



Broughton Hall Catholic High School

FORCED MARRIAGE PROTOCOL AND GUIDANCE

Broughton Hall Catholic High School has adopted this protocol and guidance in its entirety. The guidance has been developed by Liverpool Forced Marriage & HBV Steering Group and Liverpool Safeguarding Children Board

Introduction

This protocol has resulted from a number of cases that have been brought to the attention of the Liverpool Safeguarding Boards where it has become clear that there is a gap in service provision to appropriately respond to victims of forced marriage.

The protocol has been developed to assist professionals and community groups working in Liverpool to act on the assessment of risk and provide support as appropriate.

It is important that this protocol is used alongside any existing procedures within your organisation and that you also have regard to safeguarding policy and procedure.

Forced marriage is a marriage conducted without the valid consent of one or both parties, where some element of duress is a factor. Duress can include physical, psychological, sexual, financial and emotional pressure.

This is different from an arranged marriage, which is a respected tradition in many cultures and is consent by both parties.

Liverpool's Safeguarding Boards understand forced marriage to be a form of abuse, and a breach of human rights. It is, therefore, important to safeguard any child, young person or adult subjected to a forced marriage.

You should follow this protocol if you:

- Work directly with children, young people and adults
- Work with or supervise others who have contact with children
- young people and adults
- Are a concerned member of the public

Cases should be responded to using existing structures, policies and procedures designed to safeguard children, young people and victims of domestic violence.

Definitions

Arranged Marriage

In arranged marriages, the families of both spouses take a leading role in arranging the marriage but the choice whether or not to accept the arrangement remains with the prospective spouses.

Forced Marriage

Forced marriage is a marriage conducted without the valid consent of one or both parties, where some element of duress is a factor. The United Nations views Forced Marriage as a form of human rights abuse, since it violates the principle of freedom and autonomy of individuals. This is acknowledged under the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights, article 16(2).

Article 16

(1) Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

2) Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.

(3) The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.

So called ‘honour’ based violence

So called ‘honour’ based violence (HBV) is where the person is being punished by their family or their community. They are being punished because of a belief actual or alleged that a person has not been properly controlled to conform by their family and this is to the “shame” or “dishonour” of the family.

‘Honour Based Violence’ is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community members. (ACPO 2007)

Identifying Forced Marriage / Initial Report

Information about the issue of forced marriage may have been provided to the victim by a friend, relative or other agency. The person concerned may not have thought that they were a victim of forced marriage and has only recently begun to question what has happened to them.

Alternatively the person may be seeking help as they know the intention is for family to force them into marriage. The primary concern is for the safety of the victim. The nature of forced marriage is such that agencies may have only once chance to respond to the needs of the victim. Ultimately to fail to do so may result in injury or death.

One Chance Rule

All practitioners working with victims of forced marriage and HBV 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. If the victim is allowed to walk out the door without support being offered, that **one chance** might be wasted.

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 group 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.

Indicators of Forced Marriage

Initial steps

Remembering the **'one chance rule'** the agency should carefully question the person concerned as cases are frequently complex and highly sensitive to the individual. The reason behind the forced marriage may be due to sexuality or disability as well as cultural belief. The majority of victims will be women but this does not mean that there are not male victims. All cases should be dealt with seriously. There is no specific offence of forced marriage but the victim concerned may have been subjected to a number of offences (please see section Legislation).

Initially agencies will need to consider completing the following;

- Ensure the victim is seen in a safe and private place,
- See the victim on their own, if an interpreter is needed take steps to ensure that the interpreter is not connected with the individual or community,
- Risk assess, and discuss a safety plan,
- Where victim is under 18, refer to child safeguarding procedures
- Where the victim is over 18, refer to adult safeguarding procedures
- Inform the victim of their right to seek legal advice and representation,
- Identify any potential criminal offences and refer to the police if appropriate,
- Reassure the victim, this will include ensuring that their confidentiality¹ is maintained
- Establish a safe way of maintaining contact with the victim,
- Make a note of all the information available to you at the time, including a description of the victim and details of any known or alleged perpetrators, potential risks,
- Record any current contacts with other professionals, health, social services, third sector etc,
- Provide accurate information to the victim about their rights and choices and respect their wishes when possible. Remembering that in certain instances information may be shared without consent for example, child protection.
- Contact a specialist in forced marriage for further advice and support, and
- Consider the need for immediate protection and placement away from the family.

Do Not

- Attempt to mediate,
- Send the victim away without having taken appropriate action,
- Approach family members and/or members of the community without an express request from the victim,
- Breach confidentiality or share information inappropriately, unless due to safeguarding concerns for a child or vulnerable adult.

¹ It is important to remember that in these instances family members, friends and the community may pose the biggest risk to the victim.

