

**ACPO/CAADA Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour Based Violence (DASH 2009) Risk Model  
Adapted by Durham Constabulary for use by Multi-Agencies in Co Durham & Darlington**



**Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour Based Violence (DASH 2009) Risk Identification and Assessment Checklist for Co Durham & Darlington Multi-Agencies**

**Risk assessment is not a predictive process and there is no existing accurate procedure to calculate or foresee which cases will result in homicide or further assault and harm.**

This risk identification and checklist has been slightly adapted by Durham Constabulary so that agencies within Co Durham and Darlington can use this form as part of the MARAC referral documentation.

The only amendments are to de-bold questions so that agency staff concentrate and complete all the questions of the assessment with the victim and never with the perpetrator present. The questions, once staff start to become familiar with them should be asked as part of a conversation with the victim providing explanations for the victim if they are unsure what is meant by a particular phrase i.e. “stalking”.

MARAC training is currently being rolled out across Co Durham and Darlington and staff should make every effort to attend this to familiarise themselves fully with the MARAC process.

If any member of staff has concerns or is unsure with any aspect of this process please consult firstly with your supervisor or contact the MARAC Coordinator for advice and guidance.

When considering making a referral into MARAC a discussion must take place with your supervisor.

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<b>CURRENT SITUATION</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
THE CONTEXT AND DETAIL OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IS VERY IMPORTANT. TICK THE RELEVANT BOX AND <b>ADD COMMENT</b> WHERE NECESSARY TO EXPAND.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has the current incident resulted in injury? (please state what and whether this is the first injury)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are you very frightened? Comment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. What are you afraid of? Is it further injury or violence? (Please give an indication of what you think (name of abuser(s)..... might do and to whom)  Kill:                      Self <input type="checkbox"/> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>  Further injury and violence: Self <input type="checkbox"/> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>  Other (please clarify):      Self <input type="checkbox"/> Children <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Do you feel isolated from family/ friends i.e. does (name of abuser(s).....) try to stop you from seeing friends/family/Dr or others?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Have you separated or tried to separate from (name of abuser(s).....) within the past year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Is there conflict over child contact? (please state what)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Does (.....) constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you? (Please expand to identify what and whether you believe that this is done deliberately to intimidate you? Consider the context and behaviour of what is being done)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CHILDREN/DEPENDENTS</b> (If no children/dependants, please go to the next section)	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
9. Are you currently pregnant or have you recently had a baby (in the past 18 months)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Are there any children, step-children that aren't (.....) in the household? Or are there other dependants in the household (i.e. older relative)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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11. Has (.....) ever hurt the children/dependants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Has (.....) ever threatened to hurt or kill the children/dependants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HISTORY</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
13. Is the abuse happening more often?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Is the abuse getting worse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Does (.....) try to control everything you do and/or are they excessively jealous? (In terms of relationships, who you see, being 'policed at home', telling you what to wear for example. Consider honour based violence and stalking and specify the behaviour)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Has (.....) ever used weapons or objects to hurt you?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Has (.....) ever threatened to kill you or someone else and you believed them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Has (.....) ever attempted to strangle/choke/suffocate/drown you?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Does (....) do or say things of a sexual nature that makes you feel bad or that physically hurt you or someone else? (Please specify who and what)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there any other person that has threatened you or that you are afraid of? (If yes, consider extended family if honour based violence) (Please specify who)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you know if (.....) has hurt anyone else? (children/siblings/elderly relative/stranger) etc (Please specify who and what) consider HBV. Children <input type="checkbox"/> Another family member <input type="checkbox"/> Someone from a previous relationship <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Has (.....) ever mistreated an animal or the family pet?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>ABUSER(s)</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
23. Are there any financial issues? For example, are you dependent on (.....) for money/have they recently lost their job/other financial issues?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. Has (.....) had problems in the past year with drugs (prescription or other), alcohol or mental health leading to problems in leading a normal life? (Please specify what)  Drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. Has (.....) ever threatened or attempted suicide?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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26. Has (.....) ever breached bail/an injunction and/or any agreement for when they can see you and/or the children? (Please specify what)  Bail conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Non Molestation/Occupation Order <input type="checkbox"/> Child Contact arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Forced Marriage Protection Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>   	<input type="checkbox"/>   
27. Do you know if (.....) has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history? (If yes, please specify)  DV <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>   	<input type="checkbox"/>   
Other relevant information (from victim or officer) which may alter risk levels. Describe: (consider for example victim's vulnerability - disability, mental health, alcohol/substance misuse and/or the abuser's occupation/interests-does this give unique access to weapons i.e. ex-military, police, pest control)		
Is there anything else you would like to add to this?		

In **all** cases an initial risk classification is required:

RISK TO VICTIM:		
STANDARD <input type="checkbox"/>	MEDIUM <input type="checkbox"/>	HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>
When grading risk this is based on 3 things how the victim rates their level of risk, how you rate the victims level of risk based on what they have said or on what you have seen i.e. injuries that the victim may not have fully explained but cause you concern and finally on your professional judgement. In Durham we encourage all agencies to make a referral to our MARAC Coordinator who is happy to discuss and give advice re any assessment but also to receive any assessment even if you are unsure whether it is High Risk. The MARAC Coordinator can look at the information on this risk assessment and can then start a process of information sharing if she feels the risk dictates to ascertain what other agencies may know about the victim.  Total Number of ticks:		

Signature of staff member completing the form: .....  
Date: .....

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**Risk Assessment Categorisation**

This is *based* on the OASys (Offender Assessment System developed by the Prison and Probation Services) definitions of what constitutes standard, medium, high risk. Please use your professional judgement to categorise the risk level:

<b>Standard</b>	Current evidence does not indicate likelihood of causing serious harm.
<b>Medium</b>	There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The offender has the potential to cause serious harm but is unlikely to do so unless there is a change in circumstances, for example, failure to take medication, loss of accommodation, relationship breakdown, drug or alcohol misuse.
<b>High</b>	There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The potential event could happen at any time and the impact would be serious.  Risk of serious harm (Home Office 2002 and OASys 2006): 'A risk which is life threatening and/or traumatic, and from which recovery, whether physical or psychological, can be expected to be difficult or impossible'.

**Risk Management Frameworks**

Use the **RARA** model when compiling safety plans for victims. What are you planning to do?

<b>Remove the risk:</b>	By arresting the suspect and obtaining a remand in custody.
<b>Avoid the risk:</b>	By re-housing victim/significant witnesses or placement in refuge/shelter in location unknown to suspect.
<b>Reduce the risk:</b>	By joint intervention/victim safety planning, target hardening, enforcing breaches of bail conditions, use of protective legislation and referring high risk cases to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).
<b>Accept the risk:</b>	By continued reference to the Risk Assessment Model, continual multi-agency intervention planning, support and consent of the victim and offender targeting within Pro-active Assessment and Tasking pro forma (PATP), or Risk Management Panel format (such as Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) or Multi-agency Public Protection Panel (MAPPP).

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