

# think of it as an opportunity to make a difference

MARAC stands for Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference. MARACs are currently held every four weeks. The MARAC meets to talk about the highest risk cases of domestic violence happening at that time. Agencies on the panel share information about the case and an action plan is then put in place to reduce risk and increase the safety of the victim.

## Making a referral to MARAC

There are number of agencies that currently refer into the MARAC process. In order to do so, following the appropriate training, the referring agency must complete a domestic violence risk assessment form. During the risk assessment the referrer has to tick any statements that are true in relation to the case. The number of ticks are counted up and relates to one of the following risk levels – Very high, high, medium or standard. If the risks identified are very high or high the agency will complete the MARAC referral form and refer the case to the MARAC Co-ordinator to be included in the next MARAC meeting.

### More information

For further information about MARACs or copies of the MARAC risk assessment form and MARAC referral form please contact the MARAC Co-ordinator on 01803 841469 or [devonbcudaosouth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:devonbcudaosouth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)

Torbay exposing domestic abuse



**speak  
out  
break  
free**



**a guide to  
South Devon's  
Multi Agency  
Risk Assessment  
Conference  
(MARAC)**





## The aims of a MARAC?

- To increase the safety, health and well being of victims and their children by sharing information
- 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 reduce repeat victimisation
- To improve agency accountability
- Improve support for staff involved in high risk DV cases
- To determine whether the perpetrator poses a significant risk to any particular individual or to the general community

## Who will be at the MARAC?

The MARAC is chaired by the Detective Inspector of the Public Protection Unit. Designated MARAC representative from key Statutory and Voluntary agencies will collate information from the following people:

- Police officer
- Health visitor/ midwife/nurse
- Local hospital
- Probation officer
- Social worker
- Mental health worker
- Housing officer
- GP
- Schools / School health nurse
- Voluntary sector support worker
- Youth offending team
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA)

## Having your voice heard at MARAC

If you have been informed that your case will be talked about at a MARAC you have the opportunity to contribute. This could be via any of the professionals listed overleaf, if you feel happy to talk to them. Alternatively you should be contacted by an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA).

The IDVA can provide you with intensive support both emotionally and practically. You can contact the IDVA service directly on the following numbers:

### Safer Communities Torbay (IDVA)

Tel: 01803 841274

(please note this is a female only service)

### South Devon Women's Aid

Tel: 01364 644088

### Police Domestic Abuse Unit

Tel: 01803 841469

### Victim Support

0845 4566099 (for male and female victims)

### M.A.L.E.

08088 010327 (for male victims)

Before an agency refers your case to MARAC they will inform you and seek your consent. If you do not consent to the referral, it is likely to be made anyway as the referrer is suitably concerned about your safety to want to seek support from other agencies.

## Action arising from MARAC

After each case has been presented by the referring agency and other representatives have shared their information on the case an action plan is compiled. Some of the actions that arise as a result of a MARAC are:

- Specialist support agencies such as Victim Support, Women's Aid or IDVA to make contact with the victim to offer support
- Referrals being made to increase security at the victims property
- Referrals to other agencies for specialist support such as Drug and Alcohol Treatment
- Housing transfers to be organised for the victim

## The MARAC process

**Two weeks before the MARAC** the MARAC administrator will securely send out details of the Domestic Violence cases to all of the identified members of the MARAC panel

**At the meeting:** Identified individuals within all of the MARAC agencies will collate the information they hold on the Domestic Violence cases.

**After the MARAC:** The MARAC administrator securely circulates the minutes of the MARAC and copies of the action plan. Agency representatives cascade necessary information to relevant staff.

**Review and monitor:** The domestic violence team at Safer Communities Torbay continually monitor the cases and completion of actions.