Role of Children's Services

Children's Social Care has a duty to investigate allegations of abuse and is seen as one of the agencies with a key role to play in the statutory guidance 'Handling Cases of Forced Marriage'². If an allegation of forced marriage is made or a child/young person discloses that they are at risk a section 47 investigation should take place. This will be done **without parental consent**. Notification to the Legal Department and a strategy discussion will need to take place as a matter of urgency.

A referral should be made to Careline Children's Services (0151 233 3700). The following information is needed for the referral;

- Name of child/young person (check all names are spelt correctly),
- Age (check date of birth if accurate if possible),
- Details of any siblings,
- Parent's name(s) (check that the surname of the parent is accurate),
- Home address (telephone number if available),
- Special circumstances, for example, language barriers, context disclosure took place etc. What prompted the concerns (include as much detail as possible, including dates, times etc),
- Any physical or behavioural signs,
- Is the person making the report expressing their own concerns or passing on those of someone else? If so record details.
- Has the child/young person been spoken to? If so, what was said?
- Is anyone alleged to be the abuser? If so, record details,
- Has anyone else been consulted? If so record the details

Any professional or member of the public concerned that a child may be at risk of significant harm, should make a referral to Liverpool's Children's Services, by telephone without delay.

Where the child concerned already has an allocated social worker. Referrals to Children's Services should be made to the child's social worker, the team leader or a team colleague.

The strategy discussion should determine whether the risk to the child is imminent, if yes, immediate legal advice should be sought and agreements made on how to keep the child/young person safe. Police and Children's Services should consider at this stage the legal options available to them by way of Police Protection Order, Emergency Protection Order and/or a 'Forced Marriage Protection Order'.

In the event that a Local Authority placement is perceived as appropriate, the carer who the child/young person is being placed with should be given information and advice on the possible risks associated to the child/young person by close family members, extended family members and community groups, and consideration of this should be made when identifying a placement. Merseyside Police should also consider placing a location of interest marker on the address where the child/young person is accommodated. **(See Role of the Police pg 12 8)**

² <http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/3849543/forced-marriage-guidelines09.pdf>

Once the initial strategy discussion and/or any actions agreed to keep the child/young person safe have been undertaken, a referral to the Safeguarding Unit should be made and a strategy meeting convened as quickly as possible and within 7 days. The strategy meeting should involve representatives from Children’s Services, referring agency, Legal Department of the Local Authority, Police, Education, Health, Investigations Support Unit (ISU) and, **where appropriate**, UK Border Agency (UKBA). The strategy meeting should discuss the allegation of forced marriage and agree strategies to address the risks to the child/young person and any other children residing within the property/ living with the parents.

Flow chart for the process is included in appendix 1. Safeguarding Children – Policies & Procedures can be found at

<http://www.safeguardingchildrenboard.liverpool.gov.uk/professionals/index.asp>

Role of Adult Services

The following section is based on the statutory guidance The Right to Choose: Multi-agency statutory guidance for dealing with forced marriage³, and Liverpool Safeguarding Adult Board Inter-agency Procedures for Safeguarding Adults⁴

The Right to Choose Guidance sets out the audience who has responsibility under the guidance;

‘This guidance is also given to all persons and bodies in England and Wales who exercise public functions to protect adults with support needs from abuse’⁵
The guidance is also given to:

‘any third party who is exercising public functions on behalf of a person or body mentioned in paragraph 14’⁶

Liverpool’s Inter-agency Safeguarding Adults Procedures have been developed in accordance with No Secrets. No Secrets defines a vulnerable adult as someone:

“who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation’.⁷

The response from Adult Services will depend if the adult at risk of forced marriage is deemed to be vulnerable under the remit of the Inter-agency Safeguarding Adults Procedures.

Liverpool’s Inter-agency Safeguarding Adults Procedures

³ HM Government Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Home Office et al www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage ⁴ www.liverpool.gov.uk ⁵ The Right to Choose, Chapter Two; page 6, point 14 ⁶ The Right to Choose, Chapter Two; page 6, point 15 ⁷ No Secrets: Guidance on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse, Section 2 page 8

Information relating to a vulnerable adult at risk of being forced into a marriage should go through the normal process in line with existing Safeguarding Adults process.

- Imminent threat or risk dial 999
- Outside of immediate risk a referral should be made to Careline 0151 233 3800
- The referral will go to the appropriate social work team for investigation
- In addition to the normal risk assessments, in the case of forced marriage the allocated social worker must follow the guidance on page 8 of this document
- Do not attempt to mediate with the person's family or community members, unless specifically requested to do so by the person
- A strategy meeting should be called to establish a protection plan for the person's long term safety
- **Forced Marriage – Adults with Learning Disabilities**

There is specific Government Guidance in relation to adults with a learning disability. This document is research based and offers good practice guidance. The document can be found at:

www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage

Careline response for Adults who fall Outside of the Safeguarding Procedures

A victim who has contacted Careline for assistance is likely to be at crisis point, and in need of support. Incidents should be dealt with sensitively and the person supported through to a place of safety.

