [SVTS@fearfree.org.uk](mailto:SVTS@fearfree.org.uk) Phone: 01793 317482 for therapeutic support with sexual violence
- **FirstLight/SARC** - 01793 781916 - for those who have experienced recent rape or sexual assault are able to take forensic evidence.

**999 if there is immediate danger**

**Reporting online to 101 or via the professional intelligence sharing portal**

# What options are available outside of local services

## **NCDV – Emergency injunction service for civil orders:**

Call: 0800 970 2070

Text: NCDV to 60777

Email: office@ncdv.org.uk

## **Paladin – national stalking advocacy service:** Paladin - Get Support

02038664107

## **National Domestic Abuse Helpline**

Supporting a survivor - National Domestic Abuse Helpline

**0808 2000 247**

## **ManKind Initiative**

[www.mankind.org.uk](http://www.mankind.org.uk)[www.mankind.org.uk](http://www.mankind.org.uk) This

link will open in a new window

Call: 01823334244

## **The Men's Advice Line**

[www.mensadviceline.org](http://www.mensadviceline.org)[www.mensadviceline.org](http://www.mensadviceline.org) This link will open in a new window

Call: 08088010327

## **Galop – LGTB+ victim/survivors**

National Helpline for LGBT+ Victims and Survivors of Abuse and

Violence **0800 999 5428**

Email **help@galop.org.uk**

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# Any Questions?

**A recording of the session and slides will be published on the SSP website.**

[SwindonMARAC@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:SwindonMARAC@swindon.gov.uk)

[SwindonCSP@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:SwindonCSP@swindon.gov.uk)