**DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment)**

**Risk Assessment Checklist**

**For use by IDVAs and other non-police agencies for MARAC case identification when domestic abuse encompassing honour-based abuse, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, controlling and coercive behaviour and/or stalking and harassment are disclosed**

**Please cut and paste sample tick 🗸 to use below. Please count only main answers and not the sub sections**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CURRENT SITUATION*** The context and detail of what is happening is very important. **The questions highlighted in bold are high risk factors.** Tick the relevant box **🗸**and **add comment** where necessary to expand
* Please explain that the purpose of asking these questions is for the safety and protection of the individual concerned
* Tick box if the factor is present **🗸.** It is assumed that the main source of information is the victim. If this is **not the case** then please indicate in the right hand column
 | **Yes** | **No** | **State source of info if not the victim e.g. police officer** |
| **e.g. 🗸** |  |
| 1. Has the current incident resulted in injury? **If Yes** **please state below what has occurred / injury and the date of the incident (or nearest to)** |  |  |  |
| 2. **Are you very frightened?**  **If Yes** **please expand below** |  |  |  |
| 3. **Are you afraid of further injury or violence?** If so, please give an indication of what the abuser might do and to whom (e.g. kill themselves or injure the children)**Do NOT count the 🗸’s below in this sub section** |  |  |  |
| **Kill:**  | Self |  | Children |  | Other(s) (please specify)\* | \* |
| **Further injury and violence:**  | Self |  | Children |  | Other(s) (please specify)\* | \* |
| **Other (please clarify):**  | Self |  | Children |  | Other(s) (please specify)\* | \* |
| 4. **Do you feel isolated from family or friends and does the perpetrator try to stop you from seeing friends / family / Dr or others?** **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| 5. Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts?  **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| 6**. Have you separated or tried to separate from the perpetrator within the past year?** **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| 7. Is there conflict over child contact? **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| **8. Does the perpetrator constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you?** Please expand by completing the section below to identify what and whether you believe that this is done deliberately to intimidate you? Consider the context and behaviour of what is being done |  |  |  |
| **These 11 subsection questions below Q8 DO NOT count as additional ticks, but should be completed** 🗸 **if there are two or more incidents of stalking and harassment (reported or unreported) and / or if the victim is extremely frightened.** The questions are important to ask in stalking incidents as the answers will provide a better indication of what is happening. This information should then be used to inform the risk management assessment | **Yes** | **No** | **Comment** |
| **DO NOT COUNT THE 🗸 ‘s** **below in this sub section** |
| (i) Are you very frightened? |  |  |  |
| (ii) Has the perpetrator engaged in harassment on previous occasions(s) with you and, if you know, with other victims?  |  |  |  |
| (iii) Has the perpetrator ever destroyed or vandalised your property?  |  |  |  |
| (iv) Does the perpetrator visit you at work, home, or other places more often than three times per week?  |  |  |  |
| (v). Has the perpetrator loitered around your home, friend’s home or workplace?  |  |  |  |
| (vi) Has the perpetrator made any threats of physical or sexual violence in the current harassment incident? |  |  |  |
| (vii) Has the perpetrator harassed any third party since the harassment began? (E.g. your friends, family, children, colleagues, partners or neighbours)  |  |  |  |
| (iix) Has the perpetrator acted out violently towards people within the current stalking incident?  |  |  |  |
| (ix) Has the perpetrator persuaded other people to help him / her? (Wittingly or unwittingly)  |  |  |  |
| (x) Is the perpetrator known to be abusing drugs and / or alcohol?  |  |  |  |
| (xi) Is the perpetrator known to have been violent in the past? (This could be physical or psychological; intelligence or reported)  |  |  |  |
| Any other relevant information / additional observations made by Practitioner (e.g. level of fear in victim, details of threats and violence, duration of harassment, various harassing behaviours engaged in by abuser, victim’s beliefs concerning abuser’s motives, weapons owned by abuser, nature of unwanted ‘gifts’ / items left for victim, attitude / demeanour of abuser - including mental health issues and whether the victim has responded in any way to the abuser). Please detail below |
|  |
| **CHILDREN/DEPENDENTS (IF NO CHILDREN/DEPENDANTS, PLEASE GO TO THE NEXT SECTION)** | **Yes** | **No** | **Comment** |
| 9. **Are you currently pregnant or have you recently had a baby in the past 18 months? If Yes state term of pregnancy or babies date of birth** |  |  |  |
| **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HISTORY?** | **Yes** | **No** | **Comment** |
| 10. Is the abuse happening more often? **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| 11. Is the abuse getting worse? **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| **12. Does the perpetrator try to control everything you do and / or are they excessively jealous?** (In terms of relationships, who you see, being ‘policed at home’, telling you what to wear for example. Consider honour based violence and stalking and specify the behaviour). **If Yes please expand below with details / dates** |  |  |  |
| 13. Has the perpetrator ever used weapons or objects to hurt you? **If Yes please state below what has occurred / injury and the date of the incident (or nearest to)** |  |  |  |
| 14. Has the perpetrator ever threatened to kill you or someone else and you believed them? **If Yes please expand below with details / dates** |  |  |  |
| **15**. **Has the perpetrator ever attempted to strangle / choke / suffocate / drown you?**  **If Yes please state below what has occurred / injury and the date of the incident (or nearest to)** |  |  |  |
| 16. Does the perpetrator do or say things of a sexual nature that makes you feel bad or physically hurts you or someone else? **If Yes please state below who to and what has occurred / injury and the date of the incident (or nearest to)** |  |  |  |
| 17. Is there any other person that has threatened you or that you are afraid of? If yes, consider extended family if honour based violence. **If Yes please expand below with details / dates**  |  |  |  |
| 18. Do you know if the perpetrator has hurt anyone else? (Consider Honour Based Violence) Children / siblings / elderly relative / strangers. Insert main tick to right ‘🗸’. *Please specify who and what but* ***do NOT count the 🗸’s below in this sub section*** |  |  |  |
| Children | Another family member | Someone from previous relationship | Other(s)  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 19. Has the perpetrator ever mistreated an animal or the family pet? **If Yes please expand below with details / dates** |  |  |  |
| **PERPETRATOR(S)** | **Yes** | **No** | **Comment** |
| 20. Are there any financial issues? For example, are you dependent on the perpetrator for money or have they recently lost their job or any other financial issues? **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| 21. Has the perpetrator had problems in the past year with drugs (prescription or other), alcohol or mental health, causing difficulties to lead a normal life? *Insert main tick to the right ‘🗸’.* *Please specify what but* ***do NOT count the 🗸’s below in this sub section*** |  |  |  |
| Drugs | Alcohol | Mental Health | All / combination | Please specify below |
|   |  |  |  |  |
| 22. Has the perpetrator ever threatened or attempted suicide? **If Yes please expand below** |  |  |  |
| 23. Has the perpetrator ever breached bail / an injunction and / or any agreement for when they can see you and / or the children? Insert main tick to the right🗸**Please specify what but** **do NOT count the 🗸’s below in this sub section** |  |  |  |
| Bail conditions | Forced Marriage Protection Order | Non Molestation / Occupation Order | Child Contact arrangements | Other(s) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 24. Do you know if the perpetrator has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history? Insert main tick to right 🗸Please specify what but **do NOT count the 🗸’s below in this sub section** |  |  |  |
| DV | Sexual violence | Other violence | Other | Please specify below |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **DASH RESULT – number of 🗸’s for YES.**Is there anything else you would like to add to this? |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **RISK ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION** Insert **🗸** below  |
| STANDARD |  | MEDIUM |  | HIGH |  |

