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LLR MARAC REPEATS



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Agenda Item 11



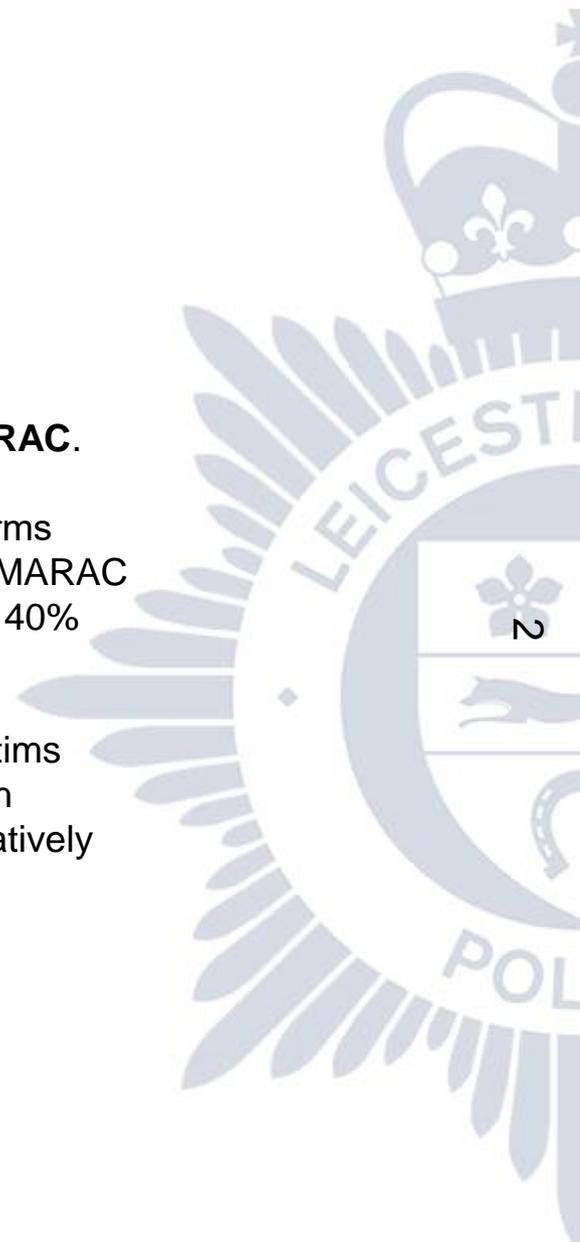
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Why is it important to identify and refer repeat cases back to the MARAC.

Work completed nationally with a number of agencies and 'Safelives' informs us that around 60% of victims who receive specialist support through the MARAC process experience a cessation of abuse. This tells us that approximately 40% experience ongoing abuse from the perpetrator.

It is important to continue to provide a multi-agency response to those victims Where the MARAC has so far not been effective and continue to work with them to identify why and when the abuse is happening and work collaboratively to reduce or eliminate the risk.





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Why is it important to identify and refer repeat cases back to the MARAC.

MARAC is a systematic multi-agency response to victims assessed to be at risk of serious harm or homicide.

Agencies need to continue to work together especially with the repeat cases to resolve challenges and barriers preventing the effectiveness of the MARAC.

(Information sourced direct from 'Safelives')





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Effectiveness of the LLR MARAC

'Safelives' reviewed the repeat definition following recommendation's from a Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) in 2018 where it had been identified there were potential missed opportunities of no referral back into MARAC under the previous definition. This was the first time that the definition had been reviewed since 2007.

To improve the effectiveness of the LLR MARAC associated partners have implemented a robust process to identify repeat cases in line with the new 'Safelives' definition of what constitutes a repeat.

As anticipated this has seen an increase of repeated cases being identified along with changes to recent legislation especially 'Coercive Controlling Behaviour' which has also contributed to the rise in repeat figures.





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Recommendation's / Bench Mark

'Safelives' recommendations for repeat cases currently indicates figures between 28 – 40%. This bench mark has not been changed post the 'Repeat Criteria Definition'

The change in definition added in four extra criteria to consider, the criteria being very open to include

- unwanted direct or indirect contact from the perpetrator or their family
- breach of police or court bail
- breaches of civil orders and any dispute over child contact, property, divorce separation proceedings.

This criteria alone would see an increase in reasons for referring a case back to MARAC coupled with the new legislation of 'Coercive Control'

The bench mark / recommendation's figures from 'Safelives' has not been reviewed and remains at an expectation of what a repeat should look like pre the changes.





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LLR MARAC Figures

2014 – 15 / 2015 – 16 / 2016 – 17 LLR MARAC was recording repeat figures around 30% repeat rate.

Post the changes to the definition and introduction of new legislation it has indicated there has been a rise to around 50%

The changes made by 'Safelives' were anticipated to increase the repeats as clearly more cases would be identified through the extra criteria set.

