



## Coaction Hub MARAC Co-ordinator & Chair Aide Memoire for Harmful Practices Cases

Make sure you are aware of your local harmful practices' experts. This may be a local 'by and for' agency, or could be a specialist worker in a generic VAWG agency. If there are no local agencies make sure you are aware of helplines, such as Karma Nirvana's helpline - 0800 5999 247 and the Forced Marriage Unit - 020 7008 0151

### Things to consider prior to the MARAC:

- Refer the V/S to a harmful practices specialist prior to MARAC if available in your area.
- If there are multiple perps, have they all been named and risk assessed? If not go back to the referring agency and ask them to do so if safe.
- If not possible to get details of all perps this should be flagged as an area of risk in the MARAC.
- Is there a risk to anyone else? If the V/S has siblings (especially female siblings) and other female family members might there be similar risks to them? If the risk is from family and the V/S has a partner, are they also at risk?
- Consider whether there are multiple forms of abuse occurring and how they might need to be risk assessed.
- Where harmful practices are suspected but not confirmed consider who would be the best agency to explore this with the V/S.
- Consider need as well as risk e.g. if the V/S has been subject to FGM is there an FGM clinic in your area which can be flagged for any health issues?
- If the V/S has No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF), what extra services can be put in to mitigate risk?
- If the V/S is being rehoused, is consideration being given to appropriate housing/ areas e.g. not in an area where they are more likely to experience racism?
- Do all agencies understand the risk of multiple perps e.g. not using family for child contact or as translators and is this flagged on systems?
- All agencies should be aware of the 'one chance' rule in relation to harmful practices, and actions should reflect this.

## Example actions:

This list is based on actions created at MARACs for harmful practices cases. It is by no means an exhaustive list, and actions may vary depending on local agencies and services available.

- Offer referrals to harmful practices experts/ by and for/ helplines (if no specialist available in your area) - *any relevant agency*
- Liaise with by and for agency for specialist advice on supporting the V/S - *whichever agency V/S is engaging with*
- Carry out thorough risk assessment with V/S to understand the harmful practices risks - *IDVA/ whichever agency V/S is engaging with*
- Take a copy of passports, photos, and biometrics and log on PNC - *police*
- Add HBA/ FM/ FGM flag to police case - *police*
- Conduct HBA risk planning and link into HP specialist/ IDVA to do so jointly - *police*
- Initiate port warning/ border force marker - *police*
- Explore putting a locate/trace for V/S in case removed from the UK- *police*
- Carry out border checks to verify if V/S has been removed from the UK - *police*
- Create PNC marker around risk of children being removed from the country including their passport details - *police*
- Research additional perpetrators who are abroad to ascertain risk concerns - *police*
- Carry out discreet welfare check to ascertain if V/S is at property - *housing (or appropriate agency)*
- Explore Prohibited Steps Order/ Forced Marriage Protection Order/ Female Genital Mutilation Protection Order with V/S - *By and for/ IDVA/ whichever agency V/S is engaging with*
- All agencies to make sure it is clear on systems that information should not be shared with family members - *all agencies*
- All agencies (including MARAC) to restrict case on their systems - *all agencies*