

Domestic Violence and Abuse: A Referral Pathway for Victims in Portsmouth



Definition of domestic violence and abuse

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse: psychological; physical; sexual; financial; and emotional.

Jargon buster

DVA - Domestic Violence and Abuse

PIP - Portsmouth IDVA Project (formerly EIP)

IDVA - Independent Domestic Violence Advocate

SDAS - Southern Domestic Abuse Service

DAPP – Domestic Abuse Perpetrator & Prevention service (provided by Up2U)

DASH – Domestic Abuse, Stalking & Harassment and Honour Based Violence – a risk assessment checklist.

MARAC – Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

MASH – Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

PPD - Public Protection Department, Hampshire Police - specifically deals with safeguarding issues, incl. DVA

What is a risk assessment (DASH)?

Risk assessment is a crucial part of helping to deal with DVA. Levels of risks need to be identified and established to ensure the most appropriate course of action, and also to ensure the victim's safety. In Portsmouth we recommend that everyone uses the Safe Lives DASH risk assessment. Which identifies cases that need to be referred to MARAC.

What is MARAC?

In a single meeting, 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 directly to the provision of appropriate services for all those involved in a domestic abuse case victim, children and perpetrator.

What support is available? (see over for referral routes and details)

PIP - Provides IDVA support to victims assessed at high risk of domestic abuse and who are considered at MARAC. Scoring 14+ on the DASH risk assessment or professional judgement indicates a victim is at high risk and provides group provision for victims

SDAS - provides the refuge in Portsmouth, supports victims assessed as medium risk of domestic abuse (scoring 8-13 on the DASH assessment)

Victim Care - Provides support to victims assessed as standard risk (1-7 on DASH risk assessment)

Up2U - Provides support to those who use unhealthy behaviours in their relationship. To meet the threshold an individual must acknowledge they use unhealthy behaviours and want to change.

Group provision:

Who's in Charge: a 9 week course for parents whose child (10+) is acting abusively to them or beyond their control

Rockpool: 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 DVA who are still in an abusive relationship

NVR: 11 week course for parents whose child's (5-18) making unreasonable demands leading to battles or aggression

Other key contacts & services

- **Hampshire Police:**
 - 999 in an emergency and 101 for all other calls/enquiries
 - Police MARAC coordinator portsmouth.mash.admin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk or 101
- **Up2U:** Up2U@portsmouthcc.gcsx.gov.uk or 023 9243 7608
- **Children and Families Services:** Phone MASH on 0845 6710271 or 023 9268 8793 or pccraduty@portsmouthcc.gov.uk. Or out-of-hours service on 0300 5551373.
- **Adult Services (safeguarding):** 023 9268 0810 or PortsmouthAdultMASH@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Domestic abuse disclosure - what should I do?



Do you have any immediate concerns for your client's welfare or safety?

Yes

In an emergency call 999 and ensure the client's safety.

NO



Are there children or adults at risk involved?

Yes

Refer to your agency's procedures for children and adults at risk and make a referral to Children's or Adult's Services and contact Children or Adult's MASH as appropriate

AND



Complete DASH risk assessment with the victim and/or consider professional judgement



In all cases talk to your client about:

- Safety planning
- What your agency should do to help them and keep them safe and which other agencies should be contacted
- If they want information to take away or what, if any, support they require
- Consent to refer to SDAS or Victim Care. If high risk consent is not needed however client should be informed.



HIGH RISK

14 ticks or more on DASH assessment or evidence professional judgement. Refer to MARAC using referral form (email portsmouth.mash.admin@hampshire.pnn.police.uk and refer to PIP (IDVA@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or 02392 688472) for DVA support

MEDIUM RISK

8-13 ticks on DASH assessment or professional judgement Refer to SDAS (023 9206 5494 or portsmouthreferrals@southerndas.org) providing client has consented for specialist domestic abuse support

STANDARD RISK

1-7 ticks on DASH risk assessment or professional judgement Assessing agency to provide support to victim or make a referral to Victim Care (02380 240616) providing client has consented