A person at risk may contact Careline rather than the police for a number of reasons. They may not want to get their families into trouble. They may have arrived in Liverpool having left their home in another part of the country and not know how to access help. In these cases some basic rules should apply in line with the '**one chance rule**':

- Establish if there is any imminent danger, you may need to dial 999 on behalf of the person
- Your conversation with the person should establish if police involvement is necessary
- You may need to contact the police and request that they dispatch officers to the person. The person may not have money for transport or know how to get to the nearest police station
- If a person is signposted to another support agency the same may apply. They may need direction and advice on how to access support networks
- Do not attempt to mediate with the person's family or community members, unless specifically requested to do so by the person
- Do not breach confidentiality or share information inappropriately, unless due to safeguarding concerns for a child or vulnerable adult.

Role of Domestic Violence Support Services

Domestic Violence Support Services will be used to work with women (and men) who are fleeing violence or threats of violence from family. Forced Marriage and HBV will have some additional complexities in relation to potential threats from the wider community. Services should use Merseyside Risk Identification Toolkit (MeRIT). MeRIT (appendix 3) has questions that relate to HBV, so may highlight risk.

Relevant policies should be followed including referral into Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) if needed. (*See appendix 4, pg 20*). This will provide a co-coordinated response for the victim and their family.

Role of the Police

Police responsibilities in relation to forced marriage include protecting victims, investigating and assisting in the prosecution of any crimes associated with forcing someone to marry, and supporting witnesses. Merseyside Police officers and staff who have been made aware of a case of forced marriage or potential forced marriage should refer to the Force Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage Policy, ensuring that all initial steps are carried out in accordance with force policy and this protocol.

In particular, officers and staff should ensure:

- Any immediate risk has been identified and steps taken to reduce the risk.
- Where the victim is under 18, consideration is given to taking out a Police Protection Order.
- All cases are referred to the Area FCIU as a matter of urgency, for referral to partner agencies and joint investigation where appropriate
- Form VPRF1 is completed, including MeRIT risk assessment.
- Consideration is given to placing an LOI (Location of Interest) marker on relevant address(es) (refer to force policy for suitable wording)
- With the victim's consent, fingerprints, photograph and DNA are obtained, according to ACPO guidance.
- All crimes are recorded and investigated in line with National Crime Recording Standards.

Officers and staff should be aware that a victim who has contacted police for assistance is likely to be at crisis point, and should therefore ensure that incidents are dealt with sensitively, safely and effectively. The 'One Chance Rule' must be adhered to.

Agencies referring cases to police should do so in accordance with Safeguarding procedures, by making referral direct to the FCIU. Where the case is of an urgent nature, and is outside office hours, the report should be made to Merseyside Police switchboard and the call operator informed that the log should be marked as a Forced Marriage case.

Key contacts for Police:

Family Crime Investigation Units –
North 0151 777 4589
South 0151 777 5304
Sefton 0151 777 3085
Knowsley 0151 777 6527
St Helens 0151 777 1593
Bebbington 0151 777 2683
Public Protection Unit 0151 777 3276

In an emergency, always dial 999

Role of Schools and Colleges

Safeguarding: ‘Everyone’s Responsibility’ ‘Schools (including independent schools and non-maintained special schools) and FE institutions should give effect to their duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of their pupils (students under 18 years of age in the case of FE institutions) under Working Together to Safeguard Children, the Education Act 2002 and, where appropriate, under the Children Act 1989. Education staffs have a crucial role to play in helping identify welfare concerns and indicators of possible abuse or neglect, at an early stage. They should refer those concerns to the appropriate organisation, normally local authority children’s social care, contributing to the assessment of a child’s needs and, where appropriate, to ongoing action to meet those needs. Schools & colleges should create and maintain a safe learning environment for children and young people and also contribute through the curriculum by developing children’s understanding, awareness and resilience, creating an open and supportive environment.’⁸

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARE CONCERNED THAT A STUDENT MAY BE FORCED TO MARRY:

Staff may be concerned about a student because they are exhibiting some of the behaviour shown in the chart of potential warning signs and indicators. Alternatively, a student may approach a member of staff because they are going on a family holiday overseas and they are concerned about this. They are often told that the purpose is to visit relatives, attend a wedding or because of the illness of a grandparent or close relative. The student may suspect that this is a ploy and that there is an ulterior motive, which is to force them to marry. Do not assume that a student is at risk of being forced into marriage simply on the basis that they are being taken on an extended family holiday. These assumptions and stereotyping can cause considerable distress to families. All efforts should be made to establish the full facts from the student at the earliest opportunity. Once the full facts have been established, the member of staff should be able to decide on the level of response required. This may be to offer the student advice or to provide them with all information about specialist advice and services. However, there may be occasions when the level of concern becomes a child protection issue, in these cases, the appropriate child protection procedures will need to be followed.

