



Redbridge's Domestic Abuse
Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
(MARAC)
Operating Protocol

Contents

Introduction	3
Purpose of the Protocol	3
Domestic abuse definition	3
A summary of the MARAC	3
Partner Agencies	4
Core agencies	4
Responsibilities of agencies	4
Responsibilities of the Chairs	5
Responsibilities of MARAC representatives	5
Other Attendees	8
Guest agencies	8
Observers	8
Process of the MARAC	8
Identification of MARAC cases	8
Criteria for the MARAC	9
Referral	9
MARAC case summary	9
Actions before the MARAC	10
MARAC meeting	10
Minutes	10
Feedback to the victim	10
Information Sharing Protocol	10
Information sharing to external parties	11
Emergency MARACs	11
Closed MARACs	11
MARAC Referral Transfers	11
Complaints	11
Breaches	11
Governance and Performance Management	12
MARAC Steering Group	12
Equality and Diversity	12
Review	12
Appendix 1- Useful links	12
Appendix 2- Common MARAC/domestic abuse acronyms	13
Appendix 3- MARAC Confidentiality Statement	15

Introduction

Purpose of the Protocol

This Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) operating protocol aims to establish accountability, responsibility, and reporting structures for the Redbridge MARAC and to outline the process of the MARAC. This protocol is designed to enhance existing arrangements rather than replace them.

Domestic abuse definition

The [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#) defines domestic abuse as:

‘Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, 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 sexual orientation. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, economic and emotional forms of abuse.’

It includes other forms of abuse including sexual harassment, rape, sexual grooming and other sexual offences, stalking, and so-called ‘honour-based’ abuse, including forced marriage, and female genital mutilation (FGM).

Stalking is a specific type of harassment, often described as a pattern of unwanted, fixated, or obsessive behaviour which is intrusive, and causes fear of violence or serious alarm and distress. For example, a person following, watching, or spying on someone else, or forcing contact with them through social media, might be considered as stalking. The Protection from Harassment Act 1997 has more information on the legislation on the [Government website](#).

A summary of the MARAC

The role of a MARAC is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase public safety and to jointly develop and manage a risk management plan.

The Redbridge MARAC takes place weekly to share information on high-risk domestic abuse cases in the borough between representatives of local police, health, child protection, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors. High-risk is determined under the [Criteria for the MARAC](#) section of this document.

After sharing all relevant information, they have about a victim, perpetrator and other key family members, the representatives discuss options for increasing the safety of the victim and any children at risk and turn these into a co-ordinated action plan. The primary focus of the MARAC is to safeguard the adult victim while taking a whole family approach.

The MARAC will also make links with other forums to safeguard children and manage the behaviour of the perpetrator. At the heart of a MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim, but all may have insights that are crucial to their safety. The victim does not attend the meeting but is represented by an IDVA who speaks on their behalf.

The MARAC is not a public forum and attendance shall be limited to those agencies that are able to provide a contribution towards cases considered.

Partner Agencies

The MARAC will have a core membership of MARAC representatives, with other agencies invited to attend when this directly impacts on specific cases being discussed.

Core agencies

Core Agency Category	Core Agencies for the Redbridge MARAC
Health Services	NHS Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals Trust (BHRUT)
	Mental Health Service- North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT)
	Via Drug and Alcohol Service- Redbridge Recovery & Reintegration Service (R3)
Housing	Redbridge Housing Options
Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA)	Redbridge Reach Out Domestic Abuse Service
	Solace Women's Aid (Redbridge)
	Refuge Eastern European Independent Gender-Based Violence Advocacy Service
	Aanchal Women's Aid
	Victim Support
MARAC Co-Chairs	Police Detective Inspector from the East Area Basic Command Unit (BCU)
	Redbridge Council VAWG Strategic Lead and Head of Service for Domestic Abuse
MARAC Co-ordinator	Redbridge Community Safety Team
Police	East Area BCU
Probation	National Probation Service (NPS)
Safeguarding Adults	Redbridge Adult's Social Care
Safeguarding Children	Redbridge Children's Social Care Family Help
	Redbridge Children's Social Care Multi Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT)

Responsibilities of agencies

Each agency signed up to the MARAC Operating Protocol is responsible for identifying a representative for the MARAC. It is recommended that MARAC Representatives are at a management level to provide expertise on their agency as well as be able to commit, on behalf of their agency, to the use of resources (including staff time) to complete actions.