Locally the introduction of the Daily MARAC has also contributed to the increased figures.

Better recording, reporting and identifying of cases to be referred in should be viewed as a positive measure.

We are currently identifying those cases that would previously not have been identified which would have been missed opportunities to engage with the victim and their families.





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Positive Trend LLR MARAC figures

Local LLR figures indicate that most cases come to the MARAC on one occasion.

A number of cases come back to MARAC on two or three occasions, usually within quick succession whilst the couples are at crisis point.

However after the initial repeat referrals and time for the agencies to work with them the repeat rate drops off quite dramatically. Indicating that the partners have identified the causes, triggers and safeguarding required.

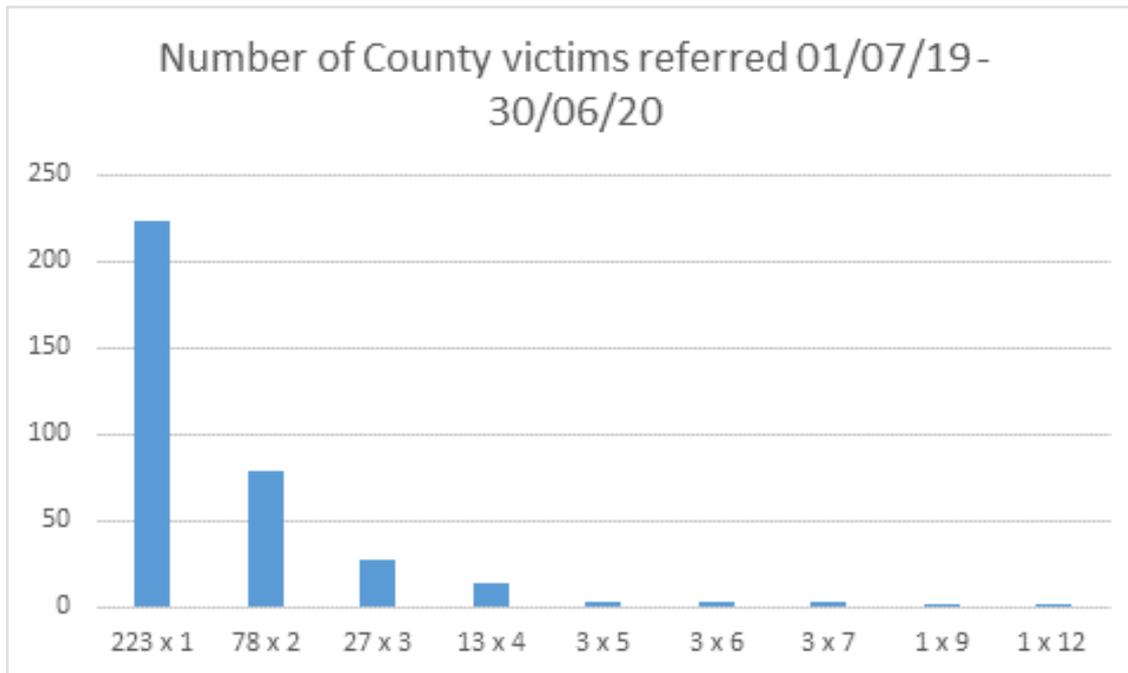
A small number of cases are referred back regularly throughout the 12 month period, these are usually the more complex cases. It is important that agencies continue to work with and support these families as mentioned earlier within this presentation.