⁸ Working together to safeguard children 2010

- Staff must collect as much information as possible as set out in 'Initial Steps'
- Recognise and respect the student's wishes. If the student does not want any referral to be made, e.g. to social services, the teacher, lecturer or other member of staff will need to consider whether the student's wishes should be respected or whether the student's safety requires that further action be taken. If you do take action against the student's wishes, you must inform them.
- Staff must liaise immediately with the designated teacher with responsibility for safeguarding children at their institution and seek advice from the Forced Marriage Unit
- Liaise with the local police and social services to establish if any incidents concerning the family have been reported (e.g. missing persons or domestic violence etc.)
- If an allegation of forced marriage is made or a child/young person under 18 years old discloses that they are 'at risk' then the **designated safeguarding officer must** make a referral to Careline Children's Services (0151 233 3700) and use existing national and local protocols for multi-agency liaison with police and children's social care.⁹ (see Role of children's services)
- Refer to the local police child protection unit or domestic abuse unit if there is any suspicion that a crime has been, or may be, committed. Liaise with the police if there are concerns about the safety of the student or the student's siblings.
- Refer the student, with their consent, to local and national support groups and counselling services with a history of dealing with cases of forced marriage if in doubt, consider seeking advice from the Forced Marriage Unit.
- Consider whether a communication specialist is needed if the student is deaf, visually impaired or has learning disabilities
- There are legal remedies that social services can take to prevent young people being taken overseas. These include making the student a ward of court or surrendering their passport or passports (if they are a dual national).

What you should not do?

- Treat such allegations merely as a domestic issue and send the student back to the family home
- Ignore what the student has told you or dismiss out of hand the need for immediate protection
- Decide that it is not your responsibility to follow-up the allegation
- Approach the student's family or those with influence within the community, without the express consent of the student, as this will alert them to your concerns and may place the student in danger
- Contact the family in advance of any enquiries by the police, the Forced Marriage Unit, adult or children's social care, either by telephone or letter
- Share information outside information sharing protocols without the express consent of the student
- Attempt to be a mediator

WHAT TO DO WHEN A STUDENT STOPS ATTENDING SCHOOL

Local authorities in England have a duty to identify all children not receiving a suitable education. This relates to children of compulsory school age who are not on a school roll and who are not receiving a suitable education otherwise than being at school (this could involve, for example, home education, private education, alternative provision). Details of the steps local authorities need to take to meet this duty are described in "Statutory Guidance for local authorities in England to identify children not receiving a suitable education"¹⁰. There may be occasions when a student does not return to education after a holiday or they may stop attending school during term time. In these situations, staff may have a suspicion that forced marriage is an issue. If a teacher or other member of staff suspects that a student has been removed from, or prevented from, attending education as a result of forced marriage, a referral must be made to Careline Children's Services (0151 233 3700).

Role of Health Professionals

Women trapped in forced marriage often experience, violence, rape, forced pregnancy, and forced childbearing. Many girls and young women are removed from education early. Some may be unable to leave the household unescorted – living virtually under house arrest. This guidance is relevant for both male and female victims, however because 85% of those seeking help concerning forced marriage are women the consequences are different than those for men.

Many women are the main carers at home and the abuse they suffer can have a devastating impact on their children.

There are many ways that a woman can come to attention of health services including:

- Accident & Emergency Departments, rape crisis centres or genito-urinary clinics with injuries consistent of rape or other forms of violence
- Dental surgeries with facial injuries consistent with domestic abuse
- Mental health services, counselling services, school nurses, health visitors, A&E, GP with depression and self-harming behaviour (including anorexia, cutting, substance misuse or attempted suicide) as a result of forced marriage
- Family planning clinics and GP for advice on contraception or termination
- Maternity services if pregnant
- Displaying relevant information e.g. National Domestic Violence Helpline, NSPCC, Child Line and appropriate black and minority ethnic women's groups (see appendix 5: useful contacts)
- Circulating and displaying copies of the Forced Marriage Unit's leaflet on forced marriage
- Educating health professionals on issue of forced marriage

Health Services can create an 'open' and supportive environment by:

¹⁰ - www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resources/IG00202

Displaying relevant information e.g. National Domestic Violence Helpline, NSPCC, Child Line and appropriate black and minority ethnic women's groups (see appendix 5: useful contacts)
Circulating and displaying copies of the Forced Marriage Unit's leaflet on forced marriage
Education health professionals on issues of forced marriage.