This person will also:

- have had necessary checks made to ensure that they are a suitable representative for the agency e.g. DBS check
- Have a good understanding of the dynamics of domestic abuse
- Be clear on the risk assessment pathways
- Have responsibility for the allocation of local resources
- Be able to make decisions on behalf of their respective organisations
- Provide feedback to senior service leads where necessary

Where a staff member attending MARAC as an agency representative has experienced domestic abuse, the degree, nature, and proximity to the MARAC being attended must be considered by the MARAC attendee and their line manager with reference to Redbridge Local Authority domestic abuse lead. This is due to the impact that trauma from domestic abuse has upon an individual and the impact of re-traumatisation or vicarious trauma upon that individual's wellbeing and ability to analyse risk and safety plan. Also, no alleged perpetrator should ever sit on MARAC and where they do so, and agencies discover this has occurred then they must notify the MARAC co-ordinator and consider relevant HR processes.

Agencies must ensure that MARAC representatives appointed have appropriate induction and have sight of the following documents:

- Redbridge MARAC Operation Protocol
- Domestic Abuse Information Sharing Agreement

Responsibilities of the Chairs

The aim of the Chair of the MARAC is to establish a process that addresses the safety of the highest risk victims of domestic abuse in partnership with other agencies. To do this, the Chair will need to have a MARAC which is as consistent, transparent, and accountable as possible. Guidance for chairing can be found on the [SafeLives website](#).

The Chair will read out the Redbridge confidentiality declaration and meeting principles (appendix 3) at the start of the meeting.

Responsibilities of MARAC representatives

General

- Ensure that all victims and potential victims are identified and that all immediate reasonable steps that are required to ensure their safety have been taken and are documented. This would include if a child safeguarding referral has been made
- Ensure that when a referral has been made to MARAC that a representative from that agency attends to present the case (unless alternative arrangements have been agreed for another practitioner/agency to present)
- Attend the weekly MARAC meetings and ensure full attendance of the meeting (every Tuesday 9.30am, end time differs depending on the number and complexity of cases)
- Act as a point of contact on behalf of their agency with regards to queries relating to domestic abuse
- Ensure that the MARAC process is embedded within their agency and that staff receive appropriate training

- Not use inappropriate/ victim-blaming language and respectfully challenge those that do. A helpful guide can be found on the [Zero Tolerance website](#).
- Ensure that their respective organisation is signed up to the Information Sharing Agreement (ISA)
- Ensure that they share information relating to cases identified as high risk in accordance with Information Sharing Agreement
- Actively encourage colleagues to make MARAC referrals in cases that present a high risk of harm to victims/children of domestic abuse
- Identify and brief a secondary representative who can fulfil their role in their absence, including forwarding invites and sharing relevant meeting papers
- Ensure that cases that meet the [repeat criteria](#) are referred back into the MARAC
- Ensure that any victims who do not meet the MARAC criteria are given details of [Domestic Abuse Services](#) this includes the 24-hour helpline and emergency services

Before the MARAC

The case summary for the MARAC will be shared five working days before the MARAC.

- Research by collecting all relevant information held by your service for victims, perpetrators, and children for each case on the case summary prior to the MARAC meeting. Anything urgent noted in records should be escalated.
- A [MARAC research form](#) can be found on the SafeLives website. Following this ensures consistency across agencies and ensures cases are discussed in a timely manner.
- Inform the MARAC Coordinator if any information on the case summaries is incorrect.
- Inform the MARAC Coordinator if the victim has been moved out of the borough so the case can be removed from the list and a MARAC transfer completed to the relevant borough.
- Appoint a suitable deputy from their agency if they are unable to attend a MARAC, this includes sending the case summary, research, the meeting link etc. and explaining expectations of them at the MARAC.
- Inform the MARAC Coordinator of who will be deputising for them in advance of the meeting.