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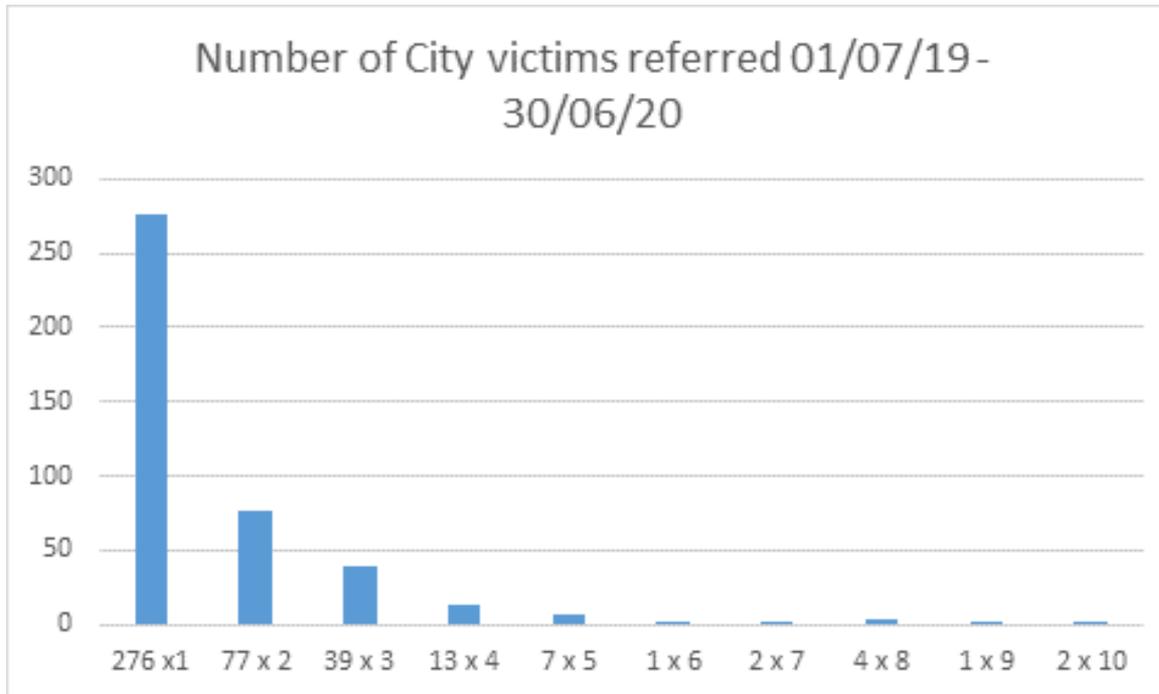
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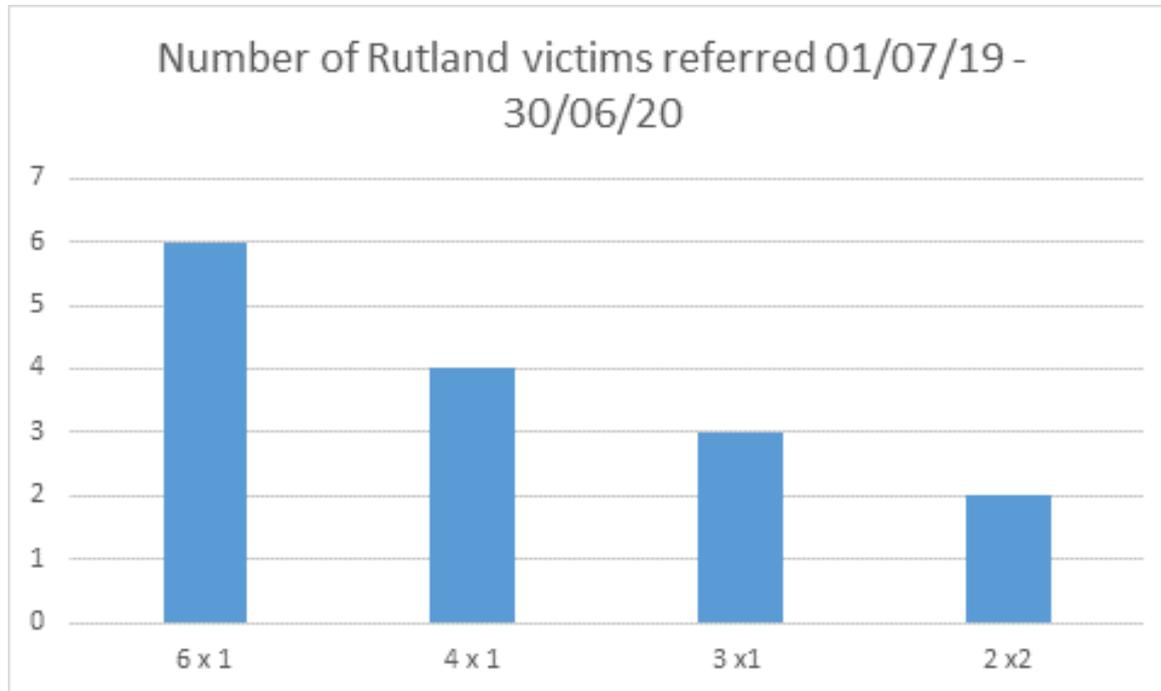
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LLR MARAC moving forward to reduce offending.

A high percentage of the repeats coming in are usually due to the continued re offending of the perpetrators and this needs to be considered when looking at solutions to the reduction of repeat cases.

Currently the MARAC has very limited options around perpetrator management, it is recognised that more work is required in this area and for the MARAC to develop further with better inclusion of partners who are able to work in this field of work.

Perpetrator programmes / facilities are extremely limited, we know that perpetrators go on to abuse other partners. A true response when looking to reduce offending needs to include education and working with the perpetrators, reducing their current offending behaviour and working towards avoiding future abusive relationships.

The cycle of abuse for victims is well recognised but to be fully effective partners need to break the cycle of offending which can only be done with a co-ordinated response to serial domestic abuse (DA) offenders.





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Any Questions?

