



DASH Completion Guidance

This guide is to be used by professionals when completing a Young Persons DASH. The guide illustrates what information the professional is expected to obtain in order to effectively populate the YP DASH and accurately assess the risk of harm through domestic abuse to the young person.

Some questions relate only to the current situation and for some the historical context should be included and considered in order to predict future behaviour.

Question number	Question	Historical / Current	Include the following information:
1	Are you very frightened?	Currently only	Most people will say they are scared, but we need to know what the worst thing they think could happen is – don't give them the option, let them tell you. Who they feel the risk is to i.e. Themselves/New partners etc. Use Q2 to record this.
2	What are you afraid of? Is it further violence?	Currently only	As above
3	Are you feeling low or finding your emotions hard to cope with? Are you having suicidal thoughts?	Currently only	Does the young person have any diagnosed mental health conditions? If they are feeling suicidal, have they made a plan to end their life? Does this plan also include anyone else?
4	Has the current incident resulted in injury?	Currently only	<u>Current</u> incident only. Otherwise select 'No' <u>Note previous injuries regardless</u> (FIRST/WORST/LAST) include approx. dates of injuries and any medical treatment received.
5	Does (.....) constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you?	Currently only	If texts/calls, how many approx. a day? What is normal for them/what would the young person feel is appropriate? Are they possibly being tracked? Why do they feel they are being watched? Is this feasible?
6	Does (.....) try to control anything you do and/or are they excessively	Currently only	Tracking – Why do they feel they are being watched? Is this feasible?



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	jealous?		What aspects of their life do they feel they have no control over?
7	Is the abuse happening more often?	Currently only	More often. So in what way has it escalated? How regularly is it happening now compared to previously?
8	Is the abuse getting worse?	Currently only	This refers to increase in severity only. Primarily relating to physical incidents. How does the current abuse compare to previously?
9	Do you see your family/friends as much as you would like? Does [...] stop you from seeing friends and family or professionals?	Currently only	How is the young person stopped from seeing friends and family? What happens if they resist? Are they still attending school or college?
10	Are you currently pregnant or have you recently had a baby	General	Are they known to social care?
11	Are there any financial issues? For example, is [...] experiencing difficulties with money (debts or loans) or are you dependent on [...] for money or do they take money from you?	Currently only	How is money earned? What is it spent on? Are there any physical threats to hand over money, or are they blackmailed to do so? If blackmail, what is being threatened? Can the victim reasonably live on their income?
12	Have you broken up with or tried to break up with the person who is hurting you?	Currently only	How many times? When was the last time? What makes them go back, in their opinion?
13	If you have children, is there conflict between you and the person who is hurting you over seeing the children?	Currently only	Note any child contact arrangements. Are these court ordered? Are the children witnessing abuse?
14	Has [...] ever used weapons or	Include	This can include normal household objects.



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	objects (such as a phone or household item) to hurt you?	Historical	If they have threatened to use a weapon select 'No' but note the threat and which weapon they have threatened to use.
15	Has (.....) ever threatened to kill you or someone else?	Include Historical	The key to this is whether they believed the threat. Do they think this is a real possibility? Approx. dates of incidents. Most recent date.
16	Has (.....) ever attempted to strangle/choke/suffocate/drown you?	Include Historical	Did they lose consciousness? Were threats made at the time? How regularly is this happening? Are they using objects to do this? i.e scarves/belts/dog leads. Approx. dates of incidents. Most recent date.
17	Does (....) do or say things of a sexual nature that makes you feel bad or that physically hurt you or someone else?	Currently only	If this is not happening currently select 'No'. Note any previous incidents.
18	Is there any other person that has threatened you or that you are afraid of?	Currently only	Always consider HBV. Get details (name/Address/DOB if possible) of anyone who poses an additional risk. This is especially important if HBV is suspected.
19	Do you know if (.....) has hurt anyone else?	Include Historical	Consider Clare's Law (if over 16). Are these DV related?
20	Has (.....) ever mistreated an animal or the family pet?	Include Historical	This includes inappropriate chastisement Do they currently keep animals? Has a report been made to police or RSPCA?
21	Has (.....) had problems in the past year with drugs (prescription or	Include Historical	Are they currently receiving any medical treatment or counselling for these?



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	other), alcohol or mental health leading to problems in leading a normal life?		Approx. how much is taken? Is this a normal amount for this person? How does it effect their behaviour?
22	Has (.....) ever threatened or attempted suicide?	Include Historical	Although it says include historical, consider mainly throughout this relationship. Include approx. dates and the victims perceived reasons for these. Were medical interventions used or sought.
23	Has [...] ever breached their bail conditions or not followed an order by the police or a judge in court?	Include Historical	Are there convictions for this? Do they know whether there have been breaches relating to offences against others?
24	Do you know if (.....) has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history?	Include Historical	Consider Clare's law (if over 16).
Use this space to outline any other concerns you have which would contribute to the risks facing the young person:			Use this box to outline <u>the first, worst and last incidents</u> . If you feel this is high risk, use this box to clearly outline exactly why you feel there is <u>an immediate risk of significant harm or murder to the victim</u> . Use bullet points. If you feel it is high risk but are not referring to a MARAC, use this box to explain why. For example, case may already be held by MARAC or client is moving to refuge. In the case where client is moving to refuge request a MARAC to MARAC transfer from MARAC Administrator after discussion with your line manager. List any agencies or workers already involved, including best method of contact. Is the young person, or the children, if any, known to Social Care.
Does the young person have any specific needs or vulnerabilities in relation to disability and learning difficulties, substance misuse,			Include any additional needs, consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability



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mental health issues, cultural/language barriers, 'honour'-based systems or geographic isolation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Health diagnosis, or concerns• Substance misuse• Risks of Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage or so called 'Honour-based' violence• Connection to known gangs• CSE, grooming or sex working
Risk Assessment:	<p>Use the comments boxes to justify why you have selected the risk level.</p> <p>A referral to safeguarding services should be considered in every instance.</p> <p>If you have selected 'High' an immediate referral to safeguarding services and MARAC (if over 16) is required.</p> <p>You can use the YP DASH as the referral for MARAC, and the completed risk assessment should be sent to marac@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk</p>

If you feel that you would benefit from further discussion or advice around assessing risk and/or completing a DASH or YP DASH then please contact the GDASS helpdesk on 0845 602 9035.