

The MARAC is an information sharing and action planning meeting for victims of domestic abuse who have been assessed as being at high risk of serious harm or homicide. MARAC representatives include, Police, Probation Services, Health Services, Children's Social Care, Housing Providers, Specialist DA services, and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.

The victim does not attend the MARAC, but is represented by a specialist DA practitioner who represents their views and wishes and ensures that victim's safety remains the focus of the meeting.

Why is it important?

At the heart of a MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim to be able to identify and manage the risks, but all may have insights that are crucial to their safety and that of their children.

What is the aim of the MARAC?

- To share relevant and proportionate information to increase the safety, health and well-being of victims, their children and any other vulnerable adult at risk
- To share information about the perpetrator so as to manage their behaviour to reduce the risk they pose to any particular individual or to the general community
- To jointly construct and implement a risk management plan that provides professional support to all those at risk and that reduces the risk of harm to individuals at risk
- To reduce repeat victimisation
- To improve agency accountability by ensuring that all agencies have acted individually to reduce the risk and maximise safety before a MARAC and undertake any new actions in accordance with the MARAC plan
- Improve support for staff involved in high-risk domestic abuse cases

How do we do it?

Every agency should ensure their staff:

- Know how to make a MARAC referral. All forms you need (MARAC referral form and DASH) can be accessed via the [PSCP website](#). Referrals should be sent to the Police MARAC team - MARACsafeguarding@hampshire.police.uk.
- Know the current threshold for referring into Portsmouth MARAC is currently 14 or more yes answers on the SafeLives DASH Risk Identification Checklist. It should be noted the DASH is not a definitive assessment of risk and professionals should also use their professional judgement to assess risk
- Make a referral to MARAC as soon as possible, so that the case can be heard at the next available MARAC meeting. Please ensure the victim is aware of any MARAC referral however there is no need for their consent.
- Staff who attend MARAC meetings need to share their relevant agency information on all vulnerable parties including the perpetrator.
- Ensure their actions are completed within agreed timescales
- Ensure all work undertaken at the meetings is informed by a commitment to equal opportunities and effective practice issues in relation to protected characteristics

For more information:

Contact the Police MARAC Admin via email on:

MARACsafeguarding@hampshire.police.uk

Contact [Stop Domestic Abuse](#) on 023 9206 5494 or email portsmouthreferral@stopdomesticabuse.uk or portsmouth.referral@stopdomesticabuse.cjsm.net.

[SafeLives MARAC Resources](#)