**Aim of the Form:**

* To help front line practitioners identify high risk cases of domestic abuse
* To identify which cases meet the Sefton MARAC Threshold criteria and should be referred into the MARAC process
* To identify cases which do not meet the Sefton MARAC Threshold but are still considered to be high risk and should be referred to the Sefton IDVA Service

**Unless specifically stated within the question (i.e. within the last 12 months, have they ever etc.) answers on this risk assessment tool should relate to incidents which have occurred within the last 3 months.**

**Referral Criteria for Sefton MARAC cases:**

Cases should be referred into MARAC if they meet any of the following criteria and have not previously been discussed at MARAC:

1. **‘Visible High Risk’:** If there are 14 or more ‘yes’ boxes ticked then the case should automatically be referred to MARAC
2. **Professional judgement:** If there are serious concerns about a victim’s situation, then the case should be referred to MARAC. There will be occasions where the particular context of a case gives rise to serious concerns even if the victim has been unable to disclose the information that might highlight their risk more clearly. ***This could reflect extreme levels of fear, cultural barriers to disclosure, immigration issues or language barriers particularly in cases of ‘honour’-based violence.*** This judgement should be based on your professional experience and/or the victim’s perception of their risk even if they do not meet the other criteria

**Although cases which score 10-13 ‘yes’ ticks do not meet the MARAC threshold, they are still recognised as being high risk. They can either be referred to MARAC using Professional Judgement or a referral can be made directly to Sefton’s IDVA Service who will assess the case further and then make the referral to MARAC if necessary.**

**If a case does score less than 14, please clearly state your concerns and why you believe that the case should be referred to MARAC and/or IDVA.**

**Referral Criteria for repeat Sefton MARAC Cases:**

A repeat case is one which has previously been referred to MARAC and a further incident has then taken place within twelve months of the discussion. Any agency may identify a further incident regardless of whether or not it has been reported to the police.

A further incident includes any one of the following types of behaviour, which, if reported to the police, would constitute criminal behaviour:

* Significant violence or threats of violence to the victim (including significant threats against property)
* A pattern of stalking or harassment
* Rape or sexual abuse

There are also specific instances where a further referral may be made to MARAC where no repeat incident has occurred. For example, cases where a perpetrator is about to be released from prison and this causes significant concern, or where significant further risks have been identified but no specific threats have been made and the case is discussed in order to make sure that every agency is aware of the concerns to enable them to put in place any appropriate safety measures.

**All referrals should have a completed referral form and risk assessment –**

**If a copy of the risk assessment is not sent then the referral will not be processed.**

**Both forms should be sent to the Sefton MARAC Coordinator Louise O’Rourke via secure email to** Louise.O'Rourke@sefton.gcsx.gov.uk

**Name of Victim:**

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| **Key Risks** | **Yes** | **No** | **Don’t Know** |
| 1. Has the current incident resulted in injury? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please state what and whether this is the 1st injury: | | | |
| 1. Is the victim very frightened? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from:  Victim | | | |
| 1. What is the victim afraid of? Is it further injury or violence? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify including details of what the victim thinks that the perpetrator might  do and to whom, including children: | | | |
| 1. Does the victim feel isolated from family/friends? (E.g. does the perpetrator stop them from seeing friends/family/Doctor or others)? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, including if this is due to any particular personal, diversity  or cultural issues, and where information was obtained from: | | | |
| 1. Is the victim feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | |
| 1. Has the victim separated or tried to separate from their partner within the past 12 months? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify details and where information was obtained from: | | | |
| 1. Is there any conflict over child contact? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | |
| 1. Does the perpetrator constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass the victim? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, including if the victim believes that this is done deliberately  to intimidate or frighten them. Also consider the context and behaviour of what is being  done: | | | |
| 1. Is the victim pregnant, or do they have a baby under the age of 18 months? |  |  |  |
| 1. Is the abuse happening more often? |  |  |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | |

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| **Key Risks** | **Yes** | **No** | | **Don’t Know** |
| 1. Is the abuse getting worse? |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | | |
| 1. Does the perpetrator try to control everything the victim does and/or are they excessively jealous? *(E.g. do they control who the victim can see, is the victim being ‘policed’ at home or told what to wear?)* |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify details *(please also consider any ‘honour’ based violence(HBV) and specify behaviour)*: | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever used weapons or objects to hurt the victim? |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify details and where information was obtained from: | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever threatened to kill the victim or someone else and has the victim believed them? |  |  |  | |
| If Yes, please tick all that apply and state where the information was obtained from:  Victim Children Other (please specify) | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever attempted to strangle, choke, suffocate or drown the victim? |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator said or done things of a sexual nature that have made the victim feel bad or that physically hurt the victim or someone else? |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | | |
| 1. Is there any other person who has threatened the victim or who they are afraid of? |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify who and where information was obtained from *(if HBV also*  *consider extended family):* | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever hurt anyone else? *(Please tick all that apply)*   Children  Another Family Member  Someone from a previous relationship  Other (Please specify) |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify who and where information was obtained from: | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever mistreated an animal or the family pet? |  |  | |  |

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| **Key Risks** | **Yes** | **No** | **Don’t Know** | |
| 1. Are there any financial issues? (E.g. is the victim dependant on the perpetrator for money/ has the perpetrator recently lost their job / other financial issues) |  |  |  | |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator had problems in the past 12 months with drugs, alcohol or mental health which have led to problems in leading a normal life? *(please tick all that apply)*   Drugs  Alcohol  Mental Health |  |  |  | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever threatened or attempted suicide? |  |  |  | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever broken bail/an Injunction and/or formal agreement for when they can have contact with the victim and/or the children?   Bail Conditions  Non-Molestation / Occupation Order  Child Contact Arrangements  Restraining Order  Forced Marriage Protection Order  Other Order |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please specify details, and where information was obtained from: | | | | |
| 1. Has the perpetrator ever been in trouble with the police or do they have a criminal record? |  |  | |  |
| If Yes, please tick all that apply and state where the information was obtained from:  Domestic Violence Sexual Violence Other Violence Other | | | | |
| Total number of Yes/No/Don’t Know ticks |  |  | |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Number of Police Callouts in last 12 months?  *(If ‘3 or more’ is selected then please specify number)* | None  Less Than 3  **3 or More**  Don’t Know |

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| To conclude the risk assessment, please write a short case summary below including giving reasons as to why you are submitting the case to MARAC:  Is there any other relevant information (from victim or professional) which may increase the risk levels? Consider the victim’s situation in relation to disability, substance misuse, mental health issues, cultural/language barriers, ‘honour’ based systems, geographical isolation and minimisation.  Is the victim willing to engage with your service, or any other support services? |
| Consider the perpetrator’s occupation/interests – could this give them unique access to weapons? Has the perpetrator got a history of lighting fires/arson, or made threats to use fire to abuse the victim/children/family/friends/others? |
| What are the service users/victim’s greatest priorities in order to address their safety? |
| Do you believe that there are reasonable grounds for referring this case to MARAC? (Please tick) **Yes No** |
| Do you believe that there are risks facing the children in the family? (Please tick)**Yes No**If yes, please confirm if you have made a Safeguarding Referral? (Please tick)**Yes No** Date referral made to Safeguarding: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Name of person completing risk assessment:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Date risk assessment completed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |