So-called ‘Honour’ Based Violence/Abuse and Forced Marriage Strategy 2019-21
Aims of the Strategy

Stockport Children’s Safeguarding Partnership and Adult Safeguarding Board are committed to:

- Identifying the risks of, and working together to prevent so-called ‘Honour’ Based Violence/Abuse (SCHBVA) and Forced Marriage (FM).

- Ensuring that victims have confidence services will understand their unique needs, and that they will respond sensitively, with consideration of the need for confidentiality and in a timely way when providing support to them.

- Raising awareness across Stockport communities and workforce so that they can respond appropriately to so-called ‘Honour’ Based Violence and Forced Marriage.

- Providing a platform for organisations working within Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities so that we can meaningfully engage and work in partnership with them.

- Ensuring that people know where to get help from and how to respond to the risk of so-called ‘Honour’ Based Violence/Abuse and Forced Marriage.

- Identifying, prosecuting and bringing offenders to justice.

Definition of so-called ‘Honour’ Based Violence/Abuse and Forced Marriage

“Honour Based Abuse and Violence embraces a variety of crimes of violence (mainly but not exclusively against women), including assault, imprisonment and murder where the person is being punished by their family of their community. They are being punished for actually, or allegedly, undermining what the family or community believe to be the correct code of conduct.”


A Forced Marriage is where one or both people do not (or in the cases of people with learning disabilities or reduced capacity, cannot) consent to the marriage as they are pressurised, or abuse is used, to force them to do so.

Forced marriage is against the law and, along with so-called ‘honour’ based violence or abuse, is recognised as a form of domestic abuse or child abuse and a serious violation of human rights. It is primarily an issue for young women and girls aged between 13 and 30 years, although evidence collated by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office indicates that 17% of the victims are male.
So-called ‘Honour’ based violence/abuse (SCHBVA)

In cultures where codes of ‘honour’ operate, family and community members often share an overwhelming motivation towards collective morality, values and behaviours which confirm to such codes. Non-compliance maybe seen as shameful and place the individual at risk.

So-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse occurs when perpetrators believe a relative or other individual has shamed or damaged a family’s or community’s ‘honour’ or reputation (known in some communities as izzat, abaroo, sharam etc.), and that the only way to redeem the damaged ‘honour’ is to punish and/or kill the individual. ‘Honour’ based abuse is a term that is widely used to describe this sort of abuse however it is often referred to as so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse because the concept of ‘honour’ is used by perpetrators to make excuses for their abuse. There is a very strong link between ‘honour’ based violence/abuse, forced marriage and domestic abuse. Examples of damaged ‘honour’ are:

- Defying parental authority.
- Becoming overly westernised in style (e.g. clothing, make up, behaviour, attitudes, etc.).
- Having sex/relationships/pregnancies outside marriage.
- Using drugs, alcohol, cigarettes.
- Gossip – family ‘honour’ can be damaged by unfounded or untrue gossip or rumours.
- Interfaith or intercommunity relationships.
- Leaving a spouse or seeking a divorce,. Being outing or disclosing LGBT sexuality.
- Refusing to take part in so-called ‘honour’-based violence/abuse against another person.

Forms of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse can include, but are not limited to:

- Physical abuse of the victim by family members including spouse and in laws.
- House arrest – not being allowed to leave the house alone.
- Restriction of freedom or loss of independence – being “policing” by family members.
- Isolation from wider family or community, e.g. stopped from seeing friends, being disowned or ostracised by the community.
- Denial of further education or employment.
- Excessive restrictions of freedom – for example, not able to choose their own clothes, diet or leisure and social activities.
- Abandonment (leaving someone in their country of origin or sending them back there).
- Forced marriage.
- Forced suicide.
- Murder/’honour’ killing.
- Gender select abortion – often aborting a female foetus.
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).
- Dowry abuse – pressuring mainly brides to get gifts, high value items, land of property from their own family to give to the groom or the groom’s family. It can take place before, during and any time after marriage.
- Domestic violence – physical, sexual, emotional or financial abuse.
- Sexual harassment and sexual violence – rape and sexual assault or threat of rape and sexual assault.
- Threats to kill.
What is dishonourable?

Honour

Marriage Customs
- Caste, tribe
- Sect
- Inter faith
- Ethnicity
- Refusing a marriage

Refusing familial norms
- Clothes, make up
- Social media
- Drugs, alcohol, crime
- Reporting domestic violence
- Failing at school
- Smoking
- Divorce/separation
- Types of friends

Sexual Behaviour
- Secret partner
- Sex before marriage
- Talking to the opposite sex
- CSE
- Sextortion
- Adultery
- Being in a relationship
- Pregnancy outside of marriage
- Homosexuality
Who is at risk of so-called ‘Honour’ based violence/abuse?

Women and girls are most at risk of becoming victims of so-called 'honour' based violence/abuse. You are also at greater risk if you are:

- A member of the LGBT community.
- Considered to ‘western’ by your family or community members.
- Having an interfaith relationship.
- Seeking a divorce or separation against your family’s approval,
- Pregnant outside of marriage or have given birth outside of marriage.
- Marrying a person of your own choice without your family’s approval.
- Accessing higher education without your family’s approval.

There are multiple internal and external barriers for victims of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse to seek help. Fear of manipulation of professionals by family members, fear of speeding up the process after professionals approach the family, fear of professionals lack of understanding of the abuse and nature of forced marriage, fear of not being believed and not knowing what help is available, are some of the most common reasons for victims not to disclose. Internalisation of guilt or shame by the victim can cause internal conflict for them and not wanting to cause further shame can result in self-harm and suicide attempts; this risk is higher in victims with insecure immigration status and LGBT victims.

There is no specific offence of "honour-based" crime. It is an umbrella term to encompass various offences covered by existing legislation. So called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse can be described as a collection of practices, which are used to control behaviour within families or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or ‘honour’. Such violence can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and/or community by breaking their honour code.

Other forms of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse include practices performed by perpetrators on victims for cultural or socio-conventional motives which have harmful consequences. Some of these practices include (this list should not, however, be considered as complete): FGM; Breast Ironing; and dowry abuse.

Breast ironing is a form of child abuse and whilst there is no specific offence it can still be prosecuted under UK law.
Forced marriage

A forced marriage is where one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities or reduced capacity, cannot) consent to the marriage as they are pressurised, or abuse is used, to force them to do so. It is recognised in the UK as a form of domestic or child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights.

The pressure put on people to may be:

**Physical**: for example, threats, physical violence or sexual violence.

**Emotional and psychological**: for example, making someone feel like they are bringing ‘shame’ on their family.

**Financial abuse**: for example, taking someone’s wages, keeping financial assets within the family, withdrawing financial support, financial agreements between various members may be a factor.

Forced marriage is not specific to any particular country, or culture. The majority of cases of forced marriage encountered in the UK involve South Asian families, but this is due to the size of the South Asian population in the UK, rather than this being an issue specific to this community. There are also cases involving families from Iraq, Kurdistan, East Asia, The Middle East, Eastern Europe, Africa and from Czech Roma Communities. Forced marriage is not supported by any religion. This includes Islam, Sikhism, Christianity and Hinduism.


This includes:

- Taking someone overseas to force them to marry (whether or not the forced marriage takes place),
- Marrying someone who lacks the mental capacity to consent to the marriage (whether they are pressured to or not).

Coercion is likely to be used to one or both spouses, by family members, friends and the wider community. This may include; threats of violence, being held against their will, emotional threats and other forms of coercion and harassment, such as not being allowed to go anywhere without being accompanied by someone.

There is a common misconception that forced marriages are confined to certain religious groups and cultures, however this is not the case. The practice of forced marriage is not confined to one culture or religious group and any persons regardless of ethnicity, culture, religion disability, age, gender and sexuality can find themselves in a situation where they are offered no choice but to proceed with the marriage.

There is a clear distinction between an arranged and a forced marriage. In an arranged marriage, the families of both spouses take a leading role in arranging the marriage but the *choice* of whether or not to accept the marriage remains with the prospective spouses. An arranged marriage should only be considered for someone who is over the age of 16 and has full mental capacity to make the decision. If they do not have full mental capacity, it is a forced marriage.
Coercive and Controlling Behaviour

Both so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage include elements of coercive control.

‘Controlling or coercive behaviour does not relate to a single incident, it is a purposeful pattern of behaviour which takes place over time in order for one individual to exert power, control or coercion over another’

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse outlines controlling or coercive behaviour as follows:

**Controlling behaviour is:** a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependant by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

**Coercive behaviour is:** a continuing act or a pattern of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish or frighten their victim.

**Controlling or Coercive Behaviour in an Intimate or family Relationship – Home Office Statutory Guidance 2015**

More information, tools and resources are available [here](#).
One Chance rule

All practitioners working with victims of forced marriage and SCHBVA need to be aware of the "one chance" rule. That is, they may only have one chance to speak to a potential victim and may only have one chance to save a life. This means that all practitioners working within statutory agencies need to be aware of their responsibilities and obligations when they become aware of potential forced marriage cases/so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse. If the victim is allowed to walk out of the door without support being offered, that one chance might be wasted.

Core Principles for practice

- Exercise extreme caution and consider the one chance rule before taking any action. Speak specialist advice and guidance.

- Any response to so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage needs to be done following a clear multi-agency strategy meeting and led by specialist services such as the Aspire complex safeguarding team in conjunction with police, health, education and other domestic abuse services such as the Guardian Project or Stockport without abuse.

- That victims have a fundamental right to be believed.

- Putting victims, their safeguarding (safety) and wellbeing at the heart of initial responses and investigations.

- Victim’s personal details will be stored, managed and handled with integrity and confidentiality.

- Do not try and mediate or involve family or community members or discuss concerns about forced marriage with them.

- To be attuned to subtle differences in cultural aspects for each individual and make sure these are truly understood for the specific circumstances of the individual.

- Always ensure that you use an interpreter where language is a barrier – do not use a family member to translate for the victim as this may place them at more risk – always check out with the victim that it is safe to use the interpreter identified.

- Always consider the vulnerabilities and adversities the victim may experience i.e. learning difficulties or disabilities, immigration status, language, mental capacity, LGBT sexuality/identity.
What we are doing in Stockport

Stockport forms part of the Greater Manchester response to Complex Safeguarding: -

The Greater Manchester Complex Safeguarding Hub has been established to ensure consistent standards of practice, and to coordinate governance and performance with a shared approach and strategy. The shared vision is for Greater Manchester to become a centre of excellence in the response to Child Exploitation and Complex safeguarding. Collaboration and multi-agency integrated teams being at the heart of the approach with consistent practice standards across Greater Manchester. Established joint priorities for the response to Complex Safeguarding and a performance framework to achieve improved outcomes and understand the impact of our work.

A yearly Greater Manchester Complex Safeguarding Peer Review provides:

- Strategic oversight.
- Looks at partnership arrangements.
- Quality assures service delivery and practice with children and families (referrals, assessment, planning, risk management and interventions).
- Supports future planning.
- Recommendations for development and improvements both locally and regionally.

Complex Safeguarding Strategic Sub Group

Stockport’s Complex Safeguarding Strategic Sub Group, is a multi-agency group with designated representation across Stockport from both Stockport Children’s Safeguarding Partnership and Adult Safeguarding Board. A local Complex Safeguarding Strategy and action plan has been created to provide a strong partnership response

Aspire Complex Safeguarding Service

Aspire is a multi-agency service which provides an integrated specialist response to children and families at risk of domestic abuse and complex safeguarding. The service has input from a range of Stockport Family services including children’s social care, health, youth justice services as well as Greater Manchester Police and Stockport Without Abuse (SWA).

