

Welcome to the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board briefing. The West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board meets four times a year and discusses how agencies should work together to keep adults at risk of abuse or neglect safe in Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham.

The pandemic has meant that the Board has had to adapt to ensure that its statutory obligations continue to be met. We have achieved this by:

- Postponing full Board meetings and subgroups, to support with workforce capacity in their emergency response.
- We held regular virtual meetings with statutory partners to ensure that safeguarding remained a priority and that the increased risks to adults at risk were understood and mitigated wherever possible.
- Continuing to complete Safeguarding Adult Reviews through virtual Safeguarding Adult Review Panels and virtual Board endorsement.
- Delivering on Business Plan priorities where capacity has allowed us to.
- Creating a Covid specific page on our Website to share best practice information:  
<http://www.sabberkshirwest.co.uk/practitioners/coronavirus-covid-19-information-page/>

Our first full virtual Board took place in September 2020, where there was a focus on the impact the pandemic has had on safeguarding. The discussions have informed our priorities for 2020/21.

The Board agreed that all Board Subgroups will start up again in preparation for the Board in December 2020. A copy of our Business Plan for 2020/21 can be found here: <http://www.sabberkshirwest.co.uk/board-members/priorities-plans-and-reports/>

Our Annual Report for 2018/19 has been published and can be found on our [website](#). We plan to publish our 2019/20 Annual report in January 2021.

### Contact the Board

If you would like any further information on the Board, please contact the Boards Business Manager Lynne Mason:  
[Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk](mailto:Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk)  
or on 07718 120601

### Multi Agency Risk Management Framework (MARM)

The MARM was launched in July 2020, in response to the Boards priority: *We will provide the partnership with the tools and framework to work effectively with people who Self-Neglect.*

The purpose of the Multi Agency Risk Management Framework (MARM) is to support the individual and staff to reach agreement and adopt strategies around risk decision and the management of those risks where they are manageable. Concerns maybe around:

- Where a support plan will not meet identified risks.
- Where risks have been identified in giving an individual a direct payment to manage themselves including safeguarding concerns.
- Where an individual is putting themselves or others at significant risk by refusing services.
- All options have been explored and the level of risk is still high.
- Disagreement between services / agencies on managing the level of risk.
- Any Local Authority worker can present a case to the MARM where there is a complex or challenging risk issue and where guidance and decision making are needed.
- The person does not have to be in receipt of Adult Social Care support, the reason for the presentation to panel might be due to the individual refusing support, despite having care and support needs.
- Referrals to MARM cannot be made outside of the host local authorities, if agencies are concerned about risks to individuals these concerns should be raised via the Care Management and Safeguarding Referral Routes. If referrers are not informed or not satisfied with the response to the concerns raised this should be escalated to the manager of the host Local Authorities Safeguarding Adults Team.

The MARM can be found here:

<http://www.sabberkshirwest.co.uk/practitioners/supporting-individuals-to-manage-risk-and-multi-agency-framework-marm/>

Alongside the MARM the Berkshire Safeguarding Policy and Procedure in regard to Self-Neglect has been reviewed and updated. This can be found on the Pan Berkshire Policies and Procedures Website:

<https://www.berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk/>

The Board will be carrying out an audit of MARM cases into understand if the process has had a positive impact for individuals and agencies. If you have any feedback on the process, please do contact the Board's Business Manager via email on [Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk](mailto:Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk)

### Bite size learning events

We will be relaunching our interactive workshops that are free to attend and open to all sectors across Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham. Each workshop has a presentation on a specific theme, followed by discussion.

Topics will focus on learning themes identified through the Boards assurance work. Details of the sessions will be advertised on our website:

<http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/practitioners/workforce-development/bite-size-workshops/>

### Pan Berkshire Policies and Procedures Updates

The purpose of these Policies and Procedures is to support staff to respond appropriately to all concerns of abuse or neglect they may encounter, providing a consistent response across Berkshire. The Policies and Procedures are regularly reviewed and updated. Recent updates/additions include:

- Self-Neglect
- Domestic Abuse
- Modern Slavery

There is a dedicated website:

<https://www.berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk/>

Requests for amendments to the Policies and Procedures can be made through the website.

If you have any feedback on the Policies and Procedures, please share with [Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk](mailto:Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk)

### Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS)– Threat of Arson Referral Procedure

If you have concerns about someone that has had a Threat of Arson made against them or their property or are at risk of arson please complete and return this [form](#).

RBFRS will endeavour to attend the property (with consent of the occupant/victim, so please contact them first) within 48 hours. A Threat of Arson/Risk of Arson Safe and Well Visit will involve Safe and Well Technicians or Crews attending the property to fit arson proof letter boxes, fire retardant sprays and as many smoke alarms as required.

Further information is provided in this [guidance document](#).

