

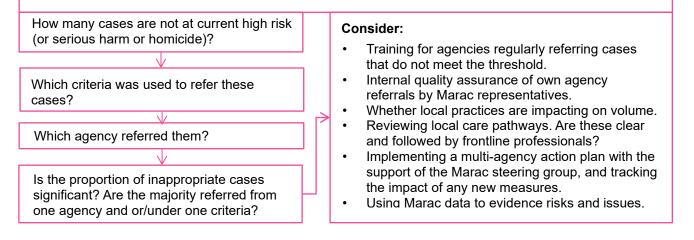
Marac Guidance Managing and addressing high volume

A small number of Maracs are managing very high caseloads of over 40 cases per monthly meeting, or have annual volumes that significantly exceed SafeLives' projected amount - some by as much as 25%

This checklist aims to highlight some of the challenges and risks associated with high volume. It also explores how high volume Maracs and Marac representatives can be supported locally to ensure an effective response to victims and their children, and to acknowledge and manage these issues.

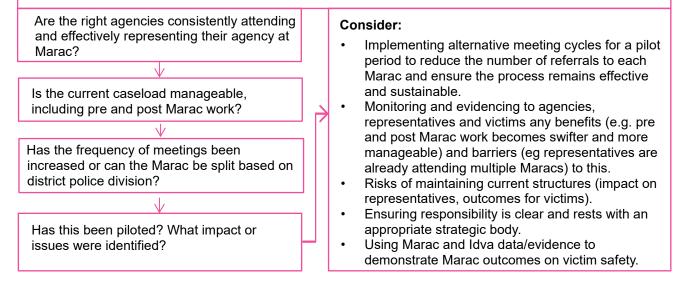
1. Are cases high risk? Do they meet the Marac threshold?

Monitor the appropriateness of cases over 2-3 Marac meetings



2. Does the local structure support an effective Marac process?

Having established that the majority of cases are appropriate, Maracs should ensure that the local arrangement facilitates an effective process.

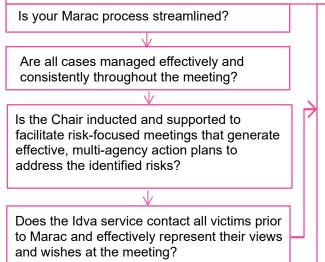




Ending domestic abuse

3. Are all cases being managed effectively?

The Marac increases the safety of victims and children and addresses perpetrators' behaviour.



Consider:

- Reviewing the Marac administration process to ensure it follows guidelines, minimising resources and demands on agencies.
- Routinely monitoring meetings to ensure all cases receive a consistent response.
- Holding scrutiny panels to review process, practice and consistency, and addressing or embedding any learning to ensure positive outcomes for all victims and their children.
- Support for representatives to ensure effective contribution (e.g. induction, training, protected time to research and implement actions).
- Whether consistent, effective support is available to all high risk victims and uncompromised by caseload/Marac volume.

4. Is the Marac supported?

Support and governance of the Marac is effective and responsibility is clear and appropriate.

Is the Idva service sustainable with capacity to support all high risk victims?

Does the Marac have sufficient administrative capacity?

Does the Marac have effective support with clear lines of strategic responsibility?

Consider:

- Mainstreaming funding for Idva and Marac administration to reflect the recommended level.
- Taking steps to ensure any remaining risks or concerns associated with your high volume Marac are monitored and addressed.
- Ensuring responsibility to support your Marac sits with appropriate groups and strategic leads with clear lines of responsibility. This should not rest solely with the Marac or representatives.

5. SafeLives can work with you to:

- Provide support to address recommendations identified in your HMIC report in relation to Marac and Idva.
- Support your Marac operationally and strategically to implement guidance within this checklist.
- Share best practice and provide links with other high volume Maracs, and share learning from different agencies, including health.
- Highlight the challenges for representatives of high volume Maracs at a strategic level.
- Support your Marac to implement Self Assessment and local Marac action plans to identify and embed good practice and areas for development, and support sustainability.
- Provide strategic and commissioning guidance and support
- Provide updates on the latest Marac data and research

SafeLives also offers free resources, workshops and tailored training to Marac Chairs, Coordinators and Representatives. Find out more and register for updates at <u>www.safelives.org.uk</u>