During the MARAC

- Present any cases referred by their agency by reading the case summary
- Provide information on their own agency or department's involvement in cases brought to the MARAC, including any action taken or casework in progress.
- Proactively offering/providing appropriate actions for their agency
- Be responsible for highlighting risks relevant to their agency's work and offering risk reducing actions alongside a time scale for completion
- Be encouraged to think creatively about how their agency or other agencies can address the risks discussed
- Note their agencies actions during the meeting so any urgent actions can be carried out prior to receiving the minutes and take responsibility for ensuring the action is carried out
- Agree the most appropriate person who will provide feedback to the victim.

After the MARAC

The minutes with an action plan will be shared 1-2 working days after the meeting

- Undertake actions agreed at MARAC within 2 weeks of the MARAC meeting
- Communicate MARAC actions to the relevant staff within their agency
- Record the outcomes of actions for their agency and send these back to the MARAC co-ordinator within the two-week deadline
- Follow your agency processes such as flagging/ tagging information systems about cases heard at MARAC. Information should be clearly recorded on the file, whether electronic or hard copy, and include information on how practitioners can follow up on any queries that there may be about previous MARAC involvement
- Ensure all staff are aware that cases need to be re-referred to MARAC if another incident happens in the 12 months since the last referral, regardless of risk assessment.
- Ensure files are de-flagged after a 12-month period, where there have been no further incidents requiring a re-referral, thus making the case inactive. Where there is a re-referral, the 12-month period will commence again from the repeat referral date

In addition, the Reach Out Service and the Police will receive each MARAC referral that is accepted prior and due to be heard as well as the MARAC transfers that come from other boroughs. The transfers (also known as MARAC to MARACs) are generally not heard at the Redbridge MARAC as it is considered that if a victim has been moved for reasons of safety, then the risk will have reduced.

Additional resources

It is also advised that each agency reads the specific toolkit and any other relevant resources that have been created by the domestic abuse charity SafeLives. This can be found on their website under [resources for MARAC meetings](#).

In addition to the responsibilities listed above, there are additional responsibilities for IDVA services and the Police.

Additional IDVA Roles and Responsibilities

- It is good practice to have the views of the client heard at the MARAC meeting. Where there is consent, the IDVA will safely contact the referring agency to discuss the case and will then contact the client within 24 hours or 72 hours if this is on a Friday, to ensure that their views are represented, either by speaking on their behalf or by reading a written statement.
- Following initial contact with the client and prior to the MARAC, the IDVA will ensure that immediate safety measures are put in place by liaising with other partnership agencies as necessary and will be able to update the MARAC of the current position.
- Where there is no consent from the victim the IDVA will still contact the referring agency to discuss options for trying to engage with the victim.
- The IDVA will look to feedback if they are engaged with the client. If they are not, it will be discussed if another agency is engaged and can therefore attempt to feedback to the client.

Additional responsibilities for the Reach Out Service

- Contact the victim where a MARAC to MARAC has been completed where they have moved into the borough to complete a further risk assessment using the DASH risk assessment tool and re-refer to MARAC should they consider the victim to still be at high risk.
- Complete checks and flag/tag files if relevant for the MARAC transfers.
- Inform the MARAC Coordinator if there are children involved or living at the relevant addresses but are not listed on the referral so they can be added to the case summary.
- Invite the Children's Social Worker involved in the case being heard to the MARAC to give an update.

Additional responsibilities for Police

- Complete checks and flag/tag files if relevant for the MARAC transfers

Other Attendees

Guest agencies

Guest agencies are offered the opportunity to attend the meeting when they refer a case to the MARAC. A guest agency may also be invited by the MARAC if Members consider their attendance necessary to effectively reduce risk in a case.

Other agencies or professionals may be invited to attend the MARAC meeting if they are involved in a specific case due for consideration. In advance of the meeting, any invitations must be agreed by the Chair and the MARAC Co-ordinator. Invitations will be to participate in the discussion of a specific case and not to attend the whole meeting. All attendees will be required to sign the confidentiality agreement.

Guests should notify the chair at the start of the meeting that they are there for a specific case so that the cases can be reordered so the guest can present/contribute and then leave the meeting once their case has been heard.

