

A stylized background graphic featuring a light green hand with fingers curled, holding a light blue heart. The hand and heart are rendered in a soft, semi-transparent style. The text is overlaid on this graphic.

MARAC Training

What is MARAC?

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Domestic & Sexual Violence

Domestic Abuse is a Crime.....there are NO EXCUSES!!!!

Training Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

Domestic Abuse in Wigan

The MARAC Process

Risk Assessment – CAADA DASH

Information Sharing

MARAC Meeting

Action planning

Questions

Wigan!!

How many DA incidents reported to police last year 09/10?

How many of these incidents involved children?

What percentage of A&E presentations were due to violence within the home?

How many of these involved drugs or alcohol?

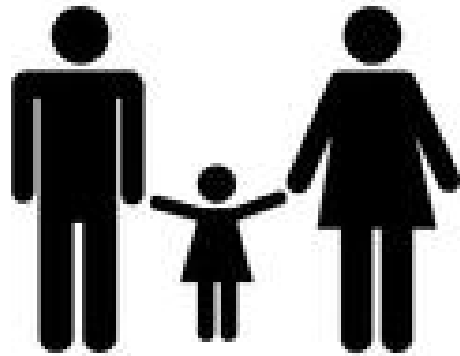
How much does it cost?

What is Domestic Abuse

- “Domestic violence is any threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between adults who are or have been in a relationship, or between family members. It can affect anybody, regardless of their gender or sexuality.
- The violence can be psychological, physical, sexual or emotional. It can include honour based violence, female genital mutilation, and forced marriage.”
- **Home Office, 2010**

What is Domestic Violence?

Who is Affected?



Domestic violence can happen to anyone – male, female, child or teenager. The impact of domestic violence can even reach the unborn child, and considering the wider consequences on other family members and friends of those directly involved, it is everyone's issue.

However indiscriminate, domestic violence is still a gendered social problem, that is, it is a gendered inequality in society whereby there exists the misuse of male power through physical violence, intimidation, coercion, intrusion, threat, withholding of finance and force to control women, children and young people.

It is extremely important to remember that domestic violence is not just an adult issue; children are often the hidden victims of domestic violence. Anyone affected under the age of 18 would not be referred to, for example by the police, as a domestic violence victim but referred via a child concern. This does not remove the fact that children can be affected by domestic violence.

Remember, the child or young person may actually be the recipient of the domestic violence, not just the witness, and may experience some of the abuse covered previously themselves, either purposefully or by accidental injury during the abuse to a parent.

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is not limited to any particular class, ethnic or social group, but is perpetrated by people across the social spectrum. The experience of domestic violence may differ as a result of these different contexts.

The word 'domestic' might appear to limit the context for the abuse to those who live together, whereas abuse from perpetrators often continues after one party leaves.

It has to be recognised that violent partners may continue to abuse and harass their ex-partners, and will use any situation where both are present or in contact with one another, for example via contact arrangements for the children.



What is Domestic Violence?

Coordinated Community Response Model

This model demonstrates the relationship between agencies and the levels of response needed to tackle domestic abuse effectively. The model is designed to identify the dynamics of domestic abuse and how it plays out in a community and social context.

Ultimately, the Coordinated Community Response Model makes it clear that no single agency can deal effectively and safely with the effects of domestic abuse, as the issue requires intense cooperation between agencies and collaboration which can have a profoundly positive effect on the lives and safety of families.





FINANCIAL

Not letting an individual work, undermining efforts to find work or study, refusing to give money, asking for an explanation of how every penny is spent, making that person beg for money, gambling money away, not paying bills.



SEXUAL

Forced sex, forced prostitution, ignoring religious prohibitions about sex, refusal to practise safe sex for the purposes of pregnancy, sexual insults, sexually transmitting diseases or infections, preventing a woman from breastfeeding.



FAITH-BASED

Ridicule or punishment for holding a religious or cultural belief, forbidding practice of a person's religion or forcing adherence to different practices. Note that in some instances, the individual's religion or belief may be their justification for the abuse.



PHYSICAL

Shaking, smacking, punching, kicking, presence of finger or bite marks, starving, tying up, stabbing, suffocation, throwing things, using objects as weapons, female genital mutilation, honour-based violence. Physical effects are often in areas of the body that are covered and hidden (e.g. breast, abdomen).



