

Appendix 2 - PEEL Effectiveness - AF/149c/4717

HMIC Recommendation - The force should improve its approach to safeguarding victims of domestic abuse who are assessed as high risk. It should review the referral process to multi agency risk assessment conferences to ensure that victims of domestic abuse are not being placed at risk as a result.

Action - Review the referral process to multi agency risk assessment conferences to ensure that victims of domestic abuse are not being placed at risk as a result

In the County, a review demonstrated that all High Risk (HR) cases go to MARAC. This was historically not the case in the City.

However the City position has now changed. The MARAC steering group have now agreed with the police recommendation that all High Risk city cases similarly now go to the MARAC. This has been the position since the 21st August 2017. The first “all cases in” to the City MARAC took place on 13th/14th September 2017.

The volume of High Risk cases within Nottingham is high – As tabulated below. This presents clear resource issues and is a challenge for partner agencies. Several agencies have stated that they cannot service the extra city MARAC demand. Those agencies include: Nottingham Healthcare Trust, NUH, City Care, Framework Housing, Housing Aid, WAIS and the Nottingham Recovery Network.

Average Volumes

Time period	Average referrals per MARAC	No of additional IDVA required*
Averages worked out per MARAC, not per month		
2016-7 average	29	1.6
2016-7 and 2017-8 Q1-2 average	30	1.8
2016-7 and 2017-8 YTD average	30	1.8
2017-8 Q1-2 average	33	2.4
2017-8 YTD average	32	2.2
2017-8 September – November no case consideration average	28	1.4

As eluded, the number of High risk cases that are submitted to the City MARAC far exceeded the 21 per MARAC number (as commissioned previously by the CDP based on SafeLives analysis).

The CDP remain supportive of WAIS in expressing their reservations about their capacity to hear and cater for more MARAC cases. Consequently liaison with the OPCC over the MARAC issue has resulted in an agreement in principle of an uplift of funding to secure two additional IDVA's for WAIS. This will ensure that every survivor will have the opportunity to engage with an accredited IDVA and meet the increase in MARAC capacity.

This action complies with SafeLives Charity (formerly CAADA) and their guidance that every high risk case should go to MARAC and HMIC recommendation.

Nottinghamshire now hold 4 MARAC's per fortnight: 2 in the County (South and North), 2 in the City.

This is the process going forward and will ensure the appropriate support is given to victims of domestic abuse.

As such whilst all High Risk cases do go to the MARAC, this position remains delicately poised because of the clear resource issue that is facing partner agencies.