Observers

Professionals wanting to attend the MARAC to observe need to gain permission from the MARAC Co-ordinator prior to the meeting, explaining the reasons for the need to observe. All observers are required to listen, observe, and not participate in the meeting. No information about cases is to be noted or taken from the MARAC by an observer. If necessary, any comments or feedback are to be discussed with the Co-ordinator at an arranged time.

Formal requests for observers to be present must be made to the MARAC Coordinator with the details of the observer including their name, email address and current role. Observers at the MARAC will not receive papers and by attend the meeting they are opting into the information-sharing and confidentiality statement that will be read at the start of the meeting.

Process of the MARAC

Identification of MARAC cases

- Agencies should identify domestic abuse through implementing their own policies
- Ensure high-risk cases are also referred to other agencies if appropriate
 - **Report a crime to the police:** call the police on 101, attend a police station or complete an online report <https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>
 - **Refer to Reach Out, Redbridge's Domestic Abuse Service:** complete the [Reach Out referral form online on the council's website.](#)
 - **Report a concern about a child to Children's Social Care:** if the request is urgent, call 020 8708 3885. Otherwise you should complete the online Multi-Agency Referral Form found on the council website [Professionals working with children and young people](#)
 - **Report abuse of a vulnerable adult to Adult's Social Care:** Report concerns to Redbridge Health and Adult Social Services on 020 8708 5927 (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm). Outside of office hours, contact the Emergency Duty Team on

020 8553 5825. Complete an [online Redbridge Safeguarding Adults Referral](#). A Word version is available via the [Redbridge Safeguarding Adults Board website](#).

Criteria for the MARAC

- A victim should be referred to the MARAC if they:
 - Reside in Redbridge (the referrer can check which borough to refer to, using the Find My Local Council website: www.gov.uk/find-local-council)
 - Are aged 16 or above
 - Are any gender or sexuality
 - **Are at high-risk of harm**, which can be determined below:
- It is recommended to complete the [SafeLives DASH \(domestic abuse, stalking and 'honour'-based violence\) risk checklist](#) prior to completing the victims details to identify if they are high-risk. A high-risk case is identified by 14 'yes' responses on the risk indicator checklist.
- If there are less than 14 'yes' responses, you should only refer to MARAC if:
 - There is potential Escalation: the number of police callouts to the victim as a result of domestic abuse in the past 12 months. This can be used to identify cases where there is not a positive identification of a majority of the risk factors on the list, but where abuse appears to be escalating and where it is appropriate to assess the situation more fully by sharing information at MARAC. It is common practice to start with 3 or more police callouts in a 12-month period. This will be reviewed depending on local volume and level of police reporting in Redbridge.
 - It is Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation or Teenage Pregnancy.
 - In your Professional Judgement the case needs to be discussed at MARAC. Please state the reason why on the referral form within practitioner's notes.
 - The case has previously been discussed at MARAC in the last 12 months and a repeat incident has occurred.
 - A Clare's Law disclosure request.

Referral

- Agencies can refer to the MARAC by completing the online referral form on the [Council's website](#).
- Colleagues can refer via their MARAC representative or directly to the MARAC coordinator.
- Referrers should explain the MARAC process to the victim and gain consent for their referral. The client should always be aware their case is being heard.
- If consent is not obtained a sharing without consent form must accompany the referral, this form is contained within the referral form.
- Referrers will be notified within 48 hours by the MARAC co-ordinator if and when the case is being heard and will be forwarded a calendar invite to attend
- If a referral has not met the threshold but the referrer would like to challenge this, it can be escalated by emailing the generic [Redbridge MARAC inbox](#) for a decision by the Chief Detective Inspector.

MARAC case summary

- The case summaries will be sent out to the key MARAC contacts 5 working days before the MARAC is due to take place to give representatives enough time to complete their agency research for all individuals in the cases.

- The cases are ordered in a way where those with children are heard first, so that children's agencies can leave once their cases are heard.

