MASH Flowchart for MARAC

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Electronic file location:

TriX Section 1.4.1: Contacts and Referrals

Associated statutory guidance and regulations:

Working Together to Safeguard Children, Department for Education, 2018

Children Act's 1989 and 2004

Data Protection Act 2018

Adoption and Children Act 2002

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Human Rights Act 1998

Local documents:

Bexley MARAC Operating Protocol, August 2018

https://www.bexleydomesticabuseservices.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Bexley-Operating-protocols-for-MARAC.pdf

Key Objectives (including Signs of Safety principles to apply)

This flowchart is a revision to the March 2018 version and clarifies the responsibilities that Bexley Children's Social Care have when receiving and managing contacts regarding domestic violence and abuse relating to the MARAC. This local flowchart makes clear how children's social care will fulfil its obligations outlined under the Bexley MARAC Operational Protocol updated in August 2018.

The purpose of this is to demonstrate how checks will be carried out, information will be shared, and how social care will respond to children and their parents or carers who are victims of domestic violence and abuse can be best supported and safeguarded from further incidents of harm or abuse.

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Case Summary sent to ChildrensMashTeam@bexley.gov.uk from MARAC@bexley.gov.uk

MASH business support checks adults and child(ren) on children's LiquidLogic system. If not known, these are to be created and adults linked to relevant children.

Unknown

MASH completes checks and MARAC research form as unknown. Any linked children will be recorded on the research form.

Known but not open

MASH completes checks and MARAC research form with known information.

Known and open/allocated

MASH business support sends the MARAC research form to the allocated social worker and their manager to complete checks and research form.

NOTE: For all MARAC or domestic violence and abuse (DVA) referrals received, the MASH manager will need to assess each case based on information received and checks undertaken to determine whether more immediate action to safeguard the children and the victim parent/carer caring for them is needed. This decision may be taken regardless of whether the family are referred by MARAC, but any information from MARAC and the DASH assessment will always be used to inform the rationale of the decision. All cases that are referred to MARAC must also have a child and family assessment undertaken of the child and their family situation to assess the risks to the child/ren involved.

All forms must be sent to MASH business support by 2:00pm on the business day before the MARAC meeting. Business support will collate, send and print off all relevant forms for the manager who will be attending the MARAC meeting.

An assistant team manager of MASH will attend each MARAC meeting.
An assistant or team manager in Referral and Assessment or Family Support and Child Protection will also attend MARAC (on a rota basis). An allocated social worker of a child who's family is being discussed at MARAC may also be asked to attend.

Minutes returned to ChildrensMashTeam@bexley.gov.uk by MARAC co-ordinator within 3 working days of the meeting.

Minutes and research form is scanned by MASH business support and uploaded into documents onto relevant child(ren)'s record ONLY. The MARAC flag is added to the child(ren)'s record and the "brief details" field to reflect the case was discussed at MARAC, date of meeting, and any actions for social care.

A MARAC flag will also be placed on the victim and perpetrator adult record and the "brief details" field to reflect that the case was discussed at MARAC and the date, but NO minutes, documents or further information is to be entered or uploaded to an adult's record.

All MARAC risk flags will have the start date reflect the date of the MARAC meeting, and a review date entered of 12 months later (ie: start: 15.04.2019 review: 15.04.2020).

Every fortnight the performance team will send MASH business support a list of MARAC risk badges due to expire that fortnightly period. Business support will confirm with MASH manager if the alert should be allowed to expire. If yes, then business support will enter the end date into the risk flag and the flag will then expire. If not, a rationale for keeping the alert badge for a further specified period must be entered by the manager.