Some health professionals have more opportunities, or are able to create opportunities, to see a woman on their own. If there are concerns that forced marriage is an issue, the health professional might ask questions about family life and whether the woman faces restrictions at home.

There are all sorts of questions a health professional could ask to establish whether a woman is trapped in a forced marriage which include:

- How are things at home?
- Do you get out much?
- Can you choose what you want to do and when you want to do it such as seeing friends, working or maybe studying?
- Do you have friends and family locally who can provide support?
- Is your family supportive?

If a health professional does elicit information that suggests a woman is facing a forced marriage, they should use careful questioning to establish the full facts and decide on the level of response required. Health professionals should be mindful if a disclosure is made that this may be the one and only chance of helping the patient.

Health professionals may be able to offer advice and provide them with information about specialist advice and information services, or assist women by referring them onto police, social care services, support groups, counselling services and black and minority ethnic women's groups. However, there may be occasions when the level of concern, or the imminence of the marriage, is such that it becomes a child or vulnerable adult protection issue and appropriate procedures must be followed. This includes referral to Children's Social Care and the Police.

Within each organisation there is a named person with the lead for supporting staff around Forced marriage issues who can also support contact with the forced Marriage Unit (a joint Home Office/Foreign and Commonwealth Office Unit).

Accurate records must be maintained at all times documenting what has been said and done.

Role of the Forced Marriage Unit

The FMU is a joint Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Home Office venture. It works in collaboration with a number of other government departments and key agencies nationally. The FMU produced multi agency guidance in 2009
<http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/3849543/forced-marriage-guidelines09.pdf>.

The practice guidelines supplement the statutory guidance outlined below. It provides advice and support to frontline staff who have responsibilities to safeguard children and protect adults from the abuse associated with forced marriage. The guidelines recognise that more Than one agency will be required to meet the needs of someone affected by forced marriage. It sets out a multi-agency approach and encourages agencies to work together to protect victims.

The practice guidelines were developed alongside statutory guidance, “The Right to Choose” <http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/3849543/forced-marriage-right-tochoose> the guidance sets out the responsibilities of agencies involved in handling cases of forced marriage. It covers staff training, developing inter-agency policies and procedures, raising awareness and developing prevention programmes through outreach work.

Legislation

There are criminal sanctions and civil remedies in relation to forced marriage. It is important to be guided by victim as to which route they wish to take. This is not an exhaustive list. In the case of safeguarding concerns any action taken should be supported by multi agency support through relevant policies

Criminal

There is no specific offence of “forcing someone to marry” but criminal offences may be committed, these could include threatening behaviour, harassment, assault, threats to kill, false imprisonment, sexual violence and murder.

Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004) introduced the specific offence of causing or allowing the death of a child or vulnerable adult. There have been a number of prosecutions related to forced marriage.

Protection from Harassment Act (PHA) (1997) makes harassment and putting people in fear of violence an offence. The PHA covers both criminal and civil offences.