Actions before the MARAC

- MARAC does not take away responsibilities for immediate actions in relation to the safety of high-risk victims from agencies, particularly regarding statutory duties
- If safe to do so, there will be contact with the victim in advance of the meeting to gain their views and wishes to bring this to the meeting. This is normally through the IDVA service
- Ensure research for each case is completed and on hand before the meeting

MARAC meeting

- The MARAC takes place every Tuesday at 9.30am
- The Police and Redbridge Reach Out Service alternatively chair each meeting
- The chair will ensure quoracy before starting. MARACs are quorate if the Chair, MARAC Admin and at least 4 statutory agencies (including Police and the IDVA Service) are present. Reach Out Domestic Abuse Service should also be present if children are involved with the case.
- At the start of the meeting, the chair will ask if there are any conflicts of interest or if anyone is attending for only one case. This provides an opportunity for any attendees who are there for one case to have the cases reordered so they can leave after their case is heard
- The chair's role will be to review the outstanding actions from the last meeting, structure the meeting to ensure that agency representatives share relevant information and ensure actions are agreed with clear responsibility for each action with a timeframe
- the most appropriate person is
- It is important attendees notes their own actions in the meeting to ensure urgent actions are complete as soon as possible and not rely on the minutes. Actions should be recorded in accordance with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Minutes

- The MARAC co-ordinator will send out the minutes and an action sheet to the MARAC representatives 1-2 working days after the meeting.

Feedback to the victim

Following the meeting, it should be the most appropriate person, usually the IDVA (if consent has been given) and not necessarily the agency responsible for making the initial referral to the MARAC, to contact the victim and update them on any relevant information and any recommendations made by the MARAC.

Feedback should be given to the victim regardless of whether they consented to information being shared. It should be made clear at the MARAC who will feed back to the victim, especially where there is no IDVA involvement.

It is important to ensure only relevant information is shared. Information on policing techniques/ arrest planning of the perpetrator would not be appropriate to share. If the person feeding back is unclear on what can be shared, they need to seek clarity from the MARAC Chair.

Information Sharing Protocol

All MARAC representatives should be signed up to the Police's MARAC Information Sharing Protocol which will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

Information sharing to external parties

If the Redbridge MARAC receives requests for information for example from Courts, for legal aid letters or Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. The MARAC co-ordinator will inform the relevant agencies that hold this information to gain permission before any disclosures are made.

Emergency MARACs

- In exceptional circumstances an emergency MARAC can be held as a one-off meeting where a case is deemed to be very high risk and needs urgent consideration by all members
- An emergency MARAC will only be held with approval from the Chair and where other processes cannot safeguard the victim and their children
- The MARAC co-ordinator will contact the key agency representatives to arrange a time for the meeting
- Minutes will only be circulated on a need-to-know basis
- The meeting should last no longer than 30 minutes unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- Urgent actions must be executed immediately.
- Relevant information systems must be updated as per normal process.

Closed MARACs

- Closed MARACs are where only the agencies that are required are invited
- When there is a very sensitive case such as either the victim or perpetrator is employed by one of the MARAC participating agencies, a closed MARAC may be suggested
- The MARAC chair will make the decision to hold a closed MARAC

MARAC Referral Transfers

If a client moves out of the borough before they are due to be heard at the Redbridge MARAC, they will not be heard and instead be transferred to the MARAC in which they are currently residing in. That MARAC will decide if the case will be heard by them and will notify the referrer.

When a transfer is received from another MARAC where the client has moved to Redbridge before they were heard, the client will be referred to the Redbridge VAWG Service to make contact and assess risk. If the client's risk is still high, they will be re-referred to the Redbridge MARAC. The referring MARAC is advised of this procedure. The MARAC co-ordinator will also inform Police and Children Social Care Representatives when a transfer has been received.

Complaints

To make a complaint or give feedback relating to the MARAC please contact the MARAC co-ordinator (Karin Siebert, Karin.Siebert@redbridge.gov.uk, 02087085082) or the Community Safety Partnerships Manager (Valerie Scanlan, valerie.scanlan@redbridge.gov.uk, 02087085358).