For children or families where there is concern about the risk of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse or forced marriage, Aspire will be involved in providing advice and consultation at the earliest opportunity and will attend any strategy meeting held to consider a section 47 investigation into whether a child is at risk or has suffered significant harm.

Pathway and Referral documents - please see appendixes for:

- The referral pathway for so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage for Adults, children and families.

Complex Safeguarding Practitioner Forum

This is a well-established meeting and practitioners attend from a range of agencies including: health, education, drug and alcohol service, fire service, police, adult social care, representatives from care homes and the sexual health service. The purpose of the meeting is to share good practice, relevant polices and legislation around complex safeguarding among professionals and invite key speakers to come and talk about their services.
What to do if you are worried for a child or adult in a family?

If you are concerned about the safety of a child or family and believe they may be at risk of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse or forced marriage you can make a referral to the Multi-agency Safeguarding and Support Hub (MASSH), which is the single point of contact for all professionals to report concerns, request advice and share information about a child and or family. You should call the MASSH on 0161 217 6028. If the child is at immediate risk of harm call the Police on 999.

Greater Manchester Victims’ services provide support to victims – more information is available on their website or you can contact them on 0161 200 1950

Stockport Without Abuse (SWA) is a comprehensive Domestic Violence and Abuse Service, offering a range of interventions to adults and children. The team consists of Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs), Complex Need Specialists, Trauma Therapists, Male Victim services, Older Person’s Specialist, Refuge accommodation for adults and children, One to One therapeutic service for children who witnessed abuse and prevention, and awareness-raising group work in schools. Contact: via email: info@stockportwithoutabuse.org.uk and their website.

Project Choice is a Greater Manchester service funded by the Greater Manchester Mayor’s Office which supports victims and survivors of so-called ‘honour’ based abuse/violence.

You can find more information at their website.

The Project Choice team:

- Provides practical and emotional support to anyone at risk of, or experiencing so-called honour-based violence and abuse, including forced marriage
- Advocates on behalf of people at risk of harm to ensure safe decisions are made in a timely fashion
- Gives advice and information about what so-called honour-based violence and abuse is
- Informs people about the risks, threats and harm that so-called honour-based violence and abuse, including forced marriage and can pose and how these can be managed to reduce risk
- Supports people at risk of harm by giving information about their legal rights
- Empowers people at risk of harm to make safe informed choices and
- Provides support through the civil and criminal justice systems

For further information:

Secure email: projectchoice@oldham.gcsx.gov.uk
Telephone: 0161 770 2999 (9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday)
Our four key strategic priorities for 2018-2020 are:

- Prevention
- Protection
- Prosecution
- Partnership

**Implementation**

The Complex Safeguarding sub group oversees this strategy and action plan. The group will map links with other strategic groups and related issues such as domestic abuse and children missing to ensure that needs are met in a coordinated way.
**Prevention**

We will enable staff to understand so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse, to recognise risk factors and respond when a child or adult that they work with is at risk of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse by:

- Establishing a clear pathway supported by policies and procedures for so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage for both the children’s and adult’s workforce.

- Providing good practice guidance and relevant tool kits for identifying, assessing and responding to risks.

- Ensuring single agency safeguarding leads have the appropriate level of understanding to provide advice and support to staff within their agencies.

- Developing and providing a range of training materials to be delivered across Stockport to various audiences.

- Writing a seven-minute briefing which can be shared across the workforce for easy reference.

- Identifying/developing and raise awareness of resources for professionals to enable them to engage appropriately with at risk groups. Ensuring that professionals are clear about referring victims to the right specialist services due to the high-risk nature of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage.