Civil

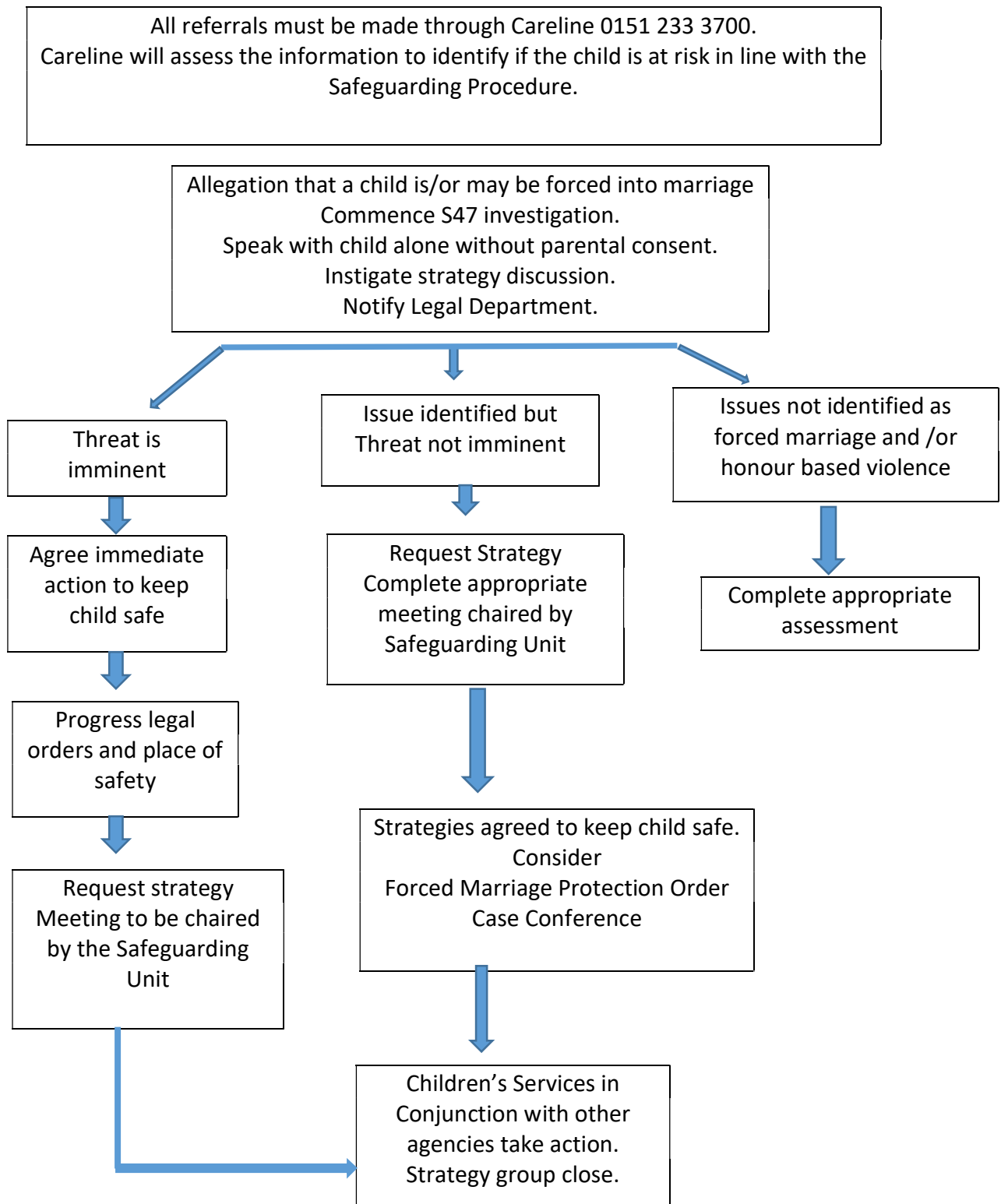
Matrimonial Causes Act (1973) legislates for a marriage not being valid if the parties have not freely consented to the marriage taking place or were under duress when the marriage took place. The Act also covers the area of mental capacity and whether or not the young person or vulnerable adult is able to make a decision in relation to marriage. The minimum age of consent under this legislation is 16 years of age.

Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007 enables the courts to make Forced Marriage Protection Orders (FMPO) to prevent or pre-empt forced marriage from occurring and to protect those who have already been forced into marriage. The order can include restrictions or requirements to protect a victim from a spouse, family member or anyone involved. It can relate to conduct either within or outside of England and Wales. In cases involving children, FMPOs can be used alongside wardship.

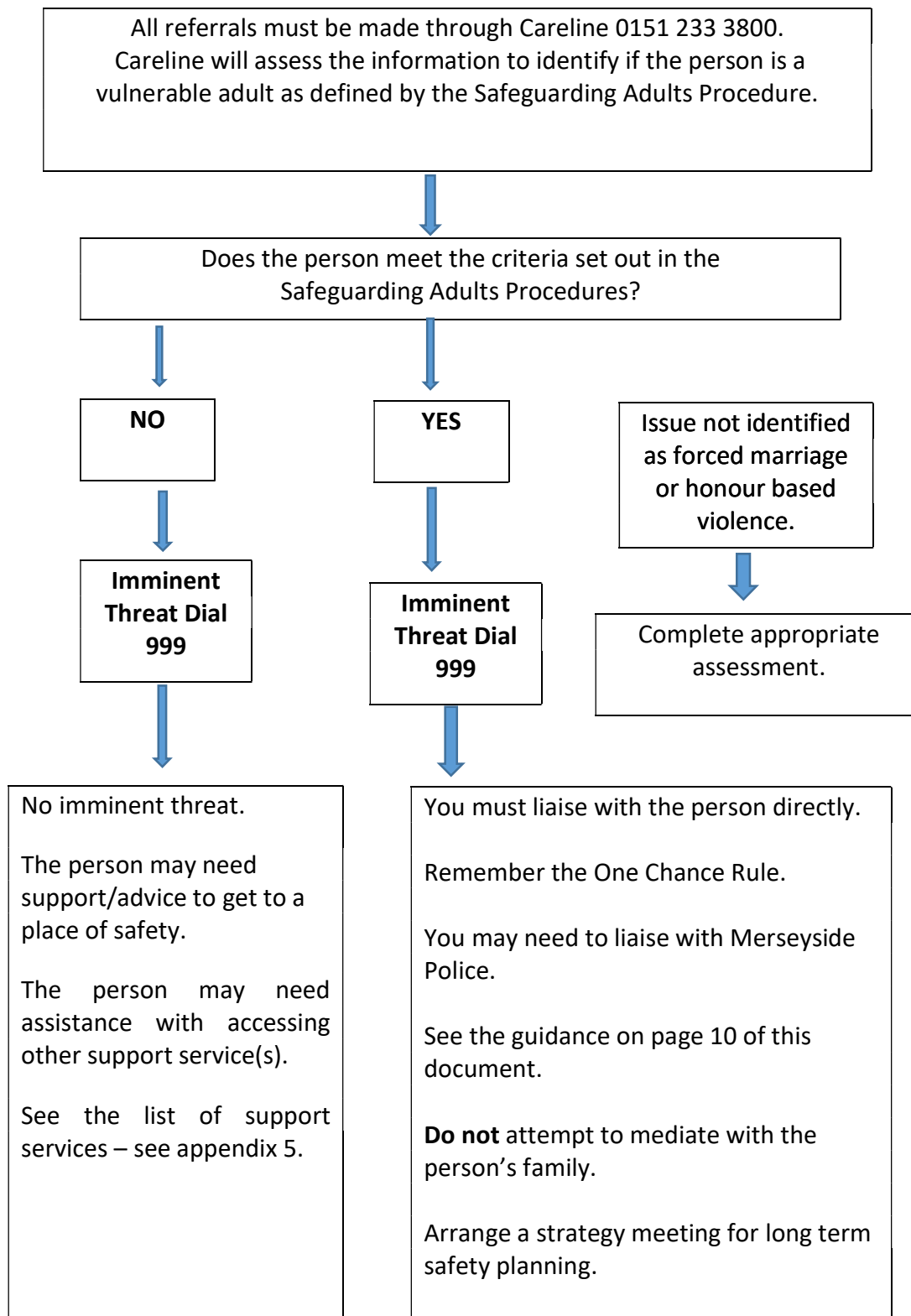
Applications for a FMPO can be made direct to the court by the persons seeking protection. The Local Authority can also make an application as a ‘relevant third party’. Other agencies or individuals can make an application after obtaining ‘leave to apply’ from the court.

