

Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Adults Board

Board Briefing December 2017



Welcome to the Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Adults Board briefing. The last Board meeting was held on 4th December, and attended by over 20 members from organisations working with adults with care and support needs in the city. This briefing will give you an update of the topics discussed - please do share it with your teams.

If you have any comments please contact us SAB@brighton-hove.gov.uk

What is a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)?

The Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Adult Board (B&H SAB) is a group of statutory, private, voluntary, and independent organisations across Brighton & Hove who work together to empower and protect some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

Our purpose is to raise awareness and promote the welfare of vulnerable adults by the development of an effective co-operative. We are committed to ensuring that the work done effectively brings about good outcomes for adults so that people live safe and secure lives.

Update from Quality Assurance Subgroup

One of the roles of the SAB is to seek assurance of the effectiveness of safeguarding activity and that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life for adults with care and support needs and carers in our area, in line with "[Making Safeguarding Personal](#)". As outlined in the Care Act;

“SABs need a range of approaches to quality assurance to monitor the effectiveness both of their own work and that of their partner agencies”

The Board heard that an audit on homelessness has been completed and its action plan is being progressed, with progress being overseen by the group. You can read more about the audit [here](#).

We were advised that the most recent audit, which was to assess whether the needs of adults with care and support needs, who are known / alleged to be victims of sexual abuse are appropriately addressed, has concluded. A report on its findings will come to Board in March 2018.

Next year's audits will focus on compliance with Mental Capacity Act Gold Standards and services and interventions provided to parents with a learning disability.

Update from Safeguarding Adult Review Subgroup

In November the group received a presentation around a [Mental Health Homicide Investigation](#).

See section 5 for arising issues, comment and analysis. This investigation echoes the [SAB's safeguarding adult review: X](#), particularly around issues and challenges of working with hard to engage people. For training to support you to work with clients who are hard to engage see [Adult Safeguarding Training](#).

How to make a safeguarding adult review referral

Any professional can make a referral for a Safeguarding Adult Review.

If you have a case that meets the criteria (below), please do first discuss your concerns with your agency's safeguarding lead. If you would still like the SAB to consider reviewing the case, you complete a simple [SAR Referral Form](#)

A SAR should always be considered if:

- an adult has died (including death by suicide) and abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor in their death;

or

- an adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect which has resulted in; permanent harm, reduced capacity, or quality of life (whether because of physical or psychological effects), or the individual would have been likely to have died but for an intervention;

and

- there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult.

Sustainability & Transformation Partnership (STP)

The Executive Director Health and Adult Social Care presented a brief overview of the STP. The NHS and local councils are developing and implementing shared proposals to improve health and care in every part of England. We reflected on where we are at with implementation and where we are headed. You can read more [here](#).

Participation & Engagement

This subgroup is shared with the [Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board](#).

A joint Communication & Engagement Strategy is being drafted to embrace a ‘think family’ approach and ensure that the work of both Boards is effectively communicated to the relevant audiences such as children, young people, adults with care and support needs, families, carers, practitioners and the wider community in Brighton & Hove. This will be circulated to the Board for their information.



The group have been discussing how promote the [Stop, Look & Care booklet](#), which was developed by Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group. Whilst this is pitched at care workers to ensure effective standards of care provision, we think it is also a useful tool for relatives to support them to know what ‘good’ care looks like. The group are considering how to develop this booklet into an app.

Learning Disabilities Mortality Review (LeDeR)

The Board discussed the LeDeR programme. This is one of the recommendations of the [Confidential Inquiry into premature deaths of people with learning disabilities \(CIPOLD\)](#).

Since 4 September 2017 the deaths of anyone with a learning disability over four years of age will be reviewed. This will not replace any statutory investigations, e.g. Safeguarding Adult Reviews; they may run concurrently with a statutory investigation, but never instead of. The LeDeR may in fact trigger a statutory process if multi-agency learning needs are identified. We have committed to ensuring the LeDeR process is written into local protocols for undertaking SAR's and that there is appropriate SAB representation on the Sussex Wide Steering Group. The Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults, Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group has agreed to be the Board link to support sharing learning from these reviews.

Safeguarding Self-Assessment Challenge

For the last two years, agencies who work with adults with care and support needs across Sussex are asked to complete a self-assessment of their own safeguarding strategy and practices. This encourages partners to reflect on the effectiveness of their own safeguarding arrangements. This year partners who work across the Sussex footprint were invited to be challenged by a Challenge Panel, consisting of Independent Chairs and senior representatives of partner agencies, so as to share the learning and plan how to better work together to keep adults with care and support needs in the county safe. A local Challenge Event began in October with Health and Adult Social Care and the Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing directorate first up to be challenged. In January 2018 it will be the turn of Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group and Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust.

If you would like to know how your agency did in the Challenge speak to your Safeguarding Lead.



Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Review

The Strategic Commissioner from Joint Domestic, Sexual Violence & Abuse and Violence against Women & Girls (VAWG) Unit attended Board to present findings from the MARAC Review.

The MARAC meeting is a local, multi agency victim-focused meeting where information is shared on the highest risk cases of domestic violence and abuse between different statutory and voluntary sector agencies. We heard that there were 468 MARAC clients in 2016-17, a 4.2% increase compared with the previous year. In the first 6 months of 2017/18 there were 269 MARAC clients, a 19% increase compared with the same period the previous year.

The MARAC arrangements have been under review. Findings from this have been positive - noting there were robust systems in place for information sharing through the MARACs and clear accountability structures, with established mechanisms for MARAC audit and quality assurance, with feedback from the MARAC being shared annually the LSCB and SAB. Examples of good practice were identified, e.g. Identification of a lead professional in each case for the victim/survivor, perpetrator and children. Local challenges were also identified. The changes that generated most discussion at Board were the move to weekly meetings and the introduction of a MARAC Complex Case Panel to identify and address complex cases sooner. It is hoped this approach will make the MARAC more manageable and reduce the number of repeat referrals.

B&H SAB Constitution, Information Sharing Agreement & Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

The SAB Constitution reflects how the SAB operates, how decisions are made and details what inter-agency arrangements are in place to make sure that individuals and agencies effectively safeguard and promote the welfare of adults with care and support needs in Brighton.

The SAB and partners have drafted an agreement which sets out a commitment from all partners to share information (when required) to provide more efficient and effective services to Brighton & Hove residents. It is also intended to enable practitioners to share information in a timely way and with confidence.

A Memorandum of Understanding has also been drafted to provide a framework for roles and responsibilities of agencies in the SAB multi agency audit programme. This is to ensure the audit team have access to relevant information in order to effectively quality assure safeguarding practice.

Meetings next year

Please note there has been change of venue for some of the upcoming SAB meetings. An updated list is below.

Date	Time	Venue
5 March	3-5pm	Room G91, Hove Town Hall
25 June	3-5pm	Council Chamber , Hove Town Hall
3 September	3-5pm	Council Chamber , Hove Town Hall
3 December	3-5pm	Council Chamber , Hove Town Hall

You should already have received updated calendar invitations where there has been a change of venue. Please note that the meetings are all still at Hove Town Hall.

If you have any items you wish to add to the agenda, please contact [Mia](#)



Working together to enable people in Brighton & Hove to live a life free from fear, harm and abuse

[@SAB_Brighton](#)
[Safeguarding Adult Board Website](#)