- Including so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage in the Complex safeguarding data set so that a better understanding of the prevalence of these issues can be gained and shared with the workforce.

- Developing a pen picture of locally understood information from specialist services about the nature of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage in the communities within Stockport.

**Protection**

We will ensure a coherent and consistent approach to the early identification of risks and planning to support long-term prevention by:

- Promoting guidance and resources for professionals to enable them to identify adults and children at risk of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage and to include perpetrators,

- Setting up and publicise referral pathways for early identification of risks and services to support victims and families.

We will also complete a multi-agency audit of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage cases to identify good practice and learning in order to audit the effectiveness of SSCP/SSAB agreed policies.
Prosecution

Together we will work to improve what we do, prosecute and bring more offenders to justice. Our plan is to:

- Work with statutory partners to agree a common understanding with consistent and joined up approaches.
- Ensure that our specialist staff within the local authority, police, health and education services have a good understanding of the risk factors and indicators of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage so are able to identify when there are risks and respond appropriately.
- Ensure a multi-agency partnership approach is embedded to responding to potential victims of so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage and that there are clear referral pathways for the response and delivery of services and interventions.
- Work with our communities and statutory agencies to support victims, survivors and communities to develop problem solving activities in high risk or prevalent areas.
- Work with statutory agencies to support victims and survivors.
- Build and maintain confidence with local communities to assure support through to prosecution is achieved.
- Ensure communities feel confident and supported to report any concerns relating to so-called ‘honour’ based violence/abuse and forced marriage.

Partnership

We will collaborate and work in and with an effective coalition of partners;

- Ensuring that we are proactive in raising awareness across safeguarding partnerships and within communities.
- Share information and learning with our partners and within our communities.
- Operating the principle that victims have a fundamental right to be believed we will work with partners to promote this principle and influence systems and processes.
- Creating robust systems of gathering evidence to improve conviction rates.
- Establishing best practice approaches to protection and prosecution.
- Working with practicing communities to aid identification and prosecution of offenders.
- Learning lessons, feedback and evaluation from victims and survivors will allow new areas for improvement.
Appendixes

Please click on any title to follow the web link

Policies, strategy and good practice guidance

Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence

HM Government multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of Forced Marriage 2014

HM Government The right to choose: Multi-agency statutory guidance for dealing with forced marriage

GOV UK Guidance for Forced Marriage including videos and resources

CPS legal guidance for Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage

HM Government Ending Violence against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-20

SafeLives practice briefing on identifying and engaging with children at risk of forced marriage

Websites/Services and Organisations

Forced marriage | Greater Manchester Victims’ Services

Africans unite against Child Abuse - AFRUCA charity

The Guardian Project Leaflet, Forced Marriage Unit, True Honour - National Charity

Karma Nirvana - organisation supporting victims of honour-based abuse and forced marriage
Project Choice - Greater Manchester service protecting and supporting victims and survivors of so-called honour abuse and forced marriage

Halo Project National Charity providing support and advice to victims of HBVA

Stockport without Abuse

Forced marriage | Greater Manchester Victims' Services

Tools and Resources

Ted Talk video Fighting forced marriages and honour based abuse | Jasvinder Sanghera

Frontline Briefing Forced marriage - recognition and response Research in Practice (2019)

Specialist H-DASH risk assessment for so-called honour based abuse

SafeLives spotlight on honour-based abuse including blogs, and video resources

IKWRO London based charity with excellent resources for Kurdish, Iraqi and Arabic speaking victims

Award winning, powerful documentary about the honour killing of Banaz Mahmod
Honour Based Violence and Abuse (HBVA) and Forced Marriage (FM) Process Map – Children Services

If you have concerns for a child around Honour Based Violence and Abuse and/or Forced Marriage phone the Multi-Agency Safeguarding and Support Hub (MASSH) for Children Services on 0161 217 8028. If there are immediate concerns for safety call the Police on 999.

A referral is received re: Honour Based Violence/Abuse and/or Forced Marriage via the Police.

A referral is received re: Honour Based Violence/Abuse and/or Forced Marriage via the MASSH and will be triaged by First Response. First Response will link in with the duty Aspire worker.

A case is already open to a Locality Social Worker within Stockport Children Services.

The case will be heard at the Daily Risk Meeting. It is the MASSH Social Worker’s responsibility to attend the meeting and alert the duty Aspire Social Worker to attend. It is the Aspire duty worker’s responsibility to raise with Project Choice and the Forced Marriage Unit.

From the Meeting, are concerns around HBVA and/or FM substantiated?

If concerns are not substantiated, the child is identified as in Need of Support.

If a decision is made that the concerns around HBVA and/or FM are substantiated a referral will be made to the appropriate Locality Team.

Under Section 47 of the Children’s Act, the discussion from the Daily Risk meeting can form the initial strategy discussion.

Under Section 47 of the Children’s Act, the MASSH/Locality Social Worker to convene a Strategy Meeting and are responsible for inviting the following people:
- A member of the Aspire Team
- Aspire Complex Safeguarding Nurse
- The Police
- Project Choice
- Forced Marriage Unit (if appropriate)

The strategy discussion will consider professional’s roles and responsibilities.

Please see Flow Chart below for possible outcomes of a Strategy Discussion.

Where there are concerns around HBVA and FM any child 16 and over needs to be referred to MACE.
Project Choice offers practitioners specialist advice and support around so-called honour-based violence and abuse, including forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM). The Project Choice team:

- Gives general, initial advice to practitioners
- Advises practitioners on current legislation, statutory guidance and best practice
- Provides specialist advice at strategy meetings, legal planning meetings, multi-discipline team meetings, core groups or other multi-agency meetings
- Supports colleagues with risk assessments and safety planning
- Assists colleagues with case management, making referrals to external agencies when required
- Provide supporting information and evidence for legal proceedings
- Attends court to support victims, survivors and practitioner colleagues; and
- Liaises with national and international organisations to ensure the safety of individuals who have been taken overseas

Contact Details:

Secure email: projectchoice@oldham.gcsx.gov.uk
Telephone: 0161 770 2999 (9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday)
Website: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/projectchoice
Forced Marriage Unit

The Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) is a joint Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Home Office unit which leads on the government’s forced marriage policy, outreach and casework. It operates both inside the UK (where support is provided to any individual) and overseas (where consular assistance is provided to British nationals, including dual nationals).

The FMU operates a public helpline to provide advice and support to victims of forced marriage as well as to professionals dealing with cases. The assistance provided ranges from safety advice, through to helping a forced marriage victim prevent their unwanted spouse moving to the UK (‘reluctant sponsor’ cases). In extreme circumstances the FMU will assist with rescues of victims held against their will overseas.

Contact Details:
Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7008 0151
Email: fmu@fco.gov.uk
Multi agency risk assessment conference (MARAC)

A MARAC is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local police, health, child protection, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.

After sharing all relevant information they have about a victim, the representatives discuss options for increasing the safety of the victim and turn these into a co-ordinated action plan. The primary focus of the MARAC is to safeguard the adult victim. The MARAC will also make links with other fora to safeguard children and manage the behaviour of the perpetrator. At the heart of a MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim, but all may have insights that are crucial to their safety. The victim does not attend the meeting but is represented by an IDVA who speaks on their behalf.

Any frontline agency representative that undertakes a risk assessment with a victim, and thereby determines that their case meets the high-risk threshold, can refer a victim’s case to a local MARAC. IDVAs, police and health professionals commonly refer high-risk victims to MARACs.

If a Social Worker wants to complete a DASH RIC (Domestic Abuse Stalking Harassment Risk Identification Checklist) with a victim, this can be found by accessing the N Drive as below:

1. Open the N Drive – all user SFamily
2. Aspire Team Resources
3. Marac
4. Marac Templates
5. Marac Referral Form V4 2018

Once the form is completed with the victim, it then needs to be emailed to Linda Dunne linda.dunne@stockport.gov.uk (Aspire Business Support) who will refer it into the local MARAC in Stockport.
If a victim is self-scoring as low on the DASH RIC, a professional can still refer into Marac based on professional judgement.

Guidance on completing a DASH RIC can be found on the Safe Lives website:
http://www.safelives.org.uk/practice-support/resources-marac-meetings

A consultation with an Aspire Senior Practitioner can also be booked to seek guidance and advice around completing the DASH RIC.

**Aspire**

Aspire is the Complex Safeguarding Service in Stockport. The team consists of a Service Lead, Two Team Leaders, 3 Senior Practitioners, 7 Social Workers, 2 ACT workers, a Complex Safeguarding Nurse, and a YOS worker and a clinical psychologist who are attached to the team. The Emotional Wellbeing Team is also linked to the Service.

Complex safeguarding is used to describe criminal activity (often organised) or behaviour associated to criminality, involving often vulnerable children where there is exploitation and/or a clear or implied safeguarding concern. In Stockport, domestic abuse has been included within this definition. Stockport family have agreed that the following areas are encompassed within complex safeguarding:

- Domestic Abuse including honour-based violence and forced marriage
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Serious Organised Crime
- Modern Slavery and Trafficking
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Radicalisation and Extremism
A Duty Aspire Social Worker sits in the MASSH (Fred Perry House, 3rd Floor) on a daily basis and any worker can come to speak to them to seek guidance and advice. There is also an Aspire duty number that can be used to have a telephone conversation with the worker.

Aspire Duty Number: 0161 218 1663

An Aspire consultation can be booked with an Aspire Senior Practitioner by contacting:

Jemma Parish  Jemma.parish@stockport.gov.uk
Sarahjane Mason  Sarahjane.mason@stockport.gov.uk

The Team Leaders for the Aspire Service are:

Katie Bates  Katie.Bates@stockport.gov.uk
Jessica Britton  Jessica.britton@stockport.gov.uk
Honour Based Violence and Abuse (HBVA) & Forced Marriage (FM) Process Map

If you have concerns around Honour Based Violence and Abuse and/or Forced Marriage, phone:
Contact Centre on 0161 217 6029
Out of Hours Service on 0161 718 2118
If there are immediate concerns for safety call the Police on 999

Honour Based Violence/Abuse and/or Forced Marriage referral received at Contact Centre

STAT (Stockport Triage and Assessment Team) Triage

Case not open to a Social Worker

STAT liaise with GMP at the MASSH:
- Consider if case is to be heard at Daily Risk Meeting
- Liaise with Project Choice
- Establish what action needs to be taken and by whom

Care Act Eligible

STAT generates safeguarding referral and sends to relevant Neighbourhood Team

Neighbourhood Team proceeds under Section 42 of Care Act 2014
Co-ordinates a Strategy Meeting

Care Act eligibility not met

STAT liaise with partners and agrees the lead professional

Lead professional consults with Project Choice for advice and support
projectchoice@oldham.gov.uk
Tel 0161 770 299
(9am – 5pm Monday – Friday)

Neighbourhood Social Worker proceeds as per advice from Project Choice

Neighbourhood Social Worker liaises with Project Choice to discuss the concerns/case and seek advice
projectchoice@oldham.gov.uk
Tel 0161 770 299
(9am – 5pm Monday – Friday)

Safeguarding concerns not identified

Safeguarding concerns identified

Neighbourhood Social Worker proceeds under Section 42 of Care Act 2014
Co-ordinates Strategy Meeting

Project Choice
projectchoice@oldham.gov.uk
Tel 0161 770 299
(9am – 5pm Monday – Friday)

July 2019
Version 1
Michelle Bennett