EMOTIONAL / PSYCHOLOGICAL

Emotional abuse could be swearing, undermining confidence, making racist remarks, making someone feel unattractive, calling someone stupid or useless, eroding someone's independence. Psychological abuse could be intimidation, criticising, denying the abuse, treating someone as inferior, threatening to harm children or take them away, forced marriage, threats to extended family members, threats made about harming family pets.



ISOLATION

This could include isolating someone from friends and family, denying or covering up a pregnancy by keeping a woman in isolation, being transient so moving from place to place ensures isolation, imprisonment within the home.

Here are some factors that keep people in an abusive relationship.

Confusion about what love for their partner means – the relationship has its good points, it's not all bad.

Fear of not being able to cope alone – fear of the unknown.

They may be financially dependent upon their abuser.

Feel a 'trauma bond' with their abuser – this is often referred to as Stockholm syndrome.

Fear that the threats to kill or hurt the person or members of their family will become a reality.

Hope that the situation will change – the relationship didn't begin like this.

There are a number of factors which serve to keep people in abusive relationships.

What can we do to help



Some Principles to Work From

- The safety of victims suffering domestic abuse is your responsibility
- The safeguarding of children and young people affected by domestic abuse is your responsibility
- Everyone has the right to live free from abuse and threats of violence
- Never promise confidentiality
- Protecting the non-abusing parent is an essential part of safeguarding children in cases of domestic abuse
- Listen to what the victim wants – empower them to become part of the solution and don't assume you know
- Always keep accurate records of all contacts and information gathered
- Always respond positively with reassurance and listen
- Be confident in your practice and seek assistance and support whenever you feel the need.

“Do’s” or “Don’t’s”?

DO respect their wishes and accept their decisions.

DON'T try solving all of their problems.

DON'T promise to pass messages on to the perpetrator.

DO find out what they want to do next.

DO take what they have to say seriously.

DON'T set pre-conditions for supporting them.

Honour Based Violence

Honour based violence is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community, and is a fundamental abuse of Human Rights.

There is no honour in the commission of murder, rape, kidnap and the many other acts, behaviour and conduct which make up violence in the name of so-called honour.

It is a collection of practices, which are used to control behaviour within families or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour. Such violence can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and / or community by breaking their honour code

Honour Based Violence can be distinguished from other forms of violence, as it is often committed with some degree of approval and/or collusion from family and / or community members.

It is your responsibility and part of your role as a professional to be able to recognise Honour Based Violence and deal with it accordingly.

FM / FGM

- ✓ Never inform the victims family, friends or members of their wider community that they have sought help.
- ✓ Try to speak to the victim privately and gain as much information as possible including overseas details
- ✓ If a child / young person is involved, inform Children's Social Care immediately
- ✓ Never consider mediation as a possible solution
- ✓ If you are worried about someone at risk of FGM, or has had FGM, you must share this information with Social Care and the police. It is then their responsibility to investigate, safeguard and protect. Other professionals should not attempt to investigate cases themselves.
- ✓ An interpreter should be appropriately trained, not a family member or known to the victim or be part of the victims community
- ✓ A professional of the same gender should always be offered to the victim.
- ✓ Ensure all actions and information is correctly recorded and evidenced and inform a manager.
- ✓ Be non-judgemental and sensitive at all times
- ✓ FM / FGM are abuse – follow your organisations relevant policies and procedures

Domestic Homicide Reviews

- S9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 put in place statutory DV homicide reviews
- This provision came into force on 13 April 2011
- To learn lessons from DV homicides in order to prevent repeat occurrences
- Both for individual agencies and for partnerships
- To provide accountability and transparency for victims and witnesses and their families and friends

Specialist Domestic Violence Court Programme (SDVCP)

The SDVCP is an approach that establishes the court system and the criminal justice system as part of the Coordinated Community Response Model to domestic violence. A key feature of the model is the multiagency approach to putting victims at the heart of the criminal justice system.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs)

IDVAs are trained specialist whose goal is the safety of victims. Their focus is on providing a service to victims who are at medium to high risk of harm, addressing their safety needs and helping them to manage the risks that they face. IDVA involvement with victims of domestic violence has been shown to decrease victimisation, increase awareness of children at risk and reduce the number of victims who are unwilling to support a prosecution.

Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs)

ISVAs work with victims of sexual violence to provide support, both to those who access the criminal justice service and those who chose not to, helping them to live without fear of violence and access the services they need in the aftermath of the abuse they have experienced.

