

Jargon buster

DA	Domestic Abuse
DA Navigator	Keyworker employed by SDA who supports any client referred to their service
DAPN/O	Domestic Abuse Protection Notice/Order
DAPP	Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme
DASH	Domestic Abuse, Stalking & Harassment and Honour Based Violence – a risk assessment checklist
DVA	Domestic Violence and Abuse
DVDS	Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's Law)
FSS	Family Safeguarding Service who support parents who have children open to Children Social Care
High Harm Team	A Neighbourhood Policing Team focussed on tackling the highest harm issues in the district including sharing information to protect victims and working with Up2U to engage with perpetrators
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advocate
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference for high-risk cases
MARM	Multi-Agency Risk Management meeting for vulnerable adults
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (see contact details below for both Children and Adult MASH teams)
PARCS	Portsmouth Abuse and Rape Counselling Services
PPD	Public Protection Department, Hampshire Police – specifically deals with safeguarding issues, including DVA
PPN1	Police form - Public Protection 1
'Professional'	Staff from any agency
'Professional judgement'	If DASH is below 14, but your professional judgement tells you it should be referred to MARAC, provide written reasons and refer
Right to ask (Clare's Law)	Gives someone the right to ask the police if their partner poses a risk to them or their family
RTK Right to know (Clare's Law)	Allows the police to disclose information to someone if their partner does pose a risk to them
Safe accommodation	Refuges or other safe accommodation and move-on accommodation for victims who are at risk of death or significant harm in their own home
SPOC	Single Point of Contact

Further information and useful links

www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-factsheets/statutory-definition-of-domestic-abuse-factsheet

Support

What support is available?

Support for victims assessed as standard risk (1-9 on DASH risk assessment) is delivered via the Victim Care Service (formally Victim Support).

Stop Domestic Abuse are contracted to provide the following services in Portsmouth:

- Refuge service
- Support for victims assessed as high risk (scoring 14+ on DASH risk assessment or professional judgement indicates a victim at high risk)
- Support for victims assessed as medium risk (scoring 10-13 on the DASH assessment) of domestic abuse
- Support to those who use unhealthy or abusive behaviours and want to change by delivering Up2U: Creating Healthy Relationships (Portsmouth's domestic abuse perpetrator programme). Includes partner support
- Support for 13-15-year-olds experiencing domestic abuse in their relationship

Group provision includes:

- **Who's in Charge?** A course for adolescent to parent abuse
- **DA Recovery Toolkit** – a 12 week course for male and female victims of DVA who are no longer in an abusive relationship
- **Freedom** – an 11 week course for female victims of DA who have left, or are still in, an abusive relationship
- **Up2U: Creating Healthy Relationships** – 6 to 40+ week programme (based on level of risk) to anyone aged 16+ who admit to using abusive or unhealthy behaviours in their relationship and want to change
- **Up2U: My Choice** – for victims with complex, multiple needs and chaotic lifestyles displaying unhealthy relationship attitudes and behaviours to prevent re-victimisation and to end the cycle of abuse.

Contact details

Hampshire Police: call 999 in an emergency and 101 for all other enquiries

Police MARAC coordinator: portsmouth.mash.admin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk or 101

Stop Domestic Abuse: email portsmouthreferral@stopdomesticabuse.uk or portsmouth.referral@stopdomesticabuse.cjsm.net or call 023 9206 5494

PARCS: Call 023 9266 9513 email parcs@family-action.org.uk

Victim Care Service: call 0808 1781641 or email hiow.referrals@victimsupport.cjsm.net

MASH Children and Families Services: call 0845 6710271 or 023 9268 8793 (out-of-hours service on 0300 5551373) or email mash@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

MASH Adult Services: call 023 9268 0810 or portsmouthadultmash@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Introduction to domestic abuse in Portsmouth

This leaflet has been developed for professionals supporting those experiencing domestic abuse, with or without children, living in Portsmouth. It explains the importance of identifying and responding to domestic abuse and offers guidance on the process and support options.

In Portsmouth, domestic abuse (DA) has been a community safety and health and wellbeing priority for many years. The Domestic Abuse Strategy Group oversees delivery and improvement of services based on evidence and client feedback. The Domestic Abuse Practitioners Forum provides opportunities to consult and engage with those delivering domestic abuse services in the city.

The definition of domestic abuse can be found here: www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-factsheets/statutory-definition-of-domestic-abuse-factsheet

The majority of domestic abuse incidents come to the attention of professionals when victims contact the police; however it is important for all professionals to create an environment where victims, children and those who are being abusive feel able to ask for help; for professionals to ask about domestic abuse when they are concerned; or where signs or risk factors are present.

If you are concerned someone may be a victim it is important to ask them, **BUT do not** ask questions about domestic abuse in front of the alleged perpetrator, their children or close family where the relationship with the victim is not known.

Exploratory questions could include:

- You seem upset/frightened/anxious/low/quiet, is there something troubling you?
- Have you ever felt frightened or had to change your behaviour because of someone you have/had a relationship with, or a family member?
- I have noticed [be specific on what you have noticed, like a bruise or damage to the property]. Can you tell me how this happened?

The double-page schematic overleaf explains the journey for you as a professional when supporting a client, including assessing risk to clients and children, wider needs of the whole family or the needs of single adults with no children.

