

What is a Domestic Violence MARAC?

MARAC stands for Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference. The Domestic Violence MARAC is a meeting where agencies talk about the risk of future harm to people experiencing domestic abuse and if necessary their children, and draw up an action plan to help manage that risk.

Why have a MARAC?

Sharing information allows professionals to understand the needs of people experiencing domestic violence and to provide the right help to reduce the risk of future domestic violence.

Who is at the MARAC?

A number of different agencies attend the Domestic Violence MARAC on a regular basis. They include:

- Victim Support
- Merton Council (including Children and Young People's Services)
- Merton Police

- Mental Health Services
- London Probation Service
- Merton Housing

However there are times when other organisations will attend to speak on behalf of someone they are supporting.

Everybody at the meeting has to sign a confidentiality agreement before the meeting begins.

How will the MARAC help me and my children?

If your worker has suggested that your case should be discussed at a domestic violence MARAC it is because he or she believes that you could be at risk of future harm due to domestic violence.

At the MARAC professionals will work to provide you with services that meet your needs and, where necessary, those of your children. They will also make a plan to help promote your family's safety.

Examples of actions the MARAC might take include:

- Offering the support of an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- Assisting with housing issues
- Ensuring schools do not allow your children to leave with anyone but you.
- Ensuring that the police are fully aware of your situation

Do I need to go to the MARAC?

No, it is just the workers from the different organisations who attend. However if you have a particular concern that you want to be discussed you can ask your support worker to talk about this on your behalf.

When does the MARAC meet?

The MARAC meets every month to consider the needs of people who have been referred to the MARAC, and to review the needs of those whose situations have changed.

Who can I talk to about the Domestic Violence MARAC?

Your circumstances will normally be discussed at a MARAC with your consent. However, if there are serious concerns for your safety, the safety of your children or other people, agencies may need to discuss your case without your consent.

*Even if you have not given consent for your situation to be discussed at a MARAC, **the support you are offered will not be affected.***

CONTACT DETAILS

National Domestic Violence Helpline:

0808 2000 247

(24 hour helpline, Run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge)

Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327

(helpline for men who experience violence from their partners or ex-partners - Mon, Tues and Wed 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm)

Broken Rainbow

08452 60 44 60

(support to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender victims and survivors of domestic abuse- Helpline open Mon & Thurs 2-8 and Wed 10-1)

Local contacts:

Victim Support Merton:

020 8944 6069 or 020 8879 9023

Merton Police Domestic Violence Unit:

020 8649 3065

Merton Housing Options

0208 545 4017

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MARAC Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences INFORMATION FOR VICTIMS