What is a MARAC?

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

Main aim is to reduce the risk of serious harm or homicide and to increase safety, health and wellbeing of victims / survivors and any children.

Information about the risk, the actions needed and the resources available are shared and used to create a risk management plan involving all agencies.



High Risk



“A risk that is life threatening and / or traumatic and from which recovery, whether physical or psychological, can be expected to be difficult or impossible”

(Home Office 2002, OASys 2006)



What is the key element?

CAADA (Co-ordinated action against domestic abuse) risk identification tool which can be completed by a practitioner from any agency supporting people who suffer from domestic abuse.

Three main objectives:

- **To gather detailed information from the victim / survivor, which can be shared with others if the level of risk is high.**
- To identify those who need more intensive support and multi-agency action planning
- **To make agencies aware of the risk posed by the most dangerous offenders.**

Risk Identification Checklist for use by IDVAs, ISVAs and other non-police agencies for MARAC case identification when domestic violence, honour-based violence and/or stalking are disclosed.

Has the current incident resulted in injury?	Does (name) constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you?	Has (name) ever attempted to strangle/choke/suffocate/drown you?
Are you very frightened?	Are you pregnancy or have you recently (last 18 months) had a baby?	Does (name) do or say things of a sexual nature that make you feel bad or that physically hurt you or someone else?
What are you afraid of? Is it further injury?	Is the abuse happening more often?	Is there any other person who has threatened you or who you are afraid of?
Do you feel isolated from family/friends?	Is the abuse getting worse?	Do you know if (name) has hurt anyone else?
Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts?	Does (name) try to control everything you do and/or are they excessively jealous?	Has (name) ever mistreated an animal or the family pet?
Have you separated or tried to separate from (name)?	Has (name) ever used weapons or objects to hurt you?	Are there are financial issues? Are you dependent on (name) for money?
Is there conflict over child contact?	Had (name) ever threatened to kill you or someone else and you believed them?	Has (name) had problems in the past year with drugs or alcohol or mental health?
Has (name) ever threatened or attempted suicide?	Has (name) ever broken bail/an injunction and/or formal agreement for when they can see you and/or the children?	Do you know if (name) has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history?

Exercise 1

Case study – Kris

Relate the case study to the risk assessment?

How do you find the questions?

Which agencies would you involve?

Should this be referred to MARAC?

DASH Toolkit and MARAC Referral

It is important that where the answer to any question is “yes”, more information is given to expand on this answer.

Risk assessment tool should only be used when it is safe to do so. Never attempt this if the abuser is present or the children can over hear.

Other information needed such as victims alcohol or substance misuse, disabilities or any other details you feel are relevant, need to be inputted on the referral form.

The risk assessment tool is evidenced based to inform practitioners about the risk of serious harm and homicide.

The tool underpins the MARAC process by identifying those victims who are high risk and therefore meet the MARAC threshold

Please ensure you retain a copy of all documents for your own evidence and files.

Information sharing?

- Have lawful authority
 - Data Protection Act (1998),
 - Human Rights Act (1998),
 - Common Law,
 - Statutory Duties of Confidence
 - Caldicott Guidelines (legislation takes precedence)
- Be necessary
- Be proportionate
- Ensure the safety and security of the information shared
- **Defensible decisions**
- Record and Evidence

How do I refer?

1. Discuss with your line manager
2. Clarify consent or legal to over ride consent
3. Complete CAADA risk assessment
4. Forward to GMW MARAC representative
5. Representative will get the case listed.
6. An IDVA support worker will contact the victim
7. Meetings held every 2 weeks
8. Responsibility does not transfer but MARAC will support the development of a RMP

What can the MARAC do?

The MARAC ensures that a risk management action plan is in place and that a co-ordinated approach is taken.

Action plan is SMART

What happens after MARAC?

An IDVA support worker will continue to contact the victim / survivor to advise of the action plan and will continue to support until the risk has been reduced.

The case is reviewed at the next MARAC meeting to ensure all actions have been completed.

Exercise 2

Each table to be given a set of cards.

Please put the cards in chronological order

Exercise 3

In your groups, develop a risk management plan for the case study and feedback.

A stylized graphic featuring three light blue human figures (two standing and one sitting) arranged in a circle. A thick, light green line forms a large, irregular circle around them. The text "Any Questions" is centered over the figures in a bold red font.

Any Questions

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