

1 Domestic Abuse - the facts

- More females between the ages of 20 and 44 die of domestic abuse than any other means. An average of 2 women a week are killed by a male and/or former partner.
- Nearly a quarter of high-risk victims (23%) and one in ten medium-risk victims went to an A&E because of their injuries. In the most extreme cases, victims reported that they attended A&E 15 times.
- Victims suffer an average of 30 assaults before reporting, and on average experienced 5½ years of abuse before accessing the services of Independent Domestic Violence Advisors.
- The vast majority of murders in West Mercia are as a result of domestic abuse.
- 85% of victims sought help 5 times on average from professionals in the year before they got effective help to stop the abuse.
- Each year there are over 1 million calls to police in England and Wales about domestic abuse, and on average someone contacts the police every 30 seconds for help with domestic abuse.
- In between 30% and 60% of domestic abuse cases, the abusive partner is also directly abusing children in the family.
- Domestic abuse is a key factor in two thirds of cases where children have been killed or seriously injured.
- Children who have witnessed domestic abuse are 2.5 times more likely to have serious social and behavioural problems than other children.
- 30% of domestic abuse commences with pregnancy.



MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

7 Take action

Remember, any professional can refer a case to MARAC. Please use the [referral form](#) or contact Judith Macpherson for further details and support:

Judith Macpherson

MARAC Coordinator for Telford and Wrekin,
Protecting Vulnerable People,
West Mercia Police Malinsgate Police Station,
Telford

Direct Dial: 01952 214727

Email: judith.macpherson@westmercia.police.uk

6 Help page

West Mercia Womens Aid

www.westmerciawomensaid.org

24 hour helpline: 0800 783 1359

National Helpline

www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk

24 hour helpline: 0808 200 0247

DV Assist

For Non Mol Orders, Prohibited Steps and Occupation Orders

Tel: 0800 1958 699

Email: support@dvassist.org.uk

2 What is MARAC doing?

Dealing with High Risk serious cases of Domestic Abuse. This process is victim led. All agencies involved in any way with domestic abuse are represented. The Conference facilitates, monitors and evaluates information from all sources and uses that information to:

- Increase safety – the health and well being of victims both adults and children.
- Determine if the offender poses a significant risk to an individual or the general public.
- Provide a Risk Management Plan providing professional support for the persons at risk.
- Provide support and advice for victims in dealing with all aspects of domestic abuse including support within the justice system.

3 Intention of MARAC conferences

- Reduce repeat victimisation.
- Help to protect the victim and any children.
- Increase the number of perpetrators brought to justice.
- Improve agency accountability.
- Increase the support of staff involved in high risk Domestic Abuse cases.

4 What assistance is available?

- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors.
- Independent Sexual Violence Advisors.
- Dedicated Police Domestic Violence Officers.
- MARAC.
- Victim and Witness Care unit.
- National Centre for Domestic Violence.

5 In conclusion

- MARAC was an important innovation in the community and criminal justice system in response to domestic abuse.
- The multiple and unique needs of victims and their children are recognised in this type of Multi-agency approach.
- Representatives from many agencies are undertaking substantially more work in the hope that their actions will lead to reductions in victimisations, as well as homicide prevention.
- Telford and Wrekin MARAC has heard 3474 cases to date (17/01/23) since it started in Feb 2008.
- In the past 12 months (to Jan 2023) Telford and Wrekin MARAC has heard 249 cases, which have involved 318 children.