### Postural Management Awareness Video

Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group and Berkshire Health Care Foundation Trust would like to share with you a short video raising awareness of postural management and a local pilot within our elderly and nursing care homes.

This video has been produced to improve access to support and safeguard individuals following multi – agency learning from case reviews.

Please share the link below with health and social care staff to help raise awareness within our local partnership  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_2K1t2pTDTs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_2K1t2pTDTs)

### Allegation Management Framework/Person in a Position of Trust (PiPoT)

The Care Act 2014 requires the local authority, its relevant partners and those providing universal care and support services, to have clear policies for dealing with allegations against people in positions of trust i.e. anyone working in either a paid or unpaid capacity with adults with care and support needs. The people in position of trusts (PIPOTS) may be people who are employed and work with or voluntarily undertake activity with adults or children (for example where an employee/worker/volunteer has been accused of the abuse or neglect of an adult with care and support needs. The Framework can be found on our Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedure website  
<https://www.berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk/west-berkshire/procedures/?procl=1563>

Thames Valley Police (TVP) have created a video to assist professionals to be mindful of those rare cases of where members of TVP abuse their positions by forming improper relationships. The video can be found here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1F6drE3bnl&feature=youtu.be>

## NATIONAL SAFEGAURDING ADULTS AWARENESS WEEK

The 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 is National Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week, please take a look at the Ann Craft Trust website for further information <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/safeguarding-adults-week-2020-dates-themes-and-more/> please do share what your organisation has planned for this week so that this can be promoted by the Board.

**"I am her son, not her carer"**

If you are looking after a relative there is help for you. Call freephone

**0800 133 7851**

Lines open 10am-4pm, Monday-Friday  
With 24 hour answerphone cover



**NHS**

### Unknown Carers Campaign

We are supporting the NHS unknown carers Campaign, which has been running since June 2019 and has been extended to December 2020. We know that lockdown has had an impact on carers stress and therefore identifying and supporting unknown carers is more important than ever.



**Wear a red dot.  
Start the conversation  
around preventing  
pressure ulcers.**

**STOP THE PRESSURE.**

Helping to prevent pressure ulcers

### STOP THE PRESSURE!

On **Thursday 19th November 2020** it is STOP Pressure Ulcer Day. Which is a global annual event in which industry, healthcare professionals, the public and media come together to help raise awareness of pressure ulcers – something many people are touched by every year. The aim of this annual event, which now takes place in countries all over the world, is to increase public knowledge in a bid to prevent pressure ulcers from forming and affecting so many people each year.

It is a Board priority to raise awareness around pressure care and we ask that our partners support this day. The Tissue Viability Society are supporting this day by providing grab packs for professionals to promote Pressure Care Awareness, you can apply for a grab pack here: <https://tvs.org.uk/stop-the-pressure-grab-pack/>, do let the Board know how you promote this day within your organisations.

### Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARS)

The Board has a legal duty to carry out a Safeguarding Adults Review when there is reasonable cause for concern about how agencies worked together to safeguard an adult who has died, and abuse or neglect is suspected to be a factor in their death; or when an adult has not died but suffered serious abuse or neglect. The aim is for all agencies to learn lessons about the way they safeguard adults at risk and prevent such tragedies happening in the future. The West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board has a Safeguarding Adults Review Panel that oversees this work.

The Board has published two SARS recently: Michelle and Ben, copies of these SARS can be found on our website, along with 2-page practice note for the SAR in relation to Ben to highlight learning for practitioners.

<http://www.sabberkshirwest.co.uk/practitioners/safeguarding-adults-reviews/>

Learning from all SARS is used by the Board to set our priorities.

For a SAR to be considered by the SAR Panel a notification needs to be made, notifications can be excepted from anyone including members of the public. Further information on submitting SAR notifications can be found on our website.

### Our Priorities 2020-2021

#### Priority 1 - We will continue to work on outstanding actions from the 2019/20 from the following priorities:

- Priority 1 2019-20, We will provide the partnership with the tools and framework to work effectively with people who Self-Neglect
- Priority 2 2019 -20, The Board will work collaboratively with Local Safeguarding Children Boards, Community Safety Partnerships and Health and Wellbeing Boards to provide the workforce with the frameworks and tools to work with Vulnerable Adults who are at risk of Domestic Abuse.
- Priority 3 2019-20, We will understand the main risks to our local population in regard to Targeted Exploitation and agree how best to equip the partnership to Safeguard vulnerable people against these risks.
- Priority 4 2019-20, The Board will understand from key stakeholders, why there has been an increase in organisational safeguarding and seek assurance from commissioners, that there adequate preventative measures in place that is consistent across the partnership where practical.

**Priority 2 – The Board will seek to understand the impact the pandemic has had on Adult Safeguarding locally.**

**Priority 3 – The Board will continue to carry out the business as usual tasks in order to comply with its statutory obligations.**