

THAMES VALLEY MULTI-AGENCY DOMESTIC ABUSE REFERRAL PATHWAY

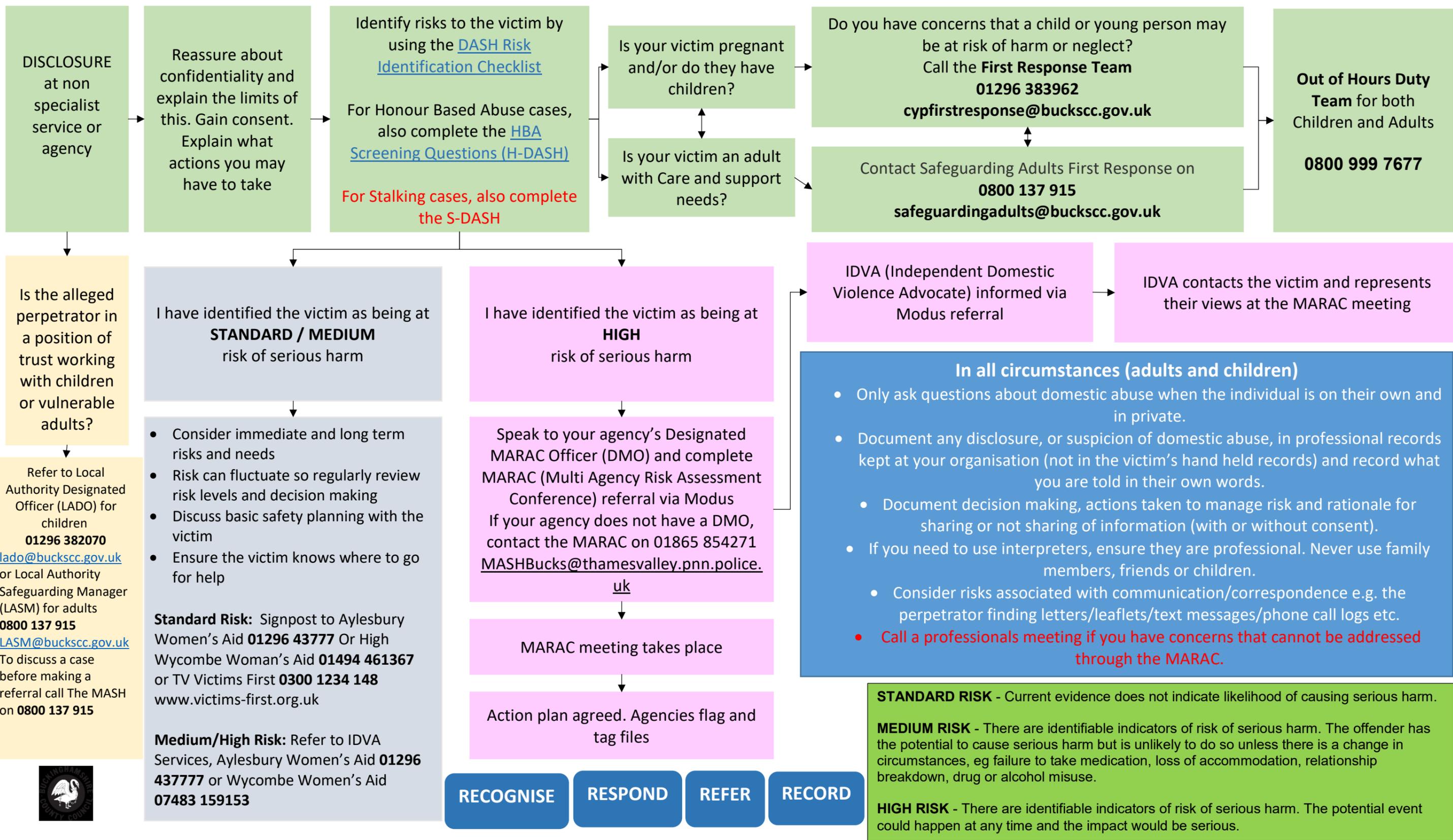


Domestic abuse is “Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse: psychological, physical, sexual, financial, and emotional. This also includes honour based abuse (HBA), forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM)”

If there is no disclosure but you suspect otherwise, periodically ‘ask the question’

If an Honour Based Abuse (HBA) or Forced Marriage (FM) case, share information on a strictly needs to know basis and ensure agency records are kept restricted

If there is any immediate danger call 999 immediately



- In all circumstances (adults and children)**
- Only ask questions about domestic abuse when the individual is on their own and in private.
 - Document any disclosure, or suspicion of domestic abuse, in professional records kept at your organisation (not in the victim's hand held records) and record what you are told in their own words.
 - Document decision making, actions taken to manage risk and rationale for sharing or not sharing of information (with or without consent).
 - If you need to use interpreters, ensure they are professional. Never use family members, friends or children.
 - Consider risks associated with communication/correspondence e.g. the perpetrator finding letters/leaflets/text messages/phone call logs etc.
 - **Call a professionals meeting if you have concerns that cannot be addressed through the MARAC.**

STANDARD RISK - Current evidence does not indicate likelihood of causing serious harm.

MEDIUM RISK - There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The offender has the potential to cause serious harm but is unlikely to do so unless there is a change in circumstances, eg failure to take medication, loss of accommodation, relationship breakdown, drug or alcohol misuse.

HIGH RISK - There are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The potential event could happen at any time and the impact would be serious.

RECOGNISE RESPOND REFER RECORD