**Appendix B**

**Severity of Abuse Grid**

This Severity of Abuse Grid (SOAG) has been developed to be used with the DASH Risk Assessment. It gives you a framework within which you can identify specific features of the abuse suffered and help you to address their safety in an informed and coherent way. It will also typically provide information that will be relevant for those cases going to MARAC

To complete the SOAG, take the answers from the relevant questions on the DASH Risk Assessment and then explore in more detail the severity of each category of abuse **currently suffered** and the escalation if it exists. Whether you are using it at the initial assessment or when reviewing risk, we recommend that the timeframe that should be applied for ‘current’ abuse is an incident within the last three months. **The context in which these and similar behaviours occur is all important in identifying a level of severity**

**If you answer ‘yes’ to any of the questions ‘is the abuse occurring?’ you must circle one answer for each of the boxes in the other three columns to identify the level of severity, the escalation in severity and in frequency**

**Please ensure you read the full guidance at the end of this form**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of abuse** | **Is abuse occurring?** | **Severity of abuse** | **Escalation in severity (past 3 months)** | **Escalation in frequency (past 3 months)** |
| Physical  | Yes NoDon’t knowNot answered | High Moderate Standard  | Worse Unchanged Reduced  | Worse Unchanged Reduced  |
| Sexual  | Yes NoDon’t knowNot answered | HighModerate Standard | WorseUnchangedReduced | WorseUnchangedReduced |
| Stalking and harassment  | Yes NoDon’t knowNot answered | HighModerateStandard | WorseUnchangedReduced | WorseUnchangedReduced |
| Jealous and controlling behaviour / emotional abuse  | Yes NoDon’t knowNot answered | HighModerate Standard | WorseUnchangedReduced | WorseUnchangedReduced |