

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
IN RELATION TO
SOUTHEND MULTI-AGENCY RISK ASSESSMENT TEAM (MARAT)

DATED -31st May 2023

Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB) (1)

Southend on sea City Council (2)

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex (PFCC) (3)

DATE OF THIS AGREEMENT: 31st May 2023

BETWEEN

- (1) Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board
Phoenix Court, Christopher Martin Road, Basildon, Essex SS14 3HG

- (2) Southend on sea City Council
Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-sea, SS2 GER

- (3) Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex (PFCC)
Kelvedon Park, London Road, Essex, CM8 3HB

BACKGROUND

The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a regular meeting to discuss how to help victims of Domestic Abuse at high risk of murder or serious harm. An Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA), police, children's social services, health and other relevant agencies all share information about the victim, the family and perpetrator, to enable them to devise an action plan to reduce risk for each victim.

Southend MARAT was formed in July 2016 in order that Southend victims could be heard within a timely manner and the correct regional representation could be present to inform and formulate risk management.

Southend MARAT links in with Essex and Thurrock MARAC to ensure consistency across areas where appropriate.

IT IS AGREED THAT:

1. Status of this Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is not exhaustive and is not intended to be legally binding between any of the Parties. This MOU is to ensure each party have a common understanding of their individual duties and responsibilities in relation to the MARAT and associated funding.

2. The Proposed Collaboration

2.1 The Parties have identified a collective desire to jointly fund the post of MARAT team manager and apportion funding for the 2 administrators for the team. The split of funding is as follows:

- MARAT Manager Post - divided equally between the 3 agencies.
- MARAT administrators x 2 - 40% Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex and 60% Southend City Council.
- The Budget for 2023-2024 is £192,950 including on costs. This will be subject to incremental, annual inflationary increases which will be reviewed annually.

2.2 Southend City Council will oversee the MARAT in terms of supervision and issuing of invoices

2.3 There is a separate agreement in place in terms of MARAT protocol and agency responsibilities to provide staffing resource and information to the MARAT that covers all agencies engaged in the process.

2.4 The Parties recognise the need to maintain relationships and agree to the following principles of the MOU:

- a. at all times to act in good faith towards one another
- b. to act in a timely manner and respond accordingly to requests for support from Southend MARAT
- c. to adopt a positive outlook and to behave in a positive, proactive manner
- d. to seek best value for money, productivity and effectiveness
- e. to promote innovation

3. The Collaborative

3.1 Each party shall:

- a. undertake individual organisational responsibility in ensuring agreed funding with the Provider is invoiced appropriately and between one another
- b. provide input in relation to operational issues that may arise during the agreement term
- c. where necessary provide representation and input at monitoring and reporting meetings
- d. work collaboratively within the board structure of the MARAT Steering Group/ Violence and Vulnerabilities Board when undertaking any future development of the MARAT

4. Information and Reporting

4.1 Each party will:

- a. work collaboratively within the board structure of the Southend Domestic Abuse Strategic Board and SETDAB and this is where data will be monitored
- b. raise any concerns in relation to MARAT in order to initiate open discussions and mutual resolution

5. Signed by

Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board – Director of Nursing Safeguarding
Linda Moncur

Southend-on-Sea City Council - Director of Children's Services
Lissa-Marie Minnis

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex (PFCC) – Chief Executive
Pippa Brent-Isherwood