

## 7-minute Briefing

# MARAM (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management)

### 1. What is a MARAM?

Safeguarding Adults Reviews and other form of learning reviews regularly identify learning themes around sharing of information, working together and recognising escalation in and accumulation of risk. This is what the MARAM process is designed to do, it's meant to assist practitioners seeking to support individuals at risk to be able to continue to live independently, by providing support to manage, reduce and mitigate such risks. The MARAM focuses on high intensity service users, or those who choose not to engage or may be hard to engage with, who for whatever reason, engage in risky behaviours that are not captured by other safeguarding processes. The MARAM is developed for adults who are considered to have the mental capacity to make choices that we believe places them at risk. If the adult is assessed as having the capacity to understand the consequences of refusing services/engaging in risky behaviours, then holding a MARAM should be considered.

### 2. When should you hold a MARAM?

In situations where there is significant concern that an individual's lifestyle choices or behaviour may result in serious harm, or even death, and single agency involvement, or the involvement of a number of agencies, has not been effective in managing the identified risk then you should consider holding a MARAM. If you're not sure when or if you should hold a MARAM, speak to your line manager or liaise with your safeguarding team. In determining whether it is appropriate to call a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Meeting consideration should be given to all other measures/steps that might already have been taken to identify and manage risk.

### 3. In what kind of situations would holding a MARAM be useful?

- Alcohol/drug dependence
- Mental health
- Non-compliant or challenging behaviour
- Complexities around Medical Intervention, Medication and Diagnosis
- Self-neglect/Self-harm/hoarding
- Refusal of access to an adult with care and support needs
- Fear of statutory bodies
- Homelessness/inappropriate environment
- Domestic Abuse combined with other complexities

### 4. Who can call a MARAM?

- Halton Borough Council
- NHS
- Police
- Fire & Rescue Service
- North West Ambulance Service
- Probation
- Healthwatch
- SHAP
- Age UK
- Housing

## 7-minute Briefing

### MARAM (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management)

#### 5. Lead Agency

Rule of thumb is that the agency who identify the need for a MARAM should arrange the meeting. It is a common misconception that MARAMs can only be initiated by Adult Social Care. The MARAM process is available for adults who do not have care and support needs, and so would not be open to Adult Social Care.

#### 6. What is the difference between a MARAM and a professionals meeting?

Holding professionals meeting or liaising with other professionals is common practice when working with adults as this enables assessment and support planning. However, sometimes situations can become fixed and current multi-agency forums is not sufficient in managing the risk, or the risk may be increasing. In those circumstances a MARAM will ensure a joint risk assessment and action plan.

#### 7. How do I use it?

Guidance on how to use the MARAM procedure is set out in HSAB's MARAM policy which can be found here (EMBEDD) The procedures contain a range of tools including meeting invite letters templates, agenda templates, minute templates, action log templates, letter to the adult at risk templates.