

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing (MARAC)

What is it?

MARAC is an information and action planning meeting for victims of domestic abuse who are at risk of serious harm.

Why are we doing it?

- To share information to increase the safety, health and well-being of victims – adults and their children;
- To share information about the perpetrator so as 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 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 DA cases

When and where is it happening?

MARAC happens once a month in Chester, Ellesmere Port and Winsford/Northwich

Who are the key players?

Locally, MARAC is chaired by a Detective Inspector or Senior Manager and coordinated by the Council's Domestic Abuse Family Safety Unit. Each victim is offered support by an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) who represents the victim at MARAC.

Nationally, MARACs are developed and supported by **Safelives** a national charity dedicated to ending domestic abuse. You can find information and toolkits for your sector on their website: www.safelives.org.uk

What is my role?

Every agency should ensure their personnel know how to make a MARAC referral. This involves assessing risk using the shared Risk Indicator Checklist (RIC) and completing a referral. All the forms you need are on the Cheshire West and Chester Domestic Abuse Partnership website:
www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/domesticabuse

Training is available to support you - contact:

cwacdap@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Further queries

Contact the West Cheshire Domestic Abuse Family Safety Unit on:
0300 123 7047 option 2 or ldvawest@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk