

West Sussex MARAC Confidentiality Declaration

MARAC Name	INSERT NAME	Date of MARAC	INSERT DATE
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The principles within this confidentiality declaration are outlined within the MARAC Operating Protocol (MOP) & Information Sharing Guidance (ISG) for West Sussex 2023 ¹

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 MOP and ISG without the agreement of the partners of the meeting. It should focus on safeguarding adults and children who are victims of domestic abuse 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 MARAC meetings will be informed by a commitment to equality principles enshrined in the law, which means that measures to protect victims will be implemented without discrimination on any ground such as sex, gender, race, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, migrant or refugee status, or other status.

Information shared as part of the MARAC process is owned by the individual agency. The agency providing this information must consent to the release of their information, should it be required to be shared. On occasion there may be a need to disclose, overriding an agency's consent, if legally required as part of adult and child safeguarding procedures.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

- To share information to increase the safety, health and wellbeing of all identified victims; the referred adult or young person aged over 16yrs and any additional child or adult victim(s);
- To determine whether the perpetrator poses a significant risk to any particular 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; and
- 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 effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase public safety. Practitioners are encouraged to highlight if they feel decisions or action(s) within MARAC are not effectively addressing the safety or well-being of adults and their children.

Name	Agency	Signature	Email Address

¹ WSX MARAC Ops/ISA when complete and uploaded
[Online West Sussex MARAC Referral form](#)