



**For more information contact the  
MARAC Advocacy Workers:**

**Christine: 07714 609398**

**Margot: 07714609364**

**In an emergency please  
call the Police on 999**



## **WHAT HAS MARAC GOT TO DO WITH ME ?**

You have been referred to MARAC because there are concerns about your safety as a result of domestic abuse.

### **What is MARAC?**

**Multi Agency Risk Assessment  
Conference.**

MARAC identifies people who are most at risk of domestic abuse and then looks at ways to make them and their families safer. At the MARAC meeting, information is shared and a safety plan is agreed.



## The Independent Advocacy Service

The Independent MARAC Advocacy worker will talk to you to find out what you want raised at the meeting. They can also help you with any immediate support needs or refer you on to other agencies. The Advocacy Workers are independent and are there to be your voice and represent you at the meeting.

### You should think about:

- ◆ What your fears are.
- ◆ What would make you feel safer.
- ◆ Are there any other issues you want agencies to understand.

Following the MARAC meeting, the Advocacy Worker will get back to you to let you know what happened and how services can help reduce the risk to you. They will also support you to access other services or find out additional information you need to know.

## Who is at the MARAC Meeting?

An Advocacy Worker is at the MARAC meeting to explain your concerns to staff from Housing, Health, Social Work, Police, Women's Aid, Addiction Services and Education Services. Any other agency you get support from can be invited.

**MARAC is here to make you safer and to help you and other members of your family affected by domestic abuse.**

## Why Does the Information Need to Be Shared?

Working together and sharing information is key to the process to ensure the best possible outcome. The information collected helps the MARAC suggest what services may help to increase personal safety and reduce risk. Referrals may also be made to other services to support you.

The principle that underpins the MARAC is that the threshold of risk is such that consent is not legally necessary to ensure the sharing of information. You can be reassured that any information gathered is governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. This ensures that information is accurately recorded and stored in a safe place.

## What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic abuse is a pattern of intimidating behaviour. The perpetrator can be a partner or ex-partner. It does not have to include physical violence. It can be psychological, emotional or sexual abuse and controlling behaviours such as:

- ◆ Isolating you from your family and friends.
- ◆ Causing you fear.
- ◆ Hurting you.
- ◆ Keeping you short of money.
- ◆ Humiliating you.
- ◆ Demanding sex from you.
- ◆ Threatening to hurt your children

**Domestic abuse is a serious crime.**