

Domestic Abuse: A Referral Pathway for Hampshire



Definition of domestic violence and abuse

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse: psychological; physical; sexual; financial; and emotional.

What is risk assessment (DASH)?

Risk assessment is a crucial part of helping to deal with domestic abuse. Levels of threat, danger and violence need to be identified and established to ensure the most appropriate course of action, and also to ensure the victim's safety. In Hampshire we recommend that everyone uses the DASH risk assessment.

What is MARAC?

In a single meeting, a domestic abuse Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference combines up-to-date risk information with a comprehensive assessment of a victim's needs and links those directly to the provision of appropriate services for all those involved in a domestic abuse case: victim, children and perpetrator.

What is refuge?

A refuge is a safe house for women fleeing domestic abuse. It provides safe temporary accommodation for women and children who need protection from violence and/or abuse. It also provides information, support and practical help about your options. The addresses of refuges are confidential – this is an essential part in keeping you safe.

What is domestic abuse outreach?

Outreach services provide specialist support to people (men, women and children) living in the community. They are free and impartial services, who can assist by giving practical help and emotional support as well as providing information on a wide range of matters, including housing matters, benefits, safety planning and the needs of children affected by domestic abuse.

What is an IDVA?

The main purpose of independent domestic violence advisors (IDVA) is to address and secure the safety of victims at **high risk** of harm from intimate partners, ex-partners or family members, and the safety of their children. IDVAs are normally a victim's primary point of contact and work with their clients **from the point of crisis** to assess the level of risk, discuss the range of suitable options and develop co-ordinated safety plans. In Hampshire, IDVAs generally support clients going through the MARAC process.

Jargon buster

CAADA – Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse – the organisation that developed & oversee DASH and MARACs.

DASH – Domestic Abuse Stalking and Honour Based Violence – a risk assessment checklist.

MARAC – Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

IDVA – Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

PPD – Public Protection Department – police department that specifically deals with safeguarding issues, including domestic violence/abuse.

Key contacts & services

- **Hampshire Domestic Abuse Forum** (including a service directory for Hampshire): www.hdaf.org.uk
- **Hampshire Police**: 999 in an emergency and 101 for all other calls/enquiries
- **Hampshire Children's Services**: 0845 603 5620
- **Hampshire Adult Services** (safeguarding): 01962 847214
- **Victim Support**: 0845 389 9528
- **Refuge and outreach**: use directory at www.hdaf.org.uk for your local area's details
- **PPD Safeguarding Units**: use directory at www.hdaf.org.uk for your local area's details
- **MARAC coordinator**: use directory at www.hdaf.org.uk for your local area's details

KEY CONTACTS:

Children's Services:
 0845 603 5620
Adult Services (safeguarding):
 01962 847214

All local contacts are listed in the service directory map at www.hdaf.org.uk
Victim Support: 0845 389 9528

MARAC:
http://www.hdaf.org.uk/?page_id=147 or phone 101
Outreach: use service directory map at www.hdaf.org.uk
Victim Support: 0845 389 9528*
*VS are able to support victims at higher levels of risk in certain circumstances – contact them directly for further detail.

Safety planning:
http://www.hdaf.org.uk/?page_id=138
 Further information for clients:
www.hampshiredomesticabuse.org.uk

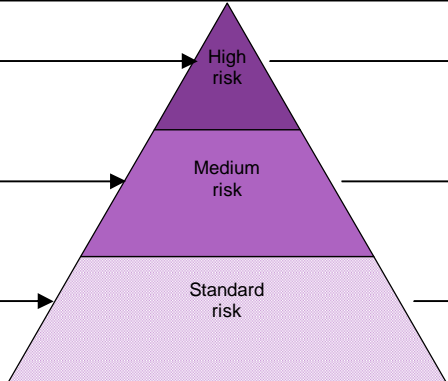
Domestic Abuse Disclosure – what should I do?

Do you have any immediate concerns for your client's welfare or safety?
 Y → In an emergency call 999 and ensure the client's safety.

Are there children or vulnerable adults involved?
 Y → Refer to your agency's procedures for children and vulnerable adults

Can I complete a DASH risk assessment with the victim?
 N → Refer to one of the following for a DASH risk assessment:
 • Victim Support
 • Your local outreach service
 • The Safeguarding Unit at your local Public Protection Department (PPD)

Complete the DASH risk assessment
http://www.hdaf.org.uk/?page_id=133



High risk → Make a **referral to MARAC** (14+ ticks on the DASH)

Medium risk → Make a **referral to outreach** (10-13 ticks on the DASH)

Standard risk → Make a **referral to Victim Support*** (1-9 ticks on the DASH)

For more detail and tools regarding any of this information go to the HDAF website for professionals:
www.hdaf.org.uk

In all cases, undertake the following actions with the client:
 • Talk to your client about safety planning
 • Consider what your agency should do to help them and keep them safe, and which other agencies should be contacted.
 • Ask if they want further support or information to take away.