

This leaflet has been produced to help those who are referred to MARAC understand the purpose of the MARAC process and hopefully answer any queries they may have.



Contacts

Splitz support service:

Tel: 01225 777724/0845 600 1945

Web: www.splitz.org

Victim Support (Wiltshire's IDVA service):

Tel: 01380 738888

Web: www.victimsupport.org/vs_england_wales_/contacts/wiltshire

Women's Aid:

Tel: 0808 2000 247 (24hr Helpline)

Web: www.womensaid.org.uk

Refuge:

Tel: 0808 200 0247 (24hr Helpline)

Web: www.refuge.org.uk

For more information on local and national support organisations go to:

Web: www.speakoutwiltshire.com

Always phone 999 if you are in immediate danger

The contact details for the worker and organisation referring you to MARAC are:



Domestic Abuse MARAC

(Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference)

How it works



Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership

What is a Domestic Abuse MARAC?

The MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) is a meeting where representatives from a number of organisations in Wiltshire discuss the safety, health and well-being of people experiencing domestic abuse (and their children) and draw up an action plan to make them safer.

Who is referred to MARAC?

Only people who have been identified as being at 'high risk' of current or future harm from domestic abuse are discussed at MARAC. Each domestic abuse case that is reported is assessed to decide the level of risk. The risk factors can include the nature of abuse (e.g. emotional, physical, sexual), previous behaviour or convictions, threats to kill and the involvement of drugs or alcohol. These are just some of the factors that are considered.

In most cases, people give their consent to be discussed at MARAC. In a very small number of cases someone may be referred to the MARAC without their consent. This only happens where there is an urgent need to protect that person or their children.

Why have a MARAC?

The MARAC meeting is for professionals to share information and get a clearer picture of the situation in order to better understand the needs of people experiencing domestic abuse. Organisations can then provide the right help to make someone safer and reduce the risk of future abuse.

Who attends the MARAC?

A number of different organisations attend MARAC regularly:

- The Wiltshire Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA)
- Police/ Wiltshire's Domestic Abuse Unit
- Probation Service
- Splitz (charity support service)
- Ask (family support service)
- Community 4 (housing support service)
- Housing Associations
- NSPCC member
- Refuge member
- Victim Support
- NHS Wiltshire
- Army Welfare Service
- Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership
- Department for Children & Families (Wiltshire Council)
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)
- Men's Sexual Health

An estimated 15,000 children and young people in Wiltshire are living with the effects of domestic abuse

Am I represented at the MARAC?

If your case is referred to the MARAC your representative will attend on your behalf. They will then feedback to you after the meetings so you are aware of the outcomes. 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.

One incident of domestic abuse is reported to the Police every minute

How will the MARAC help me?

If your case is referred to the MARAC it's because it's believed that you could be at high risk of current or future harm. At the MARAC professionals will identify your needs and help provide you with the services you and your children, where necessary, need.

Examples of actions the MARAC might take include:

- Assisting in emergency housing transfers
- Asking a health visitor to check on your wellbeing
- Ensuring schools do not allow your children to leave with anyone but you

How do I know the information shared about me at MARAC is safe?

Everything discussed at MARAC is confidential and members from all organisations must sign a confidentiality agreement.

Wiltshire Refuges and Safehouses accommodated 147 women and 154 children in 2007/08