

## Case Study 1: Kingston

**In November 2021 Kingston moved to a model of holding a 'standalone' MARAC for 'honour' based abuse and forced marriage cases. This was part of wider work in the borough which included increased training on harmful practices, as well as a harmful practices sub group.**

### **Components of the MARAC model include:**

- A separate meeting where only 'honour' based abuse and forced marriage cases are heard.
- All agencies who can input on the case invited (not just those who are directly working on it as would be the case in an emergency MARAC).
- Increased time for each case discussion - typically 30 minutes per case.
- A specialist by and for service (AWRC) commissioned to provide advice on each case with the aim to improve safety for survivors heard at the meeting and upskill other reps more widely.

### **Initial findings include:**

- 90% of attendees viewed this model as effective.
- Of those who responded 100% felt that the process improved the immediate safety of victim/ survivors.
- The most beneficial aspects of the model were identified as additional time for in depth discussion (73%) and dedicated space to focus on the specific strategies needed to address harmful practices cases (73%).
- Specialist by and for expertise was also identified by the majority of respondents as contributing to the effectiveness of the stand alone model.

**Kingston MARAC has also seen an increase in harmful practices cases being referred since they trialled this model, although it is difficult to ascertain the reasons for this, as upskilling has also occurred via a wider focus on training in the borough.**