

## 7. Where can I find out more?

MARAC Operating Protocol and MARAC Information Sharing Protocol are available on the EMPPO website at [Resources | emppc.co.uk](https://resources.emppc.co.uk)

More information on the DASH risk checklist available at [Dash risk assessment resources for professionals - SafeLives](#)

There is also a wealth of information available from SafeLives at [We are SafeLives - Ending domestic abuse](#)

## 1. What is MARAC?

A Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a local meeting 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 information about current risks and agree actions to reduce risk and increase safety through the development of a tailor-made action plan.

## 2. Aims of MARAC

The primary focus of MARAC is to safeguard adult victims that are at risk of serious harm or homicide because of domestic abuse.

MARAC has 4 aims:

1. Protect adult (and child) victims
2. Make links with other public protection arrangements in relation to children, perpetrators and vulnerable adults
3. Protect agency staff
4. Address the behaviour of the perpetrator

## 6. What happens at MARAC meetings and afterwards?

- MARAC representative presents the cases their agency has referred.
- The victim never attends MARAC meetings.
- Relevant and proportionate information is shared by agency representatives.
- Risks are identified for the victim, children, perpetrator and agency staff.
- SMART actions are volunteered by agencies.
- After the meeting, representatives will inform colleagues of actions to be completed in time agreed.
- Representatives confirm when actions are completed with MARAC Coordinator.

## 5. How to make a referral to MARAC

Any agency or professional who identifies a victim as high risk can make a referral.

Referrals must be made on a referral form and sent to [MARAC@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:MARAC@eastlothian.gov.uk) (blank referral forms are available on request from the above email address).

You will receive an email confirming receipt of referral and date of next MARAC meeting when this case will be discussed (Midlothian MARAC meets every 4 weeks on a Wednesday and East Lothian MARAC meets every 4 weeks on a Thursday).



## 3. MARAC membership

A MARAC representative should consistently attend MARAC, research cases beforehand, share relevant and proportionate information at the meeting and volunteer actions for their agency in response to the risk of harm identified.

Membership includes:

Police Scotland, Justice Social Work, Education, Adult Social Work, Children and Families Social Work, Health Visiting, School Nursing, Housing, Women's Aid, Court Advocacy (EDAACS), Mental Health/Substance Use Services, Independent Domestic Abuse Advocate (IDAA)

## 4. Who can be referred to MARAC?

Any person over the age of 16 can be referred to MARAC who is identified as high risk.

Victims can be referred to MARAC on the following basis:

- Identified High-Risk – DASH risk checklist (DASH-RIC) score of 14 or higher
- Professional Judgement – when DASH-RIC score is lower than 14, OR the professional has identified that the victim is at high risk and a referral is needed
- Escalation – when abuse appears to be escalating
- Repeat – where the same victim and perpetrator were referred to any MARAC within the last 12 months and a new incident takes place