Applications for orders within Merseyside will be heard at the specialist court in Manchester, however if the person to be protected is a British national who is outside the jurisdiction of the UK then applications will be heard at the High Court in London.

APPENDIX 1 – Flowchart to referral of a child/young person



Appendix 2 – Process for Adult Services



Appendix 3 – Merseyside Risk Indicator Toolkit

Name of Victim:

	ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE TICKED	Y	N
1	Are there issues around separation/divorce, regardless of timescale?		
2	Is the victim pregnant?		
3	Are there any child contact issues?		
4	Is the victim socially isolated?		
5	Is there emotional abuse present?		
6	Is there financial abuse present?		
7	Is there extreme jealousy presently?		
8	Have threats been made to the victim?		
9	Has the victim been harassed/stalked? (By the perpetrator or a 3 rd party related to the perpetrator).		
10	Is the victim a repeat victim (known to your agency)		
11	UNREPORTED previous incidents? (If so, how many?)		
12	Does the victim have a learning disability and/or mental health issues		
13	Does the perpetrator have a learning disability and/or mental health issues?		
14	Have the incidents escalated in terms of severity and/or frequency?		
15	Is the victim unemployed?		
16	Is the perpetrator unemployed?		
17	Does the perpetrator have a history of violence?		
18	Has the perpetrator ever been violent to the children? (or made threats of violence to children)		
19	Has the perpetrator ever been violent to pets? (or made threats of violence to pets)		
20	Has the perpetrator ever self-harmed/threatened to self-harm and/or threatened suicide?		
21	Has the perpetrator ever sexually abused the victim or been sexually inappropriate (including threats)		

BACKGROUND TO THE RELATIONSHIP

(If applicable include information on injuries to the victim and/or their demeanour)

SIGNIFICANT FACTORS	BREAKDOWN	VIOLENT
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Add the total number of ticks for each column and place in the corresponding box below. Then multiply the total number of ticks in each box (e.g. 12 x 3 x 6 = 216)

