

## 7 Minute Briefing Multi-Agency and Management Meeting (MARAM)

### What is a MARAM?

A MARAM is a meeting process that can be used when you have concerns about a case. It is usually used when we work with people who are able to make their own decisions, i.e. they have the mental capacity to make a decision about their life. However, during our work with the person, we may feel that their decisions are creating situations in which we need to discuss the risk with other professionals.

It 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.

### When should we start a MARAM process?

- Where there is significant concern that an individual's lifestyle choices or behaviour may result in serious harm, or even death
- Single agency involvement, or the involvement of a number of agencies, has not been effective in managing the identified risk

### Identifying Risk

Some of the commonly occurring issues identified in cases where professionals might hold a MARAM meeting include:

- 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

### **What do you need to do?**

Complete the suggested planning document (Appendix 1 in the [MARAM guidance document](#)) to identify if there are specific risks in relation to any of the areas covered by this procedure.

Appendices 2-6 of the MARAM guidance cover particular areas of risk such as:

- Concerns re: fire safety
- Self-neglect
- Dependency in drugs and alcohol
- Non-adherence with medication
- People who are passively resistant or aggressive

Raise the concerns with your Line Manager or equivalent seniority suggesting that a MARAM takes place to manage the risks.

Contact all professionals involved (**and those who need to be involved**) and arrange the meeting (including the adult themselves if appropriate)

Prepare a synopsis of the person that is the subject of the MARAM, and a detailed description of the circumstances that form the reason for the concerns. There is a template within the MARAM guidance to help you do this (**Appendix 8**)

Sends the synopsis in advance of the meeting along with the MARAM guidance document

### **Service User Involvement and Capacity**

At all stages the service user should be engaged in this process and supported to understand the risks and, hopefully, accept support to minimise them.

Due consideration should be given to ensuring that the voice of the adult can be heard clearly and reflected on during the meeting.

Adult themselves are invited if it is appropriate, or an advocate, this will depend on the individual circumstances of the case.

**There will be times when it is not appropriate to invite the service user, professional judgement and clear recording of reasoning, must be used in these instances.**

The MARAM can be called by any practitioner working for any agency that is a member of Halton Safeguarding Adults Board (The Proposer).

This process is not intended to replace other multi-agency arrangements, however, in some cases it may be helpful to use MARAM alongside.