Breaches

The aim of the MARAC is to increase the safety of the victim(s). All agencies are advised to ensure they operate within these protocols as a breach can increase the risk to the victim(s). Any identified breaches of either the Operating Protocol or Information Sharing Agreement, will be referred to the MARAC Steering Group and line management for consideration. Please contact the Domestic Abuse Partnership Lead (Paree Bhanu, Paree.Bhanu@redbridge.gov.uk, 02087084953) and the Head of Community Safety and Chair of the MARAC Steering Group (John Richards, John.Richards@redbridge.gov.uk, 02087085029) to raise breaches.

Governance and Performance Management

MARAC Steering Group

The Redbridge MARAC Steering Group leads the governance and performance management of the MARAC and reports to the multi-agency Redbridge VAWG Strategic Group.

The MARAC Steering group meets quarterly to oversee the operation of the MARAC, including measuring its effectiveness. It is chaired by the Head of Community Safety at Redbridge Council and membership includes senior representatives from each partner agency and the MARAC co-ordinator.

Core responsibilities of the MARAC Steering Group

- To monitor and evaluate the MARAC data
- To monitor and regularly assess the overall performance of the MARAC
- To address operational issues
- To oversee efforts to raise awareness with local practitioners about the MARAC
- To ensure that effective partnerships are maintained with other public protection bodies and other MARAC areas
- To ensure that the MARAC operates in line with legal responsibilities and keeps up to date with changes to legislation and national guidance
- To report to the strategic partnership

Equality and Diversity

Each MARAC will treat all individuals with absolute respect regardless of their age, gender, race, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or disability. Consideration will be given to providing additional support for victim/survivors with specific needs for services such as language interpreters, specialist advice, mental health support.

Cases are monitored for data on BME/LGBT/Male and Disabled Victim/Survivors. Where numbers coming through to MARAC are not comparable with the population this will be addressed by the MARAC Steering Group.

Review

- This protocol will be reviewed on a yearly basis. The next date of review will be August 2025.

Appendix 1- Useful links

[Redbridge online MARAC risk indicator and referral form](#)

[Redbridge domestic abuse and sexual violence services](#)

[SafeLives DASH risk assessment with full guidance](#)

[SafeLives DASH risk assessment quick start guidance](#)

[Safelives DASH risk assessment frequently asked questions](#)

[SafeLives DASH risk assessment young people's version with practice guidance](#)

[SafeLives MARAC research form](#)

[SafeLives MARAC toolkits for multi-agency professionals](#)

[Professor Jane Monckton-Smith's Homicide Timeline research paper](#)

[Professor Jane Monckton-Smith's Homicide Timeline explanatory film](#)

[The Code of Practice for Victims of Crime](#)

Appendix 2- Common MARAC/domestic abuse acronyms

Acronym	Meaning	Additional info
BAME / BME	Black and Ethnic Minority	Terms widely used by government departments, public bodies, the media, and others when referring to ethnic minority groups
CAADA	Coordinated Action against Domestic Abuse	The previous name for SafeLives, a leading national domestic abuse charity
CIN	Child in Need	Defined under Section 17 of the Children Act as a child who is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him of services; or a child whose health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision of services; or a child who is disabled.
CLA	Child Looked After	A child in public care, who are placed with foster carers, in residential homes or with parents or other relatives.
CP	Child Protection	Part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation	A form of sexual, emotional, and physical abuse of children
CSP	Community Safety Partnership	CSPs consist of five 'responsible authorities' - police, local authority, fire and rescue authority, probation provider and Integrated Care Boards and are under a duty to assess local community safety issues and draw up a partnership plan setting out their priorities
DA	Domestic Abuse	Also referred to as DV (domestic violence) or DVA (domestic violence and abuse). The phrase "domestic abuse" is most commonly used to cover

		both physical violence and emotional harm or control, while “domestic violence” is often used to signify that the abuse is of a physical nature. However, the terms can be used interchangeably
DASH RIC	Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour Based Violence Risk Indicator Checklist	A checklist-based tool used by professionals as a starting point to identify the victims’ level of risk of domestic abuse.
DHR	Domestic Homicide Review	A multi-agency review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse, or neglect by a person to whom they were related or with whom they were, or had been, in an intimate personal relationship, or a member of the same household as themselves. Since 13 April 2011 there has been a statutory requirement for local areas to conduct a DHR following a domestic homicide that meets the criteria.
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities	The Government department with responsibility for domestic abuse. Formerly called the Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG).
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	A procedure where the female genitals are deliberately cut, injured, or changed, but there's no medical reason for this to be done.
FM	Forced Marriage	Where one or both people do not (or cannot) consent to the marriage as they are pressurised, or abuse is used, to force them to do so. It is recognised in the UK as a form of domestic or child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights
HBA / HBV	(so-called) Honour Based Abuse / Violence	The generally accepted definition of this type of abuse is ‘A crime or incident which has, or may have been, committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and / or community’. It is often a form of domestic abuse.
MACPT	Multi Agency Child Protection Team	A team within Redbridge Children Service’s that have responsibility for core statutory child protection, they consist of highly skilled child protection specialists from children’s social care, health, police and education. They work alongside existing lead practitioners to offer expert oversight and decision making.
MAPPA	Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements	Multi-agency public protection arrangements in place to ensure the successful management of violent and sexual offenders.
MASH	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub	Single point of contact for reporting concerns about a child in Redbridge
IDVA/ IGVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor/ Independent Gender-based Violence Advocate	The main purpose of an IDVA/IGVA is to address the safety of victims at high risk of harm from intimate partners, ex-partners, or family members to secure their safety and the safety of their children.

ISVA	Independent Sexual Violence Advisor	An independent sexual violence advisor (ISVAS) addresses the safety and support needs of victims of sexual violence and abuse.
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender	Sometimes shortened to LGB, or lengthened to LGBTQ+ (the Q, standing for Queer).
OIC	Officer in Charge	The officer in the case is the police officer with overall charge of the case against a person, every case will have one
RSCP	Redbridge Safeguarding Children Partnership	a statutory body established by the key statutory partners – the local authority, health commission and police in Redbridge – under the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together 2018.
SAB	Safeguarding Adults Board	A statutory requirement for all local authorities for taking the lead role and overall responsibility for adult safeguarding. As a minimum, the SAB membership must comprise of three main statutory partners, these being Redbridge Council, Metropolitan Police and local health services.
TACAU	Treat All Calls As Urgent	A police measure that can be noted for an address. This ensures priority status is given in the event of a report from that address.
VAWG	Violence against Women and Girls	This covers all types of violence against women and is much wider in definition and remit than domestic abuse. Domestic abuse is a form of VAWG.

Appendix 3- MARAC Confidentiality Statement

Redbridge MARAC confidentiality statement and meeting principles

Information discussed by the agency representatives, within the ambit of this meeting, is strictly confidential and must not be disclosed to third parties who have not signed up to the MARAC Information Sharing Protocol (ISP), without the agreement of the partners of the meeting. It should focus on domestic abuse and child protection concerns and a clear distinction should be made between fact and professional opinion.

All agencies should ensure that all minutes and related documentation are retained in a confidential and appropriately restricted manner. These minutes will aim to reflect that all individuals who are discussed at these meetings should be treated fairly, with respect and without improper discrimination. All work undertaken at the meetings will be informed by a commitment to equal opportunities and effective practice issues in relation to age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

The purpose of the meeting is as follows:

- To share information to increase the safety, health and wellbeing of victims- adults and their children.
- To determine whether the perpetrator poses a significant risk to any individual or to the general community.
- To construct jointly and implement a risk management plan that provides professional support to all those at risk and that reduces the risk of harm.
- To reduce repeat victimisation.
- To improve agency accountability.
- To improve support for staff involved in high-risk domestic abuse cases.
- The responsibility to take appropriate actions rests with individual agencies; it is not transferred to the MARAC. The role of the MARAC is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate

Attendees are also reminded that Redbridge MARAC promotes appropriate and sensitive use of language to ensure that victims and survivors experiences are not diminished. As professionals who are responsible for our own best practice, but also ensuring the good practice of others, all attendees will be expected to raise a challenge if anyone is heard using inappropriate language or victim blaming language, in the meeting today.

The MARAC meeting is being recorded solely for the purpose of assisting the MARAC Co-ordinator, ensuring accurate minutes and actions. The recording will be deleted once the minutes have been produced.