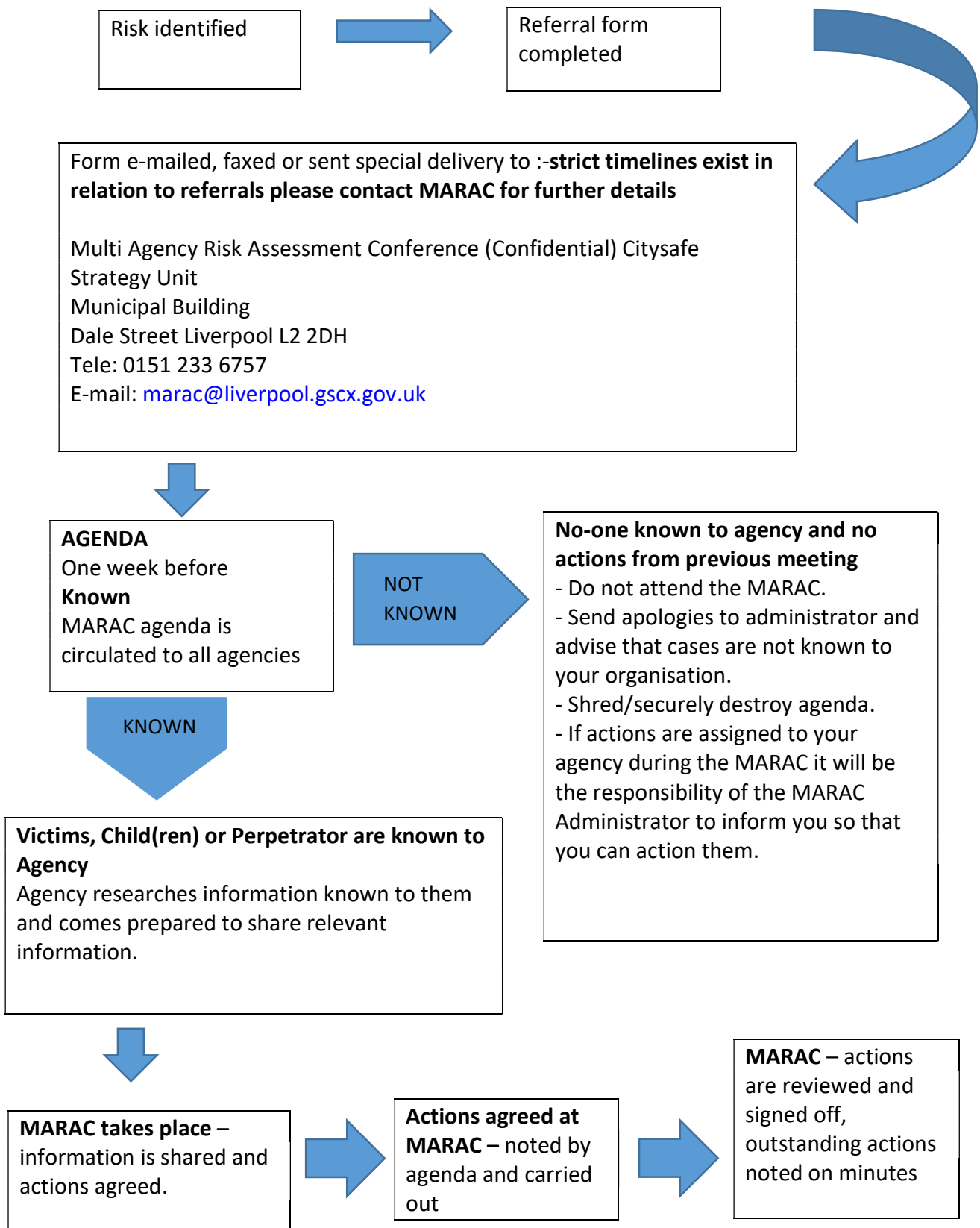
SIGNIFICANT FACTORS	BREAKDOWN	VIOLENT	TOTAL =
X	X		

Completed by Date

Agency

Level of Risk	Guidance on interventions (this is not an exhaustive list)
HIGH = 72 +	Referral to MARAC Referral to IDVA to be considered Multi-agency work, information sharing and action/safety planning Sanctuary/target hardening (where it is safe to do so) – security measures, mobile phone etc Police intervention – arrest and investigate Legal protection – Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC), family courts. Refuge, emergency accommodation Safeguarding interventions – children and adults Drug and alcohol services, mental health issues Additional barriers – forced marriage, street sex workers, immigration status.
MEDIUM = 16 - 71	Multi-agency work – information shared Information about services and options Support – safety planning Specialist support services from within domestic violence (abuse) sector Sign posting to specialist support services Sanctuary – if there is a risk of homelessness Target hardening
STANDARD = 1 - 15	Individual agencies responsive to the client’s needs – housing, children’s services, health, education Universal services Consider Sanctuary – if there is a risk of homelessness Leaflets/awareness raising

Appendix 4 – MARAC Flowchart



APPENDIX 5 – Useful Contact

National Contact

Forced Marriage Unit	0207 008 0151
Child Line	0800 1111
Honour Network	0800 5999 247
National Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247

Local Contact

Careline/Children	0151 233 3700
Careline/Adult	0151 233 3800
Savera Liverpool (DV support for BAMER communities)	07716266484
Women’s Health Information and Support Centre	0151 707 1826
Amadudu (BME women refugees)	0151 734 0083
ABC Domestic Violence Project	0151 484 2484
South Liverpool Domestic Abuse Service	0151 494 2222