

<b>V9</b>	<b>18042016</b> <b>MDB</b>
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## MARAC Research Form

Consistent and accurate research will help attendees at MARAC to build up as comprehensive a picture as possible of a case at the meeting.

In practice, most agencies will frequently be unaware of information held by others. If research is done before the meeting, it can be shared where appropriate and an action plan can be established in the timeliest way possible.

When undertaking research in advance of the meeting, it is important that agencies do not automatically contact the victim unless they need to take immediate actions to address risk. In most cases, the IDVA service will contact the victim in advance of the meeting and agencies should contact either the IDVA service or the referring agency in the first instance;

Some agencies will be working with either children or the perpetrator; in this case the research form may need to be adapted to reflect their particular source of information;

The research form should be completed by the designated agency representative themselves or they may contact the relevant officer or support / key worker;

The information within the research form should be current, accurate and, where necessary make a distinction between fact and professional opinion;

Expectations about the use of a common research form by agencies should be addressed in the MARAC Operating Protocol (MOP). SafeLives would recommend that research forms are internal documents for use by the relevant agency and the information contained within them should be shared verbally at the MARAC meeting, where relevant and proportionate.

It is possible that you will record info on the research form that you decide is not relevant to share at the MARAC. You may wish to write this and the reasons for not sharing the information on the research form.

A comprehensive risk assessment will assist the MARAC. This form asks you to obtain and report fully on information you have about the victim, children or perpetrator. To assist you a series of questions are asked about Pattern, Seriousness, Nature, Likelihood, Imminence and Impact on this

form. Please answer the questions relevant to your agency information as fully as you can. It is expected that you are unlikely to be able to answer everything, but the research forms from a number of agencies will quickly aid the MARAC in building up a fuller picture of the case and a more holistic risk assessment.

<b>Name and agency</b>			
<b>Telephone / Email</b>			
<b>Date</b>			
<b>Victim name</b>			
<b>Victim DOB</b>			
<b>Victim address</b>			
<b>What is the status of the tenancy?</b>	Private owned <input type="checkbox"/>	Private rented <input type="checkbox"/>	Shared tenancy <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>GP Name &amp; Surgery</b>			
<b>MARAC case number (from agenda)</b>			

<b>Perpetrator(s) name</b>	
<b>Perpetrator(s) DOB</b>	
<b>Perpetrator(s) address</b>	
<b>Relationship to victim</b>	
<b>Is the perpetrator the victim's carer?</b>	



<p><b>Highlight any relevant information that relates to any of the risk indicators on the PSNLI Grid (see below) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pattern</li> <li>• Seriousness</li> <li>• Nature</li> <li>• Likelihood</li> <li>• Imminence &amp; Impact</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other information (e.g. actions already taken by agency to address victim’s safety)</b></p>	
<p><b>What are the victim’s greatest priorities to address their safety?</b></p>	
<p><b>Who is the victim afraid of? Include all potential threats, and not just primary perpetrator</b></p>	
<p><b>Who does the victim believe it safe to talk to?</b></p>	
<p><b>Who does the victim believe it <u>not</u> safe to talk to?</b></p>	
<p><b>Please include any relevant and significant information regarding the children</b></p>	

**Overall assessment of risk posed should include both victim and perpetrator information.**

- **List sources of information used (e.g. case records, referrals, incident logs, patient records etc.)**
  
- **Please indicate the duration of your contact with the individual**
  
- **What was your role/involvement with the individual?**
  
- **Who completed this research form?**

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Additional material on victim thought map and PSNLI risk assessment provided by H. Kemshall (2015), De Montfort University. This may NOT be used without the written permission of Prof Kemshall and DMU, and is the subject of intellectual property right. ✉ [kemshall@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:kemshall@dmu.ac.uk)

*NB PRACTITIONERS: The following information is collated using the PSNLI Grid (Pattern/Seriousness/Nature/Likelihood/Imminence/Impact), the set of statements are  
To be used as a guidance for your research*

### **Pattern**

**Consider pattern of domestic abuse perpetration, including types of abuse, victim targeting, escalation and number of A&E hospital or GP treatment. Include patterns of targeting of previous victims. Responses to previous intervention plans if known e.g. victim's previous response to safety plans and any known protective factors that have worked to reduce risk are helpful.**

### **Seriousness**

**Consider the most serious behaviours or offences that have occurred, and whether such behaviours or offences are escalating. For example, the use of weapons and the full range of harmful behaviours including controlling behaviours and psychological harms. If you can, identify what the victim fears will happen next if intervention does not take place.**

### **Nature**

**Consider the nature of the domestic abuse, present and in the future, and provide as much detail as possible on the range of physical harms, sexual harms, controlling behaviours, emotional abuse, serial grooming and victimisation.**

### **Likelihood**

**How often domestic abuse has occurred? Is there any evidence of escalation- increasing severity of injuries or use of a weapon? Any known compliance of perpetrator with previous or current interventions? The effectiveness of previous or current safety plans for victims (failing plans are likely to increase the likelihood of future abuse).**

### **Impact**

**Consider the scale/ harm of the abuse and potential harm of future abuse**

### **Imminence**

**Consider what is known, including any protective factors to reduce risk, any change in risky behaviours including overall level of compliance and motivation to change? Are there ongoing disputes about property, new relationships, and access to or custody of children?**

***Victims who are fearful for their safety and for that of their children are often good 'predictors' of imminence.***