What is a risk assessment?

Risk assessment is a crucial part of helping to deal with DA. Levels of risk need to be identified to ensure the most appropriate course of action, and to ensure the safety of the victim. In Portsmouth, we recommend all professionals use the Safe Lives Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment (DASH) risk assessment, which identifies high-risk cases that need to be referred to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). You can download the DASH assessment from the Portsmouth Safeguarding Children's Partnership website www.portsmouthscp.org.uk

What is MARAC?

A domestic abuse Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference combines up-to-date risk information with a comprehensive assessment of a victim's needs and links those risks directly to the provision of appropriate services for all those involved in a domestic abuse case – victim, children and perpetrator.

The back page of this leaflet includes a jargon buster and provides further information on support options and contact details.

Training

Training for professionals on identifying and responding to domestic abuse is delivered by Stop Domestic Abuse (SDA). To book a place please email portsmouthtraining@stopdomesticabuse.uk



Domestic abuse referral pathway for adults & families

CALL FOR SERVICE

Disclosure by victim/abusive adult to professional, for example:

Social Worker	Substance misuse worker
Housing Officer	Hospital/other health worker
Housing Needs and Advice Officer	Early Help Midwife
Mental Health worker	GP/Health Visitor
	Nursery/School



POLICE EMERGENCY 999 (or non-emergency 101)

999 Police Control Room

Call handler assesses risk – deploys Response and Patrol Officers

101 call or online report

Risk assessed and decision on deployment response made

Police Response

Officers consider immediate safety planning of victim and child(ren)

Complete PPN1* and DASH including voice of the child(ren), risk level and rationale – send to Police MASH for review and onward referral

If recorded as crime:

- Take positive action which can include arrest of perpetrator
- Gather evidence to support evidence-led prosecution and victim statement if available

If arrest made and perpetrator taken to custody:

- Investigator updates victim, progress investigation including interviewing the perpetrator
- Identify serial perpetrator and consider DVDS RTK

Police MASH

Check/ratify PPN1 details, DASH* forward to MARAC or specialist domestic abuse services

High Harm Team (HHT)

High harm and serial DA perpetrators identified and considered for management

1 STAGE ONE UNDERSTAND RISK AND DISCUSS IMMEDIATE SAFETY PLANNING

- Professional completes DASH risk assessment
- Check who is already working with victim/family

HIGH RISK DASH SCORE 14+ OR PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT

Risk of death or serious harm

Police intervention, legal protection, child/adult protection, refuge, hotel and security measures

Complex needs, lives seriously affected by domestic abuse, coercive control, co-existing substance misuse/mental health issues

**Inform victim of referral to Stop Domestic Abuse and MARAC
No consent required**

MEDIUM RISK DASH SCORE 10-13

Could be vulnerable or subject to coercive control but not actively seeking help

Police: get consent – signpost victim to support services

Other agencies: get consent – refer to Stop Domestic Abuse and/or provide advocacy and support

STANDARD RISK DASH SCORE 0-9

Could be aware there is a problem, may be minimal violence

Police: get consent – refer to Victim Care Service

Other agencies: get consent – skilled workforce provides advocacy and support

2 STAGE TWO UNDERSTAND WIDER NEEDS

Adults

Professional to:

- Understand wider needs of victim(s) and abusive adult
- Check if the adult has care and support needs

Consider MARM meeting

Adult MASH review PPN1 and consider:

- If adult has care and support needs – Sec 42 enquiry, or
- MARM* meeting

And/or with consent, complete a needs assessment and/or refer to appropriate service



Families with children

Professional to:

- Understand wider needs of victims, children and abusive adult
- Develop whole family plan

Children's MASH review PPN1 and consider:

- Sec 47 or Sec 17 – informed by DASH and safety planning conversation
Allocation to T4 Children's Social Care/Family Safeguarding Service
- Early Help Allocation to T3 Early Help or T2 co-ordinators



Abusive adult only

Professional understands whole family support needs, including:

Substance misuse, mental health, behaviour change programme, housing, employment, etc.

and for abusive adult only:

Enforcement options, Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO), prosecution, McGrady Notice (eviction), etc.

3 STAGE THREE DELIVER AND REVIEW

Professional to:

- Review risk and need
- Manage dynamic risk (across partnership)
- Refer to MARAC if victim's risk increases to high
- Deliver appropriate service/intervention
- Collaborate and co-ordinate service delivery

Professional pulls in specialist services: (click or see overleaf for contact details)

Stop Domestic Abuse (high and medium risk, refuge, and support for children)
Victim Care Service
Society of St James (drug/alcohol misuse)
Wellbeing Service

Solent Mental Health Trust
PARCS
Talking Change
Two Saints (homeless/housing)
Local Employment Support
Local Housing Management

Families with children

Family Safeguarding Service	Family Hubs
Early Help Service	Schools
	GP surgeries

Abusive adult

Police progress enforcement activity	Building Better Relationships (CRC)
Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO)	Community Mental Health Team
Prosecution	SSJ Drugs Services
Notice to Quit (eviction)	Housing Needs and Advice
Behaviour change programme	Employment
CARA	and/or consider support options above
UP2U: Creating Healthy Relationships	

*See jargon buster overleaf

Police – On-